

VENING NEWS.

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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Thursday, February 2, 1888.

PROSPECT FOR VISITORS.

The Missouri Pacific Railway now connects with the D. and R. G. at Pueblo, and passengers going from this city to Kansas City and St. Louis by the latter line can consequently go directly through to either of these leading points. At present the Missouri Pacific is not running direct trains, but will be fully equipped with the necessary rolling stock to do so by the 1st of April, or probably sooner. This connection brings the traveling distance between Salt Lake and St. Louis 50 miles closer than heretofore, while it is diminished 21 miles between here and Kansas City.

Heretofore business people of St. Louis have been in the habit of seeking escape from the sweltering heat of summer in that city by migrating during the "dog days" to Minnesota and Wisconsin. They would find a much more congenial climate and far greater natural attractions in other respects in this valley. Their attention should be specially directed to this fact, and the result would doubtless be a considerable influx of that class of visitors.

The local Board of Trade here appear to be diligently working up a visit as well as a general business boom for this region. Would it not be legitimate, therefore, at the appropriate time, say the earlier part of the season, for the St. Louis Board of Trade to receive a friendly invitation from this quarter to come over and test and try the quality of our climate and kindred advantages? Were they to participate in them and be satisfied, a report to that effect, after their return home, would do a great deal toward turning the St. Louis tide of tourists and pleasure-seeking travel this way.

As it is the number of visitors to this valley next season promises to be far in excess of that of any previous year. This brings us to a point recently suggested in our hearing by a well known business man. It is to the effect that there is an opening here for a hotel of a grander scale than any now existing. In a structure of that kind, location should be a leading consideration. It should be conveniently close to the central part of town, and yet be open, airy and shady, with a pleasant atmosphere of retirement about its surroundings.

FURTHER DEFICITS.

In addition to the deficits in the new school bill which we pointed out yesterday, there are others to which the attention should be directed. For the purpose of so doing we reproduce section fifteen:

"Sec 15. Whenever it shall seem to the board of education, that a majority of the legal voters of the county, in district favor free tuition in the district thereof, then the board shall make an estimate of the cost of such district free schools in the district for the year next ensuing, and shall submit the same to the board of trustees of the county, who shall have the right to increase or decrease the same as a note of proposition to raise the amount of such estimate by taxation in some newspaper or newspapers in the county having general circulation, and also, by posting three insertions, and also, by posting the same in some public place in each and every district, to the effect, to wit: That the board of trustees of the county do hereby propose to increase or decrease the amount of the tax for district free schools, and that the legal voters of the county, on application of the said board of trustees, shall cause to be assessed and collected the amount so required."

This section is unjust, in that it gives the legal voters rather than to property taxpayers resident in the county, the power to levy a tax for free schools. The justice of the present law, which allows the bearers of the burden to determine whether or not it shall be imposed, is highly commendable, and should be initiated in this bill. The wording of this section leaves open the old and oft mooted question in this Territory, "What is a legal voter? Does the phrase mean a man who is registered, or does it mean a man who has the right to register, without regard to whether his name is on the list or not? The wisdom of omitting to fix in the bill, a limit to the rate beyond which a tax may not be levied, is questionable. It is well observed that the estimate of the cost of free schools in a county is to be made by the board of education, and the tax proposed must be sufficient to produce a fund equal to that estimate. It would be no more than a judicious guard against over-extravagance to fix a limit to the tax for free schools.

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select locations for an indefinite number of buildings, and used for intermediate and high schools. No limit to their cost is fixed, and are any conditions laid down to guide the board in locating them. To illustrate: It might decide to have one at Draper, another at Union, another at Mill Creek, etc., until half a dozen sites should be selected, and then the board might be "outside of this city." The county court is required to cause to be levied and collected, on the taxable property of the whole county, a tax for the erection of these buildings, and as Salt Lake City pays the bulk of the tax on the county, it might happen that this city would be paying for school buildings erected for the exclusive benefit of other localities.

It is an elementary principle that the validity of a tax depends upon its equality in regard to its burdens and benefits, and a court of equity will enjoin the collection of one which is obviously unequal in these respects. Some years ago, in a case which arose in this city, in which the collection of a school tax was resisted, a decision to the above effect was rendered. Would a tax on property in this city for the purpose of erecting a school house at Draper, be equal in its burdens and benefits? Is it sound public policy to give an equal vote to those who own such automatic powers in dictating taxes?

The bill provides for the levying and collecting of taxes for various school purposes, but fails to provide necessary machinery for disbursing the funds and applying them to the purposes for which they were designed. It does not specify whether the erection of school buildings shall be let to the lowest bidder, or by contract at the pleasure of the board of education, though the latter is the inference, as the powers of that board are made very great. If the latter is the intent of the bill, some protection against jobbery should be provided.

The House committee on education has not yet been introduced by introducing a bill so imperfectly framed as the one fastened by it and designed to revolutionize the school system of the Territory. While the obvious intent of the measure is in the main good, radical changes will be required in its verbal instructions before it will be a suitable condition for record upon the statute book.

THE FIRST PRAYER IN CONGRESS.

We have been asked by a correspondent to publish the first prayer ever offered in the Congress of the United States, which is recorded in a note in *Thatcher's Military Journal*, under date of December, 1877. It was made by Rev. Jacob Duane, a gentleman who was the reputed possessor of great eloquence. On examination we find it to be a model of a petition to the throne of grace, brief, comprehensive and appropriate, and therefore comply with the request of our correspondent. This "first prayer in Congress" indicates that in the matter of approaching the Creator in supplication, Mr. Duane was fully abreast with those of similar profession of the year 1888, if not a few pages in advance. Here is the petition in question:

"O Lord, our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers of the earth, and rulest with potent scepter and untried power over all the kingdoms, empires and governments, look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on the American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of oppression, and protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee. To Thee we have fled, O Lord, for refuge, for the cause of justice, and for the cause of the oppressed. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, into Thy protecting care. Give them wisdom in council and valor in the field. Defeat the malicious designs of our adversaries, convince them of the unrighteousness of their course, and if they still persist in sanguinary purposes, oblige them to drop the weapons of war from their unwarlike hands in the day of battle. Be thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly. Enable them to settle things on the basis of peace and justice, and to the best and earliest foundation of the scenes of blood may be speedily closed, and order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety prevail and flourish among Thy people. Preserve the health of their bodies and the vigor of their minds. Shower down upon them and the millions they here represent, Thy merciful and everlastingly abundant blessings. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Savior."

SENATIONAL STAGE EFFECTS.

The modern drama is nothing if not sensational. The scenery must be faithful in mechanical effect, the posters as gorgeous as those of the circus and the play itself must abound in the sensational and the spectacular. So much is this the case that there is a constant strife between rival aspirants for popular favor, to outdo all competitors, not to much superior rendition of what is termed the legitimate drama as by some new "business" or stage effect that shall call the climax of the ridiculous or the horrible, and bring down thunders of applause from the critical gods, who sit in solemn conclave in the upper gallery.

Perhaps the most remarkable attempt to capture popular favor in this line is that of Lew Morrison in San Francisco. *The Chronicle* of the 29th says:

"Fully 30,000 people witnessed one of the greatest sensational effects ever brought out on the stage in San Francisco at the California theatre during the week just closed, namely, the *Henry VIII* scene in the play 'A Dark Secret.' The intense realism of the scene—a river over which travelers in a small boat are passing—so nearly awakened the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. The boats, in which were seated actors dressed in elaborate costumes, were seen to glide along the water, and the whistling launch of *Oborne* and *Alexander* present to the audience a picture so true to life that they are lost in wonderment at how it was brought about. The scene is a scene in front is enlivened by Mrs. Brown with a series of dances, which are performed in a most graceful manner. The scene is a scene in front is enlivened by Mrs. Brown with a series of dances, which are performed in a most graceful manner. The scene is a scene in front is enlivened by Mrs. Brown with a series of dances, which are performed in a most graceful manner."

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

Another Consignment of Smallpox From China Arrives at San Francisco.

Dr. Virchow Definitely Determines that the Prince's Ailment is Not Cancer.

Jack Fogarty to Be Brought Forward as Jack Dempsey's Next Customer.

One of the Texas Train Robbers Makes a Full Confession of his Guilt.

A Rampant British Admiral of the Pacific Squadron Makes Loud Boasts.

Earthquakes in Scotland and England.—Dow's Views on the Campaign, Etc.

By Telegraph to the News.

Smallpox from China.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 2.—The steamship *Yokohama* this morning with four cases of smallpox aboard and was placed in quarantine. This is the first case of smallpox which has arrived here since the outbreak of the disease in the city.

Not Cancer.

SAN REMO, Feb. 2.—Prof. Virchow has examined a fragment taken from the very center of the trouble in the crown prince's throat and declares it shows no evidence of cancer.

Gen. Terry Well.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Florida, Feb. 2.—Miss Terry, sister of Gen. Terry, says: "My brother is not, nor has been sick enough to cause any serious apprehension. He is so much improved that the whole family is rejoicing."

Well-Dressed Defendants.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—Five fashionably dressed men were arraigned in the Marlborough police court today, charged with attempting to obtain 30,000 pounds from the Bank of England by means of a letter bomb.

Satisfactory Arrangements.

DUBLIN, Feb. 2.—The vacancy on the estate of the Countess of Kingston have expressed themselves satisfied with the terms offered by Mr. Fogarty, who agrees to allow twenty per cent reduction in rents, to pay all costs and to re-estate the tenants who have been evicted.

Sentence Commuted.

ATLANTA, Feb. 2.—Governor Gordon today commuted the sentence of Eliza Randall, who was to have been hanged in Clay County on Friday, to imprisonment for life. She killed her father with an axe.

Another Customer for Dempsey.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 2.—Sporting men have discovered in Jack Fogarty a man whom they will back against Jack Dempsey, with or without gloves—the latter preferred.

Decision Reversed.

LANSING, Feb. 2.—The Palms will case was reversed by the supreme court. The two children get the income of the estate, amounting to \$200,000 per annum; the grandchildren get the estate.

Freedom of the City.

DUBLIN, Feb. 2.—The freedom of the city was conferred on the Marquis of Ripon and John Morley.

Keeney Talks.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Dwight Keeney talked to the House committee on foreign affairs this morning in support of the Chinese bill prohibiting Chinese immigration.

How It Was Done.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 2.—In the preliminary examination of L. W. Brock and Tim Barrows, at St. Louis, Brock made a confession of the train robbery at Genoa on December 9. He said Jim and Rube Burrows caused the explosion to bring the train to a stop, and under instructions of Rube Burrows, leader of the gang, he entered the express car, there he was met by a man with a six shooter, and handing a bag to one, two of them compelled him to put the money and contents of the safe in the bag. He put \$2,000 in money and \$5,000 in valuables in the bag. The three then started on the way to the express car, and on the way they were met by a man with a six shooter, and handing a bag to one, two of them compelled him to put the money and contents of the safe in the bag. He put \$2,000 in money and \$5,000 in valuables in the bag. 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