

## EDITORIALS

## THE LIQUOR WAR.

THE common council of Jeffersonville, Ind., has passed an ordinance by two majority, requiring liquor dealers to pay \$500 for a license. A number of "the best German citizens" disrelish that kind of municipal legislation and consequently are moving to Louisville, says an exchange. But why do good German citizens dislike a stringent liquor license? The liquor business is not a necessary business. Liquor is a luxury in the main, and for the most part a very hurtful luxury, and therefore a very proper subject for legislative discountenance, though that discountenance may go no further than the imposition of a high license. It is generally understood, too, that "the best German citizens" are great upon lager, not upon liquor, or spirituous liquors. Spirits, including their bastard varieties of "tangle-leg," "forty-rod," etc., are not of a gentle but of an inflammatory character, whereas lager exercises so mild an influence that the question whether or not it will intoxicate is still considered an open one, and of some of that kind of drink, no amount that any ordinarily thirsty soul would be likely to absorb would elevate him to an "O be joyful" condition.

Whatever may be the policy upon the small beer or the lager beer, which is much the same thing, question, as a piece of general news we rejoice over the action of the Jeffersonville city fathers in making the license heavy on the whisky kind of drinks. That is a policy which the municipal officers of this city saw the necessity of years ago, and our worthy Chief Justice has lately come to see, in part, the same necessity, while Hollister's deputies attend to the small beer question, especially in the remote settlements.

## AN HONORED JUDGE.

NEW Mexico and Arizona papers speak of the death of Hon. Kirby Benedict, a citizen of the former Territory for upwards of twenty years, during thirteen of which he had filled the position of associate justice of the Territory, having been first appointed to the position by President Pierce. Judge Benedict was a native of Connecticut, and has left a wife and children. His funeral was attended, by the Masonic brotherhood and almost the entire population of Santa Fe.

In these times of official laxity and low partizan prejudices and animosities, it is refreshing to hear of a judicial officer who maintained his official position for so many years, and under four Presidents, in a Territory, where rotation is the rule, and consequently where every new President is likely to put in his favorites and supporters, or those who support his party. For a man to live twenty years in a Territory, be a federal judge therein thirteen years, and when he dies be followed respectfully to his grave by nearly the entire population of the metropolis of the Territory, indicates that he must have been a fair-minded judge and worthy citizen. When will Utah exhibit a similar spectacle?

## LOCAL LEGISLATIVE POWERS.

SAYS an exchange—"Professor Goldwin Smith has written a long letter advocating the general improvement of English local institutions, and giving them legislative powers for the administration of local affairs, similar to those of the Legislatures of American States."

In many respects England is virtually a republic. A democracy she is not in any sense, and perhaps never will be. But in England there is probably as much personal liberty combined with respect and protection for life and property as in any country on the globe,

and perhaps more of these under her present government than she would enjoy under a democracy, if she were to have one next year.

The tendency of English statesmanship and politics during the present century has been towards republicanism, if not towards a proclaimed republic. Extension of the franchise, and concessions looking to local self-government, which have been made, are of this nature, and have been positive and distinctive. The late conservative gains may be justly looked upon as a temporary reaction, the Liberals having driven the car of state rather swiftly in liberal directions of late years, and the English people not being very much given to great and sudden changes of policy and institutions, but having considerable faith in the "good old ways," which have been long tried.

In America, on the contrary, in some respects, of late years there has been a marked tendency towards centralization, the restriction of the powers and privileges of the people, and the consolidation of power in the hands of the ruling few.

Take this Territory for instance. What a succession of persistent efforts there have been to restrict the powers and privileges of the people, to deprive them of all power and right of directing local affairs, to deprive them of the franchise, and to bring them into a condition where all the ruling power shall be consolidated in the hands of half a dozen federal officials, imperially appointed by an executive in whose elevation to office the people of the Territory have not the least shadow of a voice.

Our recent governors have apparently assumed that on them was conferred a sort of imperial authority and that the Legislature and the people at large were mere dependent creatures, whose duty it was to nod when the governor nodded, laugh when he laughed, cry when he cried, and in short say and do precisely as he said and did.

Federal judges, many of them, and marshals and attorneys too, have manifested a similar spirit, and have presumed to dictate what ought to be, and act in accordance therewith, instead of faithfully discharging their duties according to the law and the constitution.

Twenty-two years ago laws were passed by the legislature of the Territory concerning the Territorial Marshalship and Attorney Generalship and the jurisdiction of the Probate Courts. Now the Governor and the Chief Justice refuse to acknowledge those laws, although they have had, for nearly a quarter of a century, the implied sanction of Congress, and of late years have been sustained, positively or virtually, by the Supreme Court of the United States. The said Governor and Justice, and most of the federal officials, are understood to be hand and glove with the "ring" in the various attempts of the latter to destroy the suffrage of the people and to deprive them of all voice in the management of their own local affairs. What for? Solely for the purpose of concentrating and consolidating all the ruling power in the Territory in the hands of the half dozen officers appointed by the President of the United States, the people having no voice whatever in electing him or in the choosing of his appointees. A nice piece of business for American citizens to be engaged in.

## MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

A California paper puts the marriage and divorce business in America thus—"According to Herbert Spencer, statistics furnish the only safe basis of sociology. Statistics show that throughout the United States marriages are diminishing and divorces are increasing in number. What may this portend? One thing is certain, and that is, if the two tendencies go on in their present ratio, they will neutralize each other, inasmuch as where there are no marriages there are no divorces."

That will be a sort of millennium to some persons, those of the Woodhull type for instance, for when the divorces, like Moses' serpent with the other serpents, shall have devoured all the marriages, and the marriages by a continuance of this gradual diminishment shall cease

to occur, American humanity will be thus far in the condition of the angels in heaven, among whom there is neither marriage nor giving in marriage.

## CUTTING OUT THE LAUGHTER.

HERETOFORE, in the official publication of the debates in Congress, it has been customary for the insertion of the word "laughter," and others, indicating the places in a speech where the members indulged in visible or audible expressions of their appreciation of what was being said. This is all to be stopped, and hereafter the reader of the Congressional debates or speeches in the *Record* must rely upon his own unaided judgment as to where the laugh comes in. Says a Washington correspondent of the new York *Tribune* recently—

"Henceforth the words 'laughter,' 'applause,' 'sensation,' and other parenthetical remarks indicative of the hilarious or appreciative demonstrations of the House, are to be omitted from the official report of the debates, which will be drier reading than ever. The intelligent constituent, while perusing the dreary efforts of his member to be witty, will have to judge for himself where the laugh came in, and will be thrown back upon his unaided imagination for a picture of the applause which greeted the flights of eloquence. This important decision was made to-day at the instance of Geo. F. Hoar, who asked by what rule or authority the words in question were put in. The Speaker said there was no rule for it, and that, as the words only put on record the fact that the members had violated the rules which forbade applause or other demonstrations, they had better be omitted, and he would direct the reporters to cease putting them in."

After all, this new rule will not affect many people besides the members, as few persons read more of congressional proceedings than are found in the newspapers.

BORDER RUFFIANS.—It is pretty generally understood that some "Indian depredations" are not committed by red Indians, but by white Indians. A fresh charge of this kind comes from the plains eastward. The *Loup City News* claims that the supposed Indians who have been stealing the settlers' stock on the North Loup, were white men, dressed in Indians' clothes. The *News* states that fully one-half of the depredations committed on the frontier are done by the border ruffians and the Government should put a stop to it.

If the Government can put a stop to these white Indian depredations, it should be done, and as promptly as possible. It is about time border ruffianism was extinguished, and the ruffians met their deserts.

## WHAT BECAME OF MORGAN?

This masonic question is to come before the public again. An eastern paper says Mr. A. P. Bentley, of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, is writing a story, founded on the abduction of Morgan, of masonic memory. Mr. Bentley is assisted by the Hon. J. C. Gill, of that city, who was accused of and tried for the abduction. The story will give, it is said, a true and trustworthy account of that historic and at the time most exciting event.

When Mr. Bentley has finally settled the Morgan question, he can take in hand some other mild problems, such as those relating to Tecumseh, Junius, the Iron Mask gentleman, and Billy Patterson.

## ALFALFA OR LUCERN.

In another part of to-day's NEWS an interesting article will be found upon the subject of Alfalfa or Lucern, which latter word is spelt without a final e. Alfalfa and lucern are two names for the same plant. It is a plant of extensive distribution, and is especially valuable in warm, dry countries, as in

Spain, California, Peru, and the Rocky Mountain valleys, and flourishes luxuriantly in a moderately fertile, upland or rather dry, limestone or volcanic soil.

Possessing a long tap root, lucern penetrates deeply into the soil, and is thus peculiarly adapted to defy drought and flourish in an arid climate like this. We have read of lucern roots ten or twelve feet long in the alluvium of the California valleys, and in this city the writer has pulled up with his hands "whip-stocks" of roots, four feet long, from a soil of limestone gravel and rather porous clay, and by no means very fertile.

Red clover is nearly as thrifty as lucern, but the former requires more moisture, as its roots do not descend so far as those of lucern, and red clover is naturally of a more succulent character than lucern. Clover is much more easily dug or plowed up or under and got rid of than lucern, and therefore is much more suitable for farm rotation, or other change of crop.

Now is a good time to sow lucern. Sown in rows, it can be hoed between them, and easily irrigated, which it requires rather frequently when young, and thus a better stand is obtained than where the seed is sown broadcast and the weeds have full swing to choke the lucern.

Lucern can be mown the first year, the second year two or three times, the third year oftener. It is not good to graze it close and late in the season, because such treatment will make the next season's crop less and later than if more top was left on the plant in the Fall, which it can shelter itself with during Winter and which will furnish a greater bunch of crown for the next year's shoots to start from.

## THE CUNARD STEAMSHIP LINE.

THE Omaha *Herald*, on the authority of Mr. C. R. Shaller, agent in that city of the Cunard Steamship Line, says that the rates of steerage passage by that line from ports in Europe to America and by railroad direct to Omaha have been reduced to \$46.

The following is the Cunard fleet:

Steamer's name.	Gross Tonnage.	Horse Power.	Steamer's name.	Gross Tonnage.	Horse Power.
Scotia.....	3871	1000	Lama.....	688	280
Russia.....	2960	60	Camel.....	691	250
Java.....	2906	609	Raccoon.....	831	300
Cuba.....	2618	506	Raven.....	778	150
China.....	2638	420	Calabria.....	2901	400
Samaria.....	2605	310	Batavia.....	2553	450
Siberia.....	2498	310	Abyssinia.....	3253	500
Malta.....	2132	280	Algeria.....	3267	500
Palmyra.....	2044	200	Bear.....	691	500
Tarifa.....	2158	280	Parthia.....	3440	450
Aleppo.....	2157	280	Trinidad.....	1899	300
Kedar.....	1875	212	Demerara.....	1904	300
Atlas.....	2293	300	Owl.....	914	250
Morocco.....	1783	250	Nantes.....	1472	160
Sidon.....	1853	212	Brest.....	1472	160
Marathon.....	2403	300	Cherbourg.....	1600	160
Olympus.....	2415	270	Bothnia.....	4500	600
Hec.....	2421	270	Scythia.....	4500	600
Balbec.....	774	130	Saragossa.....	2500	300
Brit. Queen.....	763	150	Hornet.....	550	100
Stromboli.....	734	100	Wasp.....	550	100
Jackal.....	180	100	Alpha.....	653	112
Satellite.....	157	80	Beta.....	1087	160
Penguin.....	680	180	Delta.....	644	120
Buffalo.....	686	230			
Total gross tonnage.....			90,700		
Total horse power.....			14,525		

The Cunard Company is properly the British and North American Royal Mail Steamship Company. The first vessel of the line sailed from Liverpool for Halifax and Boston, carrying the royal mails, July 4, 1840. This was the *Britannia*.

In 1818 James and George Burns, as partners, commenced business in Glasgow, in mercantile pursuits, and in 1824, with the late Hugh Mattie, of Liverpool, owned six sailing vessels trading between those two ports.

Shortly after, they substituted steamers for sailing boats, and in 1830 amalgamated with Messrs. MacIver of Liverpool, the trade being thus extended to Belfast, Londonderry, and the West Highlands, but the latter part of the business was disposed of in 1852 to Mr. David Hutcheson. James Burns applied himself to the mercantile part of the business and George to the shipping.

In 1830 Mr. Samuel Cunard, of Halifax, N. S., projected mail steam communication between Great Britain and North America, and he subsequently became connected with the Company, the ocean mail contracts being entered into between the admiralty on the one

part and Samuel Cunard, George Burns, and David MacIver on the other. The transatlantic enterprise commenced with four paddle-wheel steamers, aggregating 4,602 tonnage. The property of the company is now owned by three families—Messrs. Burns of Glasgow, Messrs. MacIver of Liverpool, and Mr. Wm. Cunard of London.

For nearly thirty-four years a Cunard steamer has sailed across the Atlantic, at first once, then twice, and latterly three times a week from Liverpool, with corresponding sailings back from New York or Boston, the various vessels of the Company having in that time made an aggregate of 4,000 voyages across the Atlantic, traversing a distance of over 12,000,000 miles, and carried upwards of 2,000,000 passengers, and yet "have never lost a passenger," nor a life, by shipwreck, nor a single letter. In 1872 the Cunard steamers carried 72,363 people.

Messrs. Thomson, Clyde ship-builders, have built 34 steamers for the Company, the last being the *Bothnia*, launched March 4, being the largest of the fleet. The *Bothnia* is 4,500 tons burthen, 425 long, 42 feet six inches beam, 36 feet deep, with accommodations for 300 first-class and 800 third-class passengers. More than 300 persons can dine in her saloon at one time. She has four decks, engines of 600 horse power, with steam steering apparatus, winches and windlass, and bunkers for 1200 tons of coal. She was launched with her boilers, funnel, and masts in, all the deck work finished, and otherwise complete, except the putting in of the main engine.

The *Scythia*, *Saragossa*, and *Cherbourg* are sister ships to the *Bothnia*, and are now building in the same yard.

Much of the success of the Cunard line is owing to the extraordinary precautions taken to insure safety and efficiency. The vessels are built in the most substantial manner, and are considered especially sea-worthy. The transatlantic voyages are made in "lane" routes for outward or homeward voyages, accurately laid out, and going well southward, to avoid collisions, icebergs, and fogs. The instructions for the navigation of the fleet are complete and peremptory.

The Cunard Company have a larger fleet than the German Empire, or any but a few first class maritime nations. The Company have also done an extensive business with Southern Europe, the Mediterranean, and the West Indies, and have lately contemplated making their transatlantic line a daily one.

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, APRIL 14.

Fire-Clay.—Fire-clay is being shipped from here to California.

Stealing.—This morning Mr. Webb, who lives in the 12th Ward, on entering his stable, to attend to his team, discovered that somebody had stolen from him a set of good double harness and a bran new wagon-cover.

Under Consideration.—The saddle and harness makers still have in view and under consideration the organization of a co-operative association connected with their branch of business, but the arrangements are not yet completely matured.

Will Start To-morrow.—The Mackintosh Sampling Works, at Sandy, are now finished and will commence working to-morrow. There was a grand ball at Sandy last night, in celebration of their completion, to which a special car took some of the guests from this city.

Exporting Something.—It is comforting to know that Utah is exporting something. Yesterday Morris & Evans shipped to Sacramento, Cal., a stone smelting furnace made by them, for the Sacramento Smelting Works of that city, and they are at work on another, whose destination is the same.

About Water.—Now that the planting season is here and the watering time in the near future, the residents on the North Bench are becoming exercised about getting water to that locality. They suffer hardship from the lack of it, especially in Summer time, and if anything can be done for them it certainly should be. To many it is a matter of health, and consequently of life.