

The Democratic Sentinel

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

J. W. McEWEN, PUBLISHER

NEWS CONDENSED.

Concise Record of the Week.

EASTERN.

The Connellsburg Coke Association, of Pennsylvania, has now closed 60 per cent. of its ovens. Product is selling at \$1.10 per ton.

A New York dispatch says that in the ruins of the burned Catholic orphan asylum at Brooklyn the charred bodies of eleven boys and two grown persons were discovered. Tons of rubbish and timbers are yet to be removed, and there are fears that other bodies will be found. The roster of the little ones shows about 120 as missing, but these are supposed to be housed in the neighborhood. Of the bodies found it is thought seven were those of children, one was a man and one, a woman. Diggers are still at work. It is thought other bodies will be recovered. The property loss is estimated at \$30,000, as the building was valued at \$200,000.

Joseph Herzog, of Lancaster, Pa., has in ten years committed forgeries aggregating \$87,000. The banks are heavy losers by his operations.

On information furnished by an anonymous letter, the sanitary authorities of New York discovered huge heaps of moldy human skeletons in a lot at No. 11 West Third street.

The velocity of the wind on Mount Washington during last week's cold snap, exceeded 100 miles an hour and the mercury was frozen. The spirit thermometer marked nearly 50 below zero. The weather was intensely cold in New York and New England.

WESTERN.

Sergt. Bates, who carried the star-spangled banner through the South, is sick, and nearly destitute, at his home in Saybrook, Ill. A constable last week sold his saber to satisfy a debt.

The Railroad Commissioners of Iowa have at last aroused to action concerning the oppression of the farmers by the railroads whose exorbitant charges for freight transportation are causing such widespread distress, and are moving toward an investigation of the abuse.

Judge Woods, of Indianapolis, positively refused to spread upon the records of his court the statement of James G. Blaine that a fair trial of his libel suit against the *Sentinel* could not be had in Indiana. The entry was, therefore, made that the case was voluntarily dismissed.

Hog-cholera in Nebraska has caused a loss of probably \$500,000, the loss in Sarpy County alone amounting to \$75,000.

From March 24, 1855, to April 30, 1884, the Illinois Central Railroad has paid to the State of Illinois the sum of \$9,648,649.41.

The Rev. H. D. Jardine, an Episcopalian pastor at Kansas City, has sued a newspaper of that town for \$10,000 for scandalous remarks.

Cleveland. Arrangements have been made to carry the entire militia to and from the capital without cost to the members.

POLITICAL.

Mr. Blaine has addressed the following letter to his attorneys, instructing them to dismiss the suit for \$50,000 damages for libel against the Indianapolis *Sentinel*, which he instituted during the recent campaign:

Moates, Harrison, Miller & Elam, Counselors at Law.

GENTLEMEN: When I requested you in August last to bring suit against the publishers of the Indianapolis *Sentinel* for libel, I did so in the belief that the strong wrong done by that paper, both in its personal and domestic character, could be fairly tried without undue influence from political considerations. I confess I was profoundly amazed to find the matter at once taken up and the libel reproduced with all possible exaggeration in every Democratic paper in the State. Excerpts from the *Sentinel* of the Democratic party of that State, I never heard that a word of disapproval was spoken, while the great mass of the papers repeated the libel from every stump in Indiana with violence and as though it were a ribald jest. It was thus made, so far as any master of the kind can be made, an issue in an exciting political campaign, and the Democrats of the State were thoroughly poisoned in their minds by the *Sentinel* and its supporters. The law. Under such conditions it is simply impossible that I can have a fair trial, or that I can expect any other result than that which uniformly attends a political suit growing out of an exciting political issue.

It is not enough to desire a jury composed of my own party; I could not have it. A properly constituted jury in Indiana would be composed of members of both political parties.

When I visited Indiana in October, I requested you advised that six Democrats could not be found in the State who, in a political suit, would give a verdict against their leading party organ. This did not necessarily convey an imputation against their personal character, as I did not then know of any hindrance of personal prejudice would utterly prevent an impartial consideration of the evidence submitted. I am perfectly able to fight the *Sentinel* newspaper in an Indiana court, but I would stand no chance of success in any trial of the political value of the Democratic party of the State.

With these surroundings, and with this prospect, it is idle for me to go through the trouble and expense of a trial. The questions proposed by the court of appeals have been substantially and fully answered by me, and I am willing to leave my written statement and answers under oath to the judgment of the public. I do not choose to have the case re-considered by a court of appeals, or suffered to die in silence. I prefer to make the task and trouble of the prosecution of the case induced me to believe the prosecution of the case would be utterly fruitless. Very respectfully,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

THREE Cabinet portfolios are said to have been already decided upon. Senator Bayard is to be Secretary of the Treasury, Senator Garland Attorney-General, and Gen. McClellan Secretary of the Navy. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* telegraphs that journal this bit of Cabinet gossip:

A prominent Democrat says that three Cabinet positions have been settled. They are: Senator Bayard for the Treasury, Senator Garland of Arkansas, for Attorney General, and Gen. McClellan, of New Jersey, for Secretary of the Navy. The gentleman says that Mr. Cleveland decided that he could not have a Cabinet which shall have a Cabinet place, as he considers that both these States are represented in the Cabinet through the President and Vice President. So confident are Democrats that Mr. Garland is to be in the Cabinet that an application is already being made for a diagram of the Senate chamber for the seat which Garland now occupies. The reason why McClellan is not assigned to the War Department is that he has too many friends in the army to reward, and too many enemies from a prominent Senator, and considerable importance is attached to it. Among Senators the impression is general that Judge Thurman will be one of the Cabinet, and that Senator Pendleton will be suitably recognized with one of the principal foreign missions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An arctic wave of unusual severity spread itself over the country last week. The mercury was below zero on a line across the continent from Washington to Portland, Oregon. At Minnesota, in the far Northwest, the mercury went down to 39 below, Fort Garry reported 33 degrees, St. Vincent 30 degrees, Berlin, Wis., 30 degrees, Milwaukee 23 degrees, Rockford, Ill., 25 degrees, and Fort Dodge, Ia., 28 degrees. At Davenport and Dubuque the Mississippi River was frozen over; at La Porte, Ind., there was a railroad blockade, and at Lynchburg, Va., a heavy snow-storm. Leadville, Colo., reported two feet of snow and all railroads blocked.

There were 305 failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's during the week, against 312 in the preceding week, and 280, 236, and 145 in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882, and 1881, respectively. About 87 per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000. In the principal trades, the failures were as follows: General stores, 42; groceries, 41; liquors, 18; clothing and cloth, 18; manufacturers, 17; shoes, 11; drugs, 11; dry goods, 11; tobacco and cigars, 10; grain, 9; fancy goods, 9; hardware and agricultural implements, 8; hotels and restaurants, 8; millinery, 8; harness, 7; men's furnishing goods, 7; produce and provisions, 7; carpenters and builders, 6; furniture, 6; jewelry, 6; plumbers and gas-fitters, 5; books and printings, 5; lumber and material, 4; bakers and confectioners, 3; crockery, 2; butchers, 2.

Lubric Bros., dry goods and millinery at St. Louis, made an assignment.

Plummer's planing-mill at Jackson, Michigan, was blown to pieces by a boiler explosion. One employee was killed and six others received serious injuries.

Fire swept away the County Poor House near Lapeer, Mich.; the Griffin Hotel at Youngstown, Ohio; the grocery store of Armstrong & Buchanan, at Cedar Rapids, Iowa; \$60,000 worth of quartermaster's stores at Sault Ste. Marie; the pottery of Isaac Davis, at Trenton, N. J.; the spacious residence of W. B. McCrory, at Flint, Michigan; the Riverside paper-mills at South Toledo, Ohio; and a hotel and opera-house at Stanton, Michigan.

FOREIGN.

It is thought that Gen. Wolseley cannot reach Khartoum before March 1, and that the hero of African conquest may yet be compelled to apply to Gordon to help him out of the scrape.

It is rumored that Portugal is about to cede to Germany the Portuguese possessions in Delagoa Bay, in Southeast Africa.

More damage was done to London bridge by the recent explosion than was at first supposed. The official report of the Department of Explosives says that the dynamite was probably suspended over the sewer-hole at the Gaze pier. A reward of \$500 has been offered by the authorities for the conviction of the guilty parties.

It is alleged by United Ireland that the London police directed the dynamite sensations and pay for the explosions.

Great excitement prevailed on the Vienna Pourse owing to the disappearance of Lucas Janner, the banker, and the discovery of a deficit of \$1,000,000 in his accounts.

Lucas Janner, the Vienna bank di-

rector who defrauded for over 2,000,000 florins, shot himself dead at the neighboring village of Kierling. On his person was found only 24 florins.

There is a rumor that the German flag has been hoisted over the Islands of New Britain and New Ireland, the Admiralty Islands, and portions of the north coast of New Guinea.

The French Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 238 to 18, rejected a motion to abolish the French Embassy at the Vatican. The Prime Minister recognized the enlightened and conciliatory attitude of the Pope.

AN INTELLIGENT BIRD.

The Antics of a Tame Crow in Connecticut.

A pair of tame crows, that became almost family pets, have afforded a great deal of amusement to a family in a neighboring town. Taken from the nest before they were able to fly, they learned their first lessons of life in companionship with human beings, and grew to be almost as tame as the domestic poultry. They were taken from the nest probably about the 10th or 12th of June, and have now attained the size of full-grown crows. One marked trait of character that began to be developed pretty early, and has grown with their growth and strengthened with their strength, is a disposition to mischief. One of the two has been from the first much more tame and familiar than the other. "Jack," as the family pet is called, has developed the thieving and mischievous traits of all the crow tribe. He will enter at an open window and steal whatever he can carry off, particularly if it shines or glitters. In this way he got off with a young lady's gold thimble, which has been hidden where it is not likely to be found again; and he came near getting off with a lady's watch, which was rescued just in time, after he had got it out of doors. Warned by experience, the family have to keep the windows shut if they leave any room for the time unguarded. One day recently Jack was caught tearing off the wall-paper, of which he had already stripped off nearly a yard. A day or two since he was seen in the act of trying to lift and carry off a rubber door-mat, which, however, proved little too heavy for him.

The tendency of both crows was to hide the things they had stolen. These they would so deftly conceal, and in such queer places, that there seemed little hope of getting back anything after the crows had once made off with it. Jack, having hidden some article very carefully under a little heap of leaves at the foot of a tree, flew away, apparently well satisfied with that particular piece of work. He had been watched, and in his absence the stolen property was recovered and the leaves replaced as he had left them. When he came back, he went to the spot and cautiously examined the situation—carefully removing the leaves. Discovering his loss, he exhibited a comical state of astonishment and bewilderment. Cocking his head on one side, he surveyed the scene in a reflective mood; then he re-examined the spot where his stolen property had been hidden; then he went back a rod or two and took a careful survey of the tree and its surroundings, apparently to make sure that he had got the right tree. Having assured himself that the plunder was no longer where he had hidden it, he stood for some time in an apparent state of bewilderment, or a kind of brown study—his head had frequently turned in a knowing way on one side. At last he gave it up, made an examination all around the tree, and then left the matter finally, as a conclusion, that was evidently too deep for him.

He is a knowing fowl, and like his elan cousin, the raven celebrated by Edgar Poe, he knows how to come and knock gently on the window-pane when he wants to get into the house. He knows, too, just about how much water is to be provided for his bath, for he is very regular and punctual about taking his morning bath, and, after his mistress has come out with one pitcher of water and poured it into the pan, Jack always waits for the arrival of the second pitcherful. Then he jumps in and has a jolly time of it, flopping and flapping about in the water till he gets "wet as drowned rat," when he gets off, a dripping and bedraggled object, to some secure spot where he can dry himself in the sun.—*Hartford Times*.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

BEEVES..... \$4.50 @ 6.75

HOGS..... 4.25 @ 4.75

FLOUR—Extra..... 4.50 @ 5.00

WHEAT—No. 1 Spring..... 3.90 @ 5.00

No. 2 Red..... 3.82 @ 5.44

CORN—No. 2..... 3.52 @ 5.54

OATS—White..... 3.81 @ 3.88

PORK—New Mess..... 12.25 @ 12.75

CHICAGO.

BEEVES—Choice to Prime Steers..... 6.50 @ 8.00

Good Shipping..... 6.25 @ 7.50

Common to Fair..... 3.75 @ 4.50

FLOUR—French White Winter Ex. Good to Choice Spring..... 4.00 @ 6.50

WHEAT—No. 2 Spring..... 3.75 @ 4.25

No. 3 Red Winter..... 3.52 @ 5.00

CORN—No. 2..... 3.72 @ 3.74

OATS—No. 2..... 3.87 @ 3.89

PORK—No. 2..... 24 @ 28

BARLEY—No. 2..... 5.11 @ 5.53

BUTTER—Choice Creamy..... 26 @ 28

FINE DAIRY..... 20 @ 23

CHEESE—Full Cream..... 12 @ 13

SKIMMED Flat..... 6.8 @ 10.00

Eggs—Fowl..... 3.88 @ 4.00

POTATOES—New, per bu..... 10.75 @ 11.25

LARD..... 1.05 @ .07

TOLEDO.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 6.6 @ 6.88

CORN—No. 2..... 3.88 @ 3.99

OATS—No. 2..... 2.88 @ 3.72

WHEAT—No. 2..... 7.0 @ 7.2

CORN—No. 2..... 5.83 @ 6.11

OATS—No. 2..... 5.67 @ 6.52

PORK—Mess..... 10.25 @ 11.00

LARD..... 6.25 @ 6.75

ST. LOUIS.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 7.6 @ .78

CORN—Mixed..... 4.0 @ .42

OATS—Mixed..... 3.4 @ .36

RYE..... 2.25 @ .27

PORK—Mess..... 10.75 @ 11.25

CINCINNATI.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red..... 7.4 @ .75

CORN..... 4.0 @ .42

OATS—Mixed..... 2.7 @ .29

LARD..... 11.25 @ 11.75

DEBROS.

FLOUR..... 4.75 @ 5.25

WHEAT—No. 1 White..... 7.6 @ .78

CORN—Mixed..... 3.9 @ .40

OATS—No. 2 White..... 2.7 @ .29

LARD..... 12.00 @ 12.50

INDIANAPOLIS.

WHEAT—No. 2 Red, New..... 7.2 @ .74