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do not pay a penny of this self-assumed tax. Men pay for luxuries and ought to do so.

There is no wiser, better tax on earth than that levied on these vices and unnecessary personal indulgences. The best of all revenues is that derived from taxing the luxuries, and because it is the easiest paid.

To blot out the tax on needless and costly luxuries and put the whole burden of revenue to support the Government upon a Tariff system is to insure for all time a continuance of the taxes on the poor man's necessities of life. The Star does not choose to favor such an economical system as that.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR JUNE. In the month of June the deaths in Mobile showed a death-rate of 28.44 in the 1,000 for the year; New Haven showed 14.1; Hartford, 17.7; Waterbury, 13.1; Wilmington, Del., 9.9; Savannah for April, May and June, population 44,831, ratio of deaths per 1,000 per annum, 42.4; Chicago, 20.8; St. Paul, 10.4; Minneapolis, 10.07; Baltimore, 21.06; New York, 20.85; Toledo, 8.41; New York, population 1,439,000, death rate 22.7; Brooklyn, population 690,000, rate 10.07; Philadelphia, population 971,363, rate 17.9; Pittsburgh, 18.6; Providence, population 130,000, rate 16.6; Memphis, 22.55; Nashville, 20.79; Knoxville, 17.69; Richmond, population 75,000, rate 23.52; Lynchburg, 19.3; Milwaukee, population 160,000, death rate 17.83. These reports are for June, with the exception of Savannah.

Forteen large British cities show a rate of 20.3; Hull lowest, 16.6, and Dublin highest, with 25.6. Other cities vary. For instance, Bristol showed 16.7; London, large as it is, but 17.1; Leeds, 19.1; Birmingham, 19.6; Edinburgh, 10.2; Belfast, 24.2; Glasgow, 24.7, and Manchester, 25.2. On the Continent we copy some few of the statistics for large cities: Amsterdam, 23.3; Hague, 10.9; Paris, 24.9; Lyons, 24.2; Marseilles, 37.7; Havre, 30.0; Berlin, 25.8; Hamburg, 28.4; Leipzig, 21.9; Cologne, 25.8; Frankfurt, 21.8; Nuremberg, 38.6; Strauburg, 30.5; Vienna, 29.0; Prague, 37.3; Copenhagen, 23.9; Stockholm, 23.4; St. Petersburg, 38.5; Warsaw, 29.5; Odessa, 35.0; Venice, 38.5. We have collected these instructive statistics from that excellent health journal, the New York Sanitarian for August.

SOUTHERN OPINION MISREPRESENTED. The Memphis Avalanche is owned by Mr. Phelan. It is a very extreme Protectionist sheet. How its readers can stand it, three-fourths of whom cannot possibly favor the cardinal doctrine of the Republican party—Protection, is more than we can understand. Now the owner of the paper is a Kicker, and is running against the regular Democratic nominee in the Memphis District, Col. Patterson. When Mr. Phelan, the Kicker, was arraigned for the utterances of his paper what did he say? Like an honest man did he face the music and defend the Protectionist utterances of his own paper? Not a bit of it. He is reported as denying all responsibility for the sentiments of the Avalanche, and declared he was opposed heart and soul to a Protective Tariff and the Blair bill, which is extremely unpopular in Tennessee. The Nashville American, a paper of a very different stripe, says that this disclaimer may not shield Mr. Phelan from popular resentment because of the false teachings of his paper, and it points out that "in the Congressional district where the Avalanche is most widely known and read," no man suspected of sharing the paper's views can hope to receive a Democratic nomination for office.

It is known that such able papers as the Augusta Chronicle, Atlanta Constitution, Macon Telegraph, Mobile Register, Chattanooga Times, Birmingham Age, New Orleans Picayune and Times-Democrat are very pronounced advocates of Protection, and yet no avowed Protectionist can go to Congress from the Districts in which these papers are printed and circulate. In Louisiana every mother's son who bolted the Morrison bill to reduce taxation under the Tariff will be left at home, it is said. In Alabama Mr. Martin, a Randallite, has been superseded. In the territory around Atlanta no Protectionist can go to Congress from the Districts in which these papers are printed and circulate. In Louisiana every mother's son who bolted the Morrison bill to reduce taxation under the Tariff will be left at home, it is said. In Alabama Mr. Martin, a Randallite, has been superseded. In the territory around Atlanta no Protectionist can go to Congress from the Districts in which these papers are printed and circulate.

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come of old-fashioned Democratic principles in the "Old Dominion"? In North Carolina there are not probably 5,000 Protectionists in the Democratic party. We doubt if there are 500 who favor the retention of the burdensome, unequal and unjust War Tariff.

IT IS SO? The Washington Post says there is a "modicum of truth" in the general belief that "great men are tall." It says that great soldiers, orators, and politicians are above the average size of men, while the great authors are as a rule small. If this be so, and it may be, for we have not taken time to inquire into it diligently and thoroughly, then it shows that the men of mind—the thinkers who move the world—the men like Homer, Aristotle, Plato, Socrates, Cicero, St. Augustine, Dante, Bacon, Shakespeare, Milton, Goethe—Centenarii homines—the only intellectual great of all time are under the average size. Whether this be really true as a rule or no we know not. The Post says:

"Washington was a large man; so were Cortez, Charlemagne and Wellington; so were Webster, Clay, Tom Corwin, Tom Marshall, Lincoln, Chase, Sumner; so are Gladstone, Bismarck, Ferry, Cleveland, James G. Blaine and Gen. Sherman."

How about Machiavelli and Metternich and Talleyrand and Mirabeau, and Thiers and Guizot and other illustrious statesmen and actors of France? Bismarck is burly. The Post names among small men Bonaparte, Sheridan, Cicero, Aristotle, Bacon and Pope. It might have added DeQuincy, who was diminutive. It also says that Alexander Hamilton and Stephen A. Douglas were small men. It mentions among 200-pound editors who have been very successful the following:

"The elder Bennett, Thurlow Weed, James Watson Webb, Horace Greeley, Willard F. Storey, Murat Halsted, Joseph M. Whitehall, Alfred Joseph Pulitzer and Charles A. Dana—all fine specimens of full grown men."

But then there have been doubtless many very successful editors who were men under 150 pounds. The Post says the following well known Americans weigh 225 pounds each, namely, Joseph Cook, Henry Ward Beecher, Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, Mr. Moody, Roscoe Conkling and DeWitt C. Talmage. Alexander Stephens and Rev. Dr. Deems would be classed among the small men physically. We would like to see an exhaustive classification and know precisely how much there is in the prevailing belief. None of the greatest orators we have heard were small men. Clay, Mangum, Badger, Winter Davis, Webster, Miller, Kerr, Lowe, Hazzard, G. Leigh, and others we have heard, were men of full average or above.

A NORTHERN NOVELIST CRITICIZED. When Mr. Howells, the well known Northern novelist, a man of unquestioned power and a delightful writer often, became associated with Harper's Monthly as one of the editors, he began to discuss the novelists and how novels should be written. Being of the realistic school, he of course is a strong advocate of it, and tries to make it appear that it being so much the real and true art henceforth the great novelists of the past—Fielding, Scott, Thackeray, Bulwer, Dickens, Read—will be neglected, and writers like himself will be always at the fore. His views have been deservedly laughed at in England and are being punctured and discussed in this country.

As long as Howells remained a citizen of Boston and was identified with its reputation as the cultured center of the country he was not criticized by the papers of that city. But having shaken off the dust of literary mart, he is now discussed with a freedom that would be admirable if it did not betray some degree of revenge. Howells is now shedding the light of his bright mind on New York, and Boston is jealous it may be. But that as it may, Boston is handling his fictions and his art without gloves. The Post recently referred to him as absolutely dull, and in another issue it referred to his "new and strange doctrines concerning the present or future province of the novel," and that, too, after Boston had professed to be quite delighted through the years with his numerous stories illustrative of Boston, and New England life. We copy the following from the Post, premising that Mr. Thompson lives in the North, but is of Southern birth and served in the Confederate army. He is a man of high gifts—a genuine man of letters and a poet. The Post says:

"Mr. Murrie Thompson, who discusses Mr. Howells in a recent number of the Critic, may perhaps be set down as on the conservative side himself. Mr. Thompson does not admire the realists, and gives them several hard hits which we cannot help approving. He says—'very truly, as we think—that nothing but creative power is vital in fiction, and that the realistic method (so called) is a 'vogue,' and the claims of its apostles 'palpitations of a literary fashion whose enthusiastic generators imagine it to be eternal.' And to this excellent generalization he adds an especial definition which is apt:

"To speak frankly of Mr. Howells, I think he is a genius, but a specialist all the same, a genius holding a perfect mastery of his own field and its own method. His mistake is the mistake of all specialists—he imagines that his specialty covers the world—just as in science the analytical chemist imagines that the vanishing limit of calculus is grander, from all points of view, than the speculations of Laplace or the art of Michael Angelo, or the literature of Shakespeare. The mistake of Hugo—just as a photographer might like his picture better than those of Raphael or Correggio."

"This is a clear and succinct statement of the real value of the new 'realism.' The mistake made, as Mr. Thompson says, is in thinking that the single place represents the entire aspect."

The canvass between Bob and Alf in Tennessee is attracting tremendous crowds. It beats a circus "all hollow." They travel together, walk together arm-in-arm, and discuss politics with each other. Before a vast audience they will sit on the stage and entertain it with good music, for both are practiced fiddlers. In Tennessee they know nothing of violins. Here is a description of the two written from a Nashville special to the New York World:

"Robert and Alfred are both men of staid middle-aged intellect. Physically they are both striking, both heavily built, but 'Bob' is fully eight inches taller and of much more commanding presence. Both heads are large and well made, and set firmly on their shoulders. The eyes of both are black, those of Bob full of fire and spirit, while those of his brother are more quiet and less piercing. Their complexions are the same, swarthy, but the character of their features is very different. 'Alf' being phlegmatic and thoughtful, while his elder brother is lymphatic, magnetic, fond of brilliant colors, and full of a great stock, always being able to knock out argument with a funny story."

Berlin is the third city in size in Europe. It has 1,200,000, or not quite as large as New York. But it has 150,000 paupers and is happy. Only 2 per cent. of its inhabitants attend church. It is almost as heathenish as Pekin.

The Carolina Oil and Greasing Company. The Times-Union, of Jacksonville, Fla., says: "Col. E. R. Binkley, of Wilmington, N.C. and Mr. Ross, formerly contractor on the jeties at the mouth of the St. John's river, have lately returned from Jacksonville, Fla. Ferdinandina with a view to finding a suitable location for works in which to carry on the greasing of timber for bridges, piles, etc."

These gentlemen are members of a company which has a capital stock of \$500,000. They are to erect a large factory on the jeties at the mouth of the St. John's river, and to carry on the greasing of timber for bridges, piles, etc."

The administration of the Bureau Veritas has just published the following list of maritime disasters reported during the month of July, 1886, concerning all flags: Sailing vessels—18 British, 2 Danish, 4 French, 2 German, 1 Greek, 3 Italian, 4 Norwegian, 3 Swedish. Total, 51. In this number are included 9 vessels reported missing. Steamers reported lost—6 British, 1 Norwegian, 1 Spanish. Total, 8. Causes of loss—Sailing vessels—Stranding, 27; collision, 1; fire, 2; foundered, 1. Steamers—Stranding, 4; collision, 1; fire, 2; foundered, 1. Total, 8.

The Cotton Outlook. The following letter to the editor of the Star will be read with interest by those who handle the "fleece staple." While the weather during the next thirty days may have considerable influence on the crop, the position of Messrs. Latham, Alexander & Co. seems to rest on a sound and conservative basis.

NEW YORK, Sept. 15, 1886. DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 13th inst. is at hand. We take a cheerful view as to the outlook, and reported that the rate of consumption is as you say large, and stocks of goods in first hands are moderate. Accounts from the crop are not so good as were at this time last year; leading most persons to believe that this crop will fall a quarter million bales under the last year's total. The total visible supply is smaller than it has been for years past at this date. Spinners in Europe are said to have larger stocks of cotton on hand than they had at any time in the past; but this is probably owing to the fact that their prospective needs are greater and because they regard cotton as a commodity the rate of which is exaggerated. All things taken into account we think that cotton at the present price, 9.80c for January, is already cheap enough. This so far from going to the present level. Such, too, seems to be the opinion of the majority now, for the market has been decidedly firmer, and we hear no more predictions of extremely low prices.

LATHAM, ALEXANDER & CO. At Seat. The death of Mrs. Sallie Norment MacRae, which occurred at the residence of her mother, Mrs. C. K. Price, in this city yesterday afternoon, is a sad blow not only to her relatives, but to many devoted friends. She possessed a happy combination of all those beautiful traits which make up the true and noble woman, and her loss will be keenly felt by loving relatives and friends and by the church of which she was a most exemplary and consistent member.

Mrs. MacRae was the widow of the late Mr. Robert J. MacRae, whom she married during the war. She was a bride of but a few weeks, her lamented husband having been seized with a fatal sickness before his wedding-day had passed.

Cotton Receipts. Receipts of cotton at the port of Wilmington so far this month have been small as compared with the corresponding period last year, owing to the season being from two to three weeks later. The receipts, as against 8,221 the corresponding week last year; for the month to date (September 18th) the receipts amount to 970 bales; for the same period last year they were 4,743 bales—a decrease of 3,773.

THE RICE CROP.

Planters Busy Harvesting—A Good Yield of Excellent Quality Promoted. Rice planters are busy harvesting their crop, for which the weather so far has been favorable. Despite the heavy rains in the early part of the season the summer on the whole was a propitious one for rice planters, and the general outlook now is for a good crop and of fine quality, in the Cape Fear section.

The crop in South Carolina is also in good condition. It is later than usual, and is not such a heavy crop as was harvested last year. The Louisiana rice crop is reported remarkably good in condition also, and the estimated harvest is put down at 800,000 sacks of rough rice, if not more. The receipts at New Orleans the past season completed 889,212 sacks of rough and 57,923 barrels of clear rice. The amount of the new crop received thus far this year compares favorably with that of last year, and is 1,197 bales of clear. The market for Louisiana rice opened one cent lower than it did last year.

Northern dealers say the difficulty now among rice men is to get a supply of inferior rice. It is all good. Some dealers have determined to put old rice forward as a cheap grade and use the new for prime. An interesting subject to Southern rice growers is the foreign rice trade. Ground foreign, by the well known tariff inequality, is permitted to be entered a twenty per cent. duty, while the same thing whole is dutiable at nearly one hundred per cent. This is ground in Liverpool, England, and has a good sale. Among certain industries it is almost indispensable. Owing to the amount of starch contained in it, bakers by a poorer class of flour, and by mixing it with this rice, in certain proportions, they may raise the quality of the flour to that of the finer flours. It is also used by the manufacturers of yeast powder. Brewers use some grades of this rice. It is more effective than either corn, wheat or potato starch, because it is pure rice, simply ground up, and the others are treated to numerous chemical processes. Considerable effectiveness is lost in these by the process of fermentation. The powder, which is used in a body for their product, and for sizing it has a large use among bleachers, cotton mills and print works, and is becoming a distinct branch of the trade.

Robeson County Democrats. The County Democratic Convention that assembled at Lumberton on the 16th inst., was the largest since the war. The following ticket was nominated: Representatives—H. McMillan, D. C. Regan. Clerk—O. B. Townsend. Sheriff—F. J. Floyd. Treasurer—W. P. McDiarmid. Register—S. W. Bennett. Coroner—D. M. McMillan. Surveyor—J. M. Biehl. All of the old county officers were re-nominated.

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CHARLESTON.

More Slight Shocks—Applications for Relief in Rebuilding—A Contribution for the Relief of the Victims of the Earthquake. Letter from Hon. Simon Cameron—The Relief Fund \$30,118.

CHARLESTON, September 18.—There was an earthquake shock yesterday, at 2.20. It was unaccompanied by any great rumbling or detonation and was only noticed by falling down of walls in spots to be regarded as caused by an earthquake. There has not been a shock in some days worth reporting.

The Relief Committee has issued over a thousand forms of application for assistance in rebuilding houses. Attention has recently been directed to the character of the mortar used, consisting largely of sand, and the City Council will probably take action on the subject to prevent "Buddensness" in the future.

CHARLESTON, September 18.—Ex-Senator Simon Cameron, in a letter forwarded to the State Convention and null and void of no avail. A preliminary mandamus is ordered requiring the defendant, Miller, to be removed from the County Superintendent of Smyth County under the resolution, to be signed by the board, but the defendant, W. Pendleton, the Superintendent displaced. This decision covers all School Superintendents in the State who have been removed by the Board of Education.

NOVA SCOTIA, Sept. 16.—The trial of the Exchange National Bank cases in the U. S. Circuit Court was continued to-day by the joint consent of the prosecution and defense, to the November term of the same Court. DAVENPORT, September 18.—P. D. Spencer, the defendant in the fight between the Martinsville street fight, between the Terrys and Spencers, was tried to-day for assault with a dangerous weapon. Four of the participants of the fight have now been tried and acquitted. The feeling in the county against the Spencer party is intense.

NEW YORK. The Terrible Bellingham Collision on the N. Y. & N. E. R. R. Between the Persons Killed—Fixing Responsibility for the Accident. BUFFALO, Sept. 16.—The list of killed in the Bellingham collision, which was further swelled to nineteen by the finding of three more passengers, mangled beyond recognition, is now supposed to be complete. The report of the disaster has been settled as nearly as possible pending a full investigation. Engineer Brown, who was in charge of the train, from him, addressed to the editor, appeared in this morning's Express. The letter bore no date and the postmark on the envelope was that of the Bellingham on the Lake Shore train. In it he says:

"I see that it is reported that I ran away from the wreck and did not assist in the rescue. I have not run away, nor do I intend to; but in jumping from my engine I hurt my back and hip, and as I was unable to assist in the rescue, I regret to say that I did not do so. In regard to my stopping at Silver Creek, I did stop and took on passengers. Unfortunately the train was delayed by the statements of visitors from different parts of the land after personal observation. I know here and there and report all the press of the United States to give this proclamation the benefit of its far-reaching character."

CHARLESTON, September 18.—Contributions continue to come in for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake, but at best they cannot cover one-tenth of the actual loss. For the relief of the sufferers the Relief Committee is classifying applications and will deal first with cases of widows and of those who are unable to support their families. A scarcity of skilled bricklayers and plasterers, and high wages, have caused the contractors, and many citizens are determined to let plastering lie over until the return of a normal condition of affairs. The contractors are unable to get the necessary quantities of material at the current prices, and there is room for hundreds more.

The Subscribers Committee submitted an elaborate report to-day. They show that an equal number of white and colored canvassers are employed who visit daily in all parts of the city and report all persons needing rations, which rations are then delivered at residences. The committee recommends that the distribution of rations be continued until about October 1st, and that then accommodations at the city almshouse be augmented. The committee also recommends that the relief of sufferers by the earthquake with the out-districted, all classes being placed upon an equal footing. The only question asked is 'How long will it take to rebuild?'

THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE HURRICANE EVER KNOWN IN THE STATE. By Telegraph to the Morning Star. LANSING, Sept. 18.—A hurricane which swept through the Southwestern Michigan Thursday evening was the most destructive ever known in the State. Lerawan, Clinton, Livingston and Wayne counties were the chief sufferers; but serious damage has been reported at other points. At Brighton, barns were blown down, and the German Lutheran Church blown from its foundation. In Victor township, Clinton County, houses and barns were wrecked and scattered broadcast. At Howell, the greatest fury was apparent; buildings were literally torn to pieces, and many of the houses were blown down. The cloud resembled a huge wheel in the western sky and moved with westerly rapidity.

VIRGINIA.

A Delegation from Winchester to Attend a Celebration of the New Hampshire Veterans—Decision of the Supreme Court Concerning Superintendent of Schools—The Spencer-Terry Murder Trials at Martinsville, Va.

WINCHESTER, Sept. 16.—A number of citizens headed by the Union Cornet Band seventeen pieces, left for Martinsville, Va. on Monday morning to attend the celebration of the New Hampshire Veterans Association on next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at Winchester, New Hampshire. All are guests of the Association and left in anticipation of a royal