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THE TOTAL TAX LEVY.

The report of the City Assessors showing the gross valuation to be \$260,000,000, together with the semi-official estimate of the tax rate will be published in the public first approach to a clear idea of the amount it is proposed to raise by taxation.

The expectation is that the reduction by classification and correction will not be as great as on the last assessment. Supposing it to be the same, it will leave a net valuation of \$240,000,000 against \$180,000,000 last year.

It is thus apparent that the levy of 13 mills on the new valuation instead of being a reduction from the levy of 15 mills on the old one is actually an increase of \$40,000, over 15 per cent, in the amount of taxes levied on the people.

There is no justification for any such increase. A 15 per cent increase of taxation is admissible only to meet exceptions of vital importance, or when exceptional prosperity permits new and costly works to be undertaken.

The circular professes to state a "new platform of principles," but the only new thing we can find about it is the assertion that it can produce something from nothing. All taxes must be paid from earnings and all earnings must be those of either capital or labor.

There are some matters where there is a good deal in a name, and if \$100,000,000 of gold reserve can be used for current expenses the sooner it receives a more appropriate designation the better.

PROSECUTORS of the Whisky Trust of details have a large order on hand which it is to be hoped they will satisfactorily fill.

It is all very well to speak of Garza as "sinking an incident," but history is not spoken of in the same way, but it is irritating while it lasts and frequently takes a good deal of getting rid of.

HILL persons cannot claim that the Cleveland opposition came without warning; it was not a bolt from the blue.

THE INCEPTION OF RECIPROCITY. A special from Cleveland in this issue points out that the reciprocity policy owes its inception to the Garfield administration.

COMMON TO BOTH PARTIES. The fact that a New York organization for the purpose of contesting legislation passed in the public interest by Mr. Richard Croker and secured his endorsement of the measure in order to gain the bill even the favor of a hearing, arouses the indignation of the New York Recorder.

It is not, it is bosom. It has been reserved for the devices of practical politics to secure for politicians holding no responsibility a control over legislation which is given to a monarch of Europe except the Czar. It furnishes a fresh illustration of the utter destruction of republican government that is worked by the discipline of a party machine.

THE PERSEVERANCE OF IVES. Mr. Henry S. Ives has recently demonstrated the elastic nature of his financial genius by appearing again in the ring with a successful operation. It was not a very big operation, but it was stamped with all the characteristics of latter day financiering.

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ing the unfortunate little misadventure of Ives' early career, he is bound to succeed. Patience and perseverance will conquer all things, even to the intervention of the criminal law, when backed by a sufficient number of such half-million dollar operations.

ORE AND LAKE FREIGHTS. The review of the lake freight situation and the lake ore trade, furnished by our Cleveland correspondent, shows that at present lake freights are firm, and it is expected that the rates on ore at the opening of the season will be somewhat higher than last year.

From this there is a disposition among the ore interests to deduce firmness in ore contracts. But against that deduction is the dullness of the iron market on one hand and the opening of large and new sources of supply on the other.

IN addition to these immediate considerations the quotations of lake freights and the conditions of the trade indicate that the greatest benefit to the ore and lake carrying interests as well as to the industries to be secured by the ship canal, which will enable vessels to unload ore and take back cargoes of coal, coke and iron.

NOTHING FROM NOTHING. The reappearance of the single tax cult in the form of a circular bearing the signatures of a large number of estimable gentlemen is an example of the survival of a moderately good idea pushed to the verge of crankism.

APPEARS appear to be managed in a unique manner in Greece when a Minister is asked to resign. He is supported by a majority in the Chamber.

CANADA'S contribution to the world of sports of the latest strong man, who can lift more than a ton, will not compare with the bozzism which claims that it can carry the New York Democracy with safety.

NEW YORK is still paying the penalty of fear for the oversight of admitting typhus immigrants. The expensive experience should not be wasted.

RESIGNATIONS have in turn been reported and denied for Blaine, Sherman, Chief Justice Fuller and Minister Bell. Meanwhile Egan remains in Chile, and Harrison continues the even tenor of his way.

It may be all very true that where there's a will there's a way, but William's willful way in Germany is not a path of pleasantness.

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BIRTH OF RECIPROCITY.

Garfield Grasped the Idea and Blaine Agreed to Help Him Push It. CLEVELAND, O., March 1.—[Special.] The discussion in the Senate the other day of the doctrine of reciprocity in which Senator Vest, of Missouri, asserted that Secretary Blaine, in the early days of the Garfield administration, recalls a bit of history that is of great interest at this time.

There has never been a more profound student of American affairs and of the great problem of the economy that affect the United States than the late President Garfield.

Years before he was thought of by more than a few friends for President he used to say that he was the favor of ultimate free trade in this country.

His utterance, "I am in favor of free trade," has been frequently quoted and almost as much so as the words of the Declaration of Independence.

In General Garfield's profound and painstaking study of economic questions he naturally was led to see the utter impracticability of immediate free trade. He was in frequent communication with such a change about the tariff on coffee, which was immediately followed by the imposition of an import duty on coffee.

It is a striking opportunity and both Garfield and Blaine tried to get at the pith of it. The result was that they both became convinced that the only practical solution of the tariff question lay through treaties which are mutually conciliatory and which make concessions and agreements upon both sides.

PUBLIC servants who draw a salary for neglecting to attend to their work are little more than voters who are apathetic enough to allow them to be elected.

NOW that the treaty submitting the Berlin Sea question to arbitration has been signed, it is to be hoped that a satisfactory result will be reached in less time than has been wasted over the preliminary discussions.

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SCIENCE AND DECENTRALIZATION.

Electricity to Aid in the Oiling of the Social Problem. St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The decentralization is likely to follow the development of electrical science.

This experiment is very suggestive. If successful it will lead to a radical revolution in the industrial system of the world, perhaps to the destruction of the system.

The dream of Kropotkin, the industrial village of the future, is realized in St. Louis. There cannot be two opinions about the success of such a change.

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AN EVENING OF MUSIC.

Present Informal Concert by the Mozart Club at Calvary Church—Society Just before the Lenten Curtain Falls.

THE Mozart Club's annual Ballad Concert was given at Old City Hall last evening in the presence of the large and well-pleased audience that forms a constant feature of this club's public functions.

Among the various solo numbers that were given by the club, the most noticeable heretofore was the local concert.

The very effective performance of Mr. S. S. Kate Ockleston-Lippe, of Chicago, singing a song earned and received a hearty encore.

Mr. CARL WILHELM, of the Commercial Gazette, was married last night to Miss Jane Mason, daughter of F. Mason, Esq., the ceremony being performed at Calvary Church.

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CURIOS CONDENSATIONS.

In Australia no newspapers are published on railroad trains on Sunday. It is calculated that every ten days of London fog costs 25,000 people on beds of sickness, and kills 4,000.

The Chinese laborer has no Sunday, and in the United States three religions at the same time is not inconstant. There are 90 licensed public gambling houses in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, all doing a prosperous business.

In the early days of smoking rich people smoked silver pipes. The poorer classes used a tin shell and a straw answer their purpose. In a New Hampshire graveyard there is a large marble shaft on which the following words are inscribed: "Sacred to the memory of three twins."

From recent investigations it has been found that the average speed of the transmission of earthquake shocks is very nearly 16,000 feet per second. A French naturalist has stated that an insect which attacks hop-vines can produce a hole in the leaves of the plants during the month of six weeks of its existence.

The largest telegraph office in the world is in London, in the postoffice. In it there are over 3,000 operators constantly employed, and one-third of whom are women. "Should gambling houses be closed?" was the question for debate before a literary society in Deadwood recently. Keno, with a 200-cent attachment, is all the rage in Deadwood now.

The population of Bogota, the capital of the United States of Colombia, decreased 84 during 1891. There were 2,355 births and 3,191 deaths in the city during the year. Emigration and immigration are not factors in the city's economy. It seems that at Hyderabad a photographic studio has been opened in which the operators are all women. The Koran forbids the making of portraits, but the mullahs have declared that photography cannot be included in the prohibition, since the picture is not anything living.

A Philadelphia clergyman has had to resign his charge for a remarkable reason. In his pastoral ministrations he paid little attention to the ladies, and some of them, who felt slighted, made things so unpleasant that he felt compelled to resign. It is said there are 20 well built towns in Kansas without a single inhabitant to wake the echoes of their deserted streets. Saratoga has a \$50,000 opera house, a large number of fine business houses, yet there is nobody even to claim a place to sleep.

The recent Civil War in Chile cost the victors, the Congressional party, \$10,000,000 according to a recent estimate made by the Chilean newspapers. Of that amount \$5,000,000 was contributed by Senora Dona Juana Edwards, the mother of Don Augustus Edwards, the Minister of Finance, from her private fortune. What does it matter if we lose a few minutes in a whole day? Answer: Time is a day (days in a year, 313; working hours in a day, 16); 16 minutes lost each day is in a year, 5,808 minutes; 96 minutes lost each day is in a year, 34,944 minutes; 19 days, 4 hours, 30 minutes lost each day is in a year, 69,840 minutes.

A rare gold coin has just been found at Bergeme, in France. It is a stated, or tetradrachm, of Philip II. of Macedonia. It weighs 7 1/2 grammes. This coin must be one of the earliest of the kind, as it is three centuries before the Christian era. According to M. Lenormant, there is only one other coin of this description in existence. The old times were not good times for servants. Here is a deed which, nowadays, would be deemed most brutal and unmanly, recorded in Pippin's Diary as rather common in the time of Charlemagne, in the year 780. This morning, observing some things to be laid up not as they should be by my lord, I struck and basted him till his side cried exceedingly.

Polygamy is practiced to an extravagant degree in Asabante. The more wives a man has the higher his social importance. The number which a man in private life may have is limited by his ability to purchase and support them; but the number which a king may have is limited by law. It is said that a number of kings of Asia and of the East have had as many as 100 wives. The human frame is an excellent magnet. A man will carry a watch for years and be paid of its accuracy; then he will fall sick, and the watch will stop. Some of the dressers, and will develop great inaccuracy and irregularity. No explanation is forthcoming except the one that the absence of the magnetism is the cause of the stoppage and the best proof of this is that when the man gets round again and carries his watch it is said that he usually does not exceed that limit.

Both the State and the Church in Turkey combine to make a bachelor's life miserable. As long as a man's parents are living he can live with them without experiencing any difficulty. But as soon as they die he must seek a wife, and he is obliged to marry. Religious authorities before he can be admitted to any other household; and, moreover, he is obliged to marry. The man who is not a household he enters to see that males and not females wait upon him. In the year 1732, the women of Toulon declared themselves in a state of insurrection, and, assembling in great crowds, they elected a queen, and the king they did not lower the price of sugar. The procurator-syndic at first laughed at their threats, but the multitude refusing to disperse, he was obliged to yield. The king, however, ordered the fire engines with a plentiful supply of water mixed with soap, to be sent to the city, and the king's discharge of the water muzzed with the insurgents in petticoats were completely routed, and retired peaceably to their homes.

According to an old Serbian legend, when the nations were about to distribute the world among themselves, they all assembled in the center of the universe, and elected a king, and the king they did not lower the price of sugar. The procurator-syndic at first laughed at their threats, but the multitude refusing to disperse, he was obliged to yield. The king, however, ordered the fire engines with a plentiful supply of water mixed with soap, to be sent to the city, and the king's discharge of the water muzzed with the insurgents in petticoats were completely routed, and retired peaceably to their homes.

THE unparadoxical sin of the next six weeks in society will be the practicing of a gayety that may be found out. You are permitted to enjoy yourself just as much as ever you like—with all the freedom of a cat on a mat. Society will never forgive the lack of the outward visible sign, though it is likely to overlook the inward heart of the absence of the inward spiritual glow.

TO-day users in a season of comparative social quietness, excepting in the libraries where the fair students betake themselves to books with a devotion greater than is their wont. Twenty-two new members are reported to have joined the library of the Commercial Union of January, and 16 additional for February; a very encouraging state of things, and one which it is to be hoped will continue in the year may emulate. The devotion which has been given to that library is surely soon to reap its reward.

THE "Federal Musicale," whose organization dates from last December, gave a concert at the University of the city last night. It was a very successful one, and was well attended. The program was a very interesting one, and was well received by the audience.

MR. HART MCKEE'S theater party on Monday evening, made up of a number of guests at Miss Smith's wedding, included Miss Rhodes, Miss Stielha, Miss Hankin, Miss Caroline Patten, Miss Hildreth, Miss M. J. Morgan, Vice President; Benjamin A. Burns, Secretary; John F. Heider, Treasurer; Albert D. Kieffel, Musical Director; and Messrs. J. W. Davis, Morgan, Henry, E. J. Martin, H. L. Walker, Simon, Beitz, C. W. House, J. H. House, J. H. House, Charles Parke, Albert V. Sande, A. F. Ramsey, George H. Maxwell, William A. Davis, C. W. House, J. H. House, J. H. House, Frederick Ashlman, W. L. Johnson.

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