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CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

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THE FAIR VERDICT. A verdict of acquittal this morning terminated the most remarkable and interesting criminal trial that has occurred in the history of California. On the evening of the 3d of November, 1871, Mrs. Laura D. Fair shot and killed Hon. A. P. Crittenden. Both the parties to the tragedy were widely known. Mrs. Fair was of notoriously bad character, and had figured conspicuously in connection with several terrible shooting affairs.

DANGER OF A DICTATORSHIP. Grant the Candidate for the Rich Men. That our system of government is slowly but surely drifting into anarchy, no man not blinded by avarice and ambition can help to observe.

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THE BURNING OF THE ESCURIAL. The magnificent structure erected by Philip II. of Spain to commemorate its victory over the French at St. Quentin has been destroyed by fire. The scanty details furnished by the telegraphic despatches give reason to fear that the building has been reduced to a complete ruin.

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both is at an end forever. The Spaniards, with natural pride, were wont to call the Escorial the seventh wonder of the world, and the beauty, magnificence and imposing grandeur of the structure went far to justify the pretension. All this greatness is now at an end; the stranger no more will wander awe-struck over the marble pavement of the silent cloisters or linger on the Jasper steps to listen to solemn music reverberating through the lofty aisles. The masterpiece of Bontia de Toledo and his pupil, Juan de Herrera, has crumbled to ashes before the electric flame, and one of the grandest examples of human genius brought forth in any age is lost to posterity. Unfortunately the loss is not confined to the structure. The library has suffered severely, but according to the latest accounts hopes were entertained of saving the greater part of the books and manuscripts. It is inconceivable that these literary treasures should have been placed where no adequate protection against fire existed. If there are other collections in Spain similarly situated we hope this example will have the effect of having them transferred to places of security. This is particularly desirable in Spain, which is unusually rich in valuable manuscripts.

The Testimony of the Census. A study of the details of our recent census will show other facts quite as satisfactory as the increase of population. Indeed, though our advance in the latter respect is extremely gratifying, it is not quite up to the enthusiastic anticipations expressed before the truth was made known. Many believed that instead of thirty-one and a half millions as the round number at which the census of 1850 allowed us to put our population, the census of 1870 would give us at least forty millions; instead of which, we are not allowed to state the round figures above thirty-eight and a half millions, or an increase of not quite twenty-five per cent. But not so our prospects. Many of them have advanced far beyond any relative proportion which we should have expected to see in the increase of population. Among others, this is true of our agricultural products. Going back, not ten, but twenty years for our standard of comparison, it is seen still more plainly. Knowing that our increase of population within the twenty years had been but about sixty per cent, we believe no one would have ventured to put the present production of some of our largest staples, on whose relative abundance we have always prided ourselves, at two, three, or five-fold that of 1850. And yet, unwarmed as this would have seemed as an estimate, it is established as a fact by the figures of the census. The Bureau of Statistics, in giving some of the summaries of returns, tells us that in twenty years the Wheat crop of the country has increased six-fold. Barley has increased six-fold. Flax, six-fold. Flax, seed, three-fold. Hops have increased seven-fold [not so encouraging]. Oats have doubled. Live stock have trebled in estimated value, if not in numbers. Now they are reckoned at the somewhat startling sum of fifteen hundred and twenty-five million dollars—or nearly two hundred dollars for every family in the nation. Slaughtered animals have nearly quadrupled in value, and are now estimated at four hundred million dollars annually. Wool has increased from sixty to a hundred million pounds. Cotton is half a million bales above the crop of 1850, though it has not yet returned to the great crop of 1859—the palmy days when Cotton was called King. Irish potatoes have only increased a third, while sweet potatoes have decreased one-half. Corn has increased largely within the period, though, it seems, the crop of 1865 was larger than that of 1870 by seventy-eight million bushels, or ten per cent of the whole. One drawback to the cultivation of corn, is the fact that the cost of its transportation from the region of its most luxuriant growth to the seaboard too often takes away all the profit of production. The farmer sometimes almost feels that the more he has of it the poorer he is. Not so, however, with wool, and wheat, and beef, and some of the other products to which the attention of farmers is turned, and by which the country is growing rich.

Examination would probably show some similar rates of increase in other lines of production. Most of the leading manufactures have been advancing as fast, probably, or faster than our agricultural interests; and mining has grown up from comparative insignificance to a place in the very front rank in our industrial pursuits. Doubtless the increase in the money value of this production has vastly outstripped that of every other. The resources of the country are beginning to be developed. And, with our better understanding of what these really are—our better methods which science is teaching, better machines which invention is giving improved facilities in every respect which every day is multiplying, the increase of production for the next ten or twenty years will be still greater. Another census, if all signs do not fail, will show a much higher ratio of increase in our population. But the disparity between this and the increase of production will be even greater than the surprising one which we now record.—N. Y. Mercantile Journal.

A Johnstown servant transformed a quiet home into a Babel, and lost a good horse by merely straining four quarts of crab apple jelly through an eighteen dollar reel.

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