

BAIRD, TEXAS, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1881.

Know a spot,
 Where all I love oft spends her lonely
 hours,
 All swayed over with forget me not
 And other flowers.
 See this and that
 Upon my brow, all bumps that have been
 made
 Of late; the frequent and ferocious graze
 Induces the chloride.
 A quiet nook,
 The baby for one little silver slip of sound,
 The baby chatter of a tiny brook,
 All's silence now.
 With hopping gait
 The lively trout provokes a female scream;
 I hurry to the rescue, but too late:
 He passes ad a daisy.
 Bend, branches, bend,
 Twine! Leave the canopy above,
 Let not a single raindrop e'er descend
 Upon my love.
 This really is a
 slightly damp, love's nest not and
 is so
 And I am subject unto rheumatiz.
 I think we'll go!

The purchase of Alaska by the United States Government in 1867 gave American merchants and ship-owners new and valuable opportunities for the capture of seal. In consequence of the reckless destruction of these animals in regions where comparatively few are now to be found elsewhere than on this coast, where they have been preserved from extermination by the action of the United States Government under the Russian Government enjoyed the monopoly of their capture. When, in 1867, negotiations were in progress for the purchase of Alaska, a British merchant of New London, corresponded with Secretary Seward to learn if citizens of the United States would be permitted to fish for seal in the territory whose transfer was completed. Learning that they would have the desired privilege, Alaska was no sooner ceded than Mr. J. A. Siple, with two vessels and a crew of 40 men, equipped with the necessary gear and appliances for hunting seal. Sitka being the only port of entry, they reported there to Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, commanding the Alaska Territory, and were pushed out to St. Paul Island, the great sealing ground, two hundred and fifty miles from the mainland. There they commenced operations, and after a successful chase, raised the first American flag. As a result of their venture they soon had 45,000 seal-skins ready for ship-

Although the male seals will fight manfully in defense of the females when they are attacked, they are not so wary of a dog, the barking of a dog, the tainting of the water around them with the blood of one of their number, or even the smell of a seal, as to make them reluctant to drive them from their rookeries. And driving them away permanently means their extermination, for if they are driven from the waters where they were born they will die. An illustration of this truth is found in the story of sealing on Kerguelen Land, after the seals were newly discovered there. The sealers found that about 700,000 seals at first that as many as 700,000 were killed in a single year by the vessels flocking thither from all quarters. The sealers, however, were not very practically exterminated, there not being enough left to make their catching remunerative. On the Alaska islands, however, the rigid regulations concerning the taking of seals are enforced not only by the presence of resident Government inspectors, but by the obvious interests of those engaged in the work. The number of seals now taken in the world are taken from those islands; and there they are on the increase. At first the fur seals were killed in immense numbers, but now the number of seals, or rather of the hundred thousand skins were destroyed, in order that the market might not be overstocked. It was only when their number was so reduced that the number annually killed were limited and the other mentioned restrictions were imposed.

lamed, had brought hundreds of thousands of dollars among the community; and lucky was the man esteemed who had secured his berth in a ship to be sailed and commanded by one of these "lucky" men. For three weeks to a month the hearts of all classes in the great fish colony palpitated between hope and dread incessantly. The first thing on the morning, the last before the sailing, the wind was so hazardous in the streets was the state of wind and weather bearing on this momentous voyage. All had a stake in its issue, and the fishermen, and the winter-ereditors to the fishermen; the fishermen, to pay these debts, in order and in order solely to obtain more credit for the coming year.

The return of the expedition was an event of the most tremendous importance. "One by one," writes Lieutenant Smith, "the boats came in, and all of them all others in the year, they came gliding through the Narrows, until, just as the sun tips the cres of Signal Hill with a silver gleam, the last boat, the last of the fleet, anchors in the channel to wait until the little, busy, bewildered gull shall have leisure to haul them inside." Let me, in truth, it matters little whether the boats come in, or go out, surely as the sun sinks, outgo the boats, and, leaving the Captain to take care of the ship as best he can, in a few minutes sail out of the harbor, and the boats and are hauled off by friends and women as mad with joy as they are. In streets, in lanes, in cottages of the poor and the rich, the night of the return of the expedition is prolonged in one great, universal orry. It was on one of these occasions that an officer of rank, sent us from Halifax on an official commission, said to me, "I have been to every sort of place it was. 'Well, sir, I was only there three days, and they appeared to me to be all drunk.'"

On the 10th of August, a curious event took place off New Foundland. There was a visitation of seals such as would have been deemed extraordinary even on the ordinary days of the fishery. For many years past, had the fishery of the southern coasts have scarcely hoped for a paying harvest of seal, even after fitting out their rough boats, and proceeding to the coast of Labrador. On this occasion the valuable creatures came floating down on great sheets of ice, within easy reach of the hunters, and the hunters, in the first place, it might have been regarded as a special providence to all concerned, as

From three to four days the hunters were in the water, waiting for and further upon the ice, when a sudden wind fell. The great masses, held in place by a strong northeaster, began to move. The ice broke up and the icebergs drove way beneath the feet of the unhappy fishermen. So sudden was the change that the sea was almost instantaneous. At one moment the men seemed to be quietly at work; at the next the panic had spread in every direction. The icebergs were everywhere, and except at a very few points of contact the water began to flow between it and the men's heads. Hundreds of men saw before them the open sea, and hurried out to sea upon the melting mass. Those who were most cool-headed ran for the shore, and many of them succeeded in reaching it before the icebergs succeeded in reaching it. Others, less rapid in their movements, or coming too late to save themselves, were carried under the icebergs, or, if they swam, swimming across, were hauled up on the crabs by comrades, waiting to receive them. Within the half hour small boats were everywhere, and the icebergs had brought off many who had succeeded in reaching the edge of the ice.

penon was received that a sealing scumner had picked up some porpoise, or Hump-backs, and had landed them safely at Cape Spear. A screw steam tug, staunch and strong, built especially to battle with the waves, had been ordered by the Government, and returned, bearing seven of the lost sealers to shore. At last, as one man after another was restored to his home, the conviction began to grow that the Government had been there was deep cause for thankfulness that so many had escaped.

The harvest of seal-skin mysteriously increased, and the Government, long troubled brought with it a certain amount of prosperity to many who are accustomed to privation and suffering. The life of the fisherman of the North is a life of privation and suffering, and not simply their necessities by any kind of agriculture, for their soil will yield nothing; they are unskilled in trade and handicraft, and have no other means of getting on. At times the merchants who bring the necessities of life within their range. Their only reaping ground is the field of sea, which gives or withholds its treasures, and the mysterious cause. *Danvers Weekly.*

"In the year of our Lord 1881, Alexander II., Czar of all the Russias, will be remembered by a self-named prophet from the Court-house steps at Meville, Pa., in the fall of 1876. This man, once the victim of an imperator as high as the court fairs, now lies in a pauper's grave in one corner of the Crawford County Poor-farm, with but a slab of wood to mark his last resting place. Few people could read the inscription on the horrible tomb which was known as Frederick Hyren. It was but an assumed name, however, and if the papers which he left behind can be believed, his career was a most remarkable one.

Frederick Hyren was born in Finland and his parents were serfs. While quite young his natural abilities so pleased his master that he was freed and sent to the United States to seek employment to the court service at St. Petersburg, and in a short time rose to a position of importance. About this time the late Emperor, Alexander, started on his journey, so-called, to the life of Prince Hyren, by a lucky chance, was chosen to accompany him. Everybody knows the romance of that journey, and how the Czar and his only son, the Crown Prince, were captivated by the beauty but beautiful Princess from the smaller German courts. This was the cause of Hyren's future downfall. He carried a message to the father of the Princess, the Emperor, that the Princess met, and a responsive love was kindled in their hearts. They pledged eternal love. When the Czarewitch saw Hyren's loved one the match was made. The Emperor, with his unconquerable ambition, and laid a plan to frustrate the Czarewitch. The latter had grave doubts as to whether he could resist the Emperor's will. The Princess, Hyren volunteered to hasten back to Russia and prepare the Czar

times was almost wild. Then he saw a note in a Russian paper that he was supposed to be a deserter. He became fearful of his life. Every stranger he met who had the appearance of a countryman of his would cause him to flee. He was in this country about two years after his arrival in this country he became insane. He had a violent attack of insanity and finally fixed his habitation in Western Pennsylvania. He would go from place to place and tell the people to repent and believe, for the end of the world was at hand. As he seemed to be perfectly sane except on the subject of the end of the world, he was arrested. He made a confidant of a gentleman in this section, and confided to him his whole life story, and the cause of his insanity, with instructions to read after his death. This was written immediately after his arrival in this country, and was a full and complete confession of his life. The exposure which he endured at last began to tell on him, and he was sent to the hospital at Philadelphia, where he died. — *Cor. Philadelphia Press.*

The Eben Wright will be the social sensation in Boston. Eben Wright was a very wealthy, old bachelor, who had inherited a good deal of money, which he had more than doubled by his own efforts. He had no family, and no amiable man; neither was he fond of his relations. He had favorites outside of them, but they were not many. One of his favorites was a young man of his sort was Gen. Charles A. Whittier, a Boston broker. Mr. Wright took a fancy to him and to his family. They are the best of the best of the best of the people. Mr. Wright was fond of visiting them and having them visit him. Mrs. Whittier was kind to the old gentleman, and the pleasant friendship existed between them. He was a very confidential man, and more than any one else. This spring he went to Florida in a poor boat, and he grew worse there, and his case became critical. He was telegraphed to Mrs. Whittier that he should like to see her. She started at once for the South, and took with her a Boston physician. He was paid for his services at the rate of \$100 per day. Mr. Wright did not live long after she reached him. When he died it was found that he had

The Passion for Arctic Exploration.

Lieutenant Robert M. Berry, who has been serving on the Jeannette Relief Board as junior member and Recorder, is now ordered to the command of the Albatross ship.

He was on the Tigress in search of the missing members of the Polaris crew, and has a passion for Arctic explorations. So he has a few facts to tell of him, of whom the writer once said at table, in the month before he sailed in command of the Jeannette: "How can you leave your charming wife and little daughter so far from you? I am sure you will. Let some bachelor officer go in your place." "And let the old bachelors have all the glory of enterprise?" he said, reproachfully.

"I have a wife added," he replied. "And I, too, am enthusiastic for my husband to go. I would not deter him for anything." The thought of that beautiful baby and child, whom some day he would see, and himself alone, is harrowing to one who saw them daily and knew what a perfect home circle it was. He was indeed a devoted husband and father, a dashing officer; she a lady of intelligence and culture, the daughter of a captain in the merchant service. They are remembered with kindly interest at the headquarters of the Albatross, and also Lieutenant Berry had his Washington quarters. The latter is a bachelor, fortunately; he is six feet two inches tall, weighs 175 pounds, has a good frame, remarkably cool, and is said to

his collar-button, which, wearing a heavy beret and holding his head down, the thieves failed to discover. The robbers, however, did raise the passenger's footings, so poor as to permit them to keep them standing with their hands up for two hours. Col. Caldwell says the rubbers obtained but a few dollars from the passengers—*Corpus Christi (Texas) Free Press.*

The new Governor of Candahar, Afghanistan, Hashim Khan, is forty, looking years of nineteen. Shams-uddin Khan, the *de facto* Governor, is an intelligent man of forty-five.

The singer is better than most mortals. He is happy when he finds his cake in life. — *Si?—Lionell Courier.*

—The new light at Eddystone will be visible in clear weather for seventeen and a half miles; it is to be 133 feet above high water. It will be in full working order by March, 1882.

—The Chief of the Paris Fire Brigade has recommended that the lighting of large warehouses by electricity be made compulsory, in order to prevent a recurrence of such a disaster as the destruction by fire of the Printemps establishment.

—The waste of material in coal mining is enormous. It is estimated that for every ton of coal that is marketable, 10 tons of waste are taken out; there is a further waste of 26 per cent. in the preparation and delivery. The Reading Railroad Company has spent \$300,000 in the attempt to save the waste of material in the locomotives constructed for the purpose.

—A new process of tanning is extensively used in Germany. Bark is wholly dispensed with, and inorganic compounds take its place. The new process is said to be more economical, and to complete, and the particular feature is described to be the action of chromic acid, for the generation of which a number of substances, soluble in water, are used, such as potassium dichromate, decomposition of bichromate of potash.

—It has long been known that sulphur cools a hot bearing, but the reason why is doubtful. Von Heeron states that the fine metal dust formed when a journal runs hot, and which strongly acts upon both journal and bearing, forms the sulphide with the sulphur. This compound, which grows soft and greasy, does not cause any appreciable amount of friction. Sulphur and grease in combination are in regular use on board the steamers of the North German Lloyds.

—An easy method for showing whether butter is adulterated with beef fat has been submitted by Hager. He saturates a cotton wick with a suspected sample, which is first melted. He then lights the wick and permits it to burn for about two minutes. At the end of that time, when the wick is extinguished, an odor like that given off by a tallow candle, when its flame is blown out, is readily perceived if the butter is artificial.

Although some of the underground telephone wires in Germany have been damaged by the bombers, there have been no serious interruptions, and it is likely to need any repairs for years to come. There are now 8,000 miles of such wires employed. The plan adopted consists of burying the wires in a double layer of insulated conductors with a coil of moist hemp, surrounded by a complete sheath of iron wire, which again is covered with a layer of concrete impregnated with a protecting compound.

—The American Meteorological Society proposes, as the span of territory from Newfoundland to Oregon is 60 degrees of longitude, that the continent should have time for the country be obtained by taking a meridian in the middle of the continent, 90 degrees west of Greenwich, and proceeding to the east and west from that point. In other words, the continent would be laid out in four parallel north and south strips, each 15 degrees, one hour, wide, in each of which the standard time would be the standard time would be based on the meridian in the middle of this strip.

—Spring chickens and maple sugar are always in season, without any regard for spring.—*N. O. Picayune.*

—Why is a fellow with a bad cold in the head like Niagara Falls? Because he's a catarrh-racked.—*N. Y. News.*

—A bonnet to be in the height of fashion now must not be the shape of any other bonnet.—*Philadelphia News*.

—Everything has to pay up sometimes; even the little chickens have to shell out.—*Steubenville Herald*.

—We are glad to see that the usual full-grown panther is around this year on time, and has been killed in various parts of the country.—*Chicago Tribune*.
—A circus proprietor advertises his show as the greatest thing under can-

—It is supposed that when winter was going out it collided with spring coming in, and the seasons were so badly telescoped that it is difficult to tell 'tother from which. — *Norristown Herald*.

—A professor at Cornell, lecturing on the effect of wind in some Western parts, remarked: "In traveling along the road, I even sometimes found the logs bound and twisted together to such an extent that a mule couldn't climb over them, so I went around."—*College Journal*.

—Two Cincinnati ladies, who had lately returned from a trip abroad, were exchanging opinions in reference to the famous pictures they had seen. "Give me the Reconnaissance school of art," declared one, "so full of sympathy, of poetry, so different from the French school!" "It's very true what you say," observed the other, "but so far as I, I just date on the Dusseldorf school, the paint is so much fresher!"—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

An Austrian Diana.
The Empress of Austria is one of the greatest huntswomen of the age. There are few men in the world who can keep up with her in a ride across the country. It is true she carries only 17 pounds, but she does not mind a long ride of 100 and over. She prefers Ireland on account of the roughness of the country to hunt in; but the land disturbances this year have forced her to go to England. She has just returned from Cumberland Abbey for six weeks. She hunts four times a week, and on July in England can keep up with her. She is not afraid of the most ferocious of the great deer, and she expects to spend \$100,000 before her return to her own country.—*Dearest's Month.*

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

ONE CAT AND TWO PIGS.

A poor little kitty turned out by its mother,
Without any sister, without any brother,
Was very unhappy,
Was very unhappy, indeed!

Oh, very unhappy, indeed!

She couldn't find any companions to play
with;
She couldn't find any companions to play
with;

And so she was lonely.
Oh! ever so lonely;
Oh, yes! she was lonely, indeed.

One morning she noticed two little pigs running
Along by the house; they were pretty and
cunning.
And it made little Kitty
Feel bad, with a pity—
A very great pity, indeed.
She made the two main pigs and their hick
weather
The two tiny pigmates would frolic to-
gether.
And kitty was happy.
No doubt she was happy!
Oh, yes! very happy, indeed.
The piglets would drink up the milk that was
To kitty, of her from the basin was driven;
The piglets were quite greedy,
Yes, rather too greedy,
Oh, yes! very greedy, indeed.
And, when they had corn, how the piglets
While kitty looked on, wondering how they
Would chew it.
"Wasn't queer that she couldn't,
Oh, strange that she couldn't,
She'd tried—but she couldn't, indeed!
At night, when the piglets in slumber were
Dorling
Miss Kitty curled up on her back was re-
positional.
And all were quite happy,
Remarkably happy.
Oh, yes! very happy, indeed.
—Josephine Pollock, in *Nursery*.

That was what a little girl eleven years old had written in a fair, round hand in a diary on that pleasant summer morning out under the trees.

"Why, Hattie Jordan," what dreadful spelling!" exclaimed her sister's voice behind her. "You had better stop dreaming at all events till you learn how to spell the word, and go to studying your spelling-book instead. Why, there are six words wrong

"He wouldn't peck, anyway," answered Hattie, springing up, flushed and angry.

"I really didn't, dearie," replied wise Agnes, drawing her down to her side, "but I don't think you should not answer. But now tell me what you are going to do in the place of dreaming, for you know you've spent a great deal of time in that way."

"Oh, I don't know what to do everything that's strong and good. Sometimes I think I'll be a great scholar, as Marc-
turer, or something. Oh, Agnes, what would you do first?"

"Well, dear, I think the first thing I would go to the dictionary and study up on, and then every day I would write a pretty verse of yours correctly, and every day of this vacation I would write out one page of something and then I would go on to the next until I could do better. What do you say, for I must go now."

But Hattie only shrugged her shoulders and slumped back against the tree and watched the birds in the

about, and thought of doing great things by-and-by, until the dinner bell called her in to more practical things. After dinner Hattie's father, who was a minister, came out on the piazza, and asked the little girl to write a note for him, as his right hand was bound up from a bad cut, and everyone else was busy.

"So Hattie wrote, "Please send the quire up here."

And about an hour later who should come up the steps but Deacon Connors—who was a bookseller—and in his arms several packages. "I didn't know which kind you wanted, sir, so I brought several," he said, wiping his hot face.

Mr. Jordan looked in surprise at the various styles of paper displayed, and finally said, "but I was not needing any paper just now."

Then the deacon took out Hattie's note, and the laugh they had over it sent the poor child in tears to Agnes.

"You will believe me now, dear," said her sister, "that if you want to be

any use or help in the world, you must be willing to begin improving just as you are. But you need to know if doing is not working. Now you know you are a poor speller; begin there and you will improve.

Then Hattie took her pretty diary and the dictionary and made those six words her motto for the next day. Early that morning, but that seemed such a little step toward becoming a woman. I believe I could do better if I had a vowel to go by," she said to Agnes that night.

Then here's one for you: "By patient study and hard work, words made right does not seem much to you to-night; but six words every day will make a difference in three hundred working days in the year. Now, how many?"

"Most two hundred," answered Hattie quickly.

"Yes, and if every one of them means, in God's sight, something done so well that it is a credit to a more helpful woman to others, and more care of the talent He has given you."

And, little old man, I was so sorry, and I said, "Yes," for she saw how her life might be like a ladder reaching up to what God called her to be, and the steps were the things that the patient doctor of each little child told her she found in her way.—*Baptist Weekly*

A Sail in a Tub.

Polly and Peggy were two little girls who lived in a big white house beside a pretty river. Polly's eyes were brown, like chestnuts, but Peggy's were blue as the sky.

One day their mamma went away to spend the afternoon. The little girls promised to be very good indeed while she was gone. They were to have bread and butter and jam and honey and

and little sugar cakes for their supper, with their own pretty tea set to eat from.

It was a beautiful day; the sun shone and the birds sang sweetly. The little girls did not want to stay in the house. "Let us go to the river and catch some fish," said Peggy. So off they started with their little pokes and lines, and bent pins for fish-hooks. The fish did not bite very well, and by and by the children took off their stockings and shoes and waded into the clear, cool water.

"I wish we had a boat," said Pollie, "I would like to have a sail." Just then Peggy spied a wash-tub on the bank.

"O Pollie!" she cried, "somebody has been washing, and left a tub here; that will make a splendid boat."

"Let us get in it right off," said Pollie, dancing about. "We must have some oars."

"The sticks will do," said Peggy, picking up two almost as big as herself.

They rolled the tub into the river, where it danced about like a cork. "I will hold it until you get in, Pollie, and then you must keep it steady with your

Pollie did exactly as Peggy told her, and soon both were seated in their funny boat. The river was not deep, but the current was strong, and the tub floated very well. "What fun it was! They could see the white pebbles on the bottom of the river, and the bright little fish playing hide and go seek. But by and by the tub floated right on a big rock in the middle of the river, and the little sailors were upset into the water."

"The fishes will eat us up!" said Peggy, beginning to cry.

"Just then a man walking on the bank saw them. He waded out into the river and carried them safely to land." When the two little girls reached home, nurse was much frightened, and put them to bed right away. They had only bread and butter for their supper. Peggy and Pollie think they will never go sailing again.—*Mary E. Ferry, in Our Little Ones.*

A little boy once went home to his mother and said, "Mother, sister and I went out in the garden, and we were

calling about, and there was some boy
named Johnny?" said the mother. "Why,"
said the child, "I was calling out,
Ho! and this boy said 'Ho!' So
said to him, 'Who are you?' And he
said, 'Who are you?' So I said, 'What
is your name?' He said, 'What is your
name?' And I said to him, 'What is
your name?' He said, 'Show
yourself.' And I jumped over the
ditch, and I went into the wood, and I
could not find him, and I came back.
I found some foot-prints, and I
will punch your head." And he said, "I
will punch your head."

So his mother said, "Ah, Johnny, if

said, "Your voice is sweet," he would have said, "Your voice is sweet." Whatever you said to him, he would have said back to you." And the mother said: "Now, Johnny, when you get to be a man, whatever you will say to others they will by and by say back to you; and his mother look him to that old text in the Scriptures, "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you again."—*Illustrated Christian Weekly*.

One of the Discomforts of Life In the Arctic Region.

One of the greatest discomforts of Arctic travel is the enforced uncleanness. It is often asked, How could you associate and maintain such intimate relations with your savage neighbors in the same tent or on the same skin? To this the answer very naturally assumes the form of another question: How could they live with us? Certainly, we would be as filthy as they could be. In winter, water is so scarce and too precious an article to waste in washing. Generally all the water has been frozen. They dip their hands over an oil-lamp—a very dirty process. Another obstacle is the fact that you must wipe your hands and face on a piece of seal or walrus skin. It is soon be frozen; and when a towel has once been used its future usefulness is seriously impaired. It then becomes necessary to use the hands as much as available as they can be for wiping one's hands and face. When in permanent quarters, it is, of course, different, and the hands are washed as often as is observed. Then when a towel is used it can be hung near the lamp, and will eventually get dry; but in the meantime the hands are washed and dried from the lamp, and after using it the second time it is hard to tell whether your face has been washed or not. The Eskimo is a very clean race, and they are a healthy race, suffering only from pulmonary diseases and disorders of the stomach, occasionally from over-eating of seal and meat. It becomes an open question whether cleanliness is necessary to health. They have no cloth, and consequently no towels, and it is amusing to see the various devices to which they are forced to provide substitutes. The men eat while sitting or standing in a circle, and pass a large piece of meat, either seal or walrus, around the circle. Each, in turn, seizes a morsel in his teeth and cutting it off with a

the knife, to the imminent peril of his hands and faces look as if they had been eating out of a trough. They don't mind the dirt, but they hate to waste the blood or gravy, so they scrape their hands and faces with their fingers, and then wipe their knives and then lick the knives clean with their tongues. If either the men or the women get their hands covered with oil by handling the ducks, they wash them with water, then wipe their hands upon a napkin improvised from the skin of a bird. When a duck, goose, dovekie, or any other large bird has been killed, they wash their hands and faces with water, then dry it in the sun. Then these skins are put carefully away, to be service as napkins and towels.—W. H.

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Conkling and Platt.

It has been said of office holders, that but few die, and none ever resign. The two senators from New York, however, have shown themselves to be exceptions to the rule, and have resigned their seats on account of the treatment they have received at the hands of the administration. The President has appointed men to offices of considerable importance in their State, without consulting them, and in some instances, against their known wishes. The administration, supported, in this instance by a majority of the Democratic senators, has proved strong enough to secure the confirmation of Judge Robertson, a man especially obnoxious and hostile to Conkling, as collector of the port of New York. As a matter of legal right, the President may nominate whomsoever he sees fit. Viewed from a party standpoint, however, the eminent services rendered by Conkling to the party, the "courtesy" due to Senators in such cases, and the practice and precedents as heretofore established, may have entitled him to more consideration than he has received from Garfield in this connection. This is a party question in which the independent voter has no concern, while the Democrats are growing feuds in every possible way. There have been strong feuds and dissensions among the leaders of the Republican party for a number of years, but they have, hitherto, managed to heal these differences, after the party nominations, sufficiently to work together for the success of their ticket. A single John Kelly in the Republican party, will assure its defeat at the next general election, and Roscoe could carry a much larger following and influence than Kelly has done. Conkling is acknowledged to be one of the ablest men in America, a man of large intellect as well as fine executive capacity. It is said, however, that he is cold in his nature and domineering in disposition, and he certainly has too much pride to be tamely snubbed even by the President. His prompt action in resigning, exhibits unusual nerve and political courage. An obnoxious nomination is not, however, such a matter as to demand or properly require the resignation of a United States Senator, and it is generally believed that this move has been made on the political chess-board by the New York Senators, solely with a view and expectation of being re-elected to their own seats and in this way securing and evidencing the approval of the Republican party of New York in their opposition to the administration. Should their plan fail in the last respect, it may prove a disastrous move for them.

Another Comet.

About two o'clock on the morning of the 1st of May, Professor Lewis Swift, director of the Warner Observatory, at Rochester, N. Y., turned his telescope to the constellation of Andromeda and discovered a comet, moving in a southerly direction. The new comet is located in the constellation above named, right ascension, 0 hours, 0 minutes; declination, 37 degrees North. This is the first comet discovered during the present year, and places Prof. Swift in possession of the \$200 prize which Mr. H. H. Warner, the well-known Safe, Kidney and Liver Cure man, offered last January for the discovery of comets. Inasmuch as Prof. Swift received \$500 for the discovery of the comet of 1880, from the same gentleman, he is at last finding astronomy profitable as well as pleasant. It is not thought that the present comet is the expected one of 1812, although it is nearly the location from which that comet is expected; nor is there any reason to believe it will have any effect upon the earth, or hasten the predicted coming of the end of the world.

BRITAIN R. WEBB, Esq., formerly of Stevens county, is now permanently located in our growing city, in the law, collection and real estate business. Mr. W. is the author of "Webb's Texas Criminal Law," a work of acknowledged merit, and aside from this, is a lawyer of unquestioned ability, integrity and energy. His past four years residence in an adjoining county, and his official connection with our State Legislature in its recent session, has given him an extensive acquaintance, not only throughout this section, but even the State as well. Mr. W. already controls a large amount of lands in this and adjoining counties, and will give this branch of his business special attention. The law partnership of Sebastian & Webb, will still be continued at Breckenridge, but will, hereafter, be confined to law business in the district court. We cordially welcome Mr. Webb to our town and, having known him personally for some time, we predict for him a most successful future.

Subscribe for the CLARENDON.

Bud Franklin's Death.

We learned last Saturday from Mr. W. H. Gilliland, that Mr. Bud Franklin, well known to nearly all our stockmen, met his death by accidentally drowning in the Colorado River, on the 4th inst., near the line of Tom Green and Mitchell counties. Mr. Gilliland and Bud were traveling in a buggy, and coming to the river which was considerably swollen, Bud mounted one of the horses and rode into the stream to see if it would be safe to venture over in the buggy. After becoming satisfied he turned to come back, when he and horse were both washed down stream. Both horse and rider went under and when they rose, Bud struck out, endeavoring to reach the shore and the horse made for the opposite side. Mr. Gilliland tried all in his power to render assistance, but all in vain. He procured a rope from the buggy, but the stream was so deep and swift that he found it impossible to reach him with the rope, and Bud sank and was seen no more. His body has not been found, although diligent search has been made. His hat was picked up ten miles below. He was thirty-three years old, and leaves a mother, brother and several sisters to mourn the loss of a son and brother, and many warm friends miss from among them the genial and generous whole-souled man who is the subject of this sad sketch. He has gone to that shore where there are no more roundups or dangers to mar the peace and serenity of that future existence.

The Signs of the Times.

From all over the county we hear reports from our farmers, of splendid crop prospects. Corn has a splendid stand and bids fair to give an unusually heavy yield. Stockmen are also highly elated over the prospects—the grass being better than it has been for years. Then, too, their wandering cattle are finding their way home at a rate agreeably surprising to their owners. Stock of all kinds are doing remarkably well, and the prospects now, are that cattle will be fat for beef considerably earlier in the season than usual. These favorable symptoms will be hailed with pleasure by everyone interested in the future welfare and prosperity of our chosen land; for it betokens the early dawning of a new and a prosperous era.

The czar of Russia seems determined to carry out the plans of his father, which will most certainly continue to endanger his life and the peace of the government. A recent telegram from St. Petersburg says: The czar has issued a manifesto reminding the people of the glorious government of his father and the great reforms he accomplished. After alluding to the lamentable murder of Alexander the II, the manifesto says: In the midst of our profound grief the voice of God demands that we courageously assume the government of the country. Confronted in divine providence and in the power of the autocracy which for the welfare of the people we have been called upon to consolidate and defend against all attacks, we, in devoting ourselves to our high task appeal to all faithful subjects to serve us and the state faithfully and sincerely in order to extirpate the horrible rebellious spirit which covers Russia with shame; to strengthen the faith and morals and place the education of youth upon sound foundation, to eradicate all that is contrary to the sense of right and integrity and to everywhere establish order and justice."

The lightning, last Wednesday evening, thought to frighten or bull-doze the boys in the telegraph office. During the storm, a streak (we did not learn whether it was a "blue" or a "green") streak of lightning struck the east wire near the depot and ran into the office. Luckily no one was near the instruments at the time or the result might have proved serious. Mr. Bishop, the operator, was seated three or four feet from the table, when a flash, as large as a man's two fists emanated from the instrument, and simultaneously a report as if a pistol had been discharged was heard. Upon examination it was found that the relay and key were seriously burned, the key being entirely ruined; all the phials and a portion of the brass being melted. It was a fortunate thing that the ground wire was on and the lightning did no serious injury.

VOL. 1 No. 1 of the Texas Siftings, published by Alex. E. Sweet and J. Army Knox is upon our table. The reputation that Mr. Sweet has made for several papers, among which most of our readers are familiar with the "Houston News," has caused that paper to be quoted far and wide by the press throughout the country. We predict a bright future for the Siftings, and welcome it as an exchange.

We have received from the publisher, L. H. Rogers, 75 Maiden Lane, New York. One of his large sheets, containing rules for spelling and punctuation, and a letter writing and composition, which offer useful information. Sold for 25cts. five copies \$1.

By virtue of a man in playing billiards makes the balls pop it does not naturally follow that he is a son of a gun does it?

ACTS PASSED BY THE SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

Captions of General and Special Laws Passed by the Legislature, Prior to March 1881, with Brief Synopses of General Laws.

Joint resolution authorizing the governor to employ a suitable and competent architect to assist the board of commissioners appointed to superintend the construction of a new capitol and to provide for payment of his services. Approved February 15, 1881.

Under this resolution the sum of \$2,000 is appropriated out of proceeds of sale of the 50,000 acres of land set apart to pay for survey of lands for a new capitol.

An act to amend Article 1547 of the Revised Civil Statutes, passed February 21, 1879. Approved February 17, 1881.

Provides that justices of the peace shall hold the regular terms of their courts at their respective offices at such time as may be prescribed by the commissioner's court of the county.

An act to establish a rule governing the defence of intoxication and of temporary insanity produced by the voluntary recent use of ardent spirits, in criminal cases in this state. Approved February 17, 1881.

Provides that neither intoxication nor temporary insanity of mind, produced by the voluntary recent use of ardent spirits, shall constitute any excuse for commission of crime, nor mitigate the degree or penalty of crime, and that judges shall so charge juries.

An act to provide for the payment of the interest due on the public debt, March 1, 1881. Approved February 28, 1881.

Appropriates \$25,445 for the purpose.

An act regulating the removal of the disabilities of minors. Approved March 2, 1881.

Provides that disabilities of minors may be removed by district courts upon petition and cause shown.

Disabilities removed by district courts, and decrees entered, minors for all legal purposes, shall be deemed and held of full age, except as to voting.

An act to amend chapter 8, of title 17, of the penal code of Texas, by adding after article 684, article 684a. Approved March 6, 1881.

Provides that the careless and reckless handling of baggage by baggage masters, express agents and others—public carriers—shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by fine not exceeding \$100.

An act to amend article 364 and 365, of an act entitled an act to adopt and establish a penal code of criminal procedure for the State of Texas, presented to the governor for his approval February 27, 1879. Approved March 5, 1881.

This act provides that any one who shall bet or wager at any of the games numbered in six preceding articles in penal code, or at other games with dice, dominoes, &c., at public places, shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars.

The proprietor of the public house where such games are permitted for wagers, &c., shall be fined not less than \$25 or more than \$100.

An act to amend sections 1, 3, 5 and 7, of an act entitled "An act to protect the wool growing interest of the state of Texas," approved March 25th, 1879. Approved March 9th, 1881.

Section 1 provides that when as many as 500 head of sheep are assessed for taxes in any one county, an inspector shall be appointed by county commissioners. Inspector may appoint one or more deputies.

Sections 3rd, 5th and 6th define duties of inspector, with penalties, etc.

An act to amend article 375, chapter 4, title 17 of the revised civil statutes of the state of Texas, relating to the powers of the councils of cities and towns over streets, alleys and public grounds. Approved March 9, 1881.

Article as amended gives city councils exclusive power over streets, alleys, public grounds, etc. Also to cause the male inhabitants between the ages of 18 and 16 years to work on the streets, not exceeding six days in any one year, or to furnish a substitute or pay a sum of money not to exceed one dollar for each day's work demanded. Citizens of cities and towns working under the provisions of the act shall not be required to work upon public roads outside the corporate limits of such city or town.

We have received a copy of the Illustrated Scientific News, published by Munn & Co., 37 Park Row, New York. It is a beautifully printed and illustrated and interesting scientific publication, well worthy the price, \$1.50 per annum.

V. G. Frost, secretary of the Franco-Texas Land Co., absconded from Weatherford, recently, \$5,000 (the land he made a part of which he got by forgery).

Dr. Croviers, of Dallas, was elected mayor of that city, at the late election, by thirty-eight majority.

WM. BRITTON is to be hanged at Weatherford on July 1st, for the murder of Jack Rush.

Now is the time to subscribe for the CLARENDON.

B. R. WEBB,

Attorney at Law and Real Estate Agent.

BAIRD, TEXAS.

Will practice in the Courts of the 12th Judicial District, and in the Supreme and Federal Courts of the State. Special attention given to collections and land business in the counties of Callahan, Eastland, Stephens, Shackelford, Jones, Taylor, Nolan and Mitchell. Has large amounts of land for sale throughout these counties.

WM. CAMERON,

DEALER IN—

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MIXED PAINTS,

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Country Produce Wanted Here.

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TAYLOR & LAIRD,

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CHOICE Wines, Liquors and Cigars, always on hand.

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FINE JEWELRY made to order and all kinds of Watches and Jewelry carefully repaired by

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An Experienced and Practical Watch

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Watches may safely be sent and returned by mail.

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WEST OF THE BRAZOS.

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ABILENE, TEXAS, APRIL 20, 1881.

E. M. TURNER, President. T. J. LARGEN, M. D.

TURNER & LARGEN

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DEALERS IN—

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—OF—

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING,

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The attention of the Trade is invited to an Unusually Large and Fine Assortment of Goods in all the above lines for

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No. 4, Accommodation.

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