



MIFFLINTOWN - Wednesday Morning, Jan. 15, 1873.

B. F. SCHWEIER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

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LOCAL OPTION.

It has been said that local option is not constitutional under the fundamental law of either State or nation. Be it so, or not so, let the people adopt local option, as it has been proposed by the Legislature of this Commonwealth, to be voted on the third Friday in March next. Those who declare it unconstitutional can then find a case to carry up to the Supreme Court. If that tribunal declares it to be unconstitutional, the people, who make constitutions, Presidents, Governors, Legislatures and Courts, can amend the fundamental law so that it conforms to the demands of a higher civilization than the world has ever yet reached.

The world cannot imagine what a pleasant and prosperous state of society, morally, socially, politically and financially, would exist if the liquor business were abolished. The world, in its selfish ignorance of the general prosperity that would attend such a state of society, revels in its liquor debauchery. It can not know of the good of such a state, for such a desirable state of society has never existed. The world knows no more of it than it, a century ago, knew of the capability of man for self-government. A century ago it did not believe that all men are born free and equal before the law. One hundred years ago the world could not even imagine, much less understand, what a prosperous state of affairs for the whole people could spring from a government having for its corner stone the doctrine that all men are born free and equal before the law. The rulers of kingdoms and aristocracies laughed to scorn such doctrines and declared them to be the vagaries only of those who dreamed of a political utopia. Unexpectedly, what had been declared by the rulers of nations a dream, an impossibility in affairs of government, became the corner-stone of the governments of the Northern States, and with it, in this century, here, under the peculiar advantages given to man generally, a prosperity is enjoyed that surpasses all of the accumulated good and prosperity of the five thousand years past. As much as our present state of society surpasses that of the state of society of all the past, so will the state of society that prohibits the liquor business surpass our present state of society.

As the law stands now, this question shall be voted on every three years. Let us try it three years. The act in full will be published in the columns of the SENTINEL hereafter.

CHARLES LOUIS NAPOLEON.

Charles Louis Napoleon, the deposed Emperor of France, died at 25 minutes past 10 o'clock on the evening of the 9th inst. It is said by certain despatches, from the effects of an operation for gravel, certain other despatches say that he died of a disease of no relationship to the one that required the operation.

He was born on the 25th of April, 1808. He was a son of Louis, a brother to the great Napoleon. The conqueror had declared that in the event of there being no direct heir from him to the throne, that the issue of his brother Louis should succeed to the Government; and thus Charles Louis Napoleon became the claimant to the French throne. His legitimacy was questioned by European society. His paternity, it is said, lay between his mother's husband and two other gentlemen. The perpetuation of the Napoleon dynasty induced the great Napoleon to require his brother Louis to recognize the boy Charles Louis as his son. We do not here recount his vicissitudes.

He was an unscrupulous man. He worked under the old doctrine that the end justifies the means. Americans, appreciating the spirit of American institutions, cannot admire Charles Louis Napoleon. He was a great man, when viewed in the light of an old school politician or statesman, such as have governed the world in the past. He was a small man when viewed in the light of honorable dealings between man and man and between nation and nation. He was an unfair man, an intriguer—perhaps a fair representative of the European statesman. There is as much difference between his character and the character of the ideal American statesman, or the American statesman as he should be, as there is between light and darkness.

A conspiracy to assassinate the President of Peru by means of torpedoes placed on the railroad over which he was to ride had been frustrated and the leaders in the movement were arrested.

ADVOCATES of free trade speak of the "blessings," but the mass of the people of the countries wherein it does flourish, emigrate from it as if it were a curse.

JEALOUSY AND KEROSENE.

A JEALOUS HUSBAND KILLS HIS WIFE IN A HORRIBLE MANNER. On Tuesday night an alarm was sounded at Sarnia, and the report was soon spread that a lamp had exploded in the apartments occupied by Mr and Mrs. Arthur Smith, at Mrs. Fisher's house. At first, and in fact for several hours afterward, it was supposed that a lamp explosion only was the cause of the excitement. It has since transpired, however, that the lamp was thrown violently at Mrs. Smith by her husband, injuring her head severely and burning her horribly, so that from the combined injuries she has since died.

Mrs. Smith, whose maiden name was Lester or Lecheater, was a highly educated and refined young lady, well known in Sarnia and in this city, and universally admired wherever known, moving in the best circles of society. Smith is spoken of as a gentlemanly person, whose otherwise good character was spoiled by being of a jealous disposition, hot tempered, and addicted to drink.

There are always two sides to a story, and his friends assert that he was driven to exasperation by the conduct of his wife, who, it is claimed, was notoriously flirt, keeping company with young unmarried men, and conducting herself in such a manner as to bring down upon her good name the darkest kind of a cloud of reproach and scandal. Be that as it may, for that or some other reason, he was very jealous of his attractive wife, and frequent stories of abuse and anger fell upon her head. At times he has abused her shamefully, it is asserted, and she has often been heard to say that her life was in danger, "for Arthur will surely kill me some day."

The particulars of the horrible tragedy on Tuesday night perhaps will never be known, but it ended in the young and handsome woman's death and the arrest of the guilty man, who is now confined in the Lambton county jail in Sarnia. Mrs. Smith was heard to cry out for help, and help was immediately summoned, but on arriving at the scene the room was full of smoke, the carpets were burned, and Mrs. Smith lay burned and bruised upon the floor. Smith had evidently endeavored to put out the fire, and was also burned considerably.

His story at first was that the lamp exploded in his wife's face, but circumstances evidence was found that went far to prove that he had thrown the lamp at her, crushing her head, and setting her clothes on fire. Since his arrest he has either gone stark mad, or else fits mad as usual. The most intense excitement prevails at Sarnia. The action of the coroner's jury is awaited with the greatest anxiety, and public opinion against the prisoner has been wrought up to the highest pitch.—Port Huron Times

Storm in Minnesota.

Storm despatches from Minnesota, under date of the 12th inst., say, the storm on the St. Paul and Pacific railroad was the severest ever known. At a station called Kirkhaven there were several farmers in the town when the storm first burst upon them. They left for home with their teams, and very few have been heard of since. One wagon was found containing a Mrs. Poland and a boy, both frozen to death. Many teams, both of oxen and horses, are found frozen in drifts, and the fate of their owners is unknown.

A St. Paul despatch says the great storm resulted in many casualties in Minnesota and was unprecedented in severity. Three brothers, Charles, John and Alexander O'Neill and Thomas and Michael Holden, each with a two horse team, started for Willmar with wheat, on Tuesday last, and were found on Friday about ten miles from home in a terrible condition. Two of the O'Neills and one of the Holdens were found in sleighs frozen to death. The others were alive, but will scarcely survive. Five ox teams, in the same vicinity, were found frozen to death; the drivers are supposed to have abandoned their teams and been frozen to death. At the Herman Station, on the St. Paul and Pacific railroad, a man was frozen to death while going from the depot to the water tank. At New Ulm a little boy, while endeavoring to reach his home, wandered eight miles and perished, and a man was found frozen to death near St. Peters.

Attempt to Scare a Husband.

[From the Utica (N. Y.) Herald.] An Adam's wife, the other night, thought she would scare her husband a little, "just for fun." She told him she should pass the night away from home, and then, when night came, she hid under the bed. Her husband in due time came home and retired for the night; and then the lady remembered, too late, that her poorer half was a brave man, and that any demonstration on her part might result in her receiving the contents of his revolver. So, after giving the subject deliberate consideration she concluded not to frighten her husband. Becoming tired of her uncomfortable position on the floor, she at length ventured in a faint voice to call his name. Explanations followed, and the lady has played the part of a burglar for the last time.

THREE-FOURTHS OF all suicide are males.

The greatest number are caused by divorcees. The least number are among the married, next the unmarried, next the widowed. One-third of the cases are due to mental disease; one-ninth to physical suffering; one-tenth to fear of punishment or shame; one-ninth to family quarrels; one-ninth to drunkenness, gambling, etc. Of boys under 15 years of age 86 per cent hang themselves; of girls of the same age 71 per cent drown themselves. Young men most commonly use the pistol—old men the razor; young women drown themselves—old women use the rope; only one female in 200 uses firearms. The ratio of suicides as given by M. Decaisne before the French Academy of Sciences, is as follows: London, one in 175 deaths; New York, one in 172; Vienna, one in 160; while in Paris it has reached the shocking number of one in 72.

A Washington despatch, under date of the 12th inst., says: It appears to be understood that the election of Col. J. J. Patterson as Senator from South Carolina will be investigated by the Senate before he is allowed to take his seat.

The charge that he was elected through bribery and corruption has become so general that many Senators are of the opinion that the Committee on Privileges and Elections should look into the matter.—Among the most prominent and specific of his accusers is the Hon. Robert B. Elliott, colored member of the House from South Carolina, who was himself a candidate before the Legislature for United States Senator. It is understood that as soon as Patterson's credentials are presented they will be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. So much has been said recently of the manner in which Senators have secured their election that the more respectable members of the Senate are disposed to have a thorough investigation.

A very unpleasant remedy for emotional insanity is proposed by Henry L. Clinton in the New York Times. After writing at length concerning the uncertainty of conviction of murderers under the present laws, he suggests that the law should be amended so that a "homicide committed without deliberation and premeditation, although with intent to kill formed on the instant, would be murder in the second degree," the punishment to imprisonment for life. This is certainly worthy of attention, and his proposition to confine in a lunatic asylum for twenty or thirty years the persons acquitted on the plea of insanity seems the surest check to such persons as are tempted to give way to the insane desire to take life. He says: "If a person is so insane as to take human life he should be confined for a sufficiently long time to protect the community against any return of such violence."

The Oregon papers are making fun of the last earthquake in that region, for it affected persons in quite different ways. A young gentleman and lady were out walking at the time. About half an hour after they returned from their promenade, and then learned, for the first time that there had anything unusual occurred. People rushed into the streets scantily clad. One loving husband, who had "just stepped out to see a man on business," rushed home, with a billiard one that he had forgotten to replace, in his hand. His wife has vetoed all business engagements after eight o'clock P. M.—"The next little time we take as we find it. One irascible gentleman jumped from bed scantily attired, possessed himself of the cowhide, and made for the room up stairs of his boys, and rushed into it exclaiming, "I'll show you how to be fighting at this time of night."

At Chambers Crossing, about a half a mile this side at Larobe station, on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad on Thursday morning, about half past ten o'clock a man named James L. Green was killed by being struck by the locomotive of the mail train going east. He was driving in a sleigh, and when he approached the track he saw the ballast train standing, but did not see the coming mail. His horse had just cleared the track, when the cow catcher struck the sleigh, throwing him in the air, and alighting on his head some twenty feet from the spot where the sleigh was struck, dying a few minutes after.

The deceased was a farmer and resided in the vicinity of Latrobe. He leaves a wife and several children.—Pittsburgh Gazette.

An Iowa despatch under date of the 10th inst.: Reports from the Iowa division of the Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad say that sleighs succeeded in reaching the snow-bound train between Conover and Ridgway, and rescued the passengers. Eight freight trains were snowed in between McGregor and Austin.—The snow is packed so tight that the snow plows have no effect, and will have to be shoveled out. All that can be seen of some trains is, here and there, the top of a brake above the snow. The thermometer ranged from 20 to 25 degrees below zero, the wind blowing a perfect gale. The drivers of the relief teams were badly frozen.

An old fisherman of Richmond, Va., sends the following to the Dispatch: "To all whom it may concern: Found at my door on the 31st ult., between eight and nine o'clock, an infant child a few days old. The owner or owners will please come forward, prove property and take it away, or with the help of God, we will try to take care of it."

SHORT ITEMS.

Fine for hunting on Sunday, fifty dollars. A Nebraska farmer is wintering 3200 head of cattle. Fourteen debutantes are announced for Washington society this season. A Vicksburg hackman charged an emigrant \$125 for carrying him across the city.

Only one person in sixty-six is comfortable in England. Comfortable means \$600 a year. Over 1500 buildings were erected in St. Louis last year, and "fireproof" is claimed for none of them. Queen Victoria sent a gold spittoon to the King of Siam, who uses it on State occasions for an oyster tureen.

Paper money is to be abolished in Hayti, where a dollar gold piece brings \$400 in currency. The Allentown Iron Works have a capital of \$800,000. They comprise a nest of five furnaces, and employ 600 men.

The lemon groves of Corsica are suffering from a curious disease. The fruit dries up and becomes as dusty as the "smoke balls" in our country pastures. The Boston beaux are devotedly attached to pug riding, as there is nothing to support the lady's back, and the gentlemen is expected to use his arm for the purpose. Senator Hulan's paper pronounces the Modoc Indian war, in Oregon, to have been caused by the attempts of petty speculators to crowd the Indians upon swamp lands.

An excited young man, clad in a pair of slippers, recently rushed into a church at Walpack Centre, N. J., shouting: "Here I come in the name of Jesus." He was taken out in the name of the law. A San Francisco bride is suing for a divorce, on the ground that she was drunk when she married her husband. For proof she gives the axiom that anybody must be drunk that would marry such a man.

Love is a secondary passion in them who love most, a primary in those who love least. He who is inspired by it in a high degree is inspired by honor in a higher degree; it never reaches its plenitude of growth and perfection but in the most exalted minds.

Another farmer who would not give up smoking while hauling a load of hay to Springfield, Ill., was seen prowling around that town trying to get six month time on a new wagon, and enquiring what was good to put on scorched horses to save their lives.

A gang of cattle stealers has been broken up at Corinne, Utah, through the instrumentality of a butcher and his wife who were engaged in slaughtering the cattle. Three of the gang are in prison, and two others were released on bonds of \$5000 each.

A Springfield family was recently made sick by their coffee at breakfast, and a little while afterward there flashed upon the housewife the discovery that she had accidentally taken "the aromatic berry," not from the coffee canister, but from the tobacco can, which was its perfect duplicate. The Ontario Government still owns 5700 square miles of timber lands in the Ottawa region, in which not a single pine tree had been cut, and containing some of the best pine timber this side of the Rocky Mountains, and estimated to be worth to the government, for the timber alone, \$25,000,000.

Evansville, Ind., drug clerks laugh and grow obese over physicians' prescriptions of this style: "1/2 gallon turpentine, 4 bottles uv Paridixis paniciller, 2 ounce uv campor, one botel of garglen, 10 cts uv asivity; to be shaken, and taken inside or out; it don't make any differents which."

Dr. Hugo Magnus, assistant physician to the hospital at Breslau, suggests as the best means of determining the presence of lingering traces of life, that a tight ligature be tied round one of the fingers. If life be not extinct, the part beyond the ligature soon becomes red, the depth of the color increasing to dark red and violet. Just above the ligature the skin remains white.

Abbie Gardner says that Jacob Short, an old citizen of San Rafael, Cal., promised to marry her awhile ago. However that may be, Mr. Short refused to marry her and Abbie brought suit for \$50,000 damages in consequence. The case however, was settled without going into court. Short paying Abbie \$10,000 and Abbie promising that Short shall have no further trouble about that promise.

Senator Cole has replied negatively to Governor Booth's inquiry whether the war with the Modocs cannot be averted by the government allotting them three thousand acres on Lost river, instead of forcing them to the new reservation.—Senator Cole says such action would be accepted by the Indians as a victory; besides, any new location of the Modocs must be made through the Oregon Indian superintendent.

Four men have been sentenced to death in Texas on the evidence of an emigrant. On the ground near the scene of the murder was found a piece of paper gun wadding, containing a part of an emigrant published in the Chimney Corner. The house of one of the suspected men was searched, and the paper itself was found with part of the emigrant torn out, while the piece used for wadding exactly fitted in with the paper, in the hole made when it was torn out.

SHORT ITEMS.

When Brigham Young dies, 37 widows will mourn his loss. There are 20,000 Presbyterian congregations, embracing 34,000,000 members, in the world. Mr. Hart, of Pilatki, Fla., sold \$24,000 worth of oranges from a nine acre patch the past season.

Small pox is still epidemic in Boston. Deaths last week, 56. "Black as coal" is no longer a tenable simile in Australia. They have found a pure white coal deposit there. The cater oil plant is now cultivated in California and an average crop of 400 pounds of oil to the acre is obtained.

It is the man who determines the dignity of the occupation, not the occupation which measures the dignity of the man. The editor of the Examiner at Elk Falls, Kansas, hung himself lately, and left a note for his foreman telling him to go and chop wood if he would be happy.

The Lebanon Manufacturing Company's works, at Lebanon were destroyed on the 7th inst., by what is supposed to have been an incendiary fire. Loss \$75,000; insured. An oil-refining still burst at London, Ontario, on the 9th, and some of the burning oil falling upon a number of cars of the Great Western Railway Company, they were burned, and a loss of \$150,000 resulted.

A man in Kew-kuk undertook to smoke out the rats from between the floors and partitions of his house. He made it very hot for the rats, but next time he tries the experiment it will be in another house.

Mr. George W. Palmer, disgusted with the number of his sheep which have been killed by dogs, lately offered two cents per pound, gross weight, for all the dogs "raised" within five miles of Saltville, Va., where he lives.

The California fish commissioners have appointed an agent to go east in April, and bring back lobsters, eels, whitefish from the western lakes, wall-eyed perch black bass and other valuable fish from all over the United States, to be propagated in that State.

Women have rights in Iowa, if they are wives. The other day an Iowa woman recovered a valuable homestead from the liquor dealer at whose bar her husband had ruined himself, and now another wife has obtained \$5,000 damages from a man who killed her husband during a quarrel.

Nearly seven thousand men and one thousand horses are gathering ice on the Hudson, and it averages eleven inches in thickness. About ninety five hundred tons are gathered a day. The crop will reach fifteen hundred thousand tons, and will be gathered by February 1.

A man named Cannon, residing in West moreland county, hung himself on New Year's morning. He was found with a rope around his neck and attached to a bed post. He was an intemperate man in his early years but had not drunk anything intoxicating for twenty years or more, until a short time ago. He was about eighty years old.

A terrible explosion of nitro glycerine place at the lead mines at Hazel Green, Wis., on the 9th. James Rogers, a miner, undertook to thaw out a can of the explosive in a blacksmith's shop. The edifice was scattered in every direction, and Rogers' body, terribly mangled, was found some twenty rods from the forge.

A terrible accident is reported to have occurred at Morton's station, Delaware county, Pa. Mrs. Carr, wife of Thomas Carr, undertook to fill a lamp with "combustion fluid," when the can, containing a gallon of the stuff, exploded, burning Mrs. Carr to death and three of the children so badly that they died before midnight.

There are more males than females born by 4 per cent. At the age of 20 there are more females than males. At the age of 40 the preponderance is again on the other side, and there are more males than females. At 70 the sexes are again even. Between 70 and 100 years there are 15,300 more women than men, or an excess of 5 per cent. The mortality of women is greatest between the ages of 20 and 40. After 40 years of age the probabilities of longevity, as is shown, are far greater for females than for males.

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