

GRANT'S POLICY.

There seems to be a disposition upon the part of very many of our public journals to predict that there will be a lack of harmony between Gen. Grant and Congress, and some of them go so far as to assert that the in-coming President has some very pronounced ideas of policy, which he is disposed to press upon Congress. We hope so, certainly, but we do not think so poorly of General Grant, as to suppose that he will go beyond his constitutional prerogatives of recommending Congress to do certain things, or that he will attempt to control or dictate the legislation of Congress.

"I elected to the office of President of the United States, it will be my endeavor to administer all the laws in good faith, with economy, and with the view of giving peace, quiet, and protection everywhere. In times like the present, it is impossible, or at least eminently improper, to lay down a policy to be adhered to, right or wrong through an administration of four years. New political issues, not foreseen, are constantly arising; the views of the public on old ones are constantly changing, and a purely administrative officer should always be left free to execute the will of the people. I always have respected that will, and always shall. Peace, and universal prosperity—its sequence—with economy of administration, will lighten the burden of taxation, while it constantly reduces the national debt. Let us have peace."

EUROPE.

The Peace Conference at Paris has refused to admit to its sessions the representative of Greece, against which action the Ambassador has protested and appealed to the Government for instructions. The session of the Conference announced for Tuesday was postponed in consequence. The Sultan has sent an envoy to Paris to negotiate a loan for war purposes.

There is a report in London to the effect that the leaders of the insurrection in Candia have fallen into the hands of the Turks, and been cast into prison.

BEN BUTLER'S SHEME.

Mr. Butler introduced in the House a bill to authorize the issue of a national currency, to insure its elasticity and stability, lessen the public debt, and reduce the rate of interest. He moved its reference to the Committee on Ways and Means, which was done, whereupon he moved to reconsider the motion, and supported his motion in a lengthy speech. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to issue, after the 30th of June next \$250,000,000 in Treasury notes of various denominations, bearing no interest, which shall be receivable for all claims and demands against the United States except in those cases where payment is specially contracted to be made in coin. Upon the issuance of these notes all National Banks are to cease to be banks of issue, and their circulation is to be called in and destroyed, and the same shall be done with all other bank bills and legal-tenders issues when they are redeemed at the Treasury. The bill also provides that after the 30th of June next any person or association owning any bond of the United States bearing six per cent. interest in coin, may present the same to the Treasurer or any public depository designated for that purpose, and who shall have lodged in the Treasury of the United States sufficient security, and shall receive therefor ninety per cent. of the par on its face in certificates of value in such denomination, as he may choose, paying on that amount at the rate of three sixths hundredths per cent. per annum interest in coin for thirty days, and until he shall return an equal amount of said certificate to the Treasury of the United States; and such bonds shall remain in the Treasury as security for the certificates so delivered and the interest thereon, which shall be deducted from interest to be paid by the United States on such bonds at any time after thirty days. The owner of any bond so pledged may return certificates of value equal to ninety per cent. of the value thereof, and receive back his bond less the interest, and said certificates and the amount thereof paid to him, and the Treasurer shall, during the time of its deposit, pay to the owner the accrued interest beyond that due on the certificates, once in every six months. The concluding section of the bill provides for the issue of a metallic fractional currency. Mr. Butler's motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NOT long ago a love-stricken German secreted himself in the bed-room of his fair innamorata, a servant girl in Newark, N. J. He explained in court that he did so in order to compel the girl to have a talk with him, she having declined to have anything to do with mynbeer. Der Shudgo gave him some good advice as to the proper method of prosecuting his love affairs, and let him go.

Free Town Libraries.

Trubner & Company, says the Phila-Frees, of London, are about issuing a comprehensive and valuable work by Edward Edwards on free town libraries, explaining their formation according to the best and most economical plans—their methods of working and their results. This work proposes, in addition, to set forth succinctly the history of this class of institutions in Great Britain, France, Germany, and America. Going beyond this specialty in the way of libraries, a large chapter, or part of the volume, will be devoted to the relative provisions of libraries of all kinds in the great States of Europe and of this continent.

Free libraries for every town we would like to see an American institution. Such an idea falls in with the philosophy of our national life, and meets the requirements of a vast social and political want. We are, perforce, a reading, and more or less a literary people. Education is more generally diffused than in any other country, and beyond all this, every citizen is a stockholder in the Government, with a direct voice in its control. Every man who votes intelligently or honestly must think; and to think in the country, at least, apart from the great current of thought and action, he must read.

In every large city there are always certain recognized centres of literary activity, to some of which all have access according to their tastes, social relations, or as other circumstances may control. These, the clubs, special libraries, academies, bookstores, publishing houses, and so on, become headquarters for the exchange of information and opinion. In a village or country town such facilities cannot be looked for. There are no special interests large enough to create them. One good, free library, well established and under judicious regulations, would seem to be the plan by which the populations of the smaller or inferior towns could best supply their literary wants and approximate to the advantages of the more favored dwellers in the cities. Such an institution, at least, would organize and economize their resources, besides creating a taste for study and the enjoyment of literature.

The communal libraries of France, the people's libraries of Germany, present admirable samples from which to start. An active spirit, the freedom of our laws and social institutions, the universally recognized administrative tact and ability of our people would soon advance our libraries far beyond those of any other nation. We trust the elaborate work which has called out these hurried suggestions may stimulate general thought and inquiry into this idea—thought that shall develop action.

Breaking Criminals on the Wheel.

The good old times must, in very many respects, have been very bad old times. Read, for instance, the following extracts from the instructions given in 1746 by the Paris Parliament to "Monsieur de Paris," that is to say the Parisian executioner, in regard to the course he was to pursue in breaking criminals:

After undressing the prisoner, no matter whether male or female, until nothing but a short shirt covers them, he will tie them to the St. Andrew's cross on the scaffold, stretching their limbs out as far as possible, and turning their elbows outside. After giving the chaplain notice to leave the scaffold, he will take the bar (an iron bar four feet long, and very heavy) and commence striking on the prisoner's limbs. He will commence at the left shoulder, crushing the bones by two deliberate blows. One blow will be sufficient for the upper arm, two for the left elbow, two for the wrist and hand. Two heavy blows will be on the left hip, bone, three on the left knee-joint; two, well laid on, on the left leg, and one on the left foot. "Monsieur de Paris" will then wait a minute or two, and commence "working" on the right side of the culprit, commencing at the foot and finishing at the shoulder. The greffier of the court will see to it that these instructions are strictly carried out. The screams of the culprit must not be heeded by "Monsieur," nor must he give him the coup de grace before finishing on the right shoulder. The coup de grace is to consist of three heavy blows, to be delivered on the breast of the prisoner; if the prisoner is a woman, the coup de grace will be delivered under her ribs, lest her bosom should break the force of the blows. The body of the culprit will be delivered to the medical faculty of Paris, which will give a report on the condition of the corpse to the greffier of the Parliament.

This horrible mode of punishment was witnessed on an average once a week by the Parisians. One of the last victims of this atrocious cruelty was a poor servant girl, who had been convicted of stealing two or three dresses of her mistress. She was broken on the wheel because larcenies by domestics had become very numerous in Paris. Her agony lasted seven minutes, and a stream of blood, spouting from her mouth after her knee joint had been crushed, drowned her heart-rending cries. Queen Maria Antoinette had been appealed to to save the girl and hangtily refused. This was afterward remembered against her. During the reign of Louis XVI, about three thousand persons were actually broken on the wheel. Such were the "good old times" in France.

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AGRICULTURAL.



SAVE THE MANURE.—Farmers are not aware how much is wasted on their farms that with little care and trouble might be made into valuable manure. Everything can be decomposed, either in process of time, with the assistance of the elements or by the aid of chemical agents, should be saved for the compost heap. Select some place in the barn yard, or adjacent lot where it will be convenient of access, and there gather your compost, adding from time to time such solvents as may be necessary. Here bring all the weeds, sods, briars, thistles, &c. that you are compelled to dig and cut up through the summer and add to this from time to time whatever you have of waste material, muck from the swamp, decayed fruits, potato vines, leaves, the deposit from the sink, &c., and at the close of the year you will be surprised at the size of your heap, and be able to see for yourself how much is really wasted on your farms, that might be turned to valuable account.—Rural American.

OATS.—Oats are, of course, a most important article in stable management; and these, as everything a horse eats, ought to be of the finest quality. It may be thought that the weight of oats is not a matter of great consequence, nor, in fact, is it to cart or common horses; but it is quite the reverse to such as we are particular about as to stamina, wind and condition. Horses are generally fed by measure, not by weight, consequently in giving light oats, we actually rob the horse of his proper quantum of meal, giving him husks instead; and if we feed him by weight, going on the principal that a pound of feathers and a pound of lead are both a pound, the principal would be a very bad one as regards oats; for in that case, though the horse gets his pound weight, if he gets an undue portion of it in husks he is only filled with that which is no use to him; so in every way light oats are bad for choice horses.

USEFUL RECIPE.—At this season of the year, when arrangements are to be made for winter fires, this recipe is well worth publication: To stop cracks in chimneys and stoves, the insertion of stove pipes, open joints in pipes, and all places of this kind; dissolve common salt in water as much as the water will take up—and thicken it up with clean ashes until it becomes a mortar of temper for working. This will harden in a short time to firm cement and is better than mortar for the purposes mentioned, and can always be obtained.

A Marriage Ceremony.

Nothing we calculate, would be more edifying to our dusky hued friends than the remarks made by a sable parson at a negro wedding which took place recently near Montgomery, Alabama. Thus spoke he:

"Here is a couple who have walked out to night, wishing to be joined in, and thro' love, and wishing all dem dat have any ting twist dem come forward and speak now; if not, let dem hold dar peace now and for evermore. I want ever ear to hear, and every heart to enjoy.

"Mr. Jim Thompson, whomsoever stands lastly by your right side, do you take her for your beloved wife, to wait on her through sickness and through health, safe and be safe, holy and be holy; do you love his mother, do you love his father, do you love his brothers, do you love his sisters, do you love God do best?"

Answer: "I will."

"I shall pronounce Mr. Jim to hold Miss Mary fastly by the right hand, and shall pronounce you both to be man and wife, by the commandments of God. We shall hope and trusting through God, now and for evermore. Let us sing a hymn: "Plunged 'a gulf of dark despair," etc.—Drace, Harper's Magazine.

THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS.—Attend as much to neatness as you do to economy. Accustom girls never to suffer anything about them to be unclean or in disorder; lead them to notice the slightest derangement in a house; show to them that nothing contributes more to neatness and economy than keeping things in their proper place. This may seem trifling, yet it leads to very important consequences; for then, when anything is wanted, there is no difficulty in finding it; and when it is done with, it will be returned to the place it was taken from. This exact order forms the most essential part of neatness. For instance, a dish will not get broken or soiled if it is put in its proper place as soon as it has been used. The carefulness which makes us place things in order makes us keep them clean. Joined to all these advantages is that of giving to domestic habits of neatness and activity, by obliging them to place things in order, and keep them clean.

A DISPATCH from Havana says it is understood that the Commission of citizens who have gone to hold a conference with the rebel chiefs are empowered to grant them pardon and restoration to all political rights, provided they surrender and consent that the island continue under Spanish authority. The rebels are pressing the siege of Neuvitas actively, and have defeated a body of troops sent to the relief of the garrison.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE NEW DOMINION.

Halifax, Jan. 11.—The loss of the brig A. R. Dunlay, from Boston to this port, with thirteen lives, is fully confirmed. Portions of the wreck and one body, recognized as Miss Talbot, have floated ashore. The wreck occurred off Mahey's Head, Prospect bay, thirty miles from here.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 11.—Hon. Mr. Howe leaves for Portland to-morrow to meet Hon. Mr. Roes on his way to England. It is rumored that if matters can be satisfactorily arranged with the British and Dominion Houses of Commons, Mr. Howe will take an appointment as President of the Privy Council. Hon. Mr. McClellan accompanies Mr. Howe.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—A fire broke out in the Ottawa County Court house at Aymer this morning, consuming the entire building. All the papers and records were saved. The roof of the jail caught fire, but was extinguished without much damage.

Ottawa, Jan. 11.—The first quarterly report of the insurance companies licensed to do business in Canada is published. It contains the names of thirty-five companies. The total amount of deposits is \$33,885,400.

The bank returns for December show the total assets \$89,141,285. Four banks in Nova Scotia and three in New Brunswick give no returns.

FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 11.—The budget of M. Mague, the Minister of Finances has been made public. It shows that the floating debt has been reduced two millions francs during the past year. The estimates of the minister for the fiscal year 1870 promises an excess of 86,000,000 francs in receipts over expenditures, which surplus is to be devoted to reducing the extraordinary budget, and 42,000,000 francs are to be made applicable to the redemption of rents.

M. Mague congratulates the country on the return of public confidence and the resumption of industrial pursuits, and concludes by declaring that the gratitude of the nation is due to the Emperor for removing the only cause of rupture between European powers, and of international and domestic distrust.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, Jan. 11.—The indications of the first day's session of the Conference on the Eastern question leave little if any doubt of ultimate success. The Turkish government, through its representative, consented to maintain the present status until the close of the Conference. It is the general impression that but one more session will be held, and that war between Turkey and Greece will be obviated.

Constantinople, Jan. 11.—The Sublime Porte has officially congratulated the people of the Danubian Principalities on their loyalty during the recent crisis.

CUBA.

Havana, Jan. 11.—A commission of influential citizens of Havana, native Cubans and prominent members of the Liberal party, left this city yesterday on the steamer Montezuma for Neuvitas, on their way to Bayamo, to meet the revolutionary leaders and attempt to bring about a compromise for the restoration of peace. Among the members of the commission are Senors Jose Armas, Hortencio, Tamayo, and Rodriguez, well known friends of reform and liberal institution.

SPAIN.

Madrid Jan. 11.—Additional troops are to be sent to Cuba, and will sail from Cadix in a short time.

It is really pleasing to peruse the messages of the Governors of loyal States now being delivered. From Maine to Minnesota, wherever a Executive speaks, it is with promises, as well as realizations, that must make both incumbent and constituency proud. Everywhere finances are in a healthy condition. State debts are being reduced, and requests are made to the Legislature to diminish or abolish taxes on solid wealth. Schools and school systems are thriving, reforms are going on and abundantly suggested, and hopes are expressed of a happy future. In all this the evidence appears that the progressive people of this country are its best rulers.

THE State Central Committee of New Hampshire have proved themselves up with the age in their recent enunciation of universal suffrage. True, they should have gone further, but they are fresh from the people, and perhaps spoke only what was safe, when they limited their choice to purely national suffrage. If we have gotten thus far even, something has been gained, and an earnest given that the grand result is not far off. The good work must go on, and now is the season for additional effort.

SENATOR WILSON, of Massachusetts, has introduced a bill into the Senate, providing for the retirement of the judges of the Supreme Court when they have attained to the age of seventy. Should this bill become a law, Justices Grier and Nelson would be retired, the former being 74 and the latter 78.

THE Wilmington (Del.) Commercial publishes the message of the Governor of that State, "excepting those portions referring to national affairs" which, it asserts, are of no interest, being "merely repetitions of the old "usurpation" and "aggression" talk and an argument to prove that the nation is a confederation. This is severe, but judicious. Delaware under a Democratic administration has little to do with the destinies of the country.

A CHILD living near Centreville, Read-ington township, Hunderdon county, New Jersey, has now living all in the same house a mother, a grand-mother, a great-grand-mother, and a great-great-grand-mother. Who can beat it?

Job PRINTING of every description done promptly at this office, and in a style unequalled in this section of the State. Entire satisfaction guaranteed.

W. S. SERVICE.

W. S. SERVICE, Will from this date be prepared to sell at the lowest prices.

- STOVES FOR PARLORS,
- STOVES FOR KITCHENS,
- STOVES FOR HALLS,
- STOVES FOR BED ROOMS,
- STOVES FOR STORES,
- STOVES FOR MILLS,
- STOVES FOR HOTELS,
- STOVES FOR OFFICES,
- STOVES FOR CHURCHES.

And in fact for all places where stoves are needed. Give him a call.

TIN WARE AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

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Ridgway Nov. 12, 1868, vlt.1f.

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Special Notices.

A NEW REMEDY IN CONSUMPTION.—A Physician who had Consumption for several years, with frequent bleedings of the lungs, cured himself with medicine unknown to the profession, when his case appeared hopeless. He is the only physician who has used it in his own person, or who has any knowledge of its virtues; and he can ascribe the degree of health he now enjoys to nothing but the use of his medicine; and nothing but utter despair and entire extinction of all hope of recovery, together with a want of confidence in all others induced him to hazard the experiment. To those suffering with any disease of the lungs he proffers a treatment he confidently believes will eradicate the disease. Price \$1.50 per bottle, or \$8 a half dozen, sent by express. Send for a circular or call on Dr. E. BOLSTON JACKSON, No. 250, North Tenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa. [may30-68-ly

A CARD TO THE LADIES.—Dr. Dupon-co's GOLDEN PERIODICAL PILLS for females. Infallible in correcting irregularities, Removing Obstructions of the Monthly Turns, from whatever cause, and always successful as a preventive. One Pill is a dose. Females peculiarly situated, or those supposing themselves so, are cautioned against using these Pills while in that condition, lest they invite miscarriage, after which admission the Proprietor assumes no responsibility, although their illness would prevent any mischief to health; otherwise the Pills are recommended as a Most Invaluable Remedy for the alleviation of those suffering from any irregularities whatever, as well as prevent an increase of family when health will not permit it; quieting the nerves and bringing back the "rosy color of health" to the cheek of the most delicate. Full and explicit directions accompany each box. Price \$1 per box; 6 boxes, \$5. Sold in Ridgway, Pa., by G. G. Messenger, Druggist, sole agent for Ridgway, Ladies, by sending him \$1 to the Ridgway, P. O. can have the Pills sent (confidentially) by mail to any part of the country, free of postage. Sold also by Swayne & Reynolds, St. Mary's, and by one Druggist in every village in the Union. my2-68-ly. S. D. HOWE, Sole Proprietor, N. Y.

PATRONIZE HOME INSTITUTIONS. FLOUR, FEED AND GRAIN. THE subscribers having completed their New Grist Mill in Ridgway are now prepared to furnish the people of the surrounding country with Flour of the Best Quality, and of their own manufacture, at the lowest market rates. The attention of lumbermen and others is called to our facilities for furnishing them with FEED OF ALL KINDS, cheaper than it can be bought any other place in the county. CASH PAID FOR GRAIN. J. B. HYDE, J. V. HOUK, J. K. WHITMORE. November 7, 1867

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GOODS FOR THE MILLION.

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At their capacious stores both in

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Have on hand, splendid assortments of all reasonable Goods adapted to the wants of the people of Elk and adjoining counties, which they are selling at prices that defy competition. They would simply state here, that being very large dealers, their facilities for purchasing are unequalled by any establishment in the county. They buy directly from manufacture and on the

Another advantage. You can always get what you want at their stores, hence you will save time by going directly to them—and TIME IS MONEY. We have no space here to enumerate all the advantages you will have in patronizing these establishments. But call and see, and reap the the advantages for yourselves. Among their Goods you will find