

Judge Biddle of Philadelphia has entered a non-suit in the case of a candidate for office who wanted damages for alleged defamatory remarks. Judge Biddle ruled that the plaintiff in offering himself as a candidate invited scrutiny, and the matter referred to was privileged and not libellous in the eye of the law.

The chairman of the House Committee on Territories says he does not think there will be any bills reported from the committee this session for the admission of any new states. All the traditions of the democratic party, he says, are against the admission of new states unless they have sufficient population to entitle them to admission. He thinks it will be some time before New Mexico, Dakota or Washington Territory will be admitted.

Whoever builds a house should build it for winter. The summer will take care of itself. A warm winter house is the most comfortable for summer. Many persons wished during the cold snap that they had spent a little time and money in chinking up holes and providing double windows. The time to do this business is in the summer. It can not be done to advantage while winter is raging.

The action of the German and French government in prohibiting the importation of American salted meats will, unless those governments speedily change their policy, result in some retaliatory legislation. Several congressmen have already been considering the propriety of adopting some measure doubling the duties on articles imported from those countries. Just which articles will be selected for increase of duties has not been determined.

There are thousands of bills now before congress and thousands more to come. Members do not expect to pass ten or even five per cent. of them, and freely admit that nearly all are "for bunbombe"—i.e. just to delude confiding constituents with the idea that their "member" is wide awake to their interests and has an enviable position upon the floor of the house—when in reality he does not amount to but very little in such an assemblage.

Sergeant Mason, unable to resist the glittering offer of a showman, has at last displayed the stuff he is made of and placed himself on exhibition as one of the "curiosities" in a cheap-museum. He was a much more edifying spectacle when confined in the penitentiary. It is to be hoped the sentimental persons who subscribed to the fund for "Betty and the Baby" feel satisfied now. The money seems to have been mainly spent by Betty in adorning herself with gorgeous raiment, while Mason turns his notoriety into merchandise. It is a cheap-john affair altogether, but very touching to a class of people who are always looking for something to excite their sensibilities.

Persons who are in the habit of becoming intoxicated and pleading that fact, with the added claim that they did not know what they were about, as an excuse for any wrong-doing committed while under the influence of liquor, find the sand slipping from under his feet, as it were, in the light of some recent judicial decisions on the subject. One of the most important of these is that of Judge Davis, of New York, who lately held that the man who commits a crime while intoxicated is equally guilty with a sober man committing the same offense, as he is responsible for the act of getting drunk. This is both sound law and good common sense. No man has the legal or moral right to put himself in a condition where he becomes dangerous to community, and, if a plea of drunkenness were allowed as an excuse for crime, all an intending law-breaker need do would be to fill himself with bad whiskey before undertaking such offences against law as he might choose to commit.

The prime causes of the minor failures, in city or country, are lack of capital and extravagant personal expenses. When the whole available capital of a trader is in his stock of goods, for which payment is due at stated periods, he is in a bad condition to live through a stagnant period, to say nothing of violent panics or reversions. But a little reserved capital would have carried him through safely and with redoubled credit. Men start a business with some capital. They buy a large stock and begin trading. Business is good and wholesalers are anxious to sell on credit. More goods are bought, and the proceeds of sales put into a fine house, or in real estate until the creditor is actually carrying the debtor for months and sometimes years, before the most inevitable reckoning and imperative demand for payment is made, and the explosion startles the community. Extravagant personal expenses, eating up all the profits of tolerably successful business, occur so frequently as to scarcely merit a word of explanation. Such cases are quite as fatal as to success as lack of capital, and are of more frequent occurrence.

Some idea of the degree to which gambling is carried on in this country may be formed from the state-

ment that the sales of oil at New York, Oil City and Bradford Pa., amounted to 4,249,820,000 barrels—more than a hundred times the entire supply of oil in the world. During the last three months the sales have been 880,000 barrels at New York, and 780,000,000 at Oil City and Bradford. Transactions nominally involving quantities of any other articles several times in excess of any possible supply cannot have any other than a disturbing influence on business and finance, especially when moneyed institutions, as it is charged, loan their funds for the encouragement of such proceedings. The men who sell or buy what they know they have not in their possession, and cannot obtain, as it has no existence, do more harm to the general community than avowed gamblers.

**Remnants of the Ball.**  
"I'm tired out, that's what I am," remarked a Vanderbilt retainer to a New York Morning Journal man, after the fatigues of a more than usually heavy period of domestic servitude incident to the ball of Monday evening. "And we're all hupside down. Get straightened out! Why, it'll take a week or more to get things the same as they was. Jest you fancy what things'd be like after the visitors drunk \$5,000 worth of champagne, to say nothin' of the eatin' and tother kinds of drinkin' which was various."

The faithful domestic seemed to be a reflex of the aristocratic dissipation consequent upon so notable an event in the annals of the republican royalty. "It's no use a harskin' me a lot of questions wick I can't begin to answer. Everything 'went huff lovely,' as the saying is, though I guess the damage'll come one way or another to nigh on ter \$2,000—'praps more."

"How do you mean?"  
"Why, there was torn curtains, for one thing, one or two broken vases, an' sick like proceedin'."

"But cannot you give me an idea of the appearance of the rooms at the close of the festivities?"  
"Which was, to say the least, hodd. You see the company didn't go away until after 6 o'clock, and some of 'em must at least have left 'arf their costumes behind 'em. There was bits of lace lyin' here, a part of a train there, a feller's doublet in one corner, while the middle of the ball-room was strewn with broken flowers and leaves—looking for all the world like a palace just before a haughtion."

"What will be done with the flowers?"  
"A good many was taken away by the guests. The best as was left are waitin' horders. Some'll go to the servants, and I hear that sev'ral will be sent to the 'ospitals and churches. It's too early to say for sure what'll be done with 'em. I guess there's nigh on 'arf ov 'em that's as good as new."

"Were any of the pictures damaged?"  
"Not as I know of, leastways I don't hear of any, but the damage to lace curtains was considerable. I couldn't be in every place at once, so I don't know everything that appened. I'm told that quite a lot of jewelry was gathered up this mornin' and handed to the detectives."

"What detectives?"  
"There was a dozen or more on duty to see to that partickler dooty, an' I s'pose to keep a live on the waiters lest they might prig somethin'. We had a hundred hextra waiters on purpose. Lor' bless yer, the jam was simply 'orful, and I must say they did splendid."

"What is going to be done with the surplus food?"  
"Talkin' of food, I reckon there's enough left to supply a hundred families for a week. Most of it'll have to be given away, 'cos it can't keep."

"Who'll get it?"  
"The 'ospitals and the servants. Why, the waste in hices alone was somethin' 'orful, and as for the wines and lickies, they was locked hup just as soon as possible to keep the men-servants from gettin' drunk. Towards the last a good many ov 'em had as much as they could carry. However, there wasn't much to complain of on that account, though there was a tidy few ov 'em pretty full. I s'pose, take it all together, there was as much as \$1,000 worth of food left hover in one shape or another, most of which'd spoil inside twenty-four hours. Then there's a tidy bit of broken glass, which is always to be expected at such gatherin's. How much'd that come to? Well, I think a couple of hundred dollars'd about cover that."

**A Lesson in Finance.**  
"Which is the best, to owe or to have something owing to you?" asked Col. La Garbeer to Gus De Smith one day.  
"Why, to have something owing to you, of course," answered Gus, who is one of the brightest society youths in Austin.  
"I don't agree with you," said the colonel.  
"Well, why not?"  
"Because, if you have something owing to you, you may never get it. But if you owe something, when you are able to pay it you have value received, any how, and if you never pay—why, then you are sure to make a handsome profit."

**A New View of Tennyson.**  
From the Philadelphia Col.  
"Mamma," said a fashionable New York young lady to her mother, "The papers are makin' a great fuss over a Mr. Tennyson of England."  
"Yes," responded the mother, "he has been raised to the dear, delightful peerage."  
"He has been made a baron, I see," said the daughter.  
"Yes, and his wife will be a baroness, I suppose," reflected the old lady.  
"How exquisitely beautiful it must be to be a baroness!"  
"What has he been a doing of to be a baron?" asked the cultured young lady.  
"What has he been a-doing of?" repeated the mother. "Why he is the sole survivor of the noble six hundred who made the famous charge at Bala-

## TERRITORIAL NEWS.

### A CHARGE UNSUSTAINED.

Mr. Shaw, charged with bribing Gov. Ordway, Discharged, the Case Being Dismissed and the Costs Assessed to Commissioner Gilchrist.

BLUNT, Dak., Special Telegram, Jan. 11.—The bribery case brought by Gilchrist of Potter county against James W. Shaw, a fellow commissioner, came to an abrupt close today—which was not all a surprise to the people fully conversant with the facts. The prosecution had been given the greatest latitude, and all the witnesses were all on hand; but even with this state of affairs nothing could be learned to cast suspicion on Gov. Ordway or Shaw. It is well understood here that the Yankton ring have been forcing the case with the hope of raising a howl against Gov. Ordway, but the result has been totally to his support some of the strongest and most influential men in the Territory, while in Blunt and Pierre the entire population stand with Gov. Ordway, Shaw and Kretschmer. The prosecuting attorney asked for a dismissal of the case, which Justice Houtz granted and discharged the defendant. Exclamations such as "We told you so," "A disgrace and outrage," were heard, and Shaw and his friends were congratulated, while Gilchrist slunk from the hall. As the case was brought maliciously and without other probable cause, the costs were taxed to Gilchrist. The people of Blunt last night tendered the defendant and his witnesses a public supper at the Metropolitan hotel, and never before have a crowd of gentlemen won the sympathy of the community as have Shaw and his friends. A suit will now be instituted against Gilchrist to recover the costs, while there is little doubt that Gilchrist will be indicted by the grand jury for perjury and malicious libel. It is now rumored that Miss Minnie Gilchrist will bring suit for breach of promise against Frank G. Kretschmer, who, it claimed, has been paying some attention to the young lady.

### JUDICIAL MATTERS.

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Jan. 11.—A bill prepared by the bar of South Dakota will be introduced into the house by Mr. Raymond next week, providing for the election of the judge in each judicial district of Dakota. The matter of appointing a judge to succeed Judge Kidder in Dakota is still hanging fire. Delegate Raymond says he hopes the matter will be settled soon. There are a host of candidates among them are Judges Campbell and Palmer of Dakota, Fuller of Illinois, Coburn of Indiana, Pettis and Wilson of Pennsylvania. The department of justice has about decided that it will not be proper to appoint any one who took sides on the question of the removal of the capital. It appears that Campbell and Palmer by the people of South Dakota and by the people who favor the capital removal. It seems probable that some outside man will get the place.

### ORDWAY FURTHER DISCLAIMS.

Gov. Ordway of Dakota this evening complained of unfair treatment in an editorial published in the Chicago Inter-Ocean yesterday. He desired to say positively that the criticism was based upon erroneous information and did him an injustice. He said he had gone to Dakota when past fifty years of age, and had attempted to do his duty. The organization of a county was too trifling a temptation on which to wreck an honorable reputation at the close of his public career, even if so disposed. Some one was always dissatisfied necessarily because the county seat could only go to one place, when every little town wanted it, and often there did not seem to be much reason why one should have it over another further than the personal preferences of the commissioners. He could not suit every one. The statements with reference to his son being a sort of middleman he declared to be erroneous. He did not live at Pierre, and had nothing to do with commissioners, except when acting as his secretary in an official capacity at Bismarck, he said he courted an investigation and was here ready to meet any charges which his accusers saw fit to make to the president. He was ready to justify his course in every particular if given the opportunity by the presentation of charges against the official integrity. He only requested that those who had stood by him in the past should suspend judgment upon such vague testimony as had been presented, and he also demanded that the charges should be authenticated and forwarded immediately to the president in order that he might have an opportunity to meet them while here.

### Insurance in Dakota.

Fargo, Dak., Special Telegram, Jan. 11.—Considerable discussion has been caused by the law which was passed by the last Territorial legislature requiring insurance companies to deposit \$25,000 with the territorial treasurer before they could do business in the territory, and it was rumored that underwriters doing business in the territory were about to withdraw their business. The following from Auditor Ordway will have the effect of abrogating the law. It was sent to a Fargo citizen, in answer to an inquiry in regard to the matter: "My ruling in reference to the insurance deposit law is to the effect that if a fire insurance company organized outside this territory files in this office a certificate from either our treasurer or the chief financial officer of the state where the company was organized to the effect that they have deposited \$25,000 for the benefit of all policyholders, a certificate of authority will be issued from this office. In case such officer refuse to accept the deposit, a certificate from the officers of a sound national bank will be accepted. This rule seems to give satisfaction to all insurance companies. I fully appreciate what you say with reference to the results which would follow a rigid construction of our law, which to say the least, is made up of inconsistent actions, and for this reason have made as liberal a construction as possible in the interest of the people of the territory."

The statement of the circulation of note and specie at the end of December shows the amount of Dominion notes in circulation to be \$16,774,831; excess of specie and guaranteed debentures, \$1,297,869; unguaranteed debentures, \$163,876; total, \$18,236,576.

John H. Trowbridge & Son, flour and grain dealers, New York, have assigned. Assets, \$20,000, about equal to the preferences. The failure was owing to the suspension of Coleman & Co., New York.

## THAT AWFULLY BAD BOY.

### And How He Plays It on the Fears of a Deceived Parent.

Peck's Milwaukee Sun.  
"I guess your pa's losses in the silver mine has made him crazy, haven't they," said the grocery man to the bad boy, as he came in the store with his eye winkers singed off, and powder marks on his face, and began to play on the harmonica, as he sat down on the end of a stick of stove wood and balanced himself.

"Oh, I guess not. He has hedged. He got in with a deacon of another church, and sold some of his stock to him, and pa says if I keep my comdemn mouth shut he will unload the whole of it, if the church holds out. He goes to a new church every night there is a prayer meeting, and makes na go with him, to give him tone, and after meeting she talks with the sisters about how to piece a silk bed quilt, while pa gets in his work selling silver stock. I don't know what he will order some more stock from the factory, if he sells all he has got," and the boy went on playing "There's a Land that is Fairer than Day."

"But what was he skipping up street for the other night with his hat off, grabbing at his coat tails as though they were on fire? I thought I never saw a pussy man run any faster. And what was the celebration down on your street about that time? I thought the world was coming to an end," and the grocery man kept away from the boy, for fear he would explode.

"O, that was only a Fenian scare. Nothin' serious. You see pa's a sort of half Englishman. He claims to be an American citizen, when he was a office, but when they talk about a draft he claims to be a subject of Great Britain, and he says they can't touch him. Pa is a darned smart man, and don't you forget it. There don't any of them get ahead of pa much. Well, pa has said a good deal about the wicked Fenians, and that they ought to be pulled, and all that, and when I read the story in the papers about the explosion in the British parliament pa was hot. He said the damerish was ruining the whole world. He didn't say it at the table or on hired girl would have knocked him silly with a spoonful of mashed potatoes, cause she's a Irish girl, and she can lick any Englishman in this town. Pa said there ought to have been somebody there to have taken that bomb and thrown it in the sewer before it exploded. He said if he ever should see a bomb he should grab it right up and throw it away where it wouldn't hurt anybody. Pa has me read the papers to him nights, 'cause his eyes have got splinters in 'em, and after I had read all there was in the paper I made up a lot more and pretended to read it, about how it was rumored that the Fenians here in Milwaukee were going to place dynamite bombs at every house were an Englishman lived, and at a given signal blow them all up. Pa looked pale around the gills, but he said he wasn't scared. Pa and ma were going to call on a she deacon that has lots of money in the bank, to see if she didn't want to invest in a dead-sure paying silver mine, and me and my chum concluded to give them a send-off. We got my big black inky-rubbery fool-ball and painted "Dinymight" in big white letters on it, and tied a piece of tarred rope to it for a fuse, and got a fire-cracker, one of those old Fourth of July horse scatters, and a basket full of broken glass. We put the fool-ball in front of the step, lit the tarred rope, and got under the step with the fire-cracker and basket where they go down into the basement. Pa and ma got out the front door and down the steps, and pa saw the fool-ball and the burning fuse, and he said, "Great God! Hanner, we are blowed up!" and he started to run, and ma she stopped to look at it. Just as pa started to run I touched off the fire-cracker, and my chum arranged it to pour out the broken glass on the brick pavement just as the fire-cracker went off. Well, everything went just as we expected, except ma. She had examined the fool-ball, and concluded it was not dangerous, and was just giving it a kick as the fire-cracker went off, and the glass fell, and the fire-cracker was so near her that it scared her, and when pa looked around ma was flying across the sidewalk, and pa heard the noise and he thought the house was blown to atoms. O, you'd a dide to see him go around the corner. You could play crokay on his coat-tail, and his face was as pale as ma's when she goes to a party. But ma didn't scare much. As quick as she stopped against the hitching post she knew it was us boys, and she came down there, and maybe she didn't want me. I cried and tried to gain her sympathy by telling her the fire-cracker went off before it was due, and burned my eyebrows off, but she didn't let up until I promised to go and find pa. I tell you my ma ought to be engaged by the British government to hunt out the dynamite fiends. She would corral them in two minutes. If pa had as much sand as ma has got, it would be warm weather for me. Well, me and my chum went and headed pa off, and my chum would be running yet. We got him up by the lake shore, and he wanted to know if the house fell down. He said he would leave it to me if he ever sold him he had always claimed that the Fenians were the nicest men in the world, and it seemed to relieve him very much. When he got home and found the house there he was tickled, and when ma called him an old bald headed coward, and said it was only a joke of the boys with a fool ball, he laughed right out and said he knew it all the time, and he ran to see if ma would be scared. And then he wanted to hug me but it wasn't my night to hug and I went down to the theatre. Pa don't amount to much when there is trouble.

### Personal Mention.

H. J. Ramsdell relates in the Philadelphia Press some of the incidents of the late James W. Bosler. He says: Such universal mourning I never saw. On the day of the funeral the picturesque park in which his magnificent house is situated was thronged with people rich

and poor, high and low, men, women, children. In the house were the relatives of the deceased and the distinguished persons who came to pay the only tribute they could pay to the man they loved. I have no wish to parade their names. A choking sensation was felt in every throat when Mr. Blaine burst into tears as he looked at the face of his dead friend. It was the saddest scene I ever saw. A thousand persons said when his name was mentioned: "He was the best friend I ever had."

Thefus Sawyer, one of the Wisconsin senators, is called the lumber king, says a Washington writer. He has made a fortune in lumber, and is now adding another to it. There he stands, with his hands in his pocket, right in the middle of the middle aisle. He is the Brer Tarrypin of the senate. He's as broad as he is long, although he is well-shaped. He has a perfectly round head it is perfectly smooth on top. His fringed hair is perfectly white. So is his fringe of beard. His face is as fresh as an infant's. But his parrot-like nose and his keen twinkling eyes deprive it of the innocent expression it ought to have. He is a very well-balanced, well-polished looking man. He gives good dinners, if he did come from Oshkosh.

Perhaps the wealthiest woman in the world is the Russian Grand Duchess Catherine, widow of the Duke George of Mecklenberg-Strelitz. She inherited, through her mother, one-half of the fabulous wealth amassed by the Empress Catharine II. and her son Paul, the other half having descended to the reigning family. The Grand Duchess makes good use of her riches. She is not only a patroness of science and art, but maintains at her own expense several hospitals in St. Petersburg, providing also for talented young physicians with means for scientific journeys and investigations. Near her palace she has established an eating house for indulgent students.

The St. Louis Post Dispatch's correspondent at Washington says: "Before leaving Washington, Mrs. Sherman, wife of the General, added another name to her long list of Catholic converts. This last convert, like many others who have been influenced by Mrs. Sherman, is a young lady with a rich papa. The young lady is Miss Weston, of New York, daughter of the owner of the Portland Flats. The family, for several years, have passed their winters in Washington. They are Unitarians, though liberal even for that sect. It is a great grief to the family that the daughter is converted to Roman Catholicism, and like most converts, especially young lady converts, Miss Weston is more devout than the most rigid Roman Catholics, who have been brought up in that faith."

The full name of the late Greek professor of Harvard college, who died recently at the age of 76 years, was Evangelinus Apostolides Sophoctes. He was a native of Greece. He was a graduate of Amherst college, and one of the most expert classical scholars in this country. Besides performing his regular duties in Harvard, Professor Sophoctes prepared and published several educational works on the Greek and allied languages which have been widely accepted as of great merit by the teachers of the country. Of late years his duties have consisted in giving instruction to a few students in modern Greek and delivering lectures on Pindar and the representatives of the earliest Greek literature.

### Republican Tendencies Abroad.

Should Oscar II., king of Sweden and Norway, continue obstinate, the Norwegians are likely to relieve themselves of the cost of the maintenance of a monarchy. By the Constitution the king has a suspensive veto, which can be overridden if a bill be passed by three successive parliaments. The royal veto on the bills passed in regard to ministerial responsibility has thus been overruled, but the king declines to yield. The Norwegians are sturdy, well-educated, and intelligent men, and understand, of course, the requirements of their country far better than the great-grandson of a Hebrew lawyer in the south of France, whose son was made king of Norway in 1814, when Norway was violently separated from Denmark. They are quite able to manage their own affairs, and their best plan would be civilly to disestablish and disendow Oscar, who would still remain king of Sweden. This fate he will have brought upon himself.

### Strictly Professional Change.

Lawyer Bigelow's claim for one half of the money bestowed by a patriotic people on the wife and baby of Sergeant Mason, reminds the Boston Herald of a story. In the first place, Bigelow's charges for the past and future amount to exactly \$3,500, which is, curiously enough, the sum that Mrs. Mason is known to have saved. Now for the anecdote of Mr. Choate, the great Rufus Choate of the Boston bar. One of his clerks performed a certain service for a client, and when Mr. Choate asked how much he had received as a fee, the reply was "two dollars." "Two dollars!" exclaimed Choate; "why that was not enough. Why didn't you get more?" "I took every penny the man had," was the meek answer. Then Choate ran his hands through his curly locks and said: "Young man you did the best you could under the circumstances, and your conduct in the affair has been strictly professional."

Postmaster commissioned: A. M. Andrews, Piankinton, Dak.; Wheeler, Brown, Yankton, Dak.; Alfred D. Eldridge, Clear Lake, Iowa; Abraham B. Fox, S. I. L. L. L., Iowa; Wilder W. Healey, Bismarck, Minn.; David Day, St. Paul, Minn.; G. O. Sutherland, Fond du Lac, Wis.; Charles Foster, E. L. City, Iowa.

The postmasters commissioned on the 11th inst. were: William W. River, Greene, Iowa; Elliott Schurz, Marshalltown, Iowa; Hamilton P. Duffield, Shenandoah, Iowa.