

A bill is pending in the legislature providing for castration as the penalty for rape.

The Republican national committee tendered no resolution of thanks to the retiring secretary of their committee.

Representative Gilman, of this district, complimented H. G. Geo. Major, with his vote for Prison Director. A righteous act.

The young lady who made seven hundred words out of "conservator" last fall has run away from home. Her mother wanted her to make three loaves of bread out of "flour."

A few national Banks have worked up a little monopoly of their own in the way of the exclusive use of the government's surplus cash balance which they modestly term by way of authoritative distinction, "government deposits." The insignificant little sum thus utilized is put down at \$14,790.65.

On Monday last the State Senate decided on a vote of 25 to 23, that the amendments were not constitutional before the present legislature for action. Senator Hoover voted with the minority. This settles the question as to present action. In order to get them before the people, it will be necessary to begin anew and have them in proper shape for the next legislature. We believe the action of the last legislature was a trick notwithstanding the professions of its friends.

The question as to the legality of the prohibition amendments in Iowa, was recently decided by the Supreme Court of that State adversely, the Court holding that an error is not recording the vote of the House of Representatives made the whole business illegal and void. The same error occurred in this State, and instead of carrying the matter to submission that the Supreme Court might set down on the work, the legislature has nipped it in the bud by declaring the amendments not constitutionally be for it for action.

We find the following item, going the round of the Republican papers:

Gutman, it will be remembered, cursed the jury that convicted him. He prophesied to them all manner of evil, and people here are commenting on the happenings to that jury since the trial. To-day Thomas Hinman, who was a member of the jury, has departed this life. Another named Sheehan, has lost all his property, and is now a hotel porter. Hinman died of heart disease, which was supposed to have been exaggerated on account of confinement in the jury room.

The Washington correspondent of the Remington news says in his last letter:

The second event is the bill for the attempt to wipe out the stigma that a score of years has attached to the name of Fitz John Porter, which it has already passed the Senate, and if it can be reached during this session will probably pass the lower House. But until the Congress bring back to him an untarashed name and place him in a position to be remembered with grateful remembrance by true, loyal countrymen?

It should do that; and also thrust into oblivion and contempt the men whose envy, jealousy and ignorance has made Gen. Fitz John Porter the scape goat of the "head-quarters in the saddle" Pepe, and those who relied upon him.

The Republican newspapers, many of them being well posted on current topics, are generally opposed to the present tariff system. The New York Times, one of the leading Republican papers of the country, has this to say relative to tariff reduction: "If the Republican party is to assume the responsibility for any such measures as that of the Ways and Means Committee, it is to be earnestly hoped that the modification will be radical. Even an estimate reduction of custom receipts to the amount of \$25,000,000 will cover the knavery which is imbedded in every schedule of the tariff revision presented by Mr. Kelley and his colleagues. It retains or intensifies every bad feature of the Commission Bill, and retains but few of its good ones. Better the tariff as it is than any such despotic and dishonest revision. Its passage would be a misfortune to the country, and an act of political suicide for the party."

NEWSPAPERS.

In the Christmas edition of the *Porter Sentinel*, Rev. J. M. Martin, formerly rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in this city, had a very interesting article upon "Newspapers." It was most replete with good things. In one place, in speaking of the press the reverend gentleman says: "The pulpit, the platform, the schools, the universities and every institution for the development of thought and the dissemination of knowledge are not equal to its power. There are no institutions, however strong, and ancient, which the united energies can not overthrow. Napoleon declared that a newspaper was the regent of sovereigns and the tutor of nations, and that four hostile newspapers are more to be dreaded than a hundred thousand bayonets. The brilliant and sagacious Sheridan said: "Give me the liberty of the press" and I will shake down its height corruption, and bury it amidst the ruins of the abuses it means to shelter."

Bishop Sheeney, at Christ Episcopal Church, in Chicago, said: "Out of that seething hell at Milwaukee the other day, two heroes, with a frail ladder spanning the chasm of death, saved twenty women. Think you these women will ever see the day when they will be ashamed to confess that those brave fellows rescued them? How much more should you confess Christ, who has said, that he saves me will I confess before my father in heaven."

Jefferson Ulysses has been arrested on two indictments, charged with blowing up saloons at New Palestine with dynamite. That town has been the scene of four dynamite explosions and every saloon that has been opened has been blown up. Ulysses has been placed in jail at Greenfield, Indiana, for \$1,000 bail.

QUININE AS A CAUSE OF INSANITY.—The American Medical Weekly says: The father of a Washington lawyer guilty of escapades has recently given the following explanation of his delirious condition: "Thinking it a safe thing to do, my son has been in the habit of mouth-carrying quinine in his pocket, and taking it in small but frequent doses, and the result is an elated, sanguine state of mind, quite beyond the bonds of reason. His memory is not impaired, and the marked improvement already consequent upon being deprived of the drug, gives his friends reason to expect complete restoration in short time. Meanwhile, let this case be one of many others to teach us all that excellent as quinine may be in many cases, it like chloroform or opium or alcohol, exceedingly dangerous to trifling with." The question which the physician on reading this, is whether quinine has been reported as causing insanity. There are at least two cases on record, both of them reported in the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases*, July, 1881. In both, insanity always followed up the use of quinine, and from the character of the two reported cases it seems certain that in some predisposed cases a brief, curable insanity may follow upon the use of quinine.

The amusing anecdote is related as a fact by the minister who was a party to it, that immediately after the capture of New Orleans, General Butler was informed that an eminent Episcopal divine of that city had quitted from his service the usual prayer for the President of the United States, and had substituted the prayer of the Confederacy.

He incensed the General, and he at once sent one of his sergeants to command the presence of the offending minister, and after noting his offense, demanded that he should correct the service in the future. The minister, who was and is a native of Virginia, and a most pious gentleman, frankly admitted "it was impossible for him to 'conscientiously' comply with the General's demand; that as he was a friend of peace and ready to submit, in all proper humility, to the powers, he would agree to omit it in the future, and assist the Confederacy. General Butler quitted from his service the usual prayer for the President of the United States, and had substituted the prayer of the Confederacy.

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The facts as gathered from the correspondence of Mr. Ulysses and all that transpired, are simply these: When Mr. Ulysses received a note from Moody asking where, outside of the State, a further communication would reach him, he handed it to his next friend and took with it a tray for the General. Mr. Moody, however, informed him that Mr. Ulysses would be pleased to receive a further communication from him at the Burnett House in the city above mentioned. On the following day, which was Saturday, the expected challenge came and was promptly accepted. The two afterwards became good friends. The two afterwords became good friends, and Mr. Ulysses, and left for Indiana without fighting a duel, much to the disgust of the zealous reporters and excited countrymen.—Delph Journal.

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It is necessary to raise a warning against a most mischievous statement which has recently been circulated, and has already done harm, to the effect that "arsenic in small doses is good for the complexion." It is not difficult to imagine the risks which will incur to preserve or improve the complexion by the use of an ingenious device for recommending a drug can be hit upon than that which the authors of this most baneful prescription of "arsenic for the complexion" have adopted. Suffice it to say, we still find the world in a state of alarm, and for many years past chemists and sanitarians have been laboring to discover means of eliminating the arsenical salts from the coloring matter of wall papers, and certain dyes, once largely used for certain articles in clothing. It is most unfortunate that this hopelessly antagonistic recommendation of arsenic to improve the complexion could have found its way into print. Those who employed the device advised—there are many either already using it or contemplating the rash act—will do so at their peril. So far as they are able, however, it will be the duty of medical men to warn the public against this pernicious practice, which only too likely to be carried on secretly. It is not without reason that that we speak this pointedly, and urge practitioners to be on the qui vive in anomalous or obscure cases.—Lancet.

AGE OF THE EARTH.

The age of the earth is placed by some at 500,000,000, by others at 1000,000,000, years, and still others of, late years, among whom the Duke of Argyle, place it at 10,000,000,000, knowing what processes have gone through. Other planets go through the same process. The reason other planets differ so much from the earth is, that they are in a much earlier or later existence. The earth must become old. Newton surmised, although he gave no reason for it, that the earth would, in time loose all its waters and become perfectly dry. Since then it has been found that Newton was correct.

As the earth keeps cooling it will become porous, and great cavities will be formed in the interior which will take water. It is estimated that this process is now in progress, so that the rate of the evaporation of water paper each year. At this rate in 6,000,000 years, the water will have sunk a mile, and in 15,000,000 years every trace of water will have disappeared from the globe. The nitrogen and oxygen in the atmosphere are also diminishing all the time. It is an inappreciable degree, but the time will come when the air will be so thin that no creature we know of could breath it and live; the time will come when the earth cannot support life. That will be the period of old age, and then come death.—Richard Proctor.

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HON HORACE HEFFREN.
MORE REMINISCENCES CONCERNING HIS CAREER.

ALL ABOUT THE FAMOUS HEFFREN.
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DECEMBER SETTLEMENT SHEET OF JASSENAESE. CONCERNING HIS CAREER.

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