

## EDITORIALS.

## ALL A MISTAKE.

It is popularly supposed that Gen. Grant is a great "horse man." Horses and bull pups have been considered his chief delight. At Long Branch is a place known as "Grant's race course," and the idea has prevailed that the former President devoted much more time to watching equine contests than to the cares of the State.

But like many other popular notions these ideas will now be dispelled. The Prince of Wales invited Grant to attend the Epsom races, which take place annually and always form a grand event. Parliament generally adjourns on the occasion of these races, and all Cockneydom turns out in its holiday attire to witness the exciting display. The Prince asked the ex-President his opinion of the English racing contrasted with the American. Grant could give no views on the subject, as he declared he had never witnessed but two races in his life, one in 1867, the other in 1875.

All prominent men are subject to misrepresentation, and the people of Utah, who know how vividly their leaders have been assailed and maligned, should be slow to accept ideas chiefly derived from the reports of sensational newspapers. Grant it seems is not a horse-racer. Perhaps we shall hear next that he is not an immoderate smoker and that he is a very moderate drinker. He has been debited with many vices. Relieved from the power and dignity of office and the jealousies it provokes, he may now be credited with all the virtues that make men great and admirable. The praises of the press on the ex-Executive should be received with as much caution as its denunciation of the soldier President.

## TARRING THE HOPPERS.

THE Minnesotians appear to be fighting the grasshoppers determinedly and successfully this season. First, the people of that State met the myriad insect invaders with fasting and prayer, now they are dozing them in tar baths. The St. Paul Pioneer Press says that the prospect of saving the crops of Minnesota by the use of the sheet iron and coal tar "hopper dozer" is so promising that the Governor of the State has shouldered the responsibility of promptly furnishing the sheet iron and other needed materials, the State to pay for them afterwards, and the railroads carry the same at nominal rates. The demand for tar has been so great and brisk that the supply of barrels is said to have run short.

But with this good news comes in a report that goes to show the inherent perversity of human nature and the desperate wickedness of the human heart. The Press states that some of the farmers are so anxious to make "an honest dollar" that they carefully nurse the "hoppers," so as to obtain the prescribed bounty for catching them, in the supposition that it is more profitable to grow grasshoppers than grain. Who would have thought an "honest granger" would have dreamed of adopting such a means of swelling his income?

## RICHES OF THE ROMANOFFS.

THE Muscovite rulers have feathered their nests pretty warmly, according to accounts from the Russian capital. The successors of Peter the Great have had an eye to the main chance, as sharp as any of the merchant princes who wield the sceptre in the sphere of commerce.

The Crown domains are said to consist of more than a million square miles of cultivated land and forests, and the Czar owns very rich mines in the Siberian interior. His annual revenue amounts to the neat little sum of \$13,000,000 in gold. This is a larger income than that of any other living potentate, and leads a common mind to wonder what on earth the Russian ruler does with it all.

Although engaging in an expensive conflict, you will not see him

spending much private cash on the enterprise, but the country will have to furnish the sinews of war, and his troops will go unfed and unpaid unless taxes furnish the revenue.

If the Romanoffs should happen to be crowded out of the Czar business they could retire into private life without the fear of much privation. \$13,000,000 per annum—we believe we could manage, by strict economy, to live on those figures, minus three of the cyphers.

## VEGETABLE DIET AND WATER DRINK.

THE following comes in an exchange—

"Speaking at a vegetable banquet, at Leeds, in England, the other day the Rev. C. H. Collins said he was descended from a long line of gouty ancestors. He had been a sufferer from gout, but, having, more than ten years ago, become a total abstainer, and having, not long afterward, become a vegetarian, he had gradually driven the gout out, and could give no other reason for it except pure and wholesome living—total abstinence from alcoholic liquors and from flesh meat. The teeth of man showed that he was not a carnivorous, but a frugivorous animal, and the stomach, he contended, also showed that it was intended not to receive flesh, but the fruits of the earth. He would not go back to his former mode of life for anything that could be given to him. Vegetable diet agreed with the delicate as well as the robust. It was wholesome and enjoyable, and to it he owed a new lease of life."

There can be no doubt that mankind can live healthy lives upon vegetable diet, with pure water for drink, for many of the human race do so live. There can be no doubt that if all alcoholic drinks were abolished there would be more health, peace, and happiness among mankind than there are at the present time, when the majority of men and women in some countries use intoxicants to a greater or less degree. At the same time, we have seen no reason to suppose that if all men were vegetarians and total abstainers from intoxication there would be no sickness or disease in the world. Yet, with those and other judicious reforms, sickness and disease and suffering might be reduced to a minimum, to a very much smaller percentage than that which now prevails. There are people, such as the Esquimaux, who live almost wholly upon animal food, and yet enjoy a large amount of health, hardihood, and endurance. Then there are the herbivorous animals, which subsist wholly upon vegetables, and yet are afflicted with various diseases, yet live so often when living in a state of natural freedom as when living under some of the improved systems of civilization.

The truth appears to be that of the two a vegetable and pure water system of dieting is more conducive to health and long life, especially in hot climates and seasons, than is a meat and intoxicating drink system of living. Man is himself may be diseased, and then their flesh can hardly be healthy meat, to begin with.

The Word of Wisdom, given for the benefit of the saints, many years ago, says, that strong drinks are not for the belly, but for the washing of the body; that tobacco is not good for man; that wholesome herbs, and fruits in their seasons, and grains are ordained for the use of man; that the beasts and fowls are ordained for the use of man, but should only be used sparingly, and in times of cold or scarcity.

## THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

THE Omaha Herald of June 10 reviews briefly the last annual report of the Union Pacific Railroad Stockholders and Government Directors, the work of Hon. James F. Wilson, of Iowa. The Herald says—

"The close of the Mexican war was followed by wide-spread agitation about railway connection with the Pacific coast. That part of the Union was not considered securely ours without it. The Thirtieth Congress undertook the investiga-

tion of the subject through a select committee, of which the Hon. John A. Rockwell was chairman, who submitted an elaborate report February 20th, 1849, nearly thirty years ago. Several projects were considered by the committee, and special attention was given to that of Mr. Asa Whitney, of New York, who proposed to build a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean if he could get the necessary government aid. Mr. Rockwell reported against it, although Mr. Whitney's scheme had received the sanction of eighteen State legislatures. The report recounts some of the objections to the enterprise, and Mr. Wilson ranks it among the curiosities of legislative literature. We quote: 'The aid asked for was too great; the route (by the South pass) was impracticable; the line was, in considerable part, too high above the level of the sea; the expense of construction would be too great; the country was not only new, but for hundreds of miles on the proposed line a "perfect waste"; there was no fuel on the line; the through business would be very small, and of way traffic there would be scarcely any; the claim of Whitney, that travel and freight between China, Japan, India, and Europe could be induced to pass over the line, was wholly rejected as unfounded and entirely preposterous; his expectation that the business interests between China and the Atlantic cities of this country would be over this railroad, of Mr. Whitney's was most fallacious; the committee were "satisfied that the cost and inconvenience would both be so much greater by this railroad line, if ever finished and in full operation, than the present mode of conveyance, that not a chest of tea would, in the ordinary course of business, ever be sent from Canton via this railroad to New York, nor any of the ordinary articles of trade between the two countries," and continued the committee, "if the road were constructed, the annual expense attending the repairs and operation of the road would be enormous."

"Mr. Rockwell went on to show wherein the expenses of operating would ruin the road, in detail, and the committee were perfectly satisfied that they would far exceed the receipts that would be derived from its business."

"Mr. Wilson tells us how experience has played havoc with this report of the learned committee, and we who dwell in Omaha, and who have seen the wonderful work of the great railroad, can bear testimony to the slaughter that has been made of Mr. Rockwell's ideas by actual results. When that Congressman said that the business of such a road could not be made to pay operating expenses from its receipts, he was discussing a road from Chicago to San Francisco. His estimates included the vast business of the three Iowa roads and the \$12,000,000 gross earnings of the Central Pacific. Eliminating all this from consideration, Mr. Wilson produces the following statement of the surplus earnings and their increase for the several years ending June, 1869 to 1876—

1869, \$377,407.39; 1870, \$2,329,790; 1871, \$3,738,155; 1872, \$3,661,353; 1873, \$4,935,965; 1874, \$5,156,970; 1875, \$6,148,365; 1876, \$6,668,174.

"The per cent of expenses has been reduced from 86.83-100 in 1869, to 44.97-100 in 1876."

## WHERE'S VULCAN?

WHAT has become of Vulcan? We are not enquiring after the swarthy mythological deity who is said to have "forged the bolts of Jove." It is Levier's Vulcan that forms the subject of our query. Last year this mystic planet failed to come to time, and again he has disappointed the expectations of his discoverer—shall we say inventor?

The French philosopher has demonstrated the existence of this heavenly body—to his own satisfaction, and induced the leading astronomers of the world to watch for its appearance between Mercury and the Sun. But Mr. Vulcan has failed to put in an appearance at either period specified, and Levier naturally feels sad.

From the 21st to the 23d of March the principal stargazers of Australia, acting on instructions from the Astronomer Royal, anxiously

watched for the Frenchman's little world, but watched in vain. Vulcan's transit did not take place. The weather was good, the conditions were favorable, the observations were carefully conducted, but no Vulcan darkened the path marked out for his journey across the disk of the sun.

Astronomers are not exempt from errors. Their theories are not always demonstrated by facts, and scientific prognosticators like those would be prophets who attempt to foretell the day and the year for the fulfillment of Biblical predictions, often make mistakes in figures and fail in their reckonings of times and seasons and heavenly things.

We hope Levier will have better luck next time. Meanwhile, if anybody sees anything of the erratic Vulcan, please drop a line to the NEWS.

## MALIGNING THE MILITARY.

THE Virginia Chronicle gives an account of an interview with W. W. Bishop, who has obtained some prominence through his connection with the Lee trial. We clip the following, which indicates the animus of Bishop, but which we regard as a libel on the military stationed here, and a misrepresentation of a large number of respectable "Gentiles"—

"Reporter—What is the feeling prevalent among the Gentiles in Utah?"

"Bishop—Very bitter; the same now as fourteen years ago. The troops are ready and anxious to be turned loose on the town. Within a radius of fifty miles of Salt Lake there are about 10,000 Gentiles who would be ready at a moment's notice to take a hand. The Gentiles of Salt Lake feel perfectly secure as to the protection of their property, but in the small interior towns the feeling is not one of security. Should hostilities begin, the worst part of the fighting will be in these small towns."

Now what does Bishop of Pioche know about Utah affairs any more than the people of Virginia? We have a much better opinion of the troops located in this Territory than to believe any such imputations upon them, and it is well known that the bloodthirsty spirit which he attributes to ten thousand residents of this Territory only exists in the bosoms of a very few, who are engaged in the present crusade, and who expect to make money out of any excitement which would draw troops into Utah, while they gratify their animosity against the old settlers.

It is perfectly true that a feeling of security as to property prevails in this city. There is not any reason whatever for the contrary. And it is just as false that there is any sense of insecurity in the smaller settlements. In fact the latter are, most of them, composed entirely of "Mormons," who are quietly engaged in their various industrial occupations, undisturbed by any of the sensational stories which trouble the people afar off. What is to start among them "the worst part of the fighting?"

It really seems that a great portion of the press of the country desire action rather than fact in relation to Utah affairs. If not why do their reporters button-hole persons of avowed hostility to our people, who have no better means of learning anything reliable concerning the Territory than the interviewers possess themselves?

We venture the assertion that there is no portion of the United States that enjoys a better sense of security to life and property than Utah. And we are sure that all classes that form the constituent parts of the community will sustain this assertion, with the exception of a mere thimbleful of an element which is composed of the concentrated essence of double-distilled contention. Bishop is in sympathy with it. He knows nothing of the situation. He merely talks in accord with the little party of strife, which would try to make trouble in any society.

"I thank God," ejaculated Ben Butler, in the House two years ago, with piousunction, devoutly rolling his weather eye upward and glaring with the other at the reporters' gallery, "that the newspapers did not make me!" "No," said a member of the journalistic fraternity, "if they had they would have made a better job of it."—Washington Star.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TELEGRAPHING AND NEWS-PAPER-MAKING.

RESPECTING the method recently invented by Mr. Pickering, of the San Francisco Morning Call, of rapidly telegraphing fac similes of stereotype plates in a few minutes, the Sacramento Record-Union says—

"If it is possible to transmit the contents of a whole broadside in a couple of hours, it will become the interest of metropolitan publishers to have branches at the secondary centers of population, and their superior command of news facilities will enable them to cut out the local journals in their own field. The proprietor of the London Times some years ago foresaw that a change of this kind was impending, and made preparations to meet it. Heretofore the difficulty of telegraphing masses of news has prevented him from carrying out his intentions, but the new process, if it can do what is claimed for it, will speedily enable Mr. Walters to accomplish the undertaking he has long had in purpose. In this country the same tendency will of course be developed, and the great journals will eat up the little ones more rapidly than ever. Thus the invention of higher powers always tends to place those powers in the hands of a few, and thus what we call progress is always and inevitably away from democratic principles, and in the line of centralization."

The Oakland (Cal.) Transcript says—

"All the mechanical obstacles have not yet been removed, but such progress has been made that there is no longer a doubt that there can be transmitted not merely a copy of an electrotyped page, but that by the aid of chemistry, an impression also can be sent, so that the simultaneous publication aimed at can be readily accomplished."

"The destruction of an immense number of what are called newspapers would be of incalculable benefit, for the existence of so many renders success needlessly difficult. If there were three daily papers in San Francisco instead of seven, it would be better for the people, because they would have superior journals. The highest order of talent would remain in the profession, because suitably rewarded, not using it as now as a stepping stone to something better. There is nothing any more honorable or worthy of the best efforts of the best minds, but there are many pursuits that are vastly more profitable. There certainly can be nothing to fear from any invention that can make newspapers better than they are."

## THE MORMON QUESTION.

THE Chicago Daily News of June 8 says—

"An outbreak is feared in Utah, if the government presses Brigham Young to a trial. We would like to know by whom this outbreak is feared? It is a burning shame that the Mormons of Salt Lake should be eternally annoyed by the eastern bums, who are forever committing outrages upon decency under the guise of religion. If the Mormons do rise against the Gentiles, and if blood flows in the Salt Lake basin, as the result of that uprising, then the clique led by the New York Herald will alone be responsible. We would like to know why a Mormon is not entitled to all the privileges accorded to the Gentile. The answer, a thousand times given, and the only answer to this is, that the Mormon, by having, and keeping, and taking care of more than one wife is violating the laws of the country, and therefore not entitled to the protection afforded by those laws. One of the fundamental principles of republicanism is, that the laws should be made to serve the people, not the people the laws. We have no right to impose upon those people our peculiar religious views, any more than we have the right to make them dress as we do, or walk as we do, or murder as we do, or rob, or steal, or lie and cheat as we do."—of the United States of America.

The editor goes on to say that undoubtedly there are connected with the "Mormons" some persons