

## EDITORIALS.

## IRRIGATION.

THE memorial adopted by the Denver convention, for presentation to Congress, asking legislation by that body in favor of irrigation for the large tracts of dry and desert land in the West, meets with favor from the Pacific Press. This subject of legislative action to further and protect the reclamation of parched lands by irrigation is one which has been enlisting much attention of late, especially in California, and it is likely to receive additional and material impulse in that part of the country.

An irrigation convention was held at Los Angeles, Oct. 25, at which it was resolved that it was the duty of the State to possess and control all the waters of the State, and to create a Department of Irrigation. A committee was appointed to draft a general irrigation measure, to be admitted to the legislature of that State.

Action may be taken upon this subject by Congress, the present winter, and of course if the question is sprung there, the senators and representatives and delegates from the Pacific States and the Territories will exert their influence to secure favorable legislation upon it, that the hardy and enterprising settlers upon the arid wastes of this mountain portion of the country may receive encouragement and protection in developing the latent resources of the soil.

In noticing the Denver Convention, the New York Journal of Commerce objects to the term "rainless" as applied to this western region. It is not absolutely rainless, as is well enough known, but as a rule, after the spring rains are over the summer and fall are virtually rainless, so far as the prevalence of anything like sufficient showers to mature farm and garden crops are concerned. These, except in a few moist places, where the water keeps near the surface of the soil, it is absolutely impossible to grow satisfactorily in ordinary seasons, and most of them in any season, without repeated irrigation. In nearly every season in this valley the cultivated uplands are irrigated every month from April to October, much of the time once and sometimes twice a week. Descending into the lower portions of the valley, the times of irrigation gradually decrease to once or twice during the season, and on some few very moist pieces of land crops are raised without any irrigation at all.

## THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

JAMES LICK, ESQ., the San Francisco millionaire, having given the munificent sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of establishing an observatory in the Sierra Nevada, Col. A. W. Von Schmidt, at the request of Mr. Lick, went to the Sierras, prospecting for a suitable site for the observatory, and returned strongly impressed in favor of a spot on the shore of Lake Tahoe, about two miles from Tahoe City, on the road to the Hot Springs.

This location is on a promontory, extending into the lake and affording a fine view of that beautiful sheet of water and the surrounding country. The elevation of the site proposed is 300 feet above the water of the lake, and 6,518 above sea-level. The foundation is solid rock, with sufficient overlying soil for the growth of vegetation. The peninsula comprises 337 acres of land, which at little expense could be transformed into a beautiful park. On the summit of the promontory, the suggested site, is a level plateau, or table top, very suitable for buildings. Thence eastward the land is precipitous, and grows pines, firs, and bushes. South-eastward from the ridge is a gradual slope to the lake, nearly destitute of timber and covered with loose trap rock. The western slope, leading into Tahoe valley, is well timbered. The site is accessible, by easy grade, from the north-east and south-west, and roads can be constructed at little expense. A little more than one mile from the site is a fine stream of water, running 50,000 gallons per day, with a head of 100 feet. Two

miles and a half distant is Boston creek, running 500,000 gallons of water daily, with a head of 200 feet. The climate is fine and the atmosphere remarkably clear and pure, never dimmed by fog. Snow falls only four feet deep, and disappears very early in the spring.

The place is in the State of California, within 30 hours' travel of San Francisco, one mile from a good wagon road, and two and a half from the telegraph line.

The site was bought from the Central Pacific Railroad Company, by D. S. Bliss, of Carson City, and it is believed that it can be repurchased at cost for the observatory.

Being on a promontory the site is bounded by the lake on all sides but one, and having a southern aspect it is comparatively warm, and the climate is less humid than those of higher sites.

Von Schmidt says if Congress would remove the meridian of longitude five miles eastward, it would bring the whole of Lake Tahoe within the boundaries of California.

## WANTS LEGISLATION ON IT.

DR. GUSTAVUS Holland, an old and well known physician of San Francisco, some months ago was active in agitating the subject of the social evil in that city, with a view to securing legislation on the subject. Since that time he has been traveling in Europe, studying the question, with a view to procuring the passage of a law, by the local legislature, to "regulate" the evil, and he has now returned home. In his travels, he visited Paris, London, Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen, and other large cities. There is no such "regulation" in London, but the Dr. thinks there soon will be. This "regulation," the Doctor is satisfied, lessens the disease resultant from the practice of the crime, but he does not pretend that it will effect its total extinction.

Dr. Holland has also visited St. Louis, where such a system is or was recently in operation, and has inspected the hospital there. He approves of the St. Louis system, and will endeavor to have it copied in San Francisco.

The Dr. ignores the moral aspects of the subject, but will deal with it from a medical point of view. That is, the criminality of the evil he does not discuss, but as a medical man he only wishes to institute a system that shall render prostitution physically safe, so that men can keep company with prostitutes with safety, so far as immunity from the natural physical effects, in the shape of horrible disease, of that crime are concerned.

## A GREAT QUESTION.

CALIFORNIA is getting warm upon the irrigation question, and it is likely that strenuous efforts will be made ere long to have legislative action upon the subject. It is now being agitated as "one of the greatest questions of the day." The sorrest apprehended trouble in the matter, seems to be the conflicting claims of the "water grabbers," a few of whom appear to be anxious and determined, if possible, to monopolize all that they can of the water in the various streams that are available for irrigation. J. M. Ainsa, in the S. F. Chronicle, gives a statement of the perplexing, cross-purpose condition of the land and water question in Fresno County, where, he says, a few men, three companies, have grabbed all the water of King's River, and the various antagonistic claims as to title to lands and water rights are enough to send anybody crazy and discourage honorable men from the business. Mr. Ainsa proposes the condemnation of the works of the existing companies and the giving to the counties the construction and the management of irrigating canals; taking the following principles as the foundation of the new system—

First, to construct the canals so as to irrigate the greatest possible area of land.  
Second, that those lands upon the highest levels should have the first right to irrigation, working down to the lowest plain.  
Third, that no water shall be claimed by any person for his lands unless in actual cultivation.

FOUND GUILTY.—Captain Clarke, of the ship *Sunrise*, has been found guilty, at San Francisco, upon seven out of thirteen counts of the indictment against him, including beating and wounding and cruel and unusual punishment, and Dennis Maloney, the second mate, upon one out of ten counts—beating Miller with a belying pin. Five years' imprisonment in the State prison for each offense is the full penalty of the law, thus making thirty-five years for the Captain, if the extreme penalty is inflicted upon him, which it is to be hoped will be, for says a local paper, "The verdict in this case affords general satisfaction to the entire community, and it is to be hoped the lesson it teaches will not be lost upon other brutal shipmasters. The right and the positive duty of a Captain to enforce prompt obedience from his subordinates is universally admitted; but there is no necessity and no excuse for savage and heartless brutality such as has been exhibited by Captain Clarke and the arch-fiend Harris, his first officer."

The captain was placed under \$25,000 bail to appear on Monday, Nov. 3, for sentence. It is about time that the perpetrators of the cruel, disgusting, heartless brutality and barbarity of treatment frequently meted out to sailors received condign punishment.

## A LITTLE GOLD IN IT.

MR. LOUIS A. Garnett, manager of the San Francisco Assaying and Refining Works, writes a letter to the Director of the U. S. Mint, proposing a coin, part of silver and part of gold, to counteract further decline in the value of silver, which of late has been increasing, while gold has been appreciating, and the production of it diminishing.

Mr. Garnett thus states his proposition—

My proposition, then, is to remonetize silver, and make it, as a coin of full weight, a legal tender for all sums, concurrently with gold, and to be receivable as such for all debts and dues. In order to obviate, however, the difficulties formerly appertaining to a double standard, and which I have sufficiently indicated, I propose to introduce a distinctive and, as far as I know, an entirely new feature in the proportion of metal composing the coin; and which, it will be perceived, performs a very important function in maintaining its *locus in quo*, which has always been one great desideratum in every system of double standards heretofore attempted, and has sooner or later necessitated the adoption of debased subsidiary currencies. This new feature is, that the coin shall contain an appreciable amount of gold, which, while it gives a full intrinsic value of precious metal, equal to the nominal value of the coin, yet acts as a heavy seigniorage in preventing its use in the arts, or its export, unless, by being thus withdrawn from the markets of the world, it causes a very material advance in the price of silver; in which event we must reap the benefit through its exchangeable value as a commodity, and thus in any event we may win our point—as we are now a large silver producer.

The proportions which seem to me best adapted to this purpose, and which should be stamped upon the coin, weighing 380 grains, are as follows:

*Finesness.* Grains. *Grains.*  
95 in gold, equal to 1.9 ne gold, \$0.08, 1826  
895 in silver, " 340.1 fine silver, .61, 8174  
1.0 in copper, " 38 fine copper,

1000 380 \$1.00, 0000  
340 1-10 grains of pure silver are worth, in our old dollar of 412 1-2 grains, only 91-6093 cents, at which valuation, as before said, it is now at par in London. This would give only 99 7919 cents as the value of gold and silver in the proposed coin. It will, therefore, be necessary to raise the value of silver, as compared with our old dollar, 227 per mille, or between 1-5 and 1-4 per cent. This gives us on 340 1 grains, if pure silver, an increase value of \$0.00, 2031, making the whole value of silver 91.8174 cents, and the coin exactly \$1.00. As we now have no legal unit of value for silver, this can be readily done without disturbing present values in any way. For the sake of convenience, I then state the comparative values between well-known units, as follows:

Proposed Coin..... 1@15 953 equal 59 117d  
Old dollar of 412 1/2 grains..... 1@15 988 equal 58 983d  
Trade dollar..... 1@16 779 equal 57 875d

Mr. Garnett expects the immediate effect of the introduction of this coin as currency would be to check the decline in the value of silver by opening a market for the entire silver product of the country at a valuation above that abroad.

Other advantages of this proposed coin are that it would circulate with gold and fully double our an-

nual additions to metallic circulation, would conduce largely to re-summation, and, "as a coin of full weight, would satisfy the highest functions of money, being an exact and intrinsic equivalent instead of a mere sign."

Mr. Garnett further suggests that in view of the rapid decline in our production of gold, and the increasing demand for it abroad, the importance of some measure by which we can utilize our silver product as money cannot be overestimated.

If Mr. Garnett's gold-silver money will give us plenty of currency at par, let us have it, and the sooner the better.

## DULL TIMES IN THE NORTH.

THE Montanians have a fertile country, plenty of wood and water and grass, a splendid climate, and rich mines, and yet they are not altogether happy. Business is dull, prices are low, and the prospect for the early completion of the Northern Pacific R. R. is exceedingly dull.

The *Avant Courier* discusses the situation, specially as it applies to Bozeman and Gallatin County. Says the *Courier*—

Just at this time every class of business is at a standstill, and produce is unsaleable to any great extent. There appears little or no money in circulation, and though there is a tolerable abundance of grain, stock, etc., there is no market. What is the prospect before us? To lie idle and not make an exertion to bring about a better state of affairs is very unwise, and it behooves us all to look around and ascertain wherein our condition can be improved. Something must be done.

The *Courier* says it has been ascertained that a point high enough on the Yellowstone can be safely reached by steamers to bring goods 150 miles nearer Bozeman than Corinne, and there is every reason to believe that it is the intention of the Northern Pacific to secure the Montana freight next season. The *Courier* advocates the construction of a road between Bozeman and the point on that river to which the R. R. Company can bring freight, and urges it thus—"We view the making this road one thing needed, and we must have it. With this road, the travel from the East can be brought to our town and through our country."

The *Missoulian* goes at the subject of dull times thus—

Never since the first settlement of Montana have times been as dull and money as scarce as at the present time. This is to be attributed to many causes, but the principal one is, that we have more producers than consumers.

The *Missoulian* says cattle-raising does not pay, unless for taking to markets outside the Territory, and the grain-raising business is overdone, but that the production of butter, poultry and eggs pays well, and advises the farmers of Missoula county, at least, to go more generally into that part of the business. Says that paper—

This course is absolutely necessary to enable our people to weather the present hard times. Every Territory has its dark and gloomy day, and this is ours. Times like these cannot long continue, for Montana has within herself too many natural resources to remain long in this condition. By rigid economy, strict attention to business, and producing nothing but what we can sell—but plenty of that—we will be enabled to weather the present crisis, and emerge into a bright and prosperous future.

## WASN'T HE HOODWINKED?

IN another part of this paper may be found a report of a visit by Col. Finnegan to this city, who, says the *San Francisco Call* also, was commissioned from Washington to investigate the story of the existence of a counterfeit ring in this vicinity. The Colonel, arrived in this city, "entered into 'confidence' with a number one ruffian, whose latest crime had been that of arson, and with this fellow as a 'stalking horse,' he ingratiated himself into the secrets of a horde of scoundrels, whose prime business it is to fleece the community and enact outrages of all descriptions from murder to the mildest forms of rowdiness."

As elsewhere stated, the Colonel became convinced that neither counterfeiting nor counterfeits were to be found in Salt Lake City. He discovered that to his perfect satisfaction. So the papers quoted from say. But that was not all he discovered—he also made the highly important discovery that Salt Lake was a terrible place in

other regards, which discovery is thus stated to the California public—

In addition he ascertained, to his own satisfaction, that Salt Lake City is the most disgracefully lawless place in the Union, that the United States Government is a shadowy luit, that the Mormon's rule is everything, and that the will of Congress, so far as it finds expression in administration, is about as much respected by the subjects of Brigham Young as it is by the King of Dahomey. Even United States jurors are summoned by the Territorial Marshal, who is a Mormon.

This shows that whether the Colonel was or was not hoodwinked by the "number one ruffian" and his companion "horde of scoundrels," he was most thoroughly hoodwinked by another "horde of scoundrels," alias the "Mormon-eating ring," composed of drunkards, rowdies, demagogues, and other persons of the baser sort. From them he obtained his precious information that Salt Lake City was the most disgracefully lawless place in the Union, and all that sort of stale trash.

Col. Finnegan may or may not be an expert in the detective's art, but any one who knows anything about Salt Lake City, knows well enough that his simplicity and gullibility must have been of a most childish type when he undertook to investigate the political and social condition of the community. We will warrant that those plotters who duped him in these particulars have had many a hearty laugh in their sleeves at him since the Colonel left this City.

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY, NOV. 4.

A BLAZE.—There was a big blaze last night on the bench, north-west of Camp. Some people thought it was a building on fire, but we understand it was the Butcherville brick kiln, and that brick was being burned.

ABOUT AGAIN.—Marshal John D. T. McAllister has recovered from the attack of lung fever under which he was laboring a few days ago. His foot, injured at the late fire, is now in a condition to allow him to be around again.

ILL.—Mr. Joseph Schofield has been so ill lately, with lung fever, that his recovery at one time seemed doubtful. His friends will be pleased to learn, however, that he is gradually getting over his illness.

PROVO.—To day we met Mr. Robert Kirkwood, just in from Provo, who says the prevailing question agitating the public mind there at present is as to who is going to have the biggest frontage near the depot.

AFTER THE LIQUOR DEALERS AGAIN.—The police authorities are again after the liquor dealers who persist in breaking the City liquor ordinance by selling liquor on Sundays and without license. A number of them were arrested to-day.

TELEGRAPH POLES.—The telegraph poles of the Western Union Company along Jordan Street, and down the east side of East Temple Street are now up. They are somewhat similar in height and general appearance to those of the Deseret Telegraph Company.

CIVIL SUIT.—To-day there was a suit in replevin of A. E. Culmer & Co., furniture dealers, vs. a Mr. Schultz, to recover a quantity of furniture. The evidence showed clearly that the goods belonged to the affiants, and the case was decided accordingly.

GONE TO MILLING AGAIN.—Mr. C. Wilcken has left Z. C. M. I. produce department, where he has been employed since his return from Europe, and has commenced operations again as a miller, in what is known as the lower B. Y. mill, on Canyon Creek, formerly occupied by the late D. R. Allen.

BUOYANT.—We had the pleasure of meeting President Joseph Young this morning, who appeared to be in the enjoyment of good health, and was as buoyant and brisk in spirits as usual. Brother Joseph entered upon the seventy-seventh year of his age on the seventh day of last April.

CARELESS SHOOTING.—A lady who lives on the north bench was walking around the outside of her house a day or two since when a bullet passed so close to her that