

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—At about 12:30 o'clock this morning Wm. Sharp and John Davis were walking along the sidewalk, on the south side of the Temple block, when the first named of the two was pounced upon by three men and robbed of about \$95 in U. S. Currency. The notorious "Jack Biegan," a man named Charles Stander and another individual were subsequently arrested on suspicion of having committed the robbery. The evidence against these worthies is said to be very strong. An examination, before Justice Clinton was set for two o'clock this afternoon. It seems next to impossible for Biegan to keep out of trouble.

UTAH IN CONGRESS.—In the House of Representatives January 28, mad Claggett ran full tilt against Utah and "Mormonism." Next day he was answered by Hon. W. H. Hooper. Claggett made another mauling plunge in response, and Mr. Hooper briefly replied. The Colorado admission Bill was before the House, and it was tabled by 117 to 67. Thus among Claggett's last acts in Congress is a spiteful spitting at the Territories. Perhaps he is badly riled at being ousted from his seat. Montana evidently had more than enough of his peculiar venom.

TIME IS PRECIOUS.—A great many people appear to be at a loss as to how to spend their winter evenings. There are many ways in which leisure time can be usefully applied. It is a mistaken idea which some people seem to have imbibed, that such time should be entirely used for purposes of amusement, such as engaging in the dance, &c. Dancing may be all very well in its way, but institutions which combine instruction with amusement are by far the most desirable and deserving of encouragement and patronage.

There is a manifest lack of organizations in this Territory for purposes of mutual improvement in the various branches of refinement and education. If properly organized and conducted associations of this nature were more common than they are, there would probably be less inducement for the young of the community to follow in the way of temptation and danger.

Such institutions need not necessarily be limited to one routine or class of exercises, but all branches available and of a tendency to cultivate and develop the higher attributes of the human organism could be introduced and practiced, such as discourses, essays, lectures, readings, music, &c., always keeping in view the fact that the exercises should not be limited to any number of members, but should, so far as possible be participated in by all the members of the association.

Such institutions, properly established and conducted, have been the means of accomplishing an incalculable amount of good in all parts of the civilized world, and there is no reason why such should not be the case in this Territory. So far as we have been able to observe, the introduction of debates into such institutions has not had a salutary effect, but has almost invariably proved subversive of the interests of truth. Debates have a tendency in those who engage in them towards sophistry and false reasoning. When a question is at issue there can only be two sides to it—a right and a wrong one, and consequently the wrong side can only be sustained by a course of sophistry or false reasoning. It frequently occurs that the individual taking up the defense of the wrong side of a question is, probably on account of greater subtlety and mental force, adjudged the victor in a debate.

Everything tending to the vindication of truth, mercy and justice, and which will tend to the cultivation of the higher and nobler qualities of the human mind could be legitimately introduced and incorporated in the exercises of such institutions, and amusements could be indulged in occasionally with good effect.

SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.

By Telegraph.

PER WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH LINE.

CONGRESSIONAL

HOUSE.

The House, in committee, took up the post office appropriation bill. Palmer, who has charge of the bill, remarked that since the abolition of the franking privilege the Postmaster General was willing to have the appropriation reduced a million and a half.

An amendment was offered and adopted increasing the item for letter carriers by one hundred thousand, and allowing their employment in places where the population is twenty thousand within the post office delivery. An unsuccessful effort was made to increase the compensation of letter carriers. Adjourned.

EASTERN.

ALBANY.—The joint committee to select an orator to deliver a eulogy on the late W. H. Seward, have agreed upon Charles Francis Adams.

Alfred A. Gifford, the oldest member of the stock exchange, died to-day.

There is great excitement among the Wall Street operators at the 5th Avenue Hotel, over the alleged corner in Western Union; 94½ was freely bid. Jay Gould is believed to be short.

The body of Jacob Knap, a Brooklyn saloon keeper, was found this evening in his place of business which had been closed for some weeks. Beside him was a dog feeding on his leg, the rest of the flesh

having been eaten from the body. **ST. LOUIS.**—At Moberly, Mo., at 2 o'clock yesterday a.m., A. L. Davis, attempted to force an entrance into the room of Mrs. Pullam, a milliner. She warned him to desist, but he forced the door, when she shot him dead. A coroner's jury exonerated her.

BROWNSVILLE, Texas.—The United States border commissioners and attaches arrived here to-day. They will resume the investigation of the Mexican depredations at this point, at once, proceeding along the border as demands may require.

ALBANY, 5.—The Senate defeated, 20 to 62, a resolution in opposition to the government purchase of the telegraph lines.

Paris advices state that an indictment has been found there against Fremont by some of his associates, who held him to negotiate Memphis and El Paso railroad bonds in the European markets, and that the trial will come off shortly.

A Havana letter says that a number of Spanish slave owners held a meeting in that City recently, to consider the means of anticipating the intentions of the home government on the subject of slavery. A proposition was made to have the slaves replaced with contracted coolies, and that money be raised for this object. The meeting was not favorable to the emancipation project, and broke up without doing anything definite.

It is stated that the extortions in the Harbor Master's department of this port, which were exposed a year ago, are again being practiced upon ship owners and others.

Burton N. Harrison, counsel for the Samana Bay company, says that hundreds of letters are received daily from parties desirous of emigrating to St. Domingo. The company intend to keep their matters private until the result of the election is known.

CHICAGO, 6.—At Waukegan, Ill., yesterday, Christopher Rafferty, who killed officer O'Meara in this city in August last while the latter was serving a warrant for his arrest for assault, and who obtained a change of venue to Lake county, was found guilty of murder in the first degree; the punishment was fixed at death. Gov. Beveridge has refused to commute the sentence.

From a New York special it appears that Simmons, the murderer of Duryea, was not released on \$10,000 bail, as stated last evening, the grand jury in Oyer and Terminer having found an indictment of murder in the first degree, in time to prevent this outrage of justice.

CANADA.

QUEBEC, 5.—Judge Carron has accepted the Lieutenant Governorship. The local parliament will be convened immediately, to consider the necessary legislation entailed by the burning of the court house.

WESTERN.

SAN FRANCISCO, 5.—The primary election passed off very quietly, though in several wards the contest was sharp and there was considerable drumming up of voters. It was a square fight between the two factions of the Gorham party; result not yet known.

An old man tried to drown himself to-day at North Point, and when rescued said his two daughters abused him and he did not wish to live any longer. His name could not be ascertained.

Work on the Texas Pacific R. R. will be commenced within a week.

Abundance of rain is falling in all sections of the State from north to south. There are no floods, but the storm is not yet over, and it is still raining in this locality every night and day.

The epizootic has broken out amongst the horses at Gilroy.

A large tobacco manufactory is about to be established at Gilroy.

SACRAMENTO, 5.—A vigilance committee with about 100 members has been organized at Shingle Springs since the murder of Evans; they have notified several parties in that vicinity that they must behave themselves or find other quarters at once.

EUROPEAN.

CADIZ, 5.—The steamship *Murillo* is still here. The British consul demanded a writ of attachment against her. The Captain and officers on the watch at the time of her collision with the *Northfleet* are held prisoners on board a Spanish man-of-war, pending investigation. The crew are under guard and are

not allowed to go ashore. The Spanish authorities who have examined the *Murillo* declare that she shows no signs of having been in collision. Their belief is she is innocent.

LONDON.—At the trial of Robert Bowles to-day he was acquitted. The counsel for the prosecution in his opening speech said it was impossible to doubt that he was guilty. The foreknowledge by the defendant of the manner in which the firm disposed of bonds of Mr. Ragwort, the prosecutor, amounting to \$8,800, and of the securities of Mrs. Gates and Mrs. Gardner, in value over \$50,000. Few witnesses were examined, among them Ragwort and Mrs. Gates. The deputy recorder in summing up showed that other members of the firm were responsible for the securities deposited.

MADRID, 5.—In the engagement between the Carlist forces and the royal troops at a small place called Aga, in the north, it is officially announced that 200 insurgents were killed and 11,000 rifles including eight hundred of the Remington patent, a large quantity of ammunition stores and 200 prisoners were captured. Eighty of the insurgents begged for amnesty.

ATHENS, 5.—The earthquake shocks on the Island of Samos continued four days. There has been great destruction of life and property. The number of victims is yet unknown.

LONDON, 5.—The British court will go into mourning for a short time, for the Dowager Empress of Brazil.

ST. PETERSBURG, 5.—The *Official Gazette*, in an article on the movements of Russia in Asia, contrasts the indifference with which Great Britain views the growth of the United States with the jealousy with which she watches the growth of Russia, and says that British journalists are simply beside themselves with anger, and concludes the article by advising the British government to take no more notice of the progress of Russia than she does of that of the United States.

The Russian fleet is now in the Baltic, and will soon sail for the Mediterranean.

Lord Assington is seriously ill. **PARIS, 5.**—Gambetta has recovered from his illness.

The proprietor of the *Corsaire* newspaper has been sentenced to four months imprisonment for publishing an international circular.

MADRID, 5.—In the Cortes yesterday, a Republican member proposed an amendment to the Porto Rico abolition bill, extending the provisions to Cuba, and providing that the slaves themselves and not the masters shall receive the indemnity. The Cortes will consider the amendment.

A band of Carlists burned the R. R. depot at the town of Villa Franca, in the province of Guipuscoa, yesterday.

PARIS, 6.—*Bayonne Courier* says the Spanish forces have as yet gained no substantial advantage over the insurgents in the northern Provinces.

LONDON, 6.—Parliament assembled to-day. The Queen in her speech first alludes to the mission of Sir Bartle Frere, for the suppression of the slave trade in East Africa; the decision of the Emperor William in the San Juan boundary is touched upon. Parliament will be asked to provide for the payment of the Geneva awards.

The Queen expresses her acknowledgments to the emperor of Germany and the Geneva arbitrators for their work. A treaty for the extradition of criminals has been concluded with Belgium. Concerning the movements of Russia in Central Asia the speech says correspondence has passed with a view to fix the boundary line of the northern frontier of Afghanistan, in order to ensure tranquility in Central Asia.

Papers on the matters mentioned will be laid before parliament. The estimates for the financial year will soon be presented to the Commons.

Although the harvest has been to some extent deficient the general condition of Britain is satisfactory. A measure will be submitted at an early day settling the question of university education in Ireland, which will be formed with a careful regard to the rights and consciences of all. Other legislative subjects of importance will be presented during the session.

AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, 4.—The British sloop of war *Basileisk* has seized three vessels engaged in kidnapping Polynesians, to be sold into slavery.

Bees Disabled with Pollinia.

BY PROF. A. WOOD.

Mr. S. A. Putnam writes from Salt Lake City, July 16th, as follows:

"We send for your examination, some imperfect bees, hatched in this Territory. They appear to hatch with these yellow particles attached to their toes and tubes, and when they (the particles) come off they generally take the claws with them. The perfect workers seem to count them worthless, and carry them out by thousands, flying with them into the air. They seem to have a desire to work, but do not make much headway. There are many of these mutilated toes and yellow particles at the mouth of the hive. Quite a percentage of our bees are lost in this way in July."

Enclosed with this letter we find several mutilated bees with a mass of yellow pellucid particles mixed with shining black specks, all appearing to the unassisted eye to be of no specific form or character. Taking this in hand we called upon our friend, Mr. Angus, the entomologist. He remarked that he had himself observed a "fungous growth" on the legs of wild bees which might be of a similar nature. Then on searching among his copious collections, a specimen was shortly found having the supposed fungus attached, discernible by the naked eye. We brought then the microscope to bear upon it, and lo! the wonder! The nature of these before shapeless particles is at once manifest. There were in this case two pairs of club-shaped yellowish bodies, each pair conjoined to a black granule by jointed pedicels. These curious objects are at once recognized as the waxy pollen masses (called *pollinia*) of our common *Asclepias*, oftener known as Silk-grass or Milkweed. (See class Book of Botany, page 590, cut 4.) The bee had been foraging in the flowers of the Milkweed, and touching with a bristle the said black gland or granule, which is exceedingly glutinous, it adhered and the pollinia were torn out from their sheaths.

Now this action, as concerning the plant, is in accord with the intention of nature. These pollen masses can never, unassisted, reach the stigma and fertilize the seeds. But the insect draws them forth, and probably in its next movement thrusts them into the face of the stigma.

We next turned to the examination of Mr. Putnam's bees, and are not surprised to find the particles accompanying or adhering to them to be of the same nature as those already described. They were indeed in a bad condition for study, being broken and bruised, and mingled in confusion by the long journey in the mail-bags. Few of the particles retained their form complete, but enough were found to enable us to delineate exactly their form and to conclude beyond a shade of doubt, that they were the pollinia of *Asclepias*—probably of *Asclepias speciosa* (Torr.), the common species of that region of country. This Milkweed blooms in July—the month specified in the letter above quoted, as the time for the bees of Utah to suffer from this impediment.

The usual form of pollen is granular; and whatever is gathered in the bristle joints of the honey-bee, is of course, easily brushed off and deposited at the will of the insect. But the pollen of the *Asclepiads* and the *Oreohids* occurs not in grains but in wax-like masses as we have before shown, and would appear to be more or less difficult of management in the hands of the little honey-gatherers. That tiny black gland, to which the pollinia are attached, is exceedingly glutinous, and adheres perfectly to whatever it touches, soon hardening to a solid substance in the air.

Mr. P. supposes that his bees are "hatched with these yellow particles adhering to them." If so, they must have been cast upon them by the workers while yet in their cells. This is improbable, for pollinia, *second-headed*, soon loses its adhesive property. It is far more likely that the bees indiscriminately plunge into the bloom of the Milkweed when open, and all become laden with this troublesome pollen. Then while the strong and experienced workers are able to cast off their adhesive burdens, the young bees, and those weakened through disease of whatever kind, are unable to escape its clammy folds, and at last through their use-

less struggles, lose one by one their fettered and disjointed limbs.—*National Agriculturist*.

NOT ALTOGETHER LOVELY.—Minnesota has been claimed as the paradise of consumptives, its winters being especially commended for their salubrity and bracing loveliness. According to the *St. Paul Dispatch*, however, the reality is not quite so rosy, for although, as some say, the air is so dry and pure you never feel the cold, and chattering teeth and shivering bones are a rarity, and although it is a fact that fewer people are frozen to death in Minnesota than in any other Northern State, yet frost-bitten toes, noses, ears, and faces are fearfully common. The *Dispatch* avers that one is hardly fashionable without some such trophies of the beauties of a Minnesota winter. "The bitter cold does not chill and shake a person, as in damper climates. It stealthily creeps within all defenses and nips to the bone without warning." Ugh! Prospero and his imps pinching the flesh of some poor pulmonary or rheumatic Caliban can hardly inflict torture like this. To continue the picture as limned by our spirited Minnesota artist of the quill:

"Riding along with busy thoughts, a quiet, pleasurable drowsiness takes possession of body and mind, the fences grow indistinct, the thoughts wander, weird fancies come trooping about with fantastic forms, the memory fails, and in a confused dream of wife and home the soul steps out into oblivion without a pang or regret."

It is gratifying to learn, after this, that the thawing-out process is painful, and not attended with such delightful emotions. A winter residence in Minnesota, we should judge from the above, is hardly suitable for one afflicted with weak lungs or subject to acute rheumatic twinges, especially if possessed of a sensitive imagination and a weak constitution.—*Ex.*

FOREIGN NOTES.

Italy is now in the market as a ship-builder, and it is said she builds excellent vessels.

Two autographs of Robert Burns were sold in London recently for thirty and fifty-five dollars, respectively.

In Alsace the temperature has been so mild that ripe cherries have been gathered in a garden at Bischweiler.

Three thousand people tried to get in one of the London theatres the other night when they heard the Prince of Wales would occupy a box.

Immense amounts of real estate are being offered for sale in all parts of Pennsylvania, particularly farming lands, the present owners of which intend going West.

The Corning Illinois *Gazette* states that death, the Lunatic Asylum and the Penitentiary, have diminished the number of twenty men in that town who part their hair in the middle to four.

Edward Mathews, a tramping boiler maker, lately procured lodgings in Edinburgh by a novel device. He asked accommodations in the police office, but was told he could not be received without a charge. He went directly and broke a pane of glass in a house close by, when he was brought out and got an order for three days' board.

The romantic aspect of the late storm is bountifully conceded in this little predicament: "A young couple left Le Mars for Sioux City to be married, and on their return were overtaken by the snow-storm and lost their way. They turned the sleigh box over, and sought protection under it from the storm, and after remaining in that predicament three days, arrived at Le Mars in safety."

Rome is uncommonly full this winter, and there never were so many Americans. The cholera is in Egypt, and travel up the Nile is quite "dangerous." St. Petersburg was never so gay and brilliant as this season. Nice has lost sixty of its American visitors in consequence of the Boston fire, and the Bowles Brothers' failure; but Gen. Sickles and his wife are there; and his absence from Madrid indicates a suspension, at least, of the serious correspondence between the Spanish and American governments.