

A Severe Blow at the Country Press.

Among the acts of the late Congress, which covered itself with the infamy of stealing \$1,000,000 from the public treasury, during the last session, none was felt more severely than the one which was passed in the post-office appropriation bill, which repealed the law allowing the free circulation of country papers in the county where they are published; (to take effect the 1st of July) and abolished the free exchange of newspapers among publishers. The free exchange of newspapers is no part of the franking privilege which has grown into such an intolerable abuse by mercenary Congressmen, but it serves in a great measure to diffuse the news transpiring in every quarter of the country, rapidly and cheaply among the people, one of the fundamental objects for which the postal system was established. Publishers cannot afford to object. Publishers cannot afford to object. Publishers cannot afford to object.

THE ARKANSAS VALLEY.

The Arkansas Valley, which is now the theatre of important enterprise, comprises the oldest settled and richest farming portion of Colorado. It lies at an altitude of from 3,000 to 4,000 feet, on a much lower plain than the valley of any other stream flowing from the Rocky Mountains on the east. The winters are mild and open, and the Summers long and pleasant. All the arable lands are under cultivation. Nearly fifty years ago, St. Vrain, Bent, and others started a trading post, near the mouth of the Purgatoire, and called it Bent's Fort. Located in the Territory of Santa Fe and Chihuahua, and a large business in furs, pelts, and other commodities was carried on, both with the Mexicans and Indians. Several military posts in other parts of the Arkansas Valley were started, and constituted then the only American settlements in Colorado. These posts were the nucleus of the present settlements south of the river, and several flourishing colonies were formed. From Indian and several military posts in other parts of the Arkansas Valley were started, and constituted then the only American settlements in Colorado.

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CANDIDATES.

These ubiquitous individuals are beginning to spring up in all quarters; and the prospect and "claims" of A, B, and C, are discussed on the carboles and other noted places for the exchange and other notes. Two or three prominent candidates for prominent offices in this town are said to be making hay already, and driving up the stakes. Some of them have the odor of the ring very strongly about them. In the districts we hear of knots and combinations being tied with the object in view of presenting a strong front at the nominating conventions. In these notes we include all parties. A good candidate has everything to gain by being in the field early; and the proper way to enter is to march up boldly, announce the fact through the press and hang out his colors. Candidate's cards of one inch will be published in this State is likely to be "Local Option." Some articles appear in *The Whig* to-day on this question. On Friday next Pennsylvania takes a popular vote on the question with every prospect that the measure will be endorsed by heavy majorities. This action of our next-door neighbor cannot fail to exert a strong influence in our county, and stir up the people to take sides on the question. It doesn't appear that a party division can be made on the question—the truth is party lines are growing alarmingly weak, politicians say—in view of these facts, the looming up of the "Local Option" question, which will be pressed in the Legislature of the State more than ever before for recognition. It would be well for aspirants to legislative honors to announce their views in advance. Aside from any new questions of a non-partisan character, the present Greeley dynasty, which has been the reigning power in the State for six years, has been so consistently corrupt that the people without regard to old party landmarks, have come to acknowledge that a new party is a general feeling of a hungry political adventurer at the public crib at an unprecedented large expense for the exceptionally small amount of work done. When the party in power—known as the Democratic party before it sold out to Greeley—got possession of the State, they found that there were not half enough officers under the Republican Constitution to supply one-half of the hungry swarm which howled like wolves to be fed out of the public funds; and they overturned the constitution and created a new charter, in which the offices were doubled, perquisites trebled, and every Republican turned down to the smallest conceivable amount of supervision, and a hungry partisan put in, besides filling all the new-made places with men of the same color. The judiciary was increased and multiplied threefold, and the salaries put up. Where ever there was a prospect of the party losing office by the popular vote, the right of popular election was abolished, and power to fill by appointment placed in the hands of the circuit Judges or the Governor. The extravagance and profligacy of this Democratic drag-net of officeholders have been attentively marked by the people, and if signs and outspoken dissatisfaction mean anything, they mean that a sweeping change will be effected at the next election. The State is to be grasped from the hands of the Republican party, and restore again that prosperity which departed with the advent of the present spoils' party to power.

REMOVALS AND APPOINTMENTS IN BALTIMORE.

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