

PRESIDENT'S CONDITION.

We are pleased to announce that the condition of the President is more favorable, and his physicians confidently state that he will recover.

His removal from Washington to Long Branch was conducted in an admirable manner. Everything was so well arranged that this long journey of about 250 miles was made without any discomfort.

NEWSPAPERS FOR CHILDREN.

At a convention of the county superintendents of public instruction, held at Raleigh last week, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That this association earnestly recommend that parents and guardians throughout the State of North Carolina regularly supply their minor children and wards with at least one good newspaper or educational journal, or both."

This was eminently timely and proper, and was a step in the right direction. The newspapers are educators, and we are pleased to see that their value is properly appreciated by those who have charge of our public schools.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

We invite the careful attention of our readers to the statement of Senator Vance elsewhere published. As a sentinel, guarding the interests of the people of North Carolina, he sounds the note of alarm, and places himself squarely in opposition to a powerful corporation that is so hurtful to those interests.

This railroad contest has become the great issue of the day in this State, and may absorb all others. It affects our people more than any other. The question is, shall the people of North Carolina become "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company?

FOREST FIRES have been raging in Michigan, and have been very destructive to life and property. It is stated that over two hundred lives were lost, and that two thousand families are completely destitute.

A telegram to the New York Herald, in describing the scene of desolation, says: "Scattered along the roads and in the burned woods were seen the charred remains of men, women and children."

Another reason is found in the sworn testimony of Col. Buford before the Senate committee of internal improvements, in February last, in Raleigh, in which, among many other intimations thrown out to the same effect, Mr. Buford declared that the parties contracting with Mr. Best took the assignment of his contract with the State when it became absolutely necessary, in the manner heretofore stated.

Vance's Statement.

We publish herewith an extract from a statement of Senator Vance, published in the Charlotte Observer relative to the control of the Western N. C. railroad by the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company:

"It will be remembered that during the year 1879 serious apprehensions came to be entertained that there would be difficulty in continuing the appropriations for the completion of the Western N. C. Railroad. It had been on hand so long and so many misfortunes, not to mention worse things, had attended its construction, that many people began to fear it would swamp the party which undertook to carry it to completion."

In the matter of discrimination on freights and charges, forbidden alike expressly in the contract with W. J. Best and his assigns, and in the charter of the Piedmont Railroad, against North Carolina towns and cities; against one town in North Carolina in favor of another, and against all roads connecting with the North Carolina road, time would fail me to expose them. They are obvious and glaring—each town and depot in the State from Raleigh west has its own tale to tell.

A Union prayer service was held at the First Unitarian Church at Hingham, in Mass., on the 6th inst. Rev. Calvin Lincoln, the pastor, had made an address and was in the midst of a fervent prayer for the restoration of the President to health, when suddenly his voice began to tremble, his frame shook and his articulation became inaudible.

into the policy of North Carolina. The fact that taxes the earnings of our people issue from the city of Richmond. But recently an order was put forth by one Haas, general freight agent of this corporation, forbidding any freight arrangements to be made by what is called the Associated Railroads with the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad.

Again, at the meeting of the board of commissioners in Raleigh on the 30th of April last, when Col. Andrews appeared before it, he handed his application for an extension of time, with the remark, "Gentlemen, I think I can say to you that we have pretty well made up our minds to go to Ducktown!"

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Attempt to Kill Guitreau. A telegram from Washington City, dated 12th inst., says: "At 7 o'clock last evening an attempt was made to kill Guitreau in his cell at that hour. Battery B, Second Artillery, was relieving Capt. Graves' command, which had been on duty at the jail the previous twenty-four hours."

Paralyzed at Prayer. (New York Herald.) A Union prayer service was held at the First Unitarian Church at Hingham, in Mass., on the 6th inst. Rev. Calvin Lincoln, the pastor, had made an address and was in the midst of a fervent prayer for the restoration of the President to health, when suddenly his voice began to tremble, his frame shook and his articulation became inaudible.

A Snow Storm. A despatch from Deadwood, dated 9th inst., says: "There was a heavy snow storm in the Black Hills on Monday night and Tuesday morning. Snow fell to the depth of five inches on a level here, and three inches at Custer City. At Bold Mountain the snow was two feet deep."

Storm at Danville. A despatch from Danville, Virginia, dated the 11th inst., says: "A violent storm of wind and rain, with considerable hail, prevailed throughout this region this evening, commencing at about six o'clock. In this city many trees were blown down and several houses and fences were damaged."

General News. Since 1854 the gold mines of Australia have produced 590,500,000 ounces, worth \$990,000,000.

A Bridgeport (Conn.) gentleman lost \$8,000, and dreamed that he found it near the railroad track where he boarded the train to go on a picnic. At daylight he went to the place, and sure enough, there he found it.

A constable volunteered to watch a store which was to be robbed at New Sharon, Ia. He slept at his post, and the burglars took away his money, pistol and clothes, leaving him covered with molasses.

Dr. Quinn, one of California's millionaires, keeps twenty ships busy transporting his wheat to England. He owns 55,000 acres of rich grain land, 45,000 of which were in wheat this season. One continuous furrow is seventeen miles in length.

A Sad Death. Mr. John F. Hobbs, a young farmer of North Hampton, N. H., lost his life last Sunday while on his wedding tour. He was on his way with his bride to Niagara Falls by rail, and in a state of forgetfulness or carelessness allowed his left arm to project partly out of the car window; a freight train came by and a loose swinging door struck the exposed arm and crushed it. Amputation was performed soon after, but the sufferer died a few hours later from the shock.

Burning Balky Horses. John P. White, a farmer of West Hills, Suffolk county, started for home with a load of rye straw for Cold Springs, but on the turnpike one of the horses balked and to start the animal White paled a sheaf of straw under the horse and then set fire to it. This started the horse and the team went off on a run, the fire communicated to the straw on the wagon and both were destroyed and the team badly burned.

European Soldiers. An American traveller in Europe speaks of the fine appearance of the many soldiers. He finds the French soldiers to be short in stature, nervous in action, quick in movement and less careful in dress than the Germans and Italians. The German soldiers are large and intelligent and take pride in their dress and bearing. The Italian soldiers are young and fresh looking.

Gen. Burnside Dead. A despatch from Providence, Rhode Island, dated 13th, says: "Gen. A. E. Burnside died suddenly at 11 o'clock this morning at his residence in Bristol. He had been slightly unwell for two or three days, but was in the city last evening. The immediate cause of his death was spasms of the heart."

Freezing Weather. A telegram from Fort Supply, Indian Territory, dated 13th inst., says: "During a norther that prevailed here last week a large number of cattle were frozen to death. Of a herd of 600, feeding twelve miles from here, nearly 300 cattle and three horses were lost."

State News. Raleigh Visitor: Just as the mail train on the R. & G. R. R. had crossed Neuse river yesterday morning going north, the engineer discovered two railroad sills and a piece of railroad iron, measuring about four feet, laying across the track. The train was slackened just in time to prevent a fearful calamity, as there were upwards of sixty or seventy passengers aboard.

Tarboro Southerner: Rhodon Langley, a colored lad, was thrown from the back of a pony owned by Dr. James of Greenville, on Friday last and his neck broken. The pony was gentle and all the boys around Mr. James' Hotel were in the habit of riding it. On this occasion the pony showed a little life.

Goldboro Messenger: Our Smithfield correspondent writes us: Mr. W. J. Best was here last night. Quite an enthusiastic meeting was held in the Court House. Best guarantees to build the railroad from Goldboro to Smithfield if the people along the route will subscribe \$50,000 to the stock of the company.

Set back 42 Years. "I was troubled for many years with Kidney Complaints, Gravel, &c.; my blood became thin; I was dull and inactive; could hardly crawl about; was an old worn out man all over; could get nothing to help me, until I got Hop Bitters, and now I am a boy again. My blood and kidneys are all right, and I am as active as a man of 30, although I am 72 and I have no doubt it will do as well for others of my age. It is worth a trial.—(Father.) Sunday—Mercury.

Miscellaneous Advs. Tax Sales! NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS! The good people of Chatham and surrounding counties are respectfully informed that J. P. GULLEY, OF RALEIGH, N. C., Has just received a tremendous and varied stock of DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, NOTIONS, &c., &c., which will be sold at BOTTOM PRICES. Special attention called to Boyton's Shoes and the Pearl Shirt. Our selections, Messrs. G. C. and J. N. HAMLET and A. T. LAMBERT, Jr., of Chatham, will be pleased to wait on their countrymen. J. P. GULLEY, RALEIGH, N. C.

Sheriff's Sales! By virtue of sundry executions issued from the Superior Court of Chatham county, I will sell at public auction for cash, at the court-house door in the town of Pittsboro, on the 19th day of September, 1881, (being Monday of court-week) the following real estate: One tract of land containing 320 acres, situated in Bear Creek township, on the waters of Bear Creek, adjoining the lands of W. R. Harper, Wm. D. Phillips and others; levied on as the property of C. D. Salsides to satisfy an execution in favor of Brewer and Paschall.

Sale of Land. Pursuant to an order of the Superior court of Chatham county, I will sell at public auction, at the court-house door in Pittsboro, on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1881, the tract of land whereon the late Alex. Thomas resided at the time of his death, lying on Tyrrell's creek, and containing about 800 acres; subject to the widow's dower.

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