Jasper County

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—BY—

JAMES W. McEWEN

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

East.

A supposed plot to kill ex-Senator Conkling has been discovered in New York.

The extensive linseed-oil works of Grove & Bro., on the Delaware river, below Philadelphia, valued at $130,000, were swept away by fire.

The New York *Tribune* says that present figures indicate that the total number of deaths in that city this year will reach 38,000, or 6,000 more than in 1880.

Mrs. Jennie McGraw Fiske, who died at Ithaca, N. Y., left a fortune estimated at $12,000,000. She was building a residence estimated to cost $2,000,000, intending to make it the finest in the United States. While in Europe last year she was married to Prof. Fiske, of Cornell University.

Franklin J. Moses, formerly Governor of South Carolina, was locked up in the police headquarters at New York for swindling Wm. L. Ball out of $25.

Secretary Blaine is now in Washington. A publishing house in Hartford is urging him to write a life of President Garfield, but he deems the six months allowed him a space altogether insufficient for the labor.

West.

Details of the destruction wrought by the recent storm in the Northwest prove it to have been one of the most violent visitants of the kind experienced for a long time. It originated, it seems, in Nebraska, and, taking a northeasterly course, swept over Minnesota and the western portion of Wisconsin. In Nebraska the town of Madison, a place of about 1,000 inhabitants, was almost completely demolished, and hundreds of its people were rendered homeless. At Stanton, Neb., twelve buildings were blown down and twenty people injured. The cyclone swept through the southern part of Minnesota, doing great damage at Owatonna and elsewhere, but happily causing no loss of life. A black cloud, the size of an eighty-acre farm, appeared on the sky, thickened, contracted and swooped down upon the earth, in myriad convolutions, the tornado that followed making a track half a mile wide. Great damage was done in the northern part of Wisconsin, devastating a track of eighty rods in width. About a dozen persons were injured near Wautoma, and the town of Lima suffered great loss. Branches of the same storm swept through Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois. A passenger train on the Fort Dodge and Des Moines road was blown over near Farmerstown, Iowa, and a number of passengers injured. In Kansas it swept the Cottonwood and Neosho valleys, destroying property, injuring people and killing four persons near Emporia. Maryville, Mo., felt the storm severely.

At Cincinnati three smart thieves grabbed a package containing $10,000 in United States bonds from the President's room of a national bank. They have not yet been captured.

The reports heretofore sent East from Arizona that the Indian troubles were about over in that Territory seem to have been a little premature, as the following telegram from Tucson, dated the 3d inst., would show: "It seems that Gen. Wilcox did not reach the Indians yesterday, but Col. Sanford, with three companies, Capt. Bernard's, Lieuts. Overton's and Glass', arrived on the ground about 11 o'clock. The Indians outnumbered the soldiers and began the fight, which continued after dark. The Indians then continued their course south, crossing Arivapa valley, evidently trying to make through to the Galuri mountains, but they were headed off by forces sent out from Wilcox. In the engagement one sergeant was killed and six privates wounded. During the night the Indians proceeded south about seven miles, but failed to make the mountains, and were overhauled near Hudson's ranch, on the open plain, where the soldiers could fight to advantage, and it is believed that Nachez and his whole band of Chiricahua Indians will be exterminated or taken prisoners. Before reaching the point where the battle took place yesterday, Nachez with his entire band, attacked Bartolo Seminago's train near Cedar Springs, killing him and Braulto Gomez, Sastenose Estrado, Demetrio Carmelo and Julian Rias, teamsters. One man is missing. The herder escaped. Since yesterday morning up to this hour twelve citizens are known to have been killed, and six others are reported killed."

Orson Pratt, the ablest theologian in the Mormon church, has just died at Salt Lake, aged 70 years.

Mary Powers, the fat woman who formerly traveled with Barnum's circus, died at Danville, Ind., a few days ago.

Central Park, in Chicago, has been rechristened, and will hereafter be called Garfield Park.

While Ralph Durbin and wife, and daughter aged 19, and a Miss Buck, sister of Mrs. Durbin, and three small children were returning from church, near Danville, Ohio, they attempted to cross a stream subject to high floods. Mrs. Durbin, Miss Durbin, and Miss Buck were drowned. Mr. Durbin got out by his own effort, and Mr. James Shellenbarger rescued the children.

The grain warehouses of Chicago are chuck full, and, as they will accept no more from the railroads, the railroads refuse to take grain into Chicago from the interior. Such a condition of things at this time in the season has never before been known. The quantity of grain in store in Chicago on the 5th of October was 12,532,512 bushels, against 7,627,451 bushels in 1880.

Gen. Terry has ordered three companies of the Fifth infantry to march from Fort Keogh and endeavor to avert a collision between a band of Yanktonnais and a party of 500 buffalo-hunters, engaged in slaughtering the animals for their hides.

The Chicago grain firm of J. B. Lyon & Co. got badly squeezed in the recent wheat corner, and suspended. Liabilities, $300,000.

The steamer Dell Queen was torn from her mooring at Kilbourne City, on the Wisconsin river, and carried over the dam, and four men were drowned in the stream.

A remarkable disease has appeared in Platte county, Mo., which is described by some as black small-pox, and by others as the original black scourge. Its victims rot before death, and instances are given of their bodies falling to pieces while being prepared for burial.

The Detroit *Post and Tribune*, in an approximate computation of the losses by the recent extensive forest and farm conflagrations in Michigan, furnishes the following figures:

In Ottawa county	$ 829,428
In Allegan county	116,500
In Manistee county	766,600
In Huron county	553,818
In Sanilac county	140,067
Total losses	$2,346,413

The property destroyed is thus enumerated:

Dwellings	1,147
School-houses	28
Churches	8
Hotels	12
Stores and offices	129
Mills	34
Docks	20

The insurance on all this destroyed property is said to be only $623,632. Representatives of the different local relief committees of Bay City, East Saginaw, Port Huron and Detroit met in the latter city and held a prolonged conference with Gov. Jerome, with the result that the Governor was unanimously requested to appoint a State Central Relief Committee, through whom, hereafter, all aid for sufferers by the recent terrible fires should be distributed. This will simplify the work and conduce to the utmost economy in the important work, which must necessarily continue through the winter. Ex-Gov. Henry P. Baldwin heads the committee.

A casket of sheet bronze, with gold mountings, was tendered by a New York company for the President's remains. Mrs. Garfield went to Cleveland to inspect it, and ordered the transfer of the body. It is now thought that a crypt will be erected in Lake View Cemetery, and the casket exposed to view.

South.

A lad of 9 years, residing at Gray's Mills, Miss., had a quarrel with a girl of 2 years, and blindfolded her and threw her into a well, where she perished.

An attempt to wreck a passenger train was made near Hope, Ark., the scene of the recent robbery. The spikes were drawn and the fishbars removed at a point only fifteen feet from a long trestlework. The result was the ditching of a freight train.

The Rev. Stuart Robinson, D. D., died at Louisville, Ky., after a protracted illness. He was a native of Tyrone, Ireland, and was in 67th year at the time of his death. Dr. Robinson was for many years one of the ablest divines in Kentucky, and one of its most prominent citizens.

The International Cotton Exposition at Atlanta, Ga., was formally opened on the 5th inst., in the presence of 7,000 people.

A white frost in the tobacco region of Virginia, on the night of the 6th inst., seriously injured the tobacco crop. The frost extended into a large section of South Carolina, destroying the late growth of cotton.

A section railway tunnel in process of construction by convict labor, near Grayson, Ky., caved in and killed ten of the unfortunate workmen. Several others were injured.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Following is the regular monthly public-debt statement, issued at Washington on the 1st inst.:

Six per cent. bonds, extended		$ 178,055,150
Five per cents, extended		400,869,950
Five per cent. bonds		10,829,350
Four and one-half per cent. bonds		250,000,000
Four per cent. bonds		738,710,850
Refunding certificates		636,950
Navy pension fund		14,000,000
Total coin bonds		$1,593,102,250
Matured debt		10,039,595
Legal tenders	$ 346,741,056	
Certificates of deposit	8,315,000	
Gold and silver certificates	69,398,830	
Fractional currency	7,098,506	
Total without interest		431,553,392
Total debt		$2,034,695,237
Cash in treasury		250,686,547
Debt less cash in treasury		$1,798,855,925
Decrease during September		17,483,641
Decrease since June 30, 1881		41,742,886
Current liabilities—		
Interest due and unpaid	$	2,143,883
Debt on which interest has ceased		10,039,595
Interest thereon		764,590
Gold and silver certificates		69,398,830
United States notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit		8,315,000
Cash balance available Oct. 1, 1881		160,024,648
Total	$	250,686,547
Available assets—		
Cash in treasury	$	250,686,547
Bonds issued to Pacific railway companies, interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding	$	64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid		969,352
Interest paid by United States		51,467,272
Interest repaid by companies—		
Interest repaid by transportation of mails		14,486,125
By cash payments of 5 per cent. of net earnings		655,198
Balance of interest paid by the United States		36,325,947

Hon. John W. Foster, Minister to Russia, has tendered his resignation.

Owing to the red-tape process in the transmission of orders through the War Department, the order to the arsenal commandant, at Washington, to fire daily a salute in honor of the late President Garfield, was not received until nearly two weeks after his death.

Some 200 postmasters will, it is alleged, be implicated in the star-route frauds.

It is now claimed that the sum embezzled from the Government by Capt. Howgate amounts to $200,000.

Coinage at the various mints for September, $7,847,300, of which $2,400,000 were in standard dollars.

Capt. Howgate, arrested in August last for embezzling $40,000 of Government money while chief disbursing officer of the signal service, and who gave bail to appear for trial, arrived in Washington last week, and was arrested on a charge of embezzling $50,000 additional.

In fixing up the White House and preparing it for occupancy, one of the greatest difficulties experienced is in cleaning out the roaches and other insects. They infest the house in myriads. All kinds of roach and other insect-destroying powders are being used in the house.

Commissioner Raum has decided that taxes must be paid on the capital and deposits of every person or firm doing business in stocks, bullion, exchange or promissory notes.

Dr. D. G. Lamb, who performed the autopsy upon the late President, appeared before the District of Columbia Grand Jury on the 4th inst., and explained, with the aid of a diagram, the track of the wound in the President's body. Edward L. Du Barry, a new witness, who was present at the depot and witnessed the shooting, also testified. With this witness the Grand Jury concluded their investigations. Several additional witnesses were examined, and a true bill was voted unanimously. Foreman Churchman proceeded to the office of the District Attorney and placed in Corkhill's hands the presentment against Charles J. Guiteau for the murder of James A. Garfield, President of the United States, by wounding him with a bullet fired from a pistol in the hands of Charles J. Guiteau, at the Baltimore and Potomac depot, on the 2d of July, A. D. 1881.

In the Criminal Court at Washington, on the 4th inst., Brady, French, Turner and Brown, charged with star-route frauds, made their appearance. Their counsel entered motions to quash the informations filed. The District Attorney asked that the accused first enter bail for their appearance. As they stepped forward to the desk Judge Cox informed them that he would soon fix the amount of bail, and discharged each on his personal recognizance. Prominent men in the audience exhibited much sympathy with the accused.

The Treasury Department has decided that mutilated silver coins are only worth the price of the bullion they contain, and they shall be paid for at the mints at the rate prevailing for silver on the day they are presented.

Tuesday 125 mail-pouches filled with internal-revenue stamps were sent out from the Internal Revenue Bureau at Washington. The shipment was the largest ever known in the history of the bureau. There were in the pouches 13,000,000 stamps, whose face value was $2,894,000.

The demand upon the Internal Revenue Bureau for tobacco stamps is unprecedented, and induces the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to think either that large traders are preparing a corner in tobacco, or that dealers generally, in view of the short crop, anticipate a very considerable rise in that article, and wish to purchase it now to hold for the increase in price.

President Arthur continues to occupy the residence of Senator Jones. It is said that, after the extra session adjourns, he will remove to and reside at the Soldiers' Home until the White House repairs are completed.

Cabinet meetings will hereafter be held on Tuesdays and Fridays.

The President has appointed Calvin G. Walker Deputy Commissioner of Pensions.

POLITICAL POINTS.

One of the flying rumors of the day is to the effect that President Arthur has tendered a Cabinet position to Judge Lapham, of New York, giving Gov. Cornell a chance to call a special session of the Legislature to elect Conkling to the Senate.

It is stated, with considerable positiveness, that President Arthur has informed Postmaster General James and Secretary Hunt that he wishes them to retain their present positions, and has assured them that they may stay as long as they desire. Both gentlemen have consented to remain.

Hon. Nelson W. Aldrich has been elected United States Senator from Rhode Island in place of Gen. Burnside. He is a member of the present House of Representatives.

It is stated that ex-Senator Conkling has been offered a Cabinet position by the President, but has declined in the interest of peace and harmony.

MISCELLANEOUS GLEANINGS.

Mrs. Garfield told the Rev. Dr. Robinson the other day that, had the Trustees of Lake View Cemetery not offered a burial lot for the remains of President Garfield, she would have purchased one there. She said that the late President had intimated that he would prefer to be buried there. She said that the question of burial is no longer open and will not be reopened.

The fund for the family of President Garfield amounted to $334,679 on the 4th inst. The Cleveland committee at the same date reported the receipt of $5,137 for a monument to President Garfield.

The National Temperance Society's Board of Managers have appealed to President Arthur to use his influence to discourage the national drinking customs, and thus to lessen the great and threatening evil of intemperance.

By a contract recently executed, the Pullman Company will equip the Northern Pacific road with its coaches and operate them on joint account for fifteen years.

The manager of the Panama canal states that 1,200 men are employed in excavations, and that $250,000 has already been expended.

Capt. Hooper, who recently took possession of the Wrangell land in the Arctic seas, in the name of the United States Government, has written to Maj. Clarke, of the Marine Revenue Bureau, suggesting that the new possession be called New Columbia. Capt. Hooper has not discovered any trace of the Jeannette. The polar seas are very open this season, and the Captain thinks if traces cannot be discovered this year they never will.

The Mexican Government has contracted with a local company for drainage of the valley and City of Mexico for $9,000,000.

The Roman Catholic College at St. Therese, near Montreal, has been destroyed by fire, the loss being placed at $300,000. Three hundred students were in attendance.

It is stated on pretty good authority that Dr. Boynton, at the request of Mrs. Garfield, has consented to withhold from the public the statement of the autopsy which he had prepared. Mrs. Garfield says she is convinced that the President's wound was mortal, and she does not desire to have the controversy about the treatment continued. No good could come of such a course.

At Rio Chico, Mexico, Mr. Thomas Gastrell and wife, formerly of Indiana, were murdered by their Mexican servant. Robbery of a number of bank drafts was the object of the crime.

Guiteau dictated a narrative of his life, under a belief and with the understanding that it should be published in pamphlet form for his benefit, the money to go to aid him in his defense, whereas it was sold by the stenographer of District Attorney Corkhill to the New York *Herald* for his own benefit.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The Captain of the German schooner Phœnix reports the discovery of a new island in the South Pacific ocean a square mile in extent, and war vessels of three nations set out from Callao to investigate the claim.

The British commission appointed to inquire into the Afghan campaign has discovered gross corruption in the accounts of quartermasters and commissaries. Several influential bankers have been arrested in India.

The Sultan is interfering very actively in Egyptian affairs. He has sent three Commissioners to that country on various missions, and has informed the Khedive that he has done so, though he has not yet informed his Cabinet. The Sultan's interference may lead to serious European complications.

The price of Confederate bonds in the London market advanced last week, it is said, because of a committee asking holders to register the bonds, and this being taken to be a preliminary step to an appeal to some of the Legislatures of the Southern States for the redemption of part of the bonds at least.

An Irish farmer, named Leary, living on the estate of Lord Kenmore, near Rathmore, was fatally shot by a band of armed men, who warned him not to pay rent.

At Wadzergha, Tunis, Arabs captured the railway station, burned alive the stationmaster, who was an ex-French officer, and massacred ten of the Italian employes. The outrage is supposed to be by way of reprisal for the wholesale destruction, by Gen. Sabatier, of native orange forests, vineyards and villages.

Diphtheria is causing terrible mortality in the Province of Orel, Russia, where 77 per cent. of the cases prove fatal.

Parnell has advised Irish tenants not to appeal to the Land Commissioners appointed under the new Land bill until the working of the act has been tested.

An Irish landlord, named Bingham, was fired at by a man disguised in female clothing, who escaped. A girl riding on a jaunting-car with the intended victim was wounded.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

The Fenian dynamite plot, according to a Philadelphia dispatch, has been thoroughly unraveled by the Secret Service Bureau of the United States. It is said to be true that the scheme was organized to cheat the British Government out of the rewards to be offered. Peter H. Foye, a saloon-keeper of Philadelphia, caused the manufacture of the infernal machines and turned them over to O'Donovan Rossa. Foye then began negotiations with the British Consul at New York, and received $10,000 for information leading to the discovery made on the docks at Liverpool. He some weeks ago fled from the United States detectives at Philadelphia, and no one knows his whereabouts.

Cox, Stephens and Delaney, the Iron Mountain train robbers, pleaded guilty in the Hempstead Circuit Court, at Washington. They were sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of seventy years each. The sentences are cumulative, fourteen years being the limit laid for robbery. The robbery occurred on the 23d of September. The were captured on the 28th and a special term of court held to try them. They have been placed in the penitentiary at Little Rock.

Lieut. Bernard, pursuing the hostile Indians in Arizona, telegraphed to Gen. Wilcox, on the 7th inst., that the savages would cross the Mexican border, and that he would follow with the sole intention of punishing the murderers and robbers. The Mexican Consul at Tucson dispatched couriers to various points on the line, asking the Mexican troops to cooperate in the pursuit.

The corn corner in the Chicago market burst last week, a decline of 14 cents having taken place in seventy-two hours. The freight blockade has been lifted in consequence.

After an investigation covering several weeks, Pension Commissioner Dudley has discovered that about thirty employes of his office have been concerned in frauds which will reach into the millions.

Senator Jones has remarked to intimate friends that Wall street speculators need not look to the treasury to relieve the money market. Secretary Windom informed the bankers of Boston that he would not deviate from his programme in purchasing bonds.

Justice Miller has appointed an Executive Committee, with Gen. W. T. Sherman as Chairman, for the establishment in Washington of a National and International Garfield Memorial Hospital, to the erection of which he asks popular subscriptions in any sums from not only the people of the United States but from the world at large.

A Washington dispatch says that Guiteau's counsel, George Scoville, carried to the assassin's cell a sensation. He left with him some papers, including some Chicago files, which were the first papers that Guiteau has seen since he assassinated the President. Some of these papers spoke very freely of Guiteau's crime, and of the necessity of hanging him as speedily as possible. He is reported to have been so excited by reading these papers that he has been thrown into a high fever, which still continues.

The pastors of the various Protestant churches at Washington called on President Arthur and presented him with an address. President Arthur suitably responded, and conversed with the individual members of the delegation.

Eight students at the Military College of Moscow, and two at St. Petersburg, have been arrested for Nihilism.

A Berlin correspondent says he has a communication from St. Petersburg announcing that the headquarters of the Nihilists have been discovered and sixty arrests made.

Gladstone, on appearing at Leeds, was presented with eighty-six addresses. He claimed that £100,000,000 had been lost by bad harvests. At a banquet in the evening he expressed the sentiment that, while justice to Ireland is a sacred duty, it must be accompanied by equal justice to England and Scotland. He took occasion to contrast O'Connell's fidelity to the crown with Parnell's hostility to everything English.

The people of Newton, N. C., took from jail and lynched a man named Church, who murdered Miss Thompson last August.

Ham White, a noted lone highwayman, recently arrested in New Mexico, has been sentenced to the penitentiary at Austin, Texas, for ninety-nine years.

Several public men who called on President Arthur left with the inference that Secretary Lincoln is the only member of the Cabinet to be retained. There is no reason to expect that Gen. Grant or Roscoe Conkling will be among the new ministers. So says a Washington correspondent.

Two robbers known as Clark, alias "Butch," and "Frenchy," both formerly of the notorious Stockton gang, were lynched at Socorro, N. M. William Nicholson was lynched at Saunders, N. M., for murder.

A Rope of Woman's Hair.

St. Louis Republican.

In his detail of Indian horrors that came under his notice, Mr. Markley, the New Mexico Indian killer, stated that in 1867 he gave an Indian half a dollar for a hair rope ten feet in length and about the size of his little finger. He untwisted the end and found that it was made of red, auburn and black hair, which, from the length of each hair, was evidently that of a woman. He questioned the Indian, who told him the rope was made from the hair of the women and girls slain in the Mountain Meadow massacre, for complicity, with which murder John D. Lee, the Mormon, was tried and shot a few years ago. The place where he purchased the rope was at Palerongate, sixty-five miles from Mountain Meadow, where the most harrowing and brutal massacre of modern times occurred.

The Letter G.

From a French Paper.

Have you noticed the role the letter G plays in the personnel politique of the world? In Russia, Gortschakoff; in Germany, Gillaume; in Greece, Georges; in England, Gladstone and the Prince of Galles; in France, Grevy, Gambetta and Galliffet; in Algeria, Grevy; in Italy, Garibaldi; in America, Garfield, of whom the assassin's name is Guiteau; the mayor of New York is called Grace.

Why He Didn't Bid.

At an auction sale of miscellaneous goods the auctioneer put up a wolfskin dressing-gown and invited bids. An old man inspected it closely, seemed to think there was a bargain in it, but yet he hesitated to bid. "Don't you want that?" asked the auctioneer. "Yes, kinder," was the reply. "Then why don't you bid?" "Well, I've bought heaps o' things in dry goods and so on," slowly responded the old man, "and I never yet took home anything that the old woman thought was worth the price. If I got that 'ere robe for a song she'd grab up, pull at one end, chaw at the other, and call out: 'Cheated again; more'n half cotton!' That's the reason I dar'n't bid!"

A MURDERER LYNCHED.

A Prisoner in the Bloomington (Ill.) Jail Murders the Jailer—The Murderer Seized and Executed by a Howling Mob.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Oct. 3.

About 6:30 o'clock Saturday evening three discharges of a revolver following each other in rapid succession were heard in the county jail. Then the people on the street began to cry, "Police! police!" and run toward the jail building, at the corner of Center and Market streets. Immediately rumor prevailed that the prisoners had obtained pistols, had killed the Sheriff and Jailer, and were making their escape. The fact was, a prisoner named Charles Pierce, a horse thief, had murdered Teddy Franks, the County Jailer. Franks, while changing the prisoner, Pierce alias Howlett, from one cell to another, was murdered in cold blood by Pierce, who seized the jailer's revolver from Franks' hip pocket, shooting him three times and killing him instantly. The third shot, a large ball, went clear through the body.

Within a few moments after this tragedy had occurred, a large number of people had gathered in front of the north door of the jail, within which the body of Teddy Franks was lying stark in death. Walking among the people, you could hear men say: "This is too bad! This comes from the failure of our courts to punish crime. He ought to be hung."

"Don't stir up a mob!" a law-and-order man would say. "Let the law take its course."

"The law be cursed," was the reply. "There is no law against murder and other crime in McLean county. He ought to be hanged."

Then some one cried: "Let us take him out!"

Cheers followed this, and other voices cried: "Take him out!"

After an hour's excitement, a rush was made and the work of breaking into the jail was commenced.

For two hours the mob worked at the jail with six sledge hammers and battering rams made of great pieces of timber.

Sheriff Alor and his deputies and the city police soon ascertained that they could do nothing to restrain the reckless men and boys who composed the assaulting crowd. Fully 5,000 persons were in the howling, yelling multitude. At last the mob gained admittance to the jail, secured the murderer of Franks, took him to a tree on Market street, near the northeast corner of Center and Market, put a rope around his neck, threw one end across a branch and pulled the culprit up. One of the mob climbed up the tree and out upon the branch to which the murderer was hanging, and, amid the cheers of the delighted people, pulled the hanging body up three or four feet and let it drop

"Pull him up higher!" the crowd would cry. The man on the branch would comply with the request and let the body drop with a dull thud, while the savage crowd would cheer and laugh. The knot had slipped behind the head of the corpse, and the head was thrown forward. The eyes stared and the pale face turned from side to side, a spectacle which the maddened crowd seemed to enjoy. It cheered and yelled and shouted: "There's law for you!" "Curse the courts!" was cried here and there.

At last the man on the branch caught the rope, slipped down it, threw his legs around the neck of the corpse and jumped to the ground. The crowd seemed to be delighted by this feat. It cheered and yelled and shouted. About that time rain began to fall, though the great crowd lingered about, wading in the mud and, by streaming gaslight, viewing the dangling murderer.

When the murderer was raised the first time, Officer Bailey, of the police force, imperiled his life by running in, cutting the rope and letting Pierce fall to the ground. In attempting to repeat it he came near being killed. A large number of people climbed on top of a shed to witness the execution, when the building went crashing to the ground. Strangely, none were seriously hurt. After thirty minutes the murderer was cut down and the Coroner took charge of the body.

The lynchers had a keg of gunpowder ready with which to blow up the jail if they failed to batter it down.

All day yesterday (Sunday) the wrecked jail and the building in which lay the remains of the lynched man were the center of attraction. Thousands visited the jail, looked at the wrecked doors, windows and brickwork, at the terrible blood stains on the floor and on the counterpane on which Franks died, and which was saturated with the bright and vivid crimson of arterial blood. The remains of Pierce lay in a box of ice at the undertaker's, and a constant stream passed in at the front door and out at the back. The fatal rope was around his neck. The face was livid with coagulated blood, which extended down to the center of the chest, yet the face wore a peaceful expression. Many ladies fainted at the sight. At least 5,000 persons viewed the remains. A card was tacked on the elm tree, on which the following was written: "Bloomington, McLean County, Ill.—Axman, axman, spare this tree, and never touch a single bough, and may God spare this elm tree forever to grow to mark where the first justice, a murder, ever was done in McLean county, and may the good people stand by the boys that did it."

While all deprecate the method by which the end was attained, there seems to be no regret whatever that the murderer met his death.

POLITICAL STATE CONVENTIONS.

The New York Republican State Convention met in the Academy of Music, New York city, there being 4,000 persons in attendance. Hon. Thomas C. Platt called the delegates to order. Hon. Frank Hiscock was proposed as temporary Chairman, but declined in the spirit of harmony. The new Senator, Warner Miller, was then elected by a majority of 108 over Hiscock. George William Curtis submitted a resolution in indorsement of civil-service reform, which was referred to the Committee on Platform. Chauncey M. Depew was chosen permanent Chairman. The following ticket was nominated: Joseph Carr, Secretary of State; Ira Davenport, Comptroller; Leslie W. Russell, Attorney General; Silas Seymour, State Engineer, and F. M. Finch, Judge of the Court of Appeals. The proceedings were harmonious throughout. A lengthy platform was adopted. The first section is in memory of the late President Garfield, the second is complimentary to President Arthur; the third relates to the national finances, and favors the reduction of national taxes, but that such reduction must be made with a view to the continued protection of American industry; the fourth favors the earnest prosecution of the star-route swindlers, as well as all others wronging the Government; the fifth favors a proper civil-service reform; the sixth is complimentary to Gov. Cornell; the seventh is in favor of making the canals free; the eighth and last favors equal taxation and opposes monopolies that unjustly oppress the people.

The Massachusetts Democratic Convention assembled at Worcester and nominated the following State ticket: Governor, Charles P. Thompson; Lieutenant Governor, James H. Carleton; Secretary of State, Gen. M. I. Donahoe; Treasurer and Receiver General, Col. Francis J. Parker; Auditor, Charles R. Field; Attorney General, Gen. Patrick A. Collins. The platform declares that the tariff needs readjustment; monopolies have to be watched; corporations should have their charters revised; shipbuilding should be encouraged, not by subsidies, but by doing away with taxation burdensome to shipbuilders; prohibitory laws have not accomplished the purposes for which they were enacted, and are an invasion of the personal liberty of the citizen; the payment of the poll-tax as a qualification for voters should be abolished; the national debt should be reduced as fast as possible, and the rate of interest lowered, etc.

The Maryland Republican Convention was held at Cambridge, in that State, under the Presidency of ex-Postmaster General Cresswell. Thomas Gorsuch, in Frederick county, was nominated for Comptroller. The resolutions reaffirm the supremacy of the nation over the State, the equality of all citizens before the law, demand honest voting and fair counting, legislation for the promotion of national industries and for the development of the resources of the country, and call upon Congress to provide an improved method for the ascertainment of the will of the people at Presidential elections.

The Minnesota Democratic Convention met at St. Paul and nominated the following ticket: Governor, Gen. R. W. Johnson; Lieutenant Governor, E. P. Barnum; Auditor, Rudolph Lehmicke; Secretary of State, A. J. Lamberton; Treasurer, John F. Russell; Attorney General, George N. Baxter; Railroad Commissioner, R. S. Cook. The platform is notable for its brevity, embracing, as it does, only three resolutions. The first denounces repudiation, the second expresses grief for the death of President Garfield, and the third and last reaffirms the principles announced in the last National Democratic Convention.

GARFIELD AND BLAINE.

The Secretary's Letter Accepting the Tender of the State Department.

The Philadelphia *Press* publishes the letter of Secretary Blaine accepting the tender of the State Department, made him by the late President Garfield. It is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20, 1880.

MY DEAR GARFIELD: Your generous invitation to enter your Cabinet as Secretary of State has been under consideration for more than three weeks. The thought had really never occurred to my mind until at our late conference you presented it with such cogent arguments in its favor, and with such warmth of personal friendship in aid of your kind offer. I know that an early answer is desirable, and I have waited only long enough to consider the subject in all its bearings, and to make up my mind definitely and conclusively. I now say to you, in the same cordial spirit in which you have invited me, that I accept the position. It is no affectation for me to add that I make this decision not for the honor of the promotion it gives me in the public service, but because I think I can be useful to the country and to the party, useful to you as the responsible leader of the party and the great head of the Government. I am influenced somewhat, perhaps, by the shower of letters I have received urging me to accept, written me in consequence of the mere unauthorized newspaper report that you had been pleased to offer me the place. While I have received these letters from all sections of the Union, I have been especially pleased and even surprised at the cordial and widely-extended feeling in my favor throughout New England, where I had expected to encounter local jealousy, and, perhaps, a rival aspiration.

In our new relation I shall give all that I am and all that I can hope to be freely and joyfully to your service. You need no pledge of my loyalty in heart and in act. I should be false to myself did I not prove true both to the great trust you confide to me and to your own personal and political fortunes in present and in future. Your administration must be made eminently successful and strong in the confidence and pride of the people, not at all directing its energies for re-election, and yet compelling that result by the logic of events, and by the imperious necessities of the situation. To that most desirable consummation I feel that, next to yourself, I can possibly contribute as much influence as any other man. I say this, not from egotism or vain-glory, but merely as the deduction from a plain analysis of the political forces which have been at work in the country for five years past, and which have been significantly shown in two great national conventions. I accept it as one of the happiest circumstances connected with this affair that, in allying my political for unes with yours, or, rather, for the time merging mine in yours, my heart goes with my head, and that I carry to you not only political support, but personal and political friendship. I can but regard it as somewhat remarkable that two men of the same age, entering Congress at the same time, influenced by the same aims and cherishing the same ambitions, should never for a single moment in eighteen years of close intimacy have had a misunderstanding or coolness, and that our friendship has steadily grown with our growth and strengthened with our strength.

It is this fact which has led me to the conclusion embodied in this letter, for, however much, my dear Garfield, I might admire you as a statesman, I would not enter your Cabinet if I did not believe in you as a man and love you as a friend. Always faithfully yours,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

Business Failures.

The commercial failures for nine months ending Sept. 30, 1881, are reported by Dun, Wiman & Co. as 3,890, as compared with 3,476 for the corresponding period of 1880. The liabilities for three-quarters of the present year were $51,000,000, as compared with $45,000,000 for the same period of 1880. The failures for the last three months have been 1,024, with liabilities of $10,600,000, while in the third quarter of 1880 they were 979, with liabilities of $12,000,000. The geographical distribution of failures shows that the Southern States suffered somewhat, inasmuch as the figures indicate their liabilities for the first three months of 1880 were only $945,000, as against $1,054,000 for the present quarter. On the other hand, for the Western States the liabilities show a decline of nearly $650,000 in favor of this quarter. In the Middle States the liabilities are about $1,000,000 less in amount than in the corresponding period of 1880. In the Eastern and Pacific States the liabilities are but little different from those of last year. In Canada an exceptionally good condition of affairs has prevailed, the failures for the last three months having been but 130, with liabilities of $787,000. This is a better showing than has been made in the Dominion for any quarter in the past six years.

Base-Ball.

The contest for the base-ball championship of the United States, between the eight clubs constituting the National League, closed on the 30th ult. Chicago again captured the champion pennant, the club representing that city having won more and lost fewer games than any of its competitors. The record of games won and lost and the standing of all the clubs is as follows:

CLUBS.	Chicago	Providence	Buffalo	Detroit	Troy	Boston	Cleveland	Worcester	Games won	Games played
Chicago	—	9	7	7	8	10	6	9	56	84
Providence	3	—	5	8	6	7	9	9	47	84
Buffalo	5	7	—	9	3	8	7	7	46	84
Detroit	5	4	3	—	7	8	7	7	41	84
Troy	4	6	9	5	—	5	6	4	39	84
Boston	2	5	4	4	7	—	8	8	38	83
Cleveland	6	3	5	3	6	4	—	7	36	84
Worcester	3	3	5	5	8	3	5	—	32	84
Games lost	28	37	38	43	45	45	48	51	335	

Fraudulent Divorce Certificates.

People who get divorced through New York lawyers who advertise the divorce business as a specialty should be careful not to marry again until they are certain all is right. Other evidence than the statements of the unscrupulous attorneys is necessary. A New Yorker who supposed himself divorced in this way, ostensibly through a Pittsburg court, found to his disgust that the names of officials who have no existence had been affixed to the apparently legal certificate. Some months ago a New York reporter visited one of the divorce lawyers, and after paying him certain fees in due time received what purported to be the legal attestation of his separation from his wife. As he had never been married, the value of the process through which he had passed can very easily be conceived. There is no doubt that many of the applicants to these shysters are as bad as their counsel, but this does not render the latter any less a nuisance. Legislation is apparently needed in several States to check this nefarious practice, and it should be forthcoming. —*Cincinnati Gazette.*

Boss in His Own House.

He waltzed out of the front door, followed by a wash-board and two bars of soap, and, as he straightened himself and walked firmly down the street, he remarked: "A man must draw a line somewhere, or he can't be boss of the house, and I'll be hanged if I'll pump more than one tub of water for no washing, and there ain't a woman can make me do it unless she locks me in."

AWAY UP IN THE WORLD.

Talk With the Man Who Paints Steeples.

James Ferguson, of Albany, N. Y., says an exchange, is the man who climbs steeples to paint and repair them, and has frequently been watched by hundreds of people as he pursued his hazardous calling. Many persons, therefore, will read with interest the following statement which he made to a reporter:

"I've spent the greater part of my life up among those rolling clouds. For eighteen years I sailed the sea between the East Indies and China before the mast, and afterward occupied every station excepting that of captain. When I was sixteen years of age I climbed a steeple in Glasgow 300 feet high in half an hour. The same feat it took the noted Scotchman, 'Steeple Jack,' three days to perform. I've been mounting steeples for seven years as a business. The last one I went up previous to this was the Chapel-Street Presbyterian in Albany, which is 300 feet in height. I took down the weather vane in the shape of a fish, which weighs 327 pounds, being of copper and loaded with lead. It was the first time any one had been up the steeple in thirty years. [Mr. Ferguson has a photograph of himself while in the act of removing the fish, presented to him by the trustees of the church.]

"The highest steeple I ever climbed went up 370 feet; this was in Ayershire, Scotland. The general impression is that when on a steeple it is easier to look up than down. This is all a mistake. When looking up an almost irresistible feeling comes over you to jump from your seat. I had experience of this kind while on the steeple of Dr. Darling's church in Albany. I gazed steadily up for a moment into space, when, without any feeling of dizziness or anything of that sort, I became almost beside