

The Suez Canal was long regarded as a hazardous enterprise, so far as profits are concerned. But the situation has changed and a second canal has been found necessary for the business, which will be completed in 1888 by the aid of England.

It is said that Lord Wolseley's military picnic and the suffering which it brought to the millions was the cause of cholera in Egypt. The people in many places were brought to the verge of starvation and subsisted on putrid fish.

The political campaigning this year is lacking in vigor and interest. There is a good deal more anxiety about the farmer's crops than the fate of politicians. When the first are gathered there will be plenty of time to look after the latter.

Consul General Hans Mattson of Calcutta, who has lately returned to his home in Minneapolis for a visit states that great efforts are being made to develop the cultivation of wheat in the northern parts of British India with a view to bringing the product into advantageous competition with wheat from this country. The wheat production of British India the last year was 240,000,000 bushels, of which 37,135,481 bushels were exported to England and France.

The national debt has been reduced during the fiscal year ending the 30th of June about \$125,000,000. This is \$50,000,000 short of last year's reduction, but much larger than that of any other year in our history. We have expended the past year about \$265,000,000, including the interest on the public debt. This interest is now less than one dollar per year for each person in the country, whereas at the close of the war it was \$4.26. Next year we shall pay at the rate of ninety cents apiece for interest on the public debt. The total of the interest bearing debt is now \$1,335,000,000 and of the non-interest bearing debt \$525,000,000, and there is \$320,000,000 of cash in the treasury, leaving the net debt a little over \$1,500,000,000, or less than \$30 per head of the population.

The law abolishing the stamp tax on matches, bank checks, perfumery, proprietary medicines, playing cards, etc., went into effect July 1, and those articles are now free. The only internal taxes now remaining are those upon liquor and tobacco, and the latter were reduced one-half by the last Congress. The rates are now as follows: On distilled spirits, rum, whisky, gin and brandy, 90 cents a gallon; on malt liquors, ale, lager and porter, 95 1-2 cents a barrel; on tobacco, 8 cents a pound, and on cigars three dollars a thousand. Dealers also pay what is called a special tax, which is \$2.40 a year for tobacco and \$25 a year for liquor. The consumption of these articles increase steadily and rapidly, and the revenue from them amounts to enormous sums.

A professor at Yale College maintains that the development of the trotting horse is "a special product of the highest civilization the world has yet seen," and a San Francisco paper appends this remark: "While the horse has reached a high standard of civilization, it hardly follows that the trotting horse marks the highest stage of civilization. This one fact, however, is pretty well established, that he is making greater speed, both as a runner and a trotter, than ever before. Statuary, and in the line of physical training we have not yet reached the Greek standard, but in horse flesh we are ahead. Our public galleries of art, and our public libraries are meagre concerns. But the world will take notice, that if we have not developed the man to perfection, the horse is a little ahead."

Senator Edmunds of Vermont has lately visited the glaciers on Mount Tacoma, Washington Territory and gives an enthusiastic description of what he saw, and is thoroughly convinced that no resort in the United States will be so much sought after as this when once people come to know that what men cross the Atlantic to see can be seen in equal splendor, if not surpassed, at home. He says: "The emotions stirred in one's breast completely defy all the powers of language to express. When we reached the foot of the glaciers, foot-sore and weary as we were, I could not help pausing in breathless silence as we reviewed this majestic mass of ice, imbedded in the bosom of this gigantic monarch among the Alps. I have been through the Swiss mountains, and I am compelled to own that, incredible as the assertion may appear, there is absolutely no comparison between the finest effects that are exhibited there and what is seen in approaching this grand isolated mountain. I would be willing to go 500 miles again to see that scene. This continent is yet in ignorance of the existence of what will be one of the grandest show-places, as well as a sanitarium." Upon the completion of the Northern Pacific, near at hand, there will be an immense influx of tourists from our own and other countries, to witness what so delighted Mr. Edmunds.

There will be a grand reunion at Springfield, Mo., on August 8, to continue three days, of the survivors of

the battle of Wilson Creek where General Ryan was killed. Both union and confederate survivors will participate in the affair and ample preparations have been made to take good care of all who attend. Generals Sigel, Schofield, Sturgis and other union officers and a number of prominent confederates will be present. The actual survivors will be in camp during that time near the city of Springfield, and about ten miles from the battle scene. On the first day the exercises will be of a general character, the principal features being the address of welcome by Gov. Phelps. On the 9th there will be military drills and parades by the different militia companies for prizes, horse-races, balls in the evening, etc. Early in the morning of the 10th, the anniversary of the battle, the survivors will march to the old battle-field and occupy camps, the ex-Union soldiers on one side, the ex-Confederates on the other. Governor Crittendon will probably deliver the address of welcome, and speeches will be made by other distinguished personages; in addition, there will be music, singing, dress drills and parades, etc. Every effort has been made by the people of southwestern Missouri to make the affair a grand success, unionists and ex-confederates vying with each other in generous contributions for the object.

Bishop Bowman.

From the St. Louis Republican.
In conversation yesterday afternoon, Bishop Bowman said: "I am not a believer in modern spiritualism and do not believe that spirits upset chairs and tables, but I can say that I have never been able to account for many remarkable experiences I have had during my life under different circumstances. We are much nearer the spirit world than we think, perhaps, and the spirits of the departed dead I believe, have a certain influence over our minds. When voyaging on the Red Sea I made it a practice to pray every night and morning for my wife, from whom I was absent and who at the time was an invalid. One evening I knelt down as usual and tried to pray for her, but found I could not do it. This worried me very much, but I attributed my incapacity to pray for her to nervousness, as I had preached a sermon the following morning I again tried to pray for Mrs. Bowman, experiencing the same difficulty that prevented me from accomplishing my purpose on the evening previous. I wondered what had happened. Was I losing my senses? At length the thought occurred to me: 'your wife may be dead.' But this I considered improbable, as I had received a letter a few days before, stating that she was much better than she had been for a long time. However, I was anxious to reach a point where I could expect to receive additional tidings relative to her condition. Finally on my arrival at Rome, I found a letter awaiting me, conveying the news that Mrs. Bowman had died on the same evening that I found myself unable to pray for her while voyaging over the Red Sea. This experience I was never able to account for, yet I shall never forget it. About the same time my daughter had another extraordinary experience, but it was not similar to mine. When in Paris she would shut her eyes and could then see her mother's face distinctly. On the evening of her mother's death she attempted to do this and was so terrified at not seeing the face as usual that she ran out of the room into another apartment. She felt that something had happened, but her friends told her that her fears were all imaginary. Subsequently she received news that her mother had died about the time she had found it impossible to see her face with her eyes closed. In this house, referring to his residence, where the conversation took place, about this time last year, I was lying sick at the point of death, the physicians being unable to predict whether I would live or die. Then I had some very happy visions, as I stated in a sermon delivered recently in the Music hall at Boston." In the bishop was transported to the threshold of the spirit world, where he saw and conversed with the spirit of his deceased daughter, who told him his wife was waiting for him in heaven.

Horse Sense.

A remarkable exhibition may be seen daily at various points on several of the Brooklyn car routes. It is never witnessed for the first time without eliciting exclamations of surprise and explanations from the car conductors that the animal has been doing the same thing regularly for years. He is a small gray horse—nearly white in fact, about 10 years old, and is driven to a butcher's wagon. Many of the car routes in Brooklyn run double tracks through streets too narrow to admit the passage of the cars when an ordinary wagon is drawn up at the sidewalk; and it happens that this butcher's delivery route is rough several of these narrow thoroughfares near the ferries. When standing in a broad street this horse pays no attention to passing cars; but when in the narrow ones he hears a car approaching he waits until it is within a few feet of him, then deliberately looks around, bows or nods his head twice, turns in a wide circle, drawing his wagon after him, and after allowing the car to pass returns to the place to await his masters coming. He never fails to do this in the narrow streets, and never does in those broad enough to admit the passage of the car. That he moves on when he hears the car approach is perhaps not so remarkable as that he makes a circle of so great a radius as not to upset the wagon he draws. His driver pays no attention to him when he is thus employed. This singular performance may be seen many times repeated any morning (Sunday religiously excepted) in Main street, Brooklyn.—New York Tribune.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

MORE FRAUDULENT WARRANTS.

Gen. Beadle, Superintendent of Public Instruction in Dakota, says the Plan of Issuing School Orders or Warrants is Being Worked, and Warns the Bankers.

From the Pioneer Press, 20th.
From Gen. W. B. Beadle, who is superintendent of public instruction for Dakota, and was in St. Paul yesterday on his return to Yankton, from a long trip visiting many counties, the news was obtained that frauds similar to those tried in Douglas county, are attempted in other sparsely settled regions by pretended school districts. The plan pursued is the old one of organizing a district by a few men, who camp there long enough under tents, on wagons or boards, and make a contract to erect and furnish a school house, and issue the "orders or warrants" of the district to the amount of from \$1,500 to \$5,000, and immediately deliver them to the contractor. From the best information he had been able to obtain, it seems that the district is formally organized under the law and the officers duly qualified. Up to this time there is nothing to specially draw suspicion upon the acts. All the rest is done at a single meeting held a few days later. They follow the law as closely as possible, and even claim legality for the whole issue. Nevertheless such acts are fraudulent and illegal, and Gen. Beadle says that in his opinion the warrants are wholly void. The district as a public school corporation is not authorized to create a debt in that way. Warrants or "orders" can only be drawn against a fund in the treasurer's hands, or one to be raised by a tax already legally levied. An act limits the raising of funds for building a school house on credit to the issue of regular coupon bonds. The orders referred to as fraudulent are in large amounts, usually, and are endorsed as presented to the treasurer "and not paid for want of funds," after which a legal order runs at 8 per cent interest until paid. Bankers and others are advised to report all large orders, and to inquire of county superintendents of the proper counties. In case of smaller orders, care is also necessary if they aggregate any considerable sum. Supt. Beadle declined to specify the locality of this work, as it might unnecessarily affect credit where found in only a rare exception. He also added that by the new school law the township is made the school corporation, in place of the district, in about three-quarters of the counties, and in these fraud is nearly impossible, particularly in issuing bonds. Bankers should insist on bonds instead of orders. Large orders always now mean danger. The superintendent said that he greatly regretted the necessity of this public notice, and assured the reporter that it meant no general danger at all, but simply prudent watching.

THE BISMARCK PENITENTIARY.

The Directors Open the Bids and Award the Contract to Megan & Kelly of Fargo, the Building to be Completed by June, 1884.

BISMARCK, Dak., Special Telegram, July 18.—The board of directors of the Bismarck penitentiary met here to-day and opened bids for the construction of the penitentiary. The Bismarck Building association offered to do all the wood work for \$14,975. R. B. Mason's bid for brick work, stone foundation, capping, etc., is \$26,100. Megan & Kelly of Fargo offered to do all the work and turn the building over to the Territory complete for \$32,000. B. F. Swain of Bismarck sent a bid conditioned to complete the building in the time desired by the board for \$59,714, and if more time would be allowed, he would contract and complete it for \$58,000. The Bismarck Artificial Stone company said it would furnish all the stone for the foundations and trimmings for \$6,844.65. Fairbanks, Morse & Co. proposed to put in water works and apparatus for \$2,450. P. J. Pauly & Bros. of St. Louis submitted a bid to furnish material for all iron work, etc., for \$38,500, and put in place for \$1,000 more. E. P. Ostroff sent two bids for supplying gas pipes, gas fittings, offering to give the latest and most improved system for \$5,985.45, and the old system for \$3,388.25. The Fargo Galvanized Iron Company offered to supply all the necessary iron trimmings, roof, etc., for \$29,500. J. W. Newell & Co. of Chicago were represented by a proposal to furnish material for building the penitentiary. The contract was awarded to Megan & Kelly of Fargo, and the building is to be enclosed Jan. 1, and completed June 1, 1884, built of brick with stone trimmed cells for 140 prisoners.

MITCHELL, Dak., Special Telegram, July 18.—A meeting of all the leading citizens of the city was held last evening to listen to the reading of a paper by Rev. Mr. Pardee of Sioux City, introducing the feasibility of erecting at Mitchell a Territorial university under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal church alliance. Rev. Wilmot Whitehead, president of the South Dakota, M. M. Tooke of the Dixon, Ill., college, and many other clergy from different parts of the Territory were present. They asked the citizens to raise \$100,000, including lands, and the alliance will add an equal amount to the fund for the commencement of the university and additional buildings for other departments. In addition to branch colleges, seminaries, academies and kindergarten schools, there will be attached one of the largest agricultural departments in the United States. The proposition offered by the alliance committee will no doubt be accepted by the citizens here, and work will begin at once. A committee of investigation will report this week.

The Marquis de Mores has contracted for 3,000 beaves, to be delivered in lots of 500 monthly at his slaughter and packing houses on the Little Missouri.

A terrific hailstorm swept over Viola on the 12th inst., doing great damage to growing crops. The path of the storm seems to have been about eight miles wide and reports show that it was at least twenty miles in length.

Justice Collins, who conducted the examination in the De Mores case at Mandan, gave his decision on the 12th inst., discharging the marquis, Miller and Moore, holding that the homicide was justifiable, in view of the threats by the O'Donnell party, who were escaping from arrest at the time the shooting occurred.

Frank B. Avery, who held a claim near Miller, was drowned while bathing.

Sioux Falls Press: The potato bug is doing what he can in this vicinity to advance the price of spuds. Nearly every potato patch in the country is afflicted more or less with these destructive pests.

The Yankton Daily Press and Dakotian gives publicity to the statement that one of the last acts of the late territorial legislature was to pass an act exempting all railroad lands in Dakota from taxation so long as they remain the property of a railroad corporation. Under

this law all possessions of the Northern Pacific and Northwestern, even to the townsites which are their property, are relieved from taxation.

First Lieut. H. S. Taber, engineer officer of the department of Dakota has been ordered to New York for examination for promotion before a board to consist of Col. John Newton, Lieut. Col. Cyrus P. Comstock and Maj. George L. Gillespie.

Walsh county farmers have organized an agricultural society, with the following officers; president, William Code; first vice president, S. Cairncross; second vice president, G. P. Harvey; treasurer, H. C. Upham; secretary, E. O. Faulkner.

The sidetracks at Bartlett, Devil's Lake, are being removed, and that town has now a poor outlet for the future. The Times, a newspaper heretofore published there, has emigrated, and Wolcott's bank is soon to be removed to Lacota.

The new Kindred hotel at Valley City has been completed and formally opened to the public. It cost \$75,000 and is the finest hotel west of the Red river.

A party of Sioux hunters who came into Dickinson report killing 600 buffaloes.

An old Frenchman named Jenek, living across the river from Springfield committed suicide in the absence of his family, by shooting himself with a revolver.

A mob of eight men entered Frederick Pefferkorn's shanty at Lake Jessie, near Cooperston, bound him and his wife, covered the babies with the blankets taken from the father and mother when they proceeded to deliberately tear down the house. It is charged that Pefferkorn was on McCullough's claim, and that he was only receiving a polite but emphatic invitation to leave the premises.

Elevators are to be erected at Bathgate and Hamilton, with a capacity of 30,000 bushels each.

A bear visited James Kennedy's farm, about four miles from Grafton, and carried off a hog weighing 200 pounds, and though pursued by men and dogs, and fired at several times, succeeded in escaping with his plunder.

The experts who get out Jasper paving stone at Sioux Falls make from \$125 to \$240 per month, working by the piece. The contract for paving three Omaha streets with Sioux Falls stone will bring \$88,000 to the quarries.

James Baynes, United States statistician of Dakota, under date of Alexandria, July 5, says the reports from the entire territory sustain the prospects for 20,000,000 bushels as the product of wheat. The condition is good, though in the Red River country the grain, on the 1st of the month, was needing rain, and would soon suffer if offer of relief did not come. In south Dakota the prospects are splendid. The hot weather caused no injury. It is now raining in that country, and there is danger of too much wet. The prospects now are very flattering, but the wheat has entered a period of great liabilities, and might make a complete change of front in a single day.

The commissioners of Walworth county have located the county seat two miles south of Le Beau. Now Le Beau offers to build a \$2,000 court house to secure the county seat.

Mr. D. F. Chausse died at Carrington recently from lockjaw, resulting from an injury, being the first death which has occurred at that place.

Ansley Gray, well known throughout the territory, who is delivering temperance lectures, got on a big drunk at Albany, Mo.

The valuation of Sutsman county last year was \$1,705,000; this year it is increased to \$3,260,837.66.

President Ward, of Yankton college who has just returned from an eastern visit, announces that the college received a donation of \$10,000 from one source, and a legacy of \$40,000 in the will of another person in an eastern state.

The regents of the University of North Dakota to be located at Grand Forks, have decided to employ Prof. James Montgomery, of the Toronto school of medicine, who will be given a professorship and elected to the vice presidency.

Mark Twain's Last and Best Joke.

A conical incident of a recent celebration was the reading of a letter from Mark Twain. Some of the numerous epistolary expressions had been long and prosy, and the audience was bored by them, but the mention of the humorist's name roused instant interest. Even the apathetic reporters took fresh grips of their pencils. Surely something worthy of Twain would be heard. It might be in bad taste, but it would at least be funny. The chairman smoothed out the sheet and read:

DEAR SIR—I should be glad to be present at the meeting in honor of Mr. Beecher's seventieth birthday, but my engagements are such as to debar me from that pleasure.

That was merely preliminary the audience thought. The humor was to come. The reader rejested his glasses, and finished with:

Very truly yours,
S. L. Clemens.

A second or two of dead silence was followed by roars of laughter.—Correspondence Chicago Heald.

A telegram was received by the department of state, recently from Campbell, United States consul at Monterey, dated at Laredo, Tex., concerning the press report of the assault upon Shaw while acting consul at Monterey.

Four farmers have been arrested near Newry, Ireland, for beating nearly to death a man who took a farm from which a previous tenant had been evicted.

Horses That Lower the Records.

Since the day of Maud S. and Adine trotted a mile in double harness in the unprecedented time of 2:15 1-2, owners of fast teams have been doing their utmost to lower the record of Mr. Vanderbilt's mares. On 'Change and at the restaurants where brokers with sporting proclivities assemble, it forms the topic of conversation, and Mr. Robert Bonner, of the Ledger, and Mr. Frank Work, the millionaire broker, have been selected as the men to produce the competing teams. Mr. Bonner had just returned from a spin on the road behind one of his fast trotters when a reporter broached the subject to him.

"I have no doubt," said he, "of the genuineness of the performance. Maud S. and Adine have performed a feat that is unequalled in the annals of fast trotting. The time was undoubtedly correctly taken. Mr. Vanderbilt may well be proud of his noble mares."

When asked whether he had a team which could equal or lower the recent record, Mr. Bonner smiled significantly, and with a peculiar wink, said: "Comparisons are odious you know. I never make predictions about what my horses are able to do; not even to my most intimate friends. I let them trot, and as each gentleman has a stopwatch he can time them for himself. I let the record speak for itself. Still," he added, with a peculiar emphasis on the words, "I have a few horses that can make excellent time."

"For instance?"
"Rarus and Lucy Cuyler. It would be very difficult to match them for speed, Rarus, you know, has a public record of 2:13 and as for Lucy Cuyler, she made the most wonderful half-mile last Friday that was ever trotted. It was at Fleetwood, to top-wagon, and was made in 1:05. This has never been equaled. If Mr. Vanderbilt may justly pride himself on his mile performance, I can claim the best half-mile record. Both achievements, the one of Maud S., Adine, and the other of my Lucy Cuyler, are perfectly astounding. Lucy Cuyler is the more so from the fact that it was made to a top-wagon."

"Do you think if Rarus and Lucy Cuyler trotted in double harness they could beat Maud S. and Adine?"

"Ah, there you're asking me for a prediction," replied Mr. Bonner with a sly smile. "I told you I wouldn't make a prediction. If they ever do trot in double harness you will be informed of the record, and can then determine for yourself whether it is more or less than 2:15 1-2."

"What other great horses have you, Mr. Bonner?"

"There's Pickard, who trotted a mile in 2:16 3-4, and Manetta last fall trotted with a running mate two miles in 4:27 1-4. This is the best two mile record to double harness ever made."—New York World.

Next Door to Hades.

A sentiment similar to this might be expressed by a traveler who should happen to land just now in the vicinity of Lake Nicaragua, in the Central American republic of that name, or in the state of Cauca, United States of Columbia. If the tales brought by the telegraph from Panama and credited to the Star and Herald are to be believed, the condition of affairs in that part of the world must be about as near the orthodox Hades as anybody, even of the most venturesome spirit, would care to get. It is reported that the volcano of Ometepe, Lake Nicaragua, in an eruption, and the people are fleeing, with probabilities that the entire island will be destroyed. In the valley of the Attrato at Ris Suelo, a point about forty miles from the Atlantic ocean, Mother Earth is heaving forth from numerous openings great showers of red-hot sand, and noises are constantly heard proceeding from some subterranean source, as if a great caldron of water as large as the imagination can create were boiling down below. On the Gulf of Urubu, at Turpe, instead of sand showers the earth is vomiting great volumes of water, and the streets of the town are flooded to a depth of two feet. Two small villages, Bonjuies and Nicurio, have been completely inundated and destroyed by the ascending floods. That part of the globe is in constant motion; the shocks are also felt in Bolivia and at Gyuayaco, San Salvador. Read these reports, ye growlers at the hot weather and grumblers at the climate of our section, and hang your heads for shame, raising them only to give thanks that you don't live in Central America.

Underneath New Orleans.

In his graphic account of "Food and Plague in New Orleans," which is profusely illustrated, in July Century, George W. Cable describes as follows the geological formations underneath the city as was ascertained in boring an artesian well: The alluvial surface deposit is generally two or three feet thick, and rests on a substratum of uniform and tenacious blue clay. The well in Canal street found this clay fifteen feet deep. Below it lay four feet more of the same clay mixed with woody matter. Under this was a mixture of sand and clay ten feet thick, resembling the annual deposits of the river. Beneath this was found, one after another, continual, irregular alterations of these clay strata, sometimes a foot, sometimes six feet thick, and layers of sand and shells and of mixtures of these with clay. Sometimes a stratum of quicksand was passed. At five hundred and eighty-two feet was encountered a layer of hard pan; but throughout no masses of rock were found, only a few water-worn pebbles and some contorted and perforated stones. No abundance of water flowed. The continual alterations of tough clay and loose sand and shells in such variable thicknesses gave a clear illustration of the conditions of delta soil that favor the undermining of the Mississippi banks and their fall into the river at low stages of water, levees being often carried with them.

Jim O'Hara of Milwaukee, single, twenty-eight years old, was accidentally shot with a revolver by Frank Corwin, who was firing at a target. O'Hara will die.