

DECEMBER

THE WEEKLY NEWS,

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SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 1887.

This old story "thought it wasn't loaded," still exists. He was his friend in Newark on Sunday.

ACCORDING to the Washington Star, twenty-seven members of the present Congress have red hair.

While the railroad managers are experimenting on a new apparatus to heat cars, the traveling public will freeze to death.

BASEBALL is, of course, the most popular of sports, but it is also the most dangerous. Last night, a class slugging was being picked up by the managers of next year's teams.

POLITICAL "combinations" were nearly all smashed during November, and why wouldn't it be a good undertaking to smash the "coal combine" during December?

An important question to our town, is, will a station of the size proposed by the Railroad Company, accommodate the population five years hence? Think of the size of the place five years ago, and suppose the growth in the next half decade is no greater—will the accommodation be sufficient?

This will of the late Vice President Wheeler is to be contested by a band of hungry heirs. The poor man's infirmities are to be raked over and placed on exhibition in the courts, and the probabilities are that it would have been as well for his memory had he died in an almshouse.

Both Houses of the Fifteenth Congress convened on Monday. In the Senate, the new members were sworn in, including Mr. Faulkner of West Virginia, whose credentials were referred to the Committee on Elections. In the House of Representatives Mr. Carlisle was re-elected Speaker, and seats were given in accordance with the usual custom.

The weather Bureau has been doing fairly duty for the last few days. The air has been dry and otherwise agreeable, but it is still a long way from being what it should be. That is, it is not as warm as it should be. There is nothing more expiring than to be chilled through by a damp atmosphere and find the thermometer marking a comfortable temperature.

ANARCHIST Most has received the condemnation of an American jury and now languishes in prison. He was tried and convicted on the charge of inciting to murder. If he can be kept in prison it will be a blessing for the people and a warning to Anarchists and Communists, that while this is a free country, it is not the kind of place where one that allows of the use of such riotous language.

JACOB SHARP, the bootle king, has at last triumphed. The Appellate Court of New York gives him a new trial, reversing the decision of the lower courts. By this he gets out of prison and is believed that he will stay out. That he is guilty is no doubt, but the Court decides he was not proven so in the right way. As it was so difficult to get a jury the first time, it is hardly possible that another can be found.

The sentence of John Most, the Anarchist, who was convicted of misdemeanor in making inflammatory speeches at a meeting of Anarchists, has been postponed to the Court of General Sessions until Thursday. A motion for a new trial was to have been argued on his behalf. Most's counsel was not prepared, and the case had to go over. This blatant shenanigan has been behind the prison bars, and no mercy should be shown him. Perhaps it would be well for a commission on lunacy to examine him, but a madman and a lunatic are not the same thing. He is a lunatic, and he should be treated as such.

The New York police are making a vigorous effort to break up the gang of "sawdust" swindlers who infest that city and who work on the credulity or credence of men by promising to sell them counterfeit money. It might be thought the publicity given to this episode would long ago have opened everybody's eyes to the pestiferous character; yet not a week passes in which we do not hear of some one freshly victimized. The best sort of money to handle is money that is not counterfeit, and the best way to get it is to earn it.

The State Legislature, in joint session, will elect successors to State Comptroller E. J. Anderson, from March 1888; State Treasurer Toffey, from January 20, 1888; three Inspectors of the State Prison in place of John P. Post, Caleb C. Ponzost and David C. Wright; three Commissioners of Highways in place of G. G. Galloway, Henry W. Miller and Daniel Sharp; seven Trustees of the Normal School; one of the State Industrial School for Girls; one State Director of Railroads and Canals; and numerous Commissioners of Deeds, Justices of the Peace, etc.

That the milk dealers throughout the State should be in arms against the law under which the milk they sell may be seized and confiscated if it does not come up to the standard of the official examiner is natural enough, and one's first impulse is to discredit their complaint. Yet, it is possible that their grievance has just grounds. The quality of even pure milk varies greatly, owing to the difference in the dealer's little or no control, and it is difficult to determine what, under all circumstances, would be fair test. The public undoubtedly needs to be protected against the adulteration of milk, and some system of inspection is necessary. The trouble is that the adulteration of milk chiefly takes place after the milk has left the hands of the producer, and the people, as a rule, are not in a position to detect it. The Legislature, requesting the report of the act which requires a written order from the county physician before a view can be held. The coroners' office, with some show of right, claims that as they are elected by the people and commissioned by the governor, the Board of Freeholders has no right to transfer the functions of the office to an official of their own appointment. The constitutionality of the act has all along been questioned, and if the court which it is now proposed to make against it shall settle its status it will not have been altogether in vain, no matter what the result may be.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. The message of President Grover Cleveland is one of the shortest and most plain spoken ever sent to the citizens of the United States. The President points out with careful particularization the steady accumulation of unmet cash in the Federal Treasury, the doubtful character of that have been necessarily restored to order to return the money into the hands of the people and prevent business distress, and the danger of placing in the hands of a Government official millions of money with such temptation to indiscreet or improper use as should never be trusted upon any public functionary.

To the President's surplus by unnecessary expenditure, the President holds, would be an aggravation of the evil of unnecessary revenue, because it would give agencies for the continuance of the evil. The true remedy for repulsion is reduction.

The suggestion of tax reduction by a repeal of the tax on whisky and tobacco is curtly disposed of as not meeting the obvious requirements of alleviation. Those burdens which bear with the greatest hardship on the whole body of the people.

This brings the argument forward to a discussion of the reduction of taxation by tariff revision. On this topic, to which the President devotes the remainder of his Message, the argument is sustained, clear, luminous and satisfactory. Placing himself squarely upon the platform of the revenue reformers, he advocates tax reduction by an enlargement of the free list; by reducing the excessive number of the objects of taxation from which but slight revenue is derived; by also putting the raw material of manufacture as far as possible on the free list; and by lowering the duties on the necessary of living. All this can be done without the sacrifice of the revenue, and the workmen and the great body of consumers without affecting the rate of wages by so cheapening commodities as to make ineffective the difference between the cost of labor in this country and in foreign competing countries. The President takes great pains to show where the interest of farmers and workmen lies, and he succeeds admirably.

The Message is a document to be read rather than to be read. It is of more than ordinary significance, not only because of the dangerous fiscal condition of the country, but because it is a formal declaration of the issue in the Presidential contest.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1887.

Secretary Fairchild's report is very voluminous and one that will be read with great interest. It represents much earnest thought and hard work, and the Secretary deserves a whole month's time to the great task before him—the report is in the Secretary's hands, and the Secretary is to be commended to the Senate for the better presentation of valuable Government records that at present are too much in danger of destruction.

Many of the President's friends are again concerned about his health, on account of his disinclination to take outdoor exercise. In this respect, Mr. Cleveland differs greatly from most of his predecessors, for an early morning jaunt on foot was almost an invariable custom with Mr. Arthur, General Grant, and other Presidents.

During the month of November there was a considerable increase in the National debt, chiefly because of the vast sum paid out for pensions—the amount being eighteen million of money. This accounts for the period in question, the receipts of the Government were over a million dollar.

The report of the Postmaster General makes a very favorable showing, as compared with the previous year. The deficit of the post office has been a gain of \$4,540,000 in receipts, as compared with the previous year. The deficit of the post office has been a gain of \$4,540,000 in receipts, as compared with the previous year.

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