

DECEMBER 8, 1888.

ing up his public career are two different things. It would be a sad state of things if the press should agree to be silent about the public life of candidates—it would be little less than a conspiracy.

On Thanksgiving evening we found on our desk a splendid rose of the variety La France. It was a poem in fragrant bloom. We never saw a finer specimen of its species. We have been accused of going into ecstasies over a cloud. We have felt some enthusiasm over a sun-kissed cloud. And we were delighted in contemplating this rose. An artist, whose mind gave to beauty its charm, and to symmetry its grace, fashioned that flower. The tints of it were mixed where rain-bows are painted, the form of it was conceived where Eve's infinite shapeliness was divined, and the fragrance of it was distilled by the self-same alchemy that made the sonnets of Shakespeare. It was a message of good-will from an Infinite to a finite spirit, and we drank it in with thankfulness.

Dr. D. B. Lewis has favored THE HERALD with copies of the Elizabeth-town News and the Breckenridge News—both Kentucky papers, for which he has our thanks. Nothing on this continent is so distinctive as Kentucky. The spirit of her breathes in every product of her generous soil—from the beauty of her fair women to the incomparable fragrance of her corn juice.

The Beaumont Sentinel has changed hands, Mr. McDill retiring from the editorship, and Mr. Geo. R. Woolf assuming the pen. Good-day, Brother McDill! May the paths your feet shall tread lead to better pastures than usually emeralds the ways of editors, and may the peace that is denied quill-drivers, be with you. Good morning, Bro. Woolf! We admire the courage that braves the editor's fate. You know whereof you venture, though. We hope to see your paper, winged with enterprise, carrying the precious message of this Canaan to the wandering thousands in the wilderness of all otherwheres.

We saw the genial bronze of Uncle Johnny Moore's face on our streets Wednesday. Uncle Johnnie says he contemplates renting his ranch out on Mission creek and moving to town. We should be glad to welcome him and his characteristic laugh back to his old haunts.

A UNION CHURCH AT BANNING.

Considerable comment has been made upon the article in last week's HERALD about a minister in Banning. What was said was so manifestly true, that our people have very generally approved it. We therefore venture another step. Assuming that everybody in Banning desires a resident minister, and that all church members are ready and willing to support a resident minister of any evangelical denomination upon whom all our citizens may agree, and that if any such one can be secured, no denomination will endeavor to maintain a separate and independent church establishment, we have this to suggest: That we form here a church society to whose membership everybody be eligible, irrespective of religious faith. That the function of this society be to maintain a resident minister and regu-

lar religious worship in Banning. That the general services of the church, Sunday schools, prayer meetings, etc., be under the auspices of the society. That within the society the several denominations maintain their respective organizations, so that any converts or new-comers may join the church of their choice. But that these denominational organizations be subordinate to the society in all general affairs, and maintain their separate existence for no other purposes than those absolutely essential to the preservation in the society of evangelical church membership. Our ignorance of the various forms of church government makes us unable to give the necessary details of such an arrangement. That it is practicable we know, and the ease with which it may be brought about depends solely upon the amount of liberal, Christlike religion that exists among the members of the various churches of this place. We know of regular denominational churches that are maintained by means of this society organization of general membership. Its advantages here would lie in every direction. It would be our

church, our pastor for every citizen of the place. No exclusion, no Phariseeism, no factions, all united. Everything we attempted to do would command the whole power of the town, and everything would be maintained by the whole pride of the town.

The first question to be determined would be a place of worship. There is a church building here amply large.

It was built by this people. All contributed to it. But it belongs to the Baptist denomination exclusively, after a few months. Some arrangement must be possible by which the use of this church can be secured for the Union Society. What that arrangement shall be would depend entirely upon how broad-minded our Baptist brethren are. Of course nobody cares to enter upon an undertaking of this kind without some assurance that the society will have a home permanently. Our hope and dream is to see established in Banning a Union organization that will promote all the essentials of religion, where we may have a united worship—an undivided service, wherein the words Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian may have the least significance, and the word Christian the most.

GEN. VANDEVEE'S BILL FOR TWO CALIFORNIA'S.

Our Congressman, Gen. Vandever, comes from a magnificent district, and must disport in large statesmanship to represent it. He arose entirely to the occasion when he introduced his bill for the division of California into two states. The Bill provides for making one state out of the Sixth Congressional District, composed of the counties of Monterey, San Benito, Fresno, Tulare, Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, Inyo, Mono and Alpine, together with Merced, Mariposa and Toulumne.

That our territory and population are large enough to maintain two states, is beyond question. The only thing to be decided is whether the interests of Northern and Southern California are so diverse that the same laws will not apply to both. The Government of the United States is possible because it fits over our wide territory like a linked and jointed coat of mail—every state having free and

independent motion in its own province, yet being linked to all others by the firm bonds of national supremacy. Illinois and Missouri are in the same Union, because they are in most things independent of each other. While Northern and Southern California are children of the same civilization, and are not so contrasted as Ohio and Kentucky, yet they lie in different zones—they are ministered to by different elements—they have different natural features, and the probabilities are they demand different legislative conditions. Better by far have the neighborly comity of two independent states, than the eternal embroilments, jealousies, friction and ill-adapted laws of one inharmonious state. We trust this matter will be thoroughly canvassed. Gen. Vandever has the opportunity to become the father of a new commonwealth, and crown his valiant career in the field and council hall with this splendid civil achievement. We bid him God speed.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

The pupils of the public school will give an entertainment at the school house on Friday evening the 21st, under the charge of Professor Roberts and Miss Lacey. After the entertainment the ladies propose to give an oyster supper to augment that awful Bell fund. Oysters are toothsome things and angelically rare in this altitude, but we would like to swallow them in a better cause than a conspiracy against the peace and quiet of this town.

Horseback riding is all the rage at Banning. The roads are so fine all the time, the surrounding country is so entrancingly interesting, and the air is so invigorating that if one has a horse to back, every day is a picnic, and every excursion an international event. There is Prof. Roberts on his prancing black, Mr. Kelly on his ambling brown, Mr. Clancy on his plume-tailed bay, Mr. Barker on his sedate sorrel, Miss Parker on her dream in buckskin, and last, but not least THE HERALD on the swift-footed Arabian, whose pedigree began at Damascus in her palmist days; our streets are fairly alive with equestrians.

The Beaumont Hotel proposes to give a promenade concert on Tuesday evening, the 19th. We understand that all are invited. The young people of Banning have enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Dr. Burton on one very pleasant occasion of late, and we are sure they will very readily take advantage of an opportunity to do so again. First-class music is engaged, and we predict that Banning feet will have forgotten their evening, if that promenade don't effloresce into a waltz before the evening is far spent. We have never yet stepped on the Beaumont's dining room floor that we haven't yearned to dance on it. It is too smooth for any but restless feet. We hope to see it inaugurated into its proper purpose on Tuesday evening.

On Saturday night one Professor Owen held forth at the school house on the subject of Pseudology and Mesmerism. A small audience listened to his very plausible talk on the science of reading a man by the topography of his head, and observed his experiments. When Mr. G. over Cleveland McDonald planned himself in the chair for examination, he presented an imposing stretch of hirsute to the

astute scientist. Our friend McDonald's head is one of nature's feats. However it may be equipped within, and we all accord that to have been generously done, its external development is at once massive and architectural. He produced an instrument somewhat between a bull ring and a pair of tongs, with which he proceeded to take some measurements. He then did some deft feeling over the subject's head, with more grace than purpose, and suddenly launched out into the miserablest piece of rubbish about our fellow-citizen that we have heard for many days. He talked as if some archangel had led him through all the corridors and secret ways of his subject's mind, and showed to him every turn of his character, and every power of his faculties. The truth of his guessing is well shown by one example. He declared friend McDonald was too cautious to ever speculate. It is related of Mr. McDonald that when a boy, he bet his socks—they being his only sparable assets—on which of two toads in the path would jump first. The entertainment ended in an exhibition of mesmerism. Two young ladies had been imported from Beaumont, who succumbed to the magic spell. There certainly was more limpness to the square inch in their frames than is often found in vertebrates. We have no reason to doubt the genuineness of the manifestation. The young ladies sang and simulated various states of mind which the Professor invoked. We had to admit the enterprise of the young gentlemen who escorted these young ladies, when, after the entertainment, they employed the Professor to teach them the art of mesmerizing.

We have been hearing rumors of a great deal up at Beaumont. Some fathomless pocketed syndicate was to buy out the present Company, and set that burg on its feet. Why don't something materialize? We would rejoice to see somebody come into the Pass who wants to spend money here. While we have little faith in any booming methods, we are of an abiding faith that the velocity of the coming of glorious days for this Pass depends simply on the speed with which its wonderful resources are made known to the world.

A UNION MINISTER.

Some misapprehension exists as to THE HERALD's scheme for an organization in Banning to maintain a minister. We want emphatically to say that we do not expect to form a church. We call the organization a society—and it need no more intrude on the necessary functions of the church than does the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. No good Presbyterian need tremble for fear he will be called upon to affiliate too intimately with a Methodist, and no Baptist need begin to draw his skirts about him for fear he will be polluted by touching an unbeliever. A communication has been handed us, asking Christians to consider the 6th chapter of 2nd Corinthians, in the premises. We didn't publish it, because we are not expounding the Scripture, and do not propose to fret our columns with the divers fine-spun qualms and scruples that Christian dig up. If the Scripture adopt the simple and only feasible method proposed, by which we may en-

joy the privileges of a resident minister in Banning, we are sorry for it. While our pretensions in the line of scriptural matters are small, we undertake to say that no such ridiculous proposition can be found in the Bible.

The only objection, or obstruction, in the way of carrying out the proposed scheme that anybody has suggested, is the fear that Christian people would not consent to it. We know several Christian people who are in favor of it. It is assumed that there are people, whose denominationalism has so far gotten the better of their religion, that they cannot join the rest of the community in maintaining a minister and carrying on union church services. We consider this suggestion monstrous, and do not credit the possibility of its truth. We have often seen orthodox churches join in Sunday services for one day, or in Sunday schools or prayer meetings for one occasion—we see no more difficulty in their doing so the whole year round. And we see no more harm in having the outsider belong to the organization that employs the minister, and exercise a voice in its general affairs, than in asking for and using his money, and refusing him any sort of voice or recognition in the matter which his money helps to maintain. We hope to see this project carried through.

THE BANNING HOTEL.

Capt. T. E. Fraser and wife arrived on Monday night. The Capt. owns the hotel known as the Bryant House. The present lease of the place will expire on the 31st, and as the Captain proposes to make his home in Banning, and look after his other interests here, for the present he will take charge of the hotel himself. He contemplates making a number of improvements. The name of the house will be changed to The Banning. A beautiful pennant bearing the new name will float from a flagstaff on top. A new dress of paint will be put on; new carpets and furnishings are already on the way. The place will be renovated and put in first class order. The Captain says it is to be his residence, and it must be comfortable and elegant, so that when his friends come to stop in The Banning, they can have worthy entertainment. The hotel during the last year has been under most satisfactory management. Under the improvements contemplated, we look forward to a season of a full house of well cared for and contented guests. Capt. Fraser is widely known in California. He constructed the great Lick observatory, and is an enthusiast on Banning. We expect at an early date to give our readers an interview with him on topics of interest.

Mrs. B. E. Gilmore, of Santa Barbara, was canvassing Banning on Monday, with a method of transferring patterns of embroidery, and some other mystery of fancy or dress-making that we cannot pretend to describe. She reported this a good field.

The HERALD is still figuring how it can enjoy some oysters on Friday night without being so inconsistent as to contribute to that abominable Bell scheme.

Mr. M. G. Kelly is rusticing this week in San Diego. Our streets miss his lithe form and graceful horsemanship.