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TERMS OF THE DISPATCH. POSTAGE FREE IN THE UNITED STATES. DAILY DISPATCH, Per Year, \$3.00. DAILY DISPATCH, Per Quarter, .75.

THE SILVER BASIS CONTINGENT. The logic of the report of the majority of the House Committee better illustrates its argument on a single point. It proceeds to demonstrate that there is no danger of the foreign owner dumping his silver on the United States, because if he should bring it here, he could get nothing but silver in return.

THE AURORA AND THE PROPHETS. The prophets of approaching millennial disturbances and the astrological calculations of the influence of the heavenly bodies upon the politics of the world discover after the fact that the auroral display of Saturday night was very significant. The "distinctive quality of this post facto prophetic wisdom is that it is unusually lazy as to the relation of cause and effect."

VERY ADEQUATE CAUSES. "Balmaceda was overthrown in Chile because he was not sufficiently subservient to English and other European interests," is the latest contribution of that steadfast Balmaceda organ, the New York Press, to the modern history of the South American Republics.

TAKEN UP TENDERLY. The esteemed New York Post, which has a keen eye and unmeasured criticism for the shams and dishonesty of politics, adopts an entirely different tone when dealing with the sophistries of combined capital. The subject of the combination in the anthracite coal business, involving, it is estimated, some \$70,000,000 of corporate capitalization with probably about \$250,000,000 of legitimate investment, is approached with much more care than the misdeeds of politicians. The idea that such a combination is to effect advantages to those engaged in it at the cost of the public, is declared by the Post to be unwarranted by a study of the anthracite trade.

DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION. Owing to delay, the invitations for the entertainment of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be sent out a little later than desired by the committee. Members are requested to bear in mind that the entertainment will be given at the residence of Mrs. Robert McKnight, Western avenue, on Friday, February 12, from 11 o'clock to 6 o'clock, exercises to commence promptly at 3:30 o'clock.

A REASON FOR HIS EXPROPRIATION. If execution by electricity is half as painful as it is supposed to be, it is to be feared that the man who heard it described ought to be suppressed, rather than a combination to support prices above the level of a fair competitive reward. The reported agreement not only requires the elision of all competition to the degree which necessitates the union of all the great companies, but contemplates their union for the purpose of expunging individual operators from the business by means which can be imagined if we study the history of the history of Standard Oil discriminations.

NOT SO REVOLUTIONARY. From a Chicago telegram elsewhere it will be seen that what is called a "revolutionary" project has been formed, to consist of connecting the railroads entering that city by a belt line which will enable them to transfer freight and passengers without sending them into its crowded portions. So as the performance of that function is concerned it is entirely legitimate and beneficial. It is far from revolutionary, as the policy has been adopted by railroads in other large cities with the best results. It is exactly what is wanted to prevent the overcrowding of railway tracks within city limits, when the proviso is added that the belt line shall be open to the use of all railroads connecting with it. Indeed, an enlightened municipal policy will seek to realize not only the establishment of such belt lines, but also demand that all tracks penetrating business and manufacturing sections shall be open to common use on payment of reasonable tolls.

REPORTS OF THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE. The intimation, however, is made in the dispatch that the revolutionary nature of the scheme is to be in the abandonment of all tracks penetrating to the center of Chicago, and in forcing passengers and shippers to come to the outskirts in order to obtain railway facilities. To such a blint as that Chicago need pay little attention. The railroads have secured terminal facilities of great value well down in the city, and the simple reason why they are not being used is that the superior facilities afforded. None of them will be likely to abandon that business to their rivals for the sake of punishing Chicago for trying to abolish the evil of grade crossings.

THE HISTORY OF DAVID GRIEVE. The story is too long. We want our stories short. We want evening short, even our sermons. I looked about in an old library the other day. The books represented the collections of several generations of readers. The books were great folios, each bound in leather, and each containing a study by their intelligence and experience. There is every promise that progress will be made in this direction, and it is not too much to expect that a general acceptance of this cooperative method could mean the dawn of a brighter and better social era.

THE TWO BOARDS DON'T SEEM TO AGREE. The two boards don't seem to agree on what will be asked for. Chicago, Feb. 14.—The two boards don't seem to agree on what will be asked for. Chicago, Feb. 14.—The two boards don't seem to agree on what will be asked for.

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CHICAGO RAILROADS MAY SELL ALL CITY PROPERTY AND BUILD A BELT LINE. CHICAGO, Feb. 14.—The Times says a decidedly revolutionary move is contemplated by the various railroads entering Chicago. Rather than elevate their tracks they will transfer their base of operations. It is proposed to build a new belt line, with which each road would duplicate the great Atchison system, which, with its 10,000 miles of main lines, is the greatest system in the world.

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THAT COAL ROAD DEAL. The Governor and Attorney General Will Not Move Without Deliberation. HANCOCK, Feb. 14.—[Special.]—It is known to those well-informed on the subject that the question of the alleged illegality of the Reading lease has not yet been presented to the Governor and that there has not been any consideration of the subject by the Governor and Attorney General. Both have been asked to say something about it for the public, but they have studiously declined for reasons which are not stated.

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CURIOS CONDENSATIONS. —Paris has 87 daily papers. —Illinois pays her Lieutenant Governor \$2.74 a day. —There were 500,000 chickens reared for market in Sussex during 1890. —The people around Dark Harbor, Grand Manan, are somewhat excited over a big whale which got into the harbor and cannot get out. —Chemists say it takes less than half the amount of sugar to sweeten preserves if the sugar is put in after the cooking has commenced. —The energy of a stroke of lightning is estimated by Carl Henry to be equal to that of one hundred horse-power engine working for an hour.

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