Goldsboro Messenger.

J. A. BONITZ, Editor and Proprietor. "For us, Principle is Principle—Right is Right—Yesterday, To-day, To-morrow, Forever." Published Semi-Weekly—$3.00 a Year

VOL. XXII. GOLDSBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1886. NO. 23.

THE DEAD OF 1885.

A Long Roll of Distinguished Men and Women Die at Home and Abroad.

[From the Buffalo Tribune.]

The sudden death of William H. Vanderbilt, the powerful railroad magnate and millionaire, following closely the death of the Vice President of the United States, and that of Alfonso, the young king of Spain, brings forcibly to mind the fact that the list of distinguished names that already swell the death-roll of 1885 is an unusually long one. It embraces names famous in every walk of life and in all lands; of all creeds and tongues; scholars, soldiers, artists; veterans of many years of honorable usefulness, and names young in years and fame, but rich in promise—all are represented in the long roll of the illustrious dead.

The death of the great captain, Ulysses S. Grant, after months of suffering and pain, and the wonderfully impressive scene of his burial amid the sorrow of his countrymen, will never be forgotten by this generation. Gen. George B. McClellan, Gen. Irvin McDowell, Gen. James McQuade and Rear Admiral George H. Preble, all names interwoven with the early scenes of the great rebellion, have passed away during the year.

France has been called to mourn for her greatest Frenchman, the venerable Victor Hugo, full of years, and crowned with many honors.

Germany has lost the Emperor William's old friend, Baron Von Manteufel; his brilliant but hot-headed nephew, Prince Frederick Charles, the dashing red prince of many campaigns, and Franz Abt, the charming song-writer.

England mourns the loss of gallant Fred Burnaby, slain in battle; the untimely death of Gordon, a character unique and perhaps in many ways not yet fully comprehended; Sir Moses Montefiore, the noble Jewish philanthropist; Sir Francis Hincks and Lord Houghton, better known perhaps as Richard Monckton Milnes, the graceful poet and essayist.

Besides Alfonso, Spain has lost the brave and sagacious Marshal Serrano.

Among our own public men who have passed away since the year began we find the names of ex-Secretary Frelinghuysen, ex-Senators Wm. M. Gwinn, William Sharon and Reuben E. Fenton; Edgar K. Apgar, Scott Lord, ex-member of Congress and once a law partner of Roscoe Conkling; Emory A. Storrs, the brilliant lawyer and stump speaker; the venerable George W. Clinton, ex-Lieutenant Governor Henry R. Selden, Col. John D. Van Buren, Judge Theo. R. Westbrook, ex-Judge Albert Cardozo, of wretched memory; Gen. Robert Toombs, of Georgia, and Malcom Hay, ex-Assistant Postmaster General.

The musical world has lost Dr. Leopold Damrosch, Brinkly Richards, Arthur Burt, the solo cornet player; Ferdinand Hiller, Col. W. A. Pond, the music publisher, and Gen. Henry C. Oliver, who fifty years ago composed "Federal Street."

Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, the famous litigant; Charlotte Cooper, daughter of the great novelist, James Fenimore Cooper; Mrs. Frances Vanderbilt, widow of the commodore; Mrs. James Russell Lowell; Susan Warner, of "Wide, Wide World" fame, and Mrs. Helen Hunt Jackson ("H. H."), are among the notable women who have passed away during the year.

The Mahdi and Oliver Pain have ended their careers.

Clark Foss, the last of the famous stage-drivers of early California days; James W. Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, poor, old and disappointed; Charles Wright, one of the leading botanists of America; Lieut. Commander Henry H. Gorringe, who brought Cleopatra's Needle to America at William H. Vanderbilt's expense; George T. Hope, president of the Continental Life Insurance company of New York; Fred L. Winston, president of the Great Mutual Life; James H. Rutter, the brilliant railroad manager and president of the New York Central; Gilbert C. Walker, an ex governor of Virginia since the war; Isaac W. England, publisher of the New York *Sun;* Gen. Anson Stager; Commodore C. K. Garrison; Thomas C. Fields, of Tammany fame for infamy; Elizur Wright, the statistician and writer, and the venerable Dr. S. H. Tyng, are all careers that have been ended by death during the year.

Among the authors who have passed away can be named T. S Arthur, Richard Grant White and Josh Billings (Henry W. Shaw).

Tom Davis (Sawdust Tom), the accomplished swindler, has meet his doom at the hands of an infuriated Texan; poor John McCullough has passed off the stage forever, and Dan Mace, the famous driver, has gone down the home stretch and passed under the wire.

UNCLAIMED ESTATES IN ENGLAND.

A paper on the subject of unclaimed estates in England, prepared under the direction of Minister Lowell by Mr. Henry White, one of the American Secretaries of Legation, has been sent by the President to Congress with other state papers. "There seems to be no doubt." Mr. White says, "that many are led to believe themselves heirs to vast estates in Great Britain by designing persons on both sides of the ocean." Mr. White describes the results of inquiries relating to the "Jenneus estate," to which there were many American claimants, showing that the property went to the heirs at law long before American claimants were heard of, and that the latter never had the shadow of a title. Similar to this case are the "Hedges estate," the "Bradford estate," the "Hyde estate," the "Horne estate" and many others which are described as among "the ordinary myths by which so many of our countrymen have been beguiled." With regard to large sums supposed to be awaiting American claimants in the Bank of England, Mr. White quotes from a letter written by the chief accountant of that institution as follows:

"There are no large amounts of unclaimed stock or dividends standing in our books. Speaking generally, without having made an exhaustive research, which would involve some considerable labor, there are very few amounts of £1,000, and probably none that exceed this sum by more than £100 or £200. It will doubtless cause some surprise and disappointment to such as these to be informed that the whole amount of money in the custody of the court of chancery at the present time is about £84,000,000, of which £83,000,000 belong to owners who are known, leaving about £1,000,000 only of unclaimed or dormant funds."

THE TALK OF LONDON.

Literary, Artistic and Personal Gossip of the British Metropolis.

[Special Cable Dispatch to Washington Star.]

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The report of an alleged gigantic Chinese loan of thirty-five million sterling causes some excitement at first sight. The connection between the two simultaneous pieces of news, the Burmese annexation and the Chinese loan would seem to be obvious. The report seems true. The Rothschilds will probably have charge of the enterprise.

The passages in which Faust expresses his intention to marry Margaret were struck out of the representation of "Faust" at the Lyceum, after the first performance.

Sir Theodore Martin has sent to press with Blackwood his translation into English verse of the second part of "Faust."

MacMillan's new novel, by Marion Crawford, is called "A Scholar's Romance."

Froude's new work, which the Longmans publish, will be called "Oceana, or England and her Colonies."

John Morley is writing a reply to Sir Henry Gaines' "Popular Government" for MacMillan's Magazine. I hear it is a very severe criticism of Matthew Arnold's official report to the government on free education. It will not be ready for some time.

Cannon Malcolm McColl is writing a pamphlet on the Irish question, to be published by Rutledge. This is important, as the canon is one of Gladstone's most intimate friends, and has been recently staying at Hawarden.

Musical forecasts for the coming season include Patti at Covent Garden, if there is any Italian opera there, which is doubtful; if not, in concert at Albert Hall. Sarasate will appear in April, May and June. Rubinstein will give seven historical pianoforte recitals. The date is not yet fixed. Carl Rosa will have a season at Drury Lane, in which Mackensie's opera, "Guiellaume de Cabestan," will be the chief novelty.

Ruskin's admirers are preparing a testimonial to him, not as an art critic, but as a political economist. What form it will take is not yet decided.

William Morris' socialist paper, the *Commonwealth*, is about to be issued as a weekly instead of a monthly. Subscriptions are asked to purchase a plant.

LAGRANGE ITEMS.

It is distressingly healthy around our town for the present.

Monday was as melancholy as Earl Ivanovitsch's host in the 'Lonely Manor.'

An old colored man, Madison Lane, who has been a great sufferer of bronchitis died last Sunday night.

Mrs. Lydia Wooten, who spent the recent holidays in Goldsboro with relatives returned last week.

Deputy Sheriff George Walters is like an oleaginous streak of lightning on the track of evil doers. His vigilance and performance of duty is indeed commendable.

We recently saw some exquisite embroidery of silk on felt, did by Miss Lettie McCoy of our town. The designs were richly portrayed and showed marked ability for one so young as Miss Lettie.

'Have you any writing paper?' asked a customer the other day as he leaned on the the counter of a store in town. 'Oh yes' said the polite clerk, 'how many quires shall I wrap for you?' 'Well I don't believe I'll take the quires to-day, I'll step in to K. C. Bizzell & Bro's and buy several ream,' and whistling softly 'speak to me love, only speak' he sauntered into Mr. McDonald's drug store and bought a nickel's worth, and went on his way soliloquizing.

R. T. Whitfield and J. P. Reid accompanied Mr. P. H. Baker of the firm of M. N. Baker & Bro., to Georgia last week.

There are things so sacred, that our most grateful words, crush upon the pure beauty, even as the touch upon the glory of unbroken snow leaves the fatal impress. Silence, only silence can speak the holy gratitude of the soul. Such was the emotions that thrilled us, New Year's day when the sweet gift, so long hoped for, came like a Heaven willed realization.

Christmas is called so, from the Mass of the birth of Christ. On this day Priests are allowed to hold three Masses in honor of the three births of our Lord. His eternal birth in the bosom of His Father. His temporal birth in the stable at Bethlehem. His spiritual birth in the hearts of the just.

$500 Not Called For.

It seems strange that it is necessary to persuade men that you can cure their diseases by offering a premium to the man who fails to receive benefit And yet Dr. Sage undoubtedly cured thousands of cases of obstinate catarrh with his "Catarrh Remedy," who would never have applied to him, if it had not been for his offer of the above sum for an incurable case. Who is the next bidder for cure or chash?

THIS YEAR'S IRON MARKET

The Production and the Market --Effect of Tariff Talk.

PHILADELPHIA, December 29.—A review of the iron trade in 1885 has just been prepared by James M. Swank, general manager of the American Iron and Steel Association. The beginning of the year, he says, was marked by a continuation of the depression of 1884. There was a steady sagging of prices from January to July, except for steels, quotation for which improved a trifle in May. In July and August all prices stiffened, and in September a slight advance was established, steel rails taking he lead and continuing to advance until December. Steel rails show the greatest advance in price during the last half of 1885. In April sales were made at Pennsylvania mills at $26 and $26.50, and a few sales are said to have been made at the astonishingly low price of $25.50. These prices were lower than foreign steel rails could have been delivered at Atlantic ports at the same date if entirely free of duty. In May quotations advanced to $27, and the price thus established was substantially maintained until the last of August, when a further advance took place in consequence of an agreement among the manufacturers to limit and distribute the output for 1886, which was fixed at 775,000 tons, but no restriction was placed upon the price, each manufacturer being permitted to make his own price. But the price of pig iron, bar iron, nails, steel rails and other forms of iron and steel could not have advanced in the last half of the year if there had not been an increased demand for these products.

The increased demand for iron and steel which occurred in the last half of 1885, and which was one of the incidents of a general improvement in the business of the country, might confidently be counted on to continue throughout the whole of the new year but for one little cloud upon the horizon. If there were no threat today of tariff revision, the promise of 1886 would be bright, indeed. Not to borrow trouble, however, it can most positively be said that a feeling of confidence in the future of business now prevails through the entire country. We have entirely recovered from the effects of whatever panicky feeling prevailed a year or six months ago. The uncertainty about silver may excite financial circulars, but it is exercising no injurious effect upon general business In the first half of 1885 the total production of pig iron was 2,150,819 net tons of 2,000 pounds, against 2,267,021 tons in the first half of 1884, and 2,322,592 tons in the second half.

The production of Bessemer steel rails in the first half of 1885 was 452,446 net tons, against 593,370 tons in the first half of 1884, and 523,251 tons in the half. Our production of pig iron was 4,589,613 net tons, and our production of Bessemer steel rails was 1,116,621 net tons. Railroad building in 1885 was more active than has generally been supposed it would be. In 1884 we built 3,950 miles of new railroad, and in 1885 we built over 3,000 miles, which is 500 miles above estimates for the year that were made as late as July. We shall do better in 1886. The European iron trade exhibited no symptoms of a revival of 1885; but on the contrary, the backward movement which has from the first more than kept even pace with our own depression, continued until the close of the year. Taking the iron-making countries of Europe as a whole, the iron-trade situation is worse to-day than it was six months ago.

KINSTON ITEMS.

Paragraphs by Our Regular Reporter.

Mr. Jack Vause, who, a few weeks ago, by the aid of Rev. C. W. Howard and a handsome young lady was made happy, stopped rather suddenly and unsatisfactorily last Saturday. He was out on his first fox chase with "the old regular" Major Barrett. Mr. Vause was on horse back chasing a fox through a new ground at full speed, when his horse stepped into a stump-hole, turned a complete summersault breaking her neck, sending Mr. Vause on a flying expedition, but having too many pin feathers he stopped suddenly about 25 feet away, colliding with a stump in a dangerous manner, but we are glad to say not seriously hurt.

There are 5,879 children within the schoolage in Lenoir county, and 67 cents per head is the amount of school money for each child.

The County Board of Education will meet at the court house on the 3d Monday in January, to receive applications for aid out of the one third that is left in their hands. All districts that desire or expect help from that fund should be represented on that day.

J. R. Uzzell, Esq., has severed his connection with the *Free Press* as local editor, and returned to his first love (the law), and to his other half (N. J. Rouse). Mr. Mayo takes his place as captain of the paper, and both he and the paper have our good wishes. If Uzzell and Rouse do not succeed, the law is a failure. We doubt if another firm of young lawyers of equal merit in all respects could be found in the state. We hope the year 1886 may bring to each a "sweet sixteen" so that the firm may have four halves.

Rev. Mr. Webb married a run-away couple last week. Have not learned their names.

T. J. Meacham, J. P., has delivered to our Sheriff, 211 warrants for delinquent tax payers. There is trouble in the land; but the county commissioners mean business.

Loftin's bank is now guarded by a full blood gray hound.

Henry Griffin has taken up his abode in Durham. "The girl I left behind me" is now his favorite song.

J. T. Forlaw, the popular hotelist, has moved into the building formerly occupied by Dr. W. A. J. Pollock, where he will be glad to see his former patrons. Most people live by eating.

What do you think of Dr. Steacy? has been repeatedly asked us since his entertainments here. Well, we think him the most honest fraud we have met. He and his wife can perform many tricks that are startling and inexplicable. They say these tricks are not real, if not real then they are frauds and in this sense we call the Doctor and his charming wife frauds. They can do what spiritualists and mediums do, but they have the honor to say that mediums and spiritualism are frauds, and as spiritualism is a bitter enemy of Christianity it is refreshing to see it shown up.

The county commissioners in session last Monday.

Rev. Mr. Jurney has arrived and has been regularly installed as pastor of the Methodist Church. There was a general regret at Rev. Mr. Jones leaving, but we hope Mr. Jurney will fully fill the vacuum.

A bolt of homespun was found in a waggon in town Monday morning which was no doubt stolen, and dropped there to prevent being caught.

THE RECESS APPOINTMENTS.

It is said that the President will not withhold from the Senate any of his recess appointments. In this Mr. Cleveland is entirely right. These appointments, he holds, were made in good faith, upon what appeared to be the best recommendations and endorsements, and if since the appointments have been made charges have been filed against some of the appointees, it is the prerogative of the Senate to look into the matter and reject all who are not proper persons. There are several reasons for this. In the first place he holds that it is for the purpose of scrutinizing appointments more carefully than he can have an opportunity of doing that the power of confirmation was vested in the Senate. Again, he does not want to be put in the attitude of having made appointments during the recess just to give men temporary places—appointments which he would not have made had the Senate been in session. If the appointments are bad he will make nothing by withholding them from the Senate, as by so doing he would only protect the endorsers upon whose recommendation the appointments were made, and assume all the responsibility himself. This he does not propose to do. If he has made any mistakes he proposes to let the Senate know how he was led into them, and to make those who deceived him bear their share of the responsibility. In cases where charges have been filed with him since the appointments were made, it is said, he will call attention to the fact after sending in their names.

ATLANTA'S BOASTED WELL

An Atlanta (Ga.) telegram says: The city authorities are to-day much crest-fallen over an Artesian well. Some time since the City Council engaged Colonel Baum to sink such a well. He went down 2,000 feet and failed to reach a stream which would come above ground. When $26,000 had been last in the hole work was stopped, and a plan was made to pump the water. In order to sustain their assertion that it was genuine Artesian water, Professor H. C. White, of the State University, was called upon to analyze it. His report not only knocks down the views of Colonel Baum, but convicts the City Council of a woful ignorance of geology, which has cost the city a large sum of money. He says: "The city of Atlanta is situated on the 'bed rock' of the continent—the granite formation. There are consequently no underlying stratified rocks to be reached by deep borings, and consequently a true 'Artesian well' in Atlanta is impossible. The geological formation, the character of the water, and all the surroundings indicate that the Atlanta well is simply a deep, ordinary well, supplied by percolation through the granite of of the water that falls in the immediate vicinity of the well. The great depth of the well gives it opportunity to receive water from many rifts and seams in the rock, and thereby to secure a comparatively large supply. Such supply, however, cannot reasonably be counted upon as constant or bountiful. Certainly such a well as this, or a number of them, cannot be relied upon to furnish regularly and constantly even a portion of the water that is needed for the supply of a city of the size of Atlanta. I should advise the authorities to give supply from this well a very thorough test, extending over several months, before deciding to make it a factor in the permanent water supply of the city."

PROSPEROUS YEAR PREDICTED.

The *Iron Trade Review*, of Cleveland, Ohio, publishes a large number of letters from manufacturers, principally of machinery, throughout the country concerning trade in 1885, and the outlook for the coming year. In woodworking machinery business has been large in volume, but prices have been too low to be satisfactory. Machine tool works have had a comparatively dull year, with unrenumerative prices. Manufacturers of special patented tools note no diminution in either volume or prices during the year, some of them, on the contrary, reporting a decided increase. The blast furnace and mining machinery has suffered from dullness, but not as much as might be expected. Manufacturers of iron roofing enjoyed a good trade. Hardware works have been generally well employed. All branches of iron and machinery trade note a decided increase in both orders and inquiries within the past sixty days, and the prediction is made without exception that 1886 will be a year of widespread prosperity.

THE SENATE IN 1887.

Democrats Hoping to Get the Control in Two Years.

[Washington Star.]

Mr. Dalton, the postmaster of the House, who is always well informed upon Indiana matters, said to-day that he believed the Democrats were sure to elect a successor to Senator Ben. Harrison. Mr. McDonald, he thinks, will be the man chosen. The only other man prominently spoken of for the place is Governor Gray, but Democratic custom in Indiana rules him out on account of his being the Governor until '88. It has also been a rule with the Democrats in Indiana that no man should be elected to any other office while holding the position of Governor of the State. When Mr. McDonald was elected to the Senate Mr. Hendricks was Governor, and on that account refused to allow his name to be used in connection with the place.

With matters as they now stand the Democrats think they have a pretty good chance of getting control of the Senate in 1887. Having already elected a successor to Senator Mahone, and what they think is a certainty in Indiana, they will work to carry Michigan, Connecticut, New Jersey and California, as they think, with a pretty good chance of success. They have no hope of doing anything in New York, as that State is districted against them, and is too close, on general elections even, to be depended upon.

CONFEDERATE PENSIONERS

The Washington Light Infantry Cares for Its Veterans.

[Charleston News and Courier, 1st.]

The Washington Light Infantry is the only corps in South Carolina, and perhaps in the South, that pays a regular annual pension to the widows and orphans of their dead comrades who served in the three "W. L. I." companies in the war between the States. The trustees have managed this charity fund with great success during the past ten years, and their annual disbursements amount now to $1,000. In the last twenty years over $10,000 has been paid on this account.

Those who are entitled to assistance receive it in the form of a handsome certificate stating the amount payable during the year, attached to which are four coupons, payable at the Bank of Charleston on the 22d of February, May, August and November. The coupons require only the indorsement of the recipient to be cashed. These papers are delivered on New Year's Day, those for the country being mailed in time for delivery on that day. and those in the city are delivered in person by one of the veterans of W. L. I., who claims this privilege annually. With these papers is always enclosed a New Year's card. The one for 1886 is very handsome and bears this inscription:

"A happy New Year; the W. L. I., send cordial greeting for 1886."

This charity, as well as the considerate form in which it is administered, is worthy of the old corps, and the benefactions are so well secured that it is really one of the permanent institutions of Charleston.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT.

JANUARY 4, 1885.

Present—J. A. Stevens, A. B. Thompson, J. H. Loftin, J. H. Barnes.

Commissioner Loftin was elected chairman, Major Hooks being absent, sick.

Robert Fulghum was released of poll tax on account of poverty and infirmity.

Y. H. Knowles was granted retail license at Mount Olive, and Simeon Grady at Dudley.

The following magistrates filed their annual reports, which were approved and ordered to be registered and filed—Z. M. L. Peacock, D. R. Thompson Albert Aycock, J. E. Person and W. B. Bowden.

The following constables renewed their bonds—C. J. Dail, Charley Ivey, Geo. W. Winn, Jerre Deans, J. B Gardner, Jesse W. Hooks and J. H. Hastings.

Tax orders were passed as follows:

Allen Mitchenor to list poll.

Gaston Browning to list 71 acres.

Mathew Smith to list colored poll.

Mrs. F. C. Patrick to list real and personal estate.

W. B. Aycock released of tax on $1,775 error in listing.

A. J. Harrell, A. B. Thompson and Wm. Daniel appointed to have Arrington bridge repaired.

Commissioner Stevens voted against allowing J. R. Roberts account for fence work.

J. H. Barnes resigned as Commissioner, to take effect from this date.

Jno. A. Stevens, W. Haywood Ham, and W. T. Gardner, were appointed to investigate and report upon the condition of the County Poor House, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Board of Magistrates to-day.

Ordered that A. B. Thompson, R. B. Bassett and Jno. I Herring, in Stony Creek and New Hope Townships and any others who may so desire, owning lands contiguous to the above named parties, be allowed to come into the Stock Law territory.

J. A. Stevens was made a member of the Committee to settle with Sheriff and Treasurer, in place of Commissioner Barnes, resigned.

Accounts were audited and allowed as follows:

Bedy Ward, $2; Jennie Thornton, $2; Sabrey Wilson, $2; Agnes Strickland, $2; Sam Goland, $1; Thomas Baker, $2; Joe Green, $2; Arch and Sam Barnes, $4; Polly Forehand, $2; David Myers, $2; Nathan Holmes, $2; John Singleton, $2; Cæsar and Susan Stevens, $4; paupers. $29 00.

Dr. M. E. Robinson, Sewer account filed. $ 6 00

H. H. Cobb, carrying lunatic to Asylum. 1 50

J. G. Tindall, December wages at Poor House. 13 00

J. G. Tindall, whiskey at Poor House. 1 00

Jas. B. Tindall, December wages at Poor House. 8 80

J. H. Forehand, two coffins at Poor House. 2 00

Avey Williams, washing at Poor House 1 80

W. H. Sasser, bridge guard. 7 50

Dr. Jas. Spicer, quarterly salary. 56 25

W. P. Daniel, salary and extra work at bridge. 7 25

Mike Kennedy, Cox bridge guard. 5 00

J. A. Bonitz, quarterly Printing. 75 00

J. A. Bonitz, Dockets &c. 16 00

A. B. Thompson, bridge lumber. 4 00

E. A. Wright, J. P., examining lunatic. 1 00

J. A. Washington, J. P. examining lunatic. 2 50

Jones Yelverton & Co., account filed. 3 40

J. M. Grantham, December Jail fees. 256 40

J. M. Grantham, work on sewers. 10 00

W. T. Gardner, Register account filed. 114 60

Jno. H. Hill & Sons, account filed. 75

Best & Thompson, Poor House supplies. 56 19

H. Weil & Bro's, coal for jail, &c. 31 57

J. R. & B. Hooks, fence acct. filed 29 43

G. J. Yelverton, fence acct. filed 56 07

A. H. Caldwell, fence acct. filed 37 75

A. L. Sasser, fence acct. filed 23 25

Sidney Wilkins, fence acct. filed 8 20

J. M. Pearson, fence acct. filed 11 00

J. R. & B. Hooks, fence acct filed 40 33

J. R. Roberts, fence acct. filed 60 95

The Board then adjourned to 15th inst.

Published by order of the Board.

W. T. GARDNER, Clerk, &c.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE ASSASSIN PRESS.

We think the President in his letter to Mr. Keppler, of *Puck*, shows sensitiveness beyond what might have been expected. It is undeniable that a portion of the press has lied most outrageously in statements about the President. But that has always been the case, and it was even worse when there were fewer newspapers. Take the instance of Mrs. Jackson, the excellent wife of grand old Hickory. Nothing ever said about a living statesman was equal to the atrocious assaults made on this good man in order to strike down her husband, the people's idol. Nevertheless, Mr. Cleveland, who must be acquainted with that episode, says:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, Dec. 12, 1885.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have just received your letter with the newspaper clipping which caused you so much annoyance.

I don't think there ever was a time when newspaper lying was so general and so mean as at present, and there never was a country under the sun where it flourishing as it does in this. The falsehoods daily spread before the people in our newspapers, while they are proofs of the mental ingenuity of those engaged in newspaper work, are insults to the American love for decency and fair play of which we boast.

I hasten to reply to your letter that the allegation contained in the slip you send me, to the effect that you ever asked a personal favor of me, is entirely and utterly false. You have never in the slightest manner indicated a wish, claim or preference touching any appointment to office, or any official act of mine, and the only occasion I remember when I ever had any conversation with you was during a short and very friendly call upon me in Albany during my term as governor. If I ever received a letter or message from you on any subject I have forgotten it—a thing I should not be apt to do.

While I am sorry that any friendliness you may have felt or exhibited for me has been the cause of embarrassment to you, I cannot refrain from saying that if you ever become a subject of newspaper lying and attempt to run down and expose all such lies you will be a busy man, if you attempt nothing else.

Hoping that the denial which I send is sufficiently explicit, I am yours, very sincerely,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

To JOSEPH KEPPLER, Esq., N. Y. city.

PERCENTAGE.

The reckoning of percentages, like the minus sign in algebra, is a constant stumbling block to the novice. Even experienced newspaper writers often become muddled when they attempt to speak of it. The ascending scale is easy enough. Five added to 20 is a gain of 25 per cent; given any sum of figures, the doubling of it is an addition of 100 per cent. But the moment the change is a decreasing calculation the experienced mathematician betrays himself, and even the expert is apt to stumble or go astray. An advance from 20 to 25 is an increase of 25 per cent, but the reverse of this, that is, a decline from 25 to 20, is a decrease of only 20 per cent. There are many persons, otherwise intelligent, who cannot see why the reduction of 100 to 50 is not a decrease of 100 per cent, if an advance from 50 to 100 is an increase of 100 per cent. The other day an article of merchandise which had been purchased at 10 cents a pound was resold at 30 cents a pound, a profit of 200 per cent., whereupon a writer in chronicling the depression, several invoices of the same class of goods which had cost over 30 cents per pound had been finally sold at 10 per pound, a loss of over 200 per cent., because this wipes out the whole investment. An advance of from 10 to 30 is a gain of 200 per cent; but a decline from 30 to 10 is a loss of only 65⅔ per cent.

SECOR MOTOR EXPLAINED.

How the Gases are to be Exploded and thus Drive the Eureka on her Way.

New York Tribune.

Mr. Secor's little craft, the Eureka, which was launched recently from Poillon's shipyard, in Brooklyn, sits in the water like a duck. All that wonderful machinery which, according to its inventor, is to revolutionize the marine world is in its place. This renders her a bit "down by the stern," but when the water tanks and other things that are to be stowed forward are in place she will be buried to her water line. She is a perfect copy of the steamship America, reduced "eight diameters," as a microscopist would say. Her builders hope to have her in order for a trial trip by New Year's day. Through her main hatch an upright tubular boiler can be seen, but the rigidly enforced order, "No admittance," prevents further examination of her machinery. In substance the latter consists of the following parts:

The steam furnished by the boiler is supplied to one or more little engines which drive an air compresser, a rather complicated system of valves and a little dynamo. The hydro-carbon gas can be manufactured on board—by vaporization of petroleum by a jet of steam or air, for instance—or a supply can be taken from the shore and stored in tanks. The rest of the machinery consists of a hollow metal globe of great strength, and two sets of heavy metal pipes leading from the globe to the sides of the vessel. One set curves backward so that the discharge from their mouths is toward the stern of the vessel. The other set curves in the opposite direction and, by the aid of ports which partly open, the gases rushing out from them are directed forward. The action of the former will manifestly be to drive the vessel forward, while discharges from the latter will drive her backward. Two valves are so placed that whenever one set of conduits is in connection with the globe the other is cut off.

The hollow globe has two inlets and one outlet, all controlled by valves, which are worked by the same mechanism. The first inlet admits compressed air from the reservoir. The second inlet admits gas from its reservoir. The outlet permits the contents of the globe to flow into the conduits described above. There is also a circuit of wires along which a current is sent by the little dynamo. It either produces a voltaic arc at the inner ends of the conduits, like that of an ordinary arc light, or it heats a small piece of platinum wire red-hot by an action similar to that which produces the incandescent light.

The action of the whole apparatus is as follows: The two inlet valves are opened at the same time by the valve mechanism, while the outlet valve is closed. Gas and compressed air then rush into the globe and mix in the proportion which shall be found to give the best results in explosion. Then, by a reverse action of the mechanism, these two inlet valves are closed simultaneously. The instant that is accomplished the outlet valve is opened and the highly explosive mixture of gas and air pours out into the conduit. Here it comes in contact with the glowing platinum wire or in the intense heat of the voltaic arc, and an explosion is the result. The gases thus formed then rush out of the conduit, driving the water in one direction and the boat in the other.

This is the mechanism as originally designed. Some changes may be made in the details before the boat comes to be a working success. Many changes will undoubtedly have to be made before it reaches its highest efficiency. Some hitherto unseen but practically insuperable difficulty may arise which will utterly destroy its usefulness. The principle seems to be feasible. The working details, in the original plan at least, present some bad points. The valve motion is complicated and liable to get out of order. It is not positive in its action; that is, the valves are closed by the aid of springs and worked by ratchet gearing. Any or all of these may fail to do their duty at the most important moment. In case of such failure—say, for instance that the explosion should occur before the valve which shuts off communication with the gas reservoir had closed, and the whole should be ignited—affairs would take an unpleasant turn for those on board.

Inquiries still continue to pour in upon the builders. The other day the Government at Berlin cabled its representative at Washington to investigate the matter, and altogether its possibilities as a system of propulsion for war vessels are attracting much attention.

SNOW STORM.

Severe Weather Throughout the Northwest.

CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—A severe snow and sleet storm which has been raging throughout the Northwest since Saturday has seriously interfered with telegraph wires in all directions. All the lines west of here are down and communication East is very uncertain.

A dispatch from Sioux City, Iowa, last night, reports a blizzard there. It has been snowing and blowing steadily since Saturday and there is already snow to the depth of a foot on the ground and no signs of the storm abating.

At Des Moines and Omaha heavy snow storms are reported, and a St. Paul dispatch reports similar storms throughout Minnesota and Dakota.

The cold wave signal is flying from the Signal Service building here.

There were all the evidences of a coming storm; the very air vibrated with the odor of danger! but when the kind father took from his pocket a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup then came a calm, for the baby had the croup and would now get well.