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NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF 10 Per Cent Funding Bonds of Clay County, Mo.

R. FISHER, TAILOR, Having returned and located in Liberty, Mo., solicits the patronage of his old friends and the public generally.

D. CARPENTER, Notary Public, BARRY, CLAY CO., MO.

L. & J. F. RAMAGE, Attorneys at Law, KANSAS CITY, MO.

AN ESSAY. An Essay, read by Miss Annie McClelland at the closing exercises of the Missouri City public school, on the subject of temperance.

There are few things more distinctly marked, and plainly visible, in the order of divine economy, as exhibited in the government of the world, than the laws of progression.

The writer states that he gets the papers from the States now with much more regularity than for the first few months after his departure, adding that they (the newspapers) not only follow up his lines of travel and what he does from day to day very closely, but some of them, he sees, speculate upon his designs.

The Huntsville Herald is respectfully informed that when the St. Louis Times denounces the delinquent tax-law, it is working for the interest of the oppressed farmer, and not in favor of the non-resident delinquent nor against the interest of the county papers who will reap a bonanza from the operation of the new law.

Wife beating is so fashionable in Louisville that the Kentucky Legislature has undertaken to stop it. After providing that the wife beater, upon conviction, shall be sentenced to hard labor on streets and highways for not less than five days and not more than sixty days, the bill provides:

SEC. 3. And for every day said person (so convicted) shall be worked upon said streets or highways, there shall be paid to the wife of said husband the same compensation as is now or may hereafter be paid the street cleaners of said city, and to be paid in like manner.

They are coming to Kansas in gangs and droves, they are coming by wagon and railroad; single handed and with families; some with children enough to found an orphan asylum, and others with not enough to pick up chips; the rich and the poor and the sick and the well—they are coming, father Abraham, three hundred thousand strong, and we have a section of land for every mother's son of them—land that grows corn so fast you can see it coming, so rich and fertile that the harvest is gathered by machinery, and so tillable that the farmers hardly consider it recreation; with a climate that has earned it the name of the Italy of America; and mud so soft and deep that it has never been named.—Atchison Champion.

A modest young lady desiring a leg of chicken at the table, said: "I'll take the part that ought to be dressed in drawers." A young gentleman opposite immediately said: "I'll take the part which ought to wear a bustle."

Judge E. H. Norton, we understand, will be a candidate for Supreme Judge. He now holds the position through executive appointment. There is no better man in the State for the position than Judge Norton.—Neosho Times.

General Martinez Campos proclaims an amnesty in Cuba.—French Senate passes the budget as amended by Chamber of Deputies, and also adopts press amnesty bill.—Pope Leo desires to enter upon diplomatic relations with England in reference to the Catholic Hierarchy of Scotland.—Conservative member of Parliament elected for Manchester.—Bankruptcies flourishing. Henry Ashurt of Philadelphia, Six-Penny Savings Bank, N. Y.; Norway Plains Savings Bank, Rochester, N. H.; Bell, Gallison & Co., San Francisco, and Caleb Carpenter, Cincinnati, all failed.—Sidney Pitts and A. P. Thomas fight a duel in Virginia; Pitts killed and Thomas mortally wounded.—Testimony in the Meredith murder trial at Bloomington, Ill., concluded.—Planning mill of C. T. Marston & Co., Rockford Conn., burned; loss \$50,000. Small fires at Chicago, Decatur and Charleston, Ill., and Crystal Springs, Miss.—The Postmaster-General exonerates Senator Dorsey from implication in the postal contracts.—House Committee on Naval Affairs agreed to appropriate \$60,000 for torpedo experiments.—Bayard Taylor Minister to Germany; to leave for his post April 11th.—Speaker Randall regards the Wood tariff bill as a judicious measure.—Little damage done to the Illinois crops by the late frosts.—Gen. J. B. Ayer buried with Masonic honors at Matton, Ill.

EX-PRESIDENT GRANT.

A Letter From Him Dated in Asia. Judge John F. Long received yesterday a letter from Gen. U. S. Grant, which is dated at Smyrna, Asia Minor, February 23, 1878.

Gen. Grant speaks of his most interesting visit to the ancient places in the Mediterranean and up the Nile, and, presuming that Judge Long has read the newspaper descriptions of his general route, says he will find the descriptions much better than he could give in the limits of a letter.

The writer states that he gets the papers from the States now with much more regularity than for the first few months after his departure, adding that they (the newspapers) not only follow up his lines of travel and what he does from day to day very closely, but some of them, he sees, speculate upon his designs.

Incidentally allusion is made to the "reputation bill, called the silver bill," which he fears will pass; in which case it ought to be met by a determined veto, and, if carried, he hopes all business men in the country will work to defeat its operation by refusing to make contracts except to be paid in gold coin.—St. Louis Republican.

The state school moneys for the present year has been apportioned. They are one-fourth the regular revenue fund of last year, \$363,276; annual interest on the permanent school fund, \$120,030, and interest on school certificates of indebtedness, \$34,000; total, \$517,306. This is the money distributed among the schools by the state. In addition the school districts are authorized to levy a tax not exceeding 40 cents on the \$100 for the support of the local schools. As a rule this tax is levied up to the limit fixed, which on a state valuation of \$600,000,000 would yield about \$2,400,000. The whole sum expended for school purposes in Missouri this year, therefore, will be \$2,937,000.

There was one man on the Woodward avenue car the other rainy morning who felt as if the weather couldn't be abused enough. "Don't you hate such weather as this?" he asked of a portly acquaintance opposite.

"No, sir," was the decided response; "I don't bother about the weather. If it's fair, all right; if it's foul, all right." "But you can't like such a morning as this?"

"It's just as good for me as any other sort of morning," was the calm reply. "And you like to see rain and mud and slush, do you?" "Yes; I am perfectly satisfied."

The grumbler was out of patience, but he secured revenge sooner than he hoped for. In getting off the car he fell on a slip and sprawled at full length in the mud, to the intense delight of the other, who rushed to the platform and shouted:

"Don't say a word—it's one of your kind of mornings! If it was one of mine you'd have fallen on a bed of nice, clean, soft white, beautiful snow! Stand up till I look at you!" "I'm lick you and all the weather in the country with one hand tied behind me!" said the fat man.—Detroit Free Press.

Eli Perkins sends the Courier-Journal this: "Eli Perkins stood looking at one of the new silver dollars, and, seeing on one side 'In God we trust,' and on the other 'United States of America,' sadly remarked: 'I knew we were becoming very wicked in this country, but I never thought that I should live to see the day when God and the United States would be on opposite sides. Arise and sing!'"

A Pennsylvania girl boiled the clippings from her toe nails in some coffee which she gave a young man in the belief that it would win his affection. "This is what might be called resorting to extremes to make him toe the mark, but she probably reasoned that the ends justified the means."

The beauty of holiness is a beauty that never fades. There is no decay from time, no deformity from overstrain, and no loss of form or bloom from the burden and heat of the day. And it hath not yet attained, neither is already perfect. It doth not yet appear what it shall be, but it daily gravitates toward the great white light that is round the throne of God.

A wicked exchange in making fun of the silver dollar says: Both the Goddess of Liberty and the American Eagle on the new dollar don't look you square in the eye. They are afraid they will be dunned for the balance of the dollar.

The Iowa Legislature has passed an act for paying \$1,500 to a person who served four years in the State penitentiary, convicted of an offense which he never committed. Now they say there are over so many innocent fellows up there who want to serve four years in the penitentiary on the same terms.

TELEGRAMS CONDENSED.

General Martinez Campos proclaims an amnesty in Cuba.—French Senate passes the budget as amended by Chamber of Deputies, and also adopts press amnesty bill.—Pope Leo desires to enter upon diplomatic relations with England in reference to the Catholic Hierarchy of Scotland.—Conservative member of Parliament elected for Manchester.—Bankruptcies flourishing. Henry Ashurt of Philadelphia, Six-Penny Savings Bank, N. Y.; Norway Plains Savings Bank, Rochester, N. H.; Bell, Gallison & Co., San Francisco, and Caleb Carpenter, Cincinnati, all failed.—Sidney Pitts and A. P. Thomas fight a duel in Virginia; Pitts killed and Thomas mortally wounded.—Testimony in the Meredith murder trial at Bloomington, Ill., concluded.—Planning mill of C. T. Marston & Co., Rockford Conn., burned; loss \$50,000. Small fires at Chicago, Decatur and Charleston, Ill., and Crystal Springs, Miss.—The Postmaster-General exonerates Senator Dorsey from implication in the postal contracts.—House Committee on Naval Affairs agreed to appropriate \$60,000 for torpedo experiments.—Bayard Taylor Minister to Germany; to leave for his post April 11th.—Speaker Randall regards the Wood tariff bill as a judicious measure.—Little damage done to the Illinois crops by the late frosts.—Gen. J. B. Ayer buried with Masonic honors at Matton, Ill.

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A baby is a necessity, but twins always did seem to me to be of a speculative nature.—Josh Billings.

HERE AND THERE.

A Philadelphia paper says that of all the persons sent to the county prison there only one-fifth ever reach a jury trial, and only one-tenth are convicted and sentenced. This indicates there is entirely too much done at arresting fancied law-breakers, or that there is a wanton disregard of enforcing the laws.

The Supreme Court of Missouri having pronounced the "Texas cattle law" unconstitutional, the people of Vernon county have held public meetings and organized to prevent by force any Texas, Indian or Mexican cattle from passing through that county.

The statistics of the pork-packing and cutting trade in Chicago for the year ending Feb. 23, 1878, are at hand, and they show a total, in round numbers, of four million hogs packed and cut up—something over a million in excess of the previous year.

It's all very well to talk about economy, but the difficulty is to get any thing to economize. The little baby who puts his toes in his mouth is almost the only person who, in these hard times, manages to make both ends meet.—N. Y. Herald.

Nearly all our native rice comes from South Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana, the former state supplying one-half the entire product of the country, and Georgia giving 7,000,000 pounds ahead of Louisiana.

A thirteen months old baby weighing 100 pounds is one of the curiosities of St. Francois county, this State, and in spite of its monstrous weight is said to be perfectly formed, handsome and quite healthy.

A bill is pending in the Kentucky Legislature which severely punishes minors who misrepresent their age in order to get drinks at saloons.

Ex-Gov. Willard P. Hall declines to become a candidate for State Supreme Judge, and expresses himself squarely in favor of the re-election of Judge Norton. The Democrat agrees with Gov. Hall on the re-election of Judge Norton.—Henry Co. Democrat.

The Lexington (Ky.) Gazette says:—"There are about 180 appearance cases already docketed for the next term of the Common Pleas Court, involving larger amounts of money than were ever before sued for in Fayette county at common law."

Work on the bridge to span the Missouri River at Glasgow, will begin soon. That completed, the 'big muddy' will be spanned by eight bridges: At Saint Charles, Booneville, Glasgow, Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison, St. Joe and Council Bluffs. Who twenty years ago dreamed of such a consummation?

A FATAL DUEL.—Cresfield, Md., Mar. 30.—At Eastville, Northampton county, Virginia, yesterday, Sidney Pitts and A. P. Thomas fought with pistols, to settle a dispute. Two rounds were fired by each, and as they stood only six feet apart, Pitts was killed, and Thomas received a ball in the head, from which he probably may die.

Judge Thos. F. Hargis, of Carlisle, Ky., Democratic nominee, has been elected Criminal Judge in Maysville district, by a large majority over his independent competitor. They believe in straight democracy in Ky.

FULTON FINANCES.—The total receipts of the town of Fulton, Mo., for the year ending March 23, 1878, were as follows: Dram shop license, \$4,050; taxes \$1,500; city scales, \$218.68; other sources \$265.32; total receipts, \$6,034. The total expenditures were \$4,259.49, of which \$2,182 were for street improvements.

Fulton is a third larger than Liberty, and still only pays \$1500 in taxes, and we pay \$5,000. The expenses of Colo county in 1877 were \$13,013. In addition to this \$16,650 of interest on the county debt was paid. The total bonded indebtedness is \$141,500. The county is decreasing its debt at the rate of about \$25,000 per year. Well done for Colo.

The House committee on invalid pensions has agreed to a bill allowing pensions of \$72 per month to soldiers having lost either both eyes, both hands or both feet, and of \$24 per month to those having lost one eye, one hand or one foot.

They have a justice at Oshtosh who is a little particular. He has the following notice posted conspicuously in his office: "Any lousy lawyer who insults this court will be kicked into the street."

Wit loses its respect with the good when seen in company with malice; and to smile at the jest which plants a thorn in another's breast, is to become a principal in the mischief.—Sheridan.

An exchange gives this receipt for the consolation of despairing females: "Just pour a gallon of whiskey on the sitting room carpet, and it smells as though there was a man around all the time." Try it.

Rev. Job Washington of Rockport, Mo., 88 years of age, has concluded to give up tobacco, believing it to be injuring his health and shortening his life. He has used it seventy-eight years.

FAMINE IN CHINA.

China, the most densely populated country in the world, is suffering the awful horrors of ghastly famine; and in addition to this dire calamity, terrible locusts have devoured every green thing in the central provinces; and, as though the measure of wrath were not yet full, great floods have devastated the southern parts of the empire, thus rendering the government powerless to feed the starving. For nearly three years the gaunt spectre has been stealing upon northern China, but only during the present has he unveiled all his dread horrors to the gaze of a despairing people.

Letters from those who have visited the famine stricken districts give a sickening picture of their condition: thousands of houses tenanted only by the starved dead left to lie in the positions they have fallen, with eyeballs glaring wildly despite the glaze of death, and hands tightly clenched in the fury of despair; hundreds of emaciated corpses rotting by the roadsides and in the streets of villages and towns; the trees are stripped of their bark, and the houses of their thatch in the vain effort to obtain food; all ties of kindred are melted away in the fierce struggle for life; husbands sell their wives and parents their children. A visitor writes: "when I left the country a respectable married woman could easily be bought for six dollars, and a small girl for two."

In many instances parents kill their children and then destroy themselves. Those that could get away have left the old and the children alone to die. These awful stories are but too well authenticated. The population of the district thus afflicted is nearly twice that of the United States.—Ful. Gaz.

PARSON TOMPKINS' WIG. Jeremiah Tompkins was a Methodist old gentleman. He was a jolly, fat-faced old gentleman, full of smiles, and wore a wig. The parson felicitated himself upon the fact that the wig was a profound secret—known only to himself and his God—but Harry Johnson, son of a class-leader, at whose house he was wont to stop in his peregrinations, had, in an unlucky moment discovered the secret.

This Harry was a mischievous, wicked lad, who feared neither Johnson, Sr., nor the devil, and hated the parson most supremely.

The parson had a number of years previous, buried his wife, and Madame Rumor had it that he was looking a round sharply for Mrs. Tompkins No. 2.

In fact, he was generally supposed to have serious designs upon Widow Jones, who was a regular attendant at the church when the parson conducted the services, and invariably occupied a seat in front of the pulpit.

The parson's jet black wig added immensely to his personal appearance, and all the while he was practicing the harmless delusion that no mortal except himself knew it was a wig; but, alas! Harry knew it.

Once a month the parson preached at Bethel School House, and all the country turned out to hear him, for he was regarded as a wonderful preacher. At the conclusion of his sermon, he never failed to give the juveniles a lecture. The history of the bad boys who were destroyed by bears for mocking Elijah was a favorite with him, and he always used it. It was not Harry's favorite piece. Harry had got tired of it.

The parson had an ugly habit of looking Harry square in the face during his recital, and that irrepressible youth swore vengeance.

On a certain Sabbath the parson stopped as usual at Johnson's, and retired to his room to take a nap before services. Bolting the door and cautiously divesting himself of the wig; he was soon wrapped in slumbers. Harry having secured a horse-hair, entered the chamber of the sleeping clergyman, and inserted it in the most vital part of the wig and then quietly retired through the window.

It was an old country school house built of logs. Harry secured a position outside, within a foot of the parson's head. The parson ranted through two dreadful hours, during which Harry kept watch and ward over that horse-hair. Then they knoled and prayed. A quick movement Harry grasped the horse-hair, and quickly attaching a thin thread to it, again concealed himself and awaited the course of events.

The parson began to talk to the boys. In front sat Widow Jones all attention. The parson approached Elijah and the boys and the bears with a grand flourish. The boys were mocking the prophet, and saying, "Go up old bald-head," when, at the word 'bald-head,' Harry gave a quick jerk and the parson's wig trembled a moment, rose an inch, stood bolt upright, and then went thundering on the floor, in front of the pulpit. The Widow Jones never became Mrs. Tompkins.

Life is uncertain and pestilence walks the earth as it did eighteen hundred years ago, but the circus season is at hand, and the untamed boy who has fifty cents sunk in the depths of his pantaloons pockets laughs at fate and yearns to see the untutored clown bump himself.

The Paris Kentuckian states that Gen. Cassius M. Clay has been granted a divorce from his wife.

ENGLAND'S ATTITUDE.

The calling out of the military reserves is an act which cannot be misunderstood. It means that, in the opinion of the queen and her ministers, the chances for a peaceful settlement of existing difficulties are so exceedingly small as to make it necessary to take the final step in preparing for war. The preliminary steps have already been taken. Thirteen of the most powerful iron-clads are within a few hours' sail of Constantinople, ready at a moment's notice to place the city under their guns, close the Bosphorus and sweep every Russian vessel from the Black sea. Ships and naval material of all kinds are being accumulated as rapidly as possible; all the officers and sailors that can be spared from foreign stations are ordered home; the regular army is reorganizing and equipping for active service; furloughs are recalled and absentees summoned to their several regiments, and nothing is left to be done except what the royal message of next Monday, and the accompanying proclamation, will do. When these documents have been issued the next hostile movement must be a formal declaration of war. Lord Derby so interprets the decision of the government, and regarding it as premature and unjustifiable has tendered his resignation as secretary for foreign affairs. It has been promptly accepted, and hereafter the ministry will be a unit on the foreign policy.

Lord Derby, as it seems to us, has either been acting an inconsistent part hitherto, or else he fails to realize the gravity of the situation. He should have resigned before or not at all. He has sanctioned, by his presence in the cabinet, the demands England has made upon Russia; he has, in the same way, sanctioned all the military and naval preparations based upon the possible refusal of these demands; and now, when the refusal has come, he will not consent to a measure by which alone England can utilize all her available strength. He surely ought to see that the government has gone too far to retreat honorably, and that unless Russia abandons her most objectionable claims, England must retreat or fight. And he ought to see that, in such a crisis as the present, it is wiser to sharpen the sword than to flourish the olive-branch. The best, the only way to bring Russia to a compromise is to convince her that England "means business" and is not indulging in mere idle bragadocio. Lord Derby, we think, will find it very difficult to justify his course in the estimation of the English people. He has helped to push them to the fighting point, and now leaves them in the lurch to champion the cause of peace. They will not forgive him, however able he may "vindicate his opinions" in the forthcoming debate.

All eyes will now turn toward Russia. She knows to-day what she did not know before, that congress or no congress, with or without allies, England has determined to defend English interests with English steel. Some of these interests may be imaginary, and all of them may be selfish; but England will maintain them, peaceably if she can, forcibly if she must. And if Russia is wise she will hesitate long and deliberate carefully before stepping into the arena against such an antagonist. England has her faults, and they are neither few nor small, but she has never been accused of lack of pluck. She does not want to go into this fight, but once in she will make it hot and heavy enough to satisfy the most belligerent Muscovite. Russia must revise her Turkish programme, or engage in a war compared with which her last one was a mere skirmish.—St. Louis Republican.

KENTUCKY ITEMS. Corn bought at a sale in Scott county last week at \$1.55 per bbl. in the crib, and oats at 36 to 40 cents a bushel.

Col. R. Turner Atham, of Mercer, who is high authority, says that \$4,000,000 is annually paid out for trotters in the United States, and of this sum Kentucky gets the lion's share.

At F. J. Barbee's sale in Bourbon county, five miles from Paris, on the Maysville pike, 190 acres of land sold to Mr. Morgan for \$94.95 per acre, equivalent to cash. Hogs sold for about \$4.50 per cwt.

At the sale of J. B. Owsley, in Lincoln on the 15th, J. M. Higgins, auctioneer, reports the following prices: One pair of mules \$230; hogs \$2.90 per hundred; two steer calves \$18; nine head of cattle \$315; oats 35 to 36c; corn \$2.00.

Darville Advocate: Jas. L. Harlan, of this county returned from Mississippi, this week, where he has been male trading for some time. He reports having done well with his stock. Cash sales for the season have about closed, but some trade yet on credit.

Some people seem to be taught; others are ashamed of it, as they would be of going to school when they are old; but it is never too late to learn what is always necessary to know; and it is no shame to learn so long as we are ignorant—that is to say so long as we live.

"How can I leave thee?" he was singing in a very tender tone. He wasn't very popular with her parents, and it was vowing on 12 o'clock, and the old man came in and showed him how he could leave her.

The Paris Exposition will be opened the first of May.