FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS. road, who has been guilty of systemat-

the Venerable B. F. B. Once More in the Role of a Reformer ... The Committee on Rules Heard From. SENATE. At the conclusion of the reading of eurnal yesterday, Thurman rose and said there was evidently no quoum present and no probability that

ness to be transacted: Butler introduced a bill to authorize the United States to secure the title to c rtain military and timber reservations. Referred to the Committee on

me would be obtained. He therefore

moved an adjournment, but withdrew

the motion to allow the following busi-

SENATE AND HOUSE.

Military Affairs. Morrill offered a resolution which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Public Buildings to inquire as to the necessity for enlarging the site on the south side of the bestding for the bureau of engraving and printing and

the probable cost thereof.

The Vice-President appointed Voor-... ne, as a committee to investigate ause of the negro emigration from Southern to the Northern States. Luceman renewed the motion for irnment and at 12 20 the Senate admed until Tuesday, January 6, 1880.

Mr. Blackburn, of Kentucky, from committee on rules, submitted a cosed revision of the rules and the was the unanimous report of the comtime. After a short discussion as to is time for considering the report of ommittee of rules, it was ordered to printed and recommitted and make the special order for the 6th of amounty, and from day to day thereto the exclusion of every other

of Vermont, L. rates of Massachusetts. | Diendships As I is broad. Knowle Islands, Broaders, of his I. hardson, of South to ....... and

After the announcement by the Significant a number of thinges in the inditees, Kennagor Wast Virginia, period a bull known as the "Steam" out which was made the special order for the wearing I need to be for a view, the Moose then all other of the

totten treular. Now York, Learnier D. No it spis at all 1 . S. ports. I de warrie. Not receipts at all U. S. p. rts. entire work last year. I mre-emple to this cale, - S- 111 M. F. A. sathic " net near. I sports for the week. "same week last year, 11s, he I be experts to this date, Mar. Take same date last

Sink at all U.S. ports, Sink at all ports same date 202,156 Now at all interior towns, " same 175,061 late last year.

> - k at Liverpool, same date Sink of American affoat terest Britain.

S - k of American affoat reat Britain same time last

# Illinois Politics.

CHI A00, Dec. 19.-The Democratic State Central Committee met lifty prominent Democrats from various parts of the State to decide on a plan for arranging the State campaign.

John H. Oberly, of Springfield, introduced a resolution which caused an acomonous debate of four hours, condemining any frauds whereby the will of the people is subverted by National or State authority or individuals. The meeting voted down the amend-

ment exempting the Maine case from the provisions of the resolution, and then defeated the resolution.

# Silver Certificates not Money.

Washington, Dec. 17.-In reply to inquiries from the Chase National Bank of New York city, the Controller of the t ucrency has written a letter in which he says: "The only legal tender quality that sliver certificates have is that they are receivable for customs, taxes, and all public dues. Section 3 of the Act or Congress passed February S, 1878.1 There is no authority of law for count-1 2 so ver certificates as part of the lawin money reserve which National Unrice are required to bold id:

# Afghan stan Uniters.

that several they said to lors are threatening it and thrown a problemses on the links. General Garantias only att days provisions.

franciess attempt to kill Prince Daigne, there was no isovement of the musrouse, towernor of Moscow. of £ 30 annihally to the wiscon, and £100 | country squeezed him so tight that he

( alital.

#### A New Scientist. Lastons, Dec. 19, Mr. James Macs

I an, of the Saint Rolley Chemical Works, has intermed the Glasgow Photosophical Society that after experimer is since Iwo, he has successed in of taining the crystalized forms of carbut, which Professors Lyndall and Smith, and Mr. Maskeiyn, of the Britsail tituscum, do not cloude are diamonda.

### our Skeleton Army.

NIW YORK, Dec. 19 .- A special from t breagn says that Captain W. S. Tremaine, of the Ninth Infantry, was shot | smilingly, and the infant put its little and slightly wounded day before yes- arms around his neck. terday in that city by Major J. H. Smith, of the same regiment. The trouble is supposed to have grown out of attentions paid by Tremaine to Smith's wife.

# Another Mail Robber.

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 19.-Special detective George B. Chamberlain, of the fostal service, has been arrested in this city a negro named Isaac Carter, a train | 000. He disappeared some days ago hand of the Richmond & Danville rail-

ic depredations upon the mails. Proofs are complete and the negro is in jail. Mr. Chamberlain has been working DAILY PROCEEDINGS OF THE up the case for several weeks.

### A Lunatic's Work.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 19.-Last night an unknown man, supposed to have been insane, entered the eastern railroad depct at Saco, Maine, and although he was shot and wounded by the watchman, he kicked over the stove and demolished the lamps, -etting fire to the building which, with the freight house and shed attached were burned. The remains of the lunatic were found in

### HORACE GREELEY'S PRECEPTOR.

# A Chat with the Man Who Taught the Sage of Chappaqua to Stick Type.

St. Louis Republican. Mr. Ansell Warren, one of the oldest printers and newspaper publishers in the county, called at the Republican office Wednesday to look at the Hoe perfecting press, the latest wonder in toe way of printing machinery. After inspecting the press Mr. Warren naturally dropped into conversation, bringing up reminiscenses of his early experience. He is now in his eighty-first year, having been born in 1788. In 1812 e worked in the Reveille office at Elixabethtown, N. Y., forty-seven miles from Pittsburg. The editor was Wilham Ray, a Connecticut Yankee, given to rhyming. Ray afterward entered the navy and was captured by the Algerine pirates, who held him enslaved two years. Ezra C. Gross, afterward a member of Congress, was the next editor of the Recodle, In those days Mr. Warren says they used to ink the

STUFFED BALLS made up like cushions. He gives uumerous incidents of the war of ISI: act in regard thereto, stating that it | which fell under his observation, Subsequently he went to Poultney, Vermont, and took charge of the Northern Spectator in that place, While Mr. Warren was publishing this paper an exceedingly awkward, green and gawky country boy came to the office and applied for a situation as an apprentice. His name was Horace Greeev. His father had just moved to West Haven, a village near Poultney, and the coungster wanted to be a printas a like 12, of Louis, ma, chairman, ler. He was engaged and took service sing-con, of Liances, Whitthorne, of for the period of four years, and thus Horney tirectey began a career which on Lurner, of Isonthus, Na holls, of Jahrerward led to the highest eminence Coorgas, Hulbardson, of New York, in the journalistic profession. Mr. hung about his office, M. Latitte re-Page, of Cautorius, to go r, of Michie Warren says the new apprentice was gar, Free of Manie & Hisskell of the most students and persistent worker be ever saw. There was anthe Stanset tooks, setel the fels other apprentice named O. A. Biwe, and a communities of the Yorkinskir which had been honger in the office and as at remail the or at Aramon, Hall. for whom toroney established a strong | the war with Germany. An American

Freguenical New Jersey, Luck, of Petins have all sorts of competitive from the at Variate Martin, of Deciving, Taibot, casionally the original would have to cot Maryland, Davis, of Nation to rolling, separate them during the frogress of an argument, I at generally they were a very good humored pair. Mr. Warren sats the first attempt Greelev ever made to write anything for publication came about in this way. Semelasty had send to the other a monstrous. somewhat a specimen of farm products; and several of these employed about the office wrote descriptions of it, the under estanding being that the best account would be published. Greeley was among the competitors, but was not successful. His squash item went into the waste basket. Shortly after the publisher of a paper, the Iris, published in a town near by, offered a premium for the best story contributed. Greeley competed, sending in a story about General Stark, and though he did not get the prize, his story was published, and that was the first composition of his that ever appeared in print. His friendship for Bowe lasted long atter he had become emment and prosperous, and Mr. Wa ren also had letters showing that in later years Mr. 814 312 Greeley did not forget the employer who had first given him instruction in the craft he afterward mastered with

# Grant's Hand-Shaking.

The following incident of tiraut's visit to Philadelphia, is taken from the Philadelphia Record From the Nation's Birthplace to the Cradle of Liberty was but a short jaunt, Here the people, the rank and file of the populace, were on hand to enjoy the privilege of personally greeting the tieneral and taking him by the hand. While this ceremony is a very tedious one to the person who has to be shaken, it is something which people will talk of and speak of for years to come. In the dim future, when the General's bair will be whitened by age, men will tell of the day they shook hands with Grant, just as an old veteran remarked to the General yesterday, as he grasped his hand: "I shook hands with Lafayette in 1824." That was a red-letter day in that man's life, just as vesterday was in the hum-drum venture of the lives of some three thousand persons who grasped the hand of the hero of Appomattox.

terant has probably shaken hands with more people in the last four years than any other man that ever lived did in the same time. He has shaken hands with the whole world, and has mastered the thing so well that there is about as much satisfaction shaking hands with him at a public reception as there would be to touch the hem of his

TILDEN, HAYES AND BRANT AS SHA-

The coldest and most unsatisfactory man to shake hands with in America is Samuel Jones Tilden. To clasp his hand is equal to embracing a pump bandle on a frosty morning. Hayes is mak and becase it they had met a long lost friend, Grant is a compromise between the two. As he stood in Independence. Hall his dignified, reserved manner showed itself plainly. The lines about A S. Petersturg disjute's reports a bis mouth were strongly marked, and cles to evence pleasure or displeasure, The government has granted persons | except when a strong youth from the to the mother of the late Sir Louis | winced, and then looked down toward | ing of the holidays-Christmas weath-Cavagnare, who was marrieded at his boots to see whether they had gone in the direction of the disappearing | snow; and the weather is coat tails of the rash young man. He appeared as near an automaton as it is passible for a man to be and yet have being. When the doors were thrown open the crowd surged in.

"God bless you, General," fervently exclaimed an old lady, vigorously shaking the tieneral's hand. Among others was an old colored woman, with an ammense black bou-

net, who curtesied low as the General took her hand.

#### "KISS MY BABY, GENERAL." "Kiss my baby, General," said a lady

with a rosy-cheeked infant in her arms.

The General complied with the request When he had shaken for thirty-five minutes, the General asked for a rest, and stepping back from the line he refused to shake any more, but spent the

rest of the time in bowing to the people as they filed before him.

#### A Vacant Space. PEORIA, Dec. 19 .- Thomas Neill, a heavy coal dealer, has failed for \$300,-

and his whereabout is unknown.

# THE BURNING GINS.

#### STILL MORE COTTON CONSUMED AT WARREN PLAINS.

Lacendiarism Rife-Two Gins Burned During the Week -- Time for Prompt Action.

Special Dispatch to the News,

WARREN PLAINS, Dec. 19-9:15 P. M. -To-night the cotton gin house of Fleming & Co., situated near this station, was destroyed by fire. There was not much cotton destroyed, but this was owing to the foresight of the firm in stowing it at a safe distance. The first that was observed was that the gin house was in a sheet of flame, and the denizens went promptly to the scene. What cotton was stored in proximity to the burning building was quickly removed. The damage at these advices cannot be estimated, but is confined to the building and machinery.

Three nights ago the gin house of J M Fitts was burned. These occurrences following so closely after other burnings in this section, would give strong color to the i lea that they are not accidental. The general destruction of property not being confined to cotton alone shows that the incendiary's torch must have been applied in nearly every

### EUGENIE'S MOTHER.

#### How She Acted Before Her Daughter was Exalted to a Throne.

The extraordinary vicissitudes of fortune of the late Comtesse de Montijo are much talked about in Paris. M. Latitte of the Voltaire remembers to have seen the mother of the ex-sovereign of France with this exalted lady some years previous to her assumption of the imperial purple, waiting patiently in the ante-chamber of the Nestor Roqueplan for gratis tickets for the opera, which they had come to solicit, The manager of the opera house did not pay the Spanish ladies the attention of asking them to step into an inner with the mob of queer characters who spected the late comtesse for her clever generalship in securing a crown for daughter. He thinks that, if the poor old lady had not been ordered to leave Paris, France might have been spared correspondent writes to inform London Touth that at one period of her roving career the countess made a halt in Brussels, and set up there a small millinery stere. General Hancock, author of "Christ, the Spirit," used to deal with her for the finisies which he sent to the ladies of his family in the United States. He flattered himself that the noble tradeswoman had "a head and heart apprehensive of the truths set forth in that work."

### STATE NEWS.

[Correspondence under this head is furnished by regular contributors to the News.

### FORSYTHE.

WINSTON, Dec. 18 .- The weather has been variable for the last four days, giving us some rain, sleet, cold rain, fair cold weather, and now fair warm weather.

Trade is still splendid. Hog killing is the order of the day now, both in town and country, each vieing with the other as to heavy

weight porkers. A patent medicine, corn-destroying, wart-lifting, pale face man is on our streets selling a drug possessing, according to his diction, qualities surpassing in potency even Doctor-cele-brated "Ty-coon oil." Since Mr.located in our town, he has dropped the title of M. D., and has ungenerously withheld from the needy public the celebrated "Ty-coon oil." He was canvassing North Carolina with this oil when he first came to Winston, and as most all other scientific and sensible men do, who visit our at tractive little city, became enamored of our c.ty, dropped his oil, M. D., and itinerancy and became a citizen, and one too, by the way, of whom we are justly proud, for he is a poet and artist of no mean ability, and an auctioneer of the first water. On his first trip to Winston he stopped at Waughtown and there found a man suffering the most excrutiating jain, and when entreated to relieve the sufferer he decided to attack him with the"Tycoon, trusting to the theory that to relieve a man of a pain, you must inflict upon him a greater one. It acted like magic, and raised the patient with the rapidity of lightning and with shot gun in band it was a sharp race between him and the doctor to the Salem bridge. But

the doctor won the keystone, and like Tom Shanter, was safe. A negro man by the name of Tyler Hairston was found dead four miles from this place Monday morning. The coroner decided that his death was caused by falling from a horse. George Stegle was also found dead the same morning in the eastern part of the

Tobacco has been coming in abundantly of late and selling at high figures. This is a first class market and tobacco is shipped from here to quite a number of the leading manufacturing cities in

various parts of the United States. Dr. W. A. Berry is the proudest man Luxuas, Dec. 14 A Labore despatch different. He is warm and cordial, and in Winston since William Fred has put say a that tremeral to be the lightle has makes every one who takes his hand in his appearance. It is his first and a boy, weighing nine pounds. Contracts to rebuild the burnt buildings have been let to Mr. H. A. Mclver, who will begin work at once. The damaged buildings have been refitted and are -now occupied.

#### BUNCOMBE. ASHEVILLE Dec. 16.—The weather is

such to-day as would foretell the com-

er-except that there is no not the only thing (besides the knowledge of the fact that they are coming) that would remind one of the nearness of their approach, for "What shall we do Christmas?" is the general topic and the incentive to action among quite a number of the villagers. All the churches are meaning to have some kind of an entertainment for its Sunday school children, but what an those entertainments will be I am not fully prepared to say. Will say, however,

that some of them are going to have

Christmas trees, and in the Methodist

dren with a magnificent "magic lan-

( hurch we are going to edify our chil-

tern" show-the pictures to be Bible illustrations. In the midst of its enjoyment the Methodist Sunday school, of this place. was, on last Friday, very much bereft by the death of one of its most attentive and favorite members, Miss Maggie Cowan. Miss Maggie was in the bloom of youth, twenty summers of age, and for that foul disease. consumption, to lay her in the grave, does indeed seem hard. but as we have unwillingly consigned her there, we will peacefully let her

#### will some day be in heaven, for she was undoubtedly a good girl. There are others in our midst quite

RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1879.

Considerable gratification among the people to know that the first engine has passed through the Swannanoa tunnel. It passed through yesterday.

No police or political news has occurred in this section for some days. The extra term of the Superior Court held for Haywood county terminated on last week, and many of the legal fraternity of Asheville are now attend-

ing Federal Court at Charlotte. Weddings are the order of the day. The Register, who issues licenses, is sick, but if those who seek for the nuptial certificate can give any consolation he has plenty.

#### GREENE.

WILLOW GREENE, Dec. 17 .- The weather is clear and frosty. Good rains the past week. Wheat is generally up and looking well. There has been a dearth in business owing to the fall in cotton, which is only worth 101 cents per pound now.

Mr. John Walston, who lives near Snow Hill, lost his dwelling house last week by fire. The cause of the fire is not known. Loss about \$2,000. No in-Rev. W. H. Call has returned to this

the Snow Hill Circuit, for the next Con-

ference year. A worthy preacher and a good circuit. Dr. Frank M. Rountree will leave Hookerton to-morrow morning for the city of Raleigh after his daughter, Miss Florence, and Miss Emma Carr, daughter of Mr. R. A. L. Carr, of this place, who are attending school at Peace Institute. They will spend Christmas

at home and then return. I attended a sale at the residence of the late Col. Owen Jones on yesterday. The property sold well, corn for instance, brought \$4.35 per barrel, cash. The negro exodus fever has abated

somewhat; a party left this county on Monday for Indiana. They arrived at Goldsboro and returned, the cause of the return is not stated by the party.

### THE WOMAN'S EXCHANGE.

# Great Success of the New York Insti-

tution-Extent of the Business. The New York Exchange for Woman's Work, a society organized for the benefit of needy gentlewomen, ago, with 30 articles for sale at a commission of 10 per cent. Since then the receipts for sales have amounted to over \$20,000, \$13,412 of which has been paid to consignors, \$5,313 for incidental expenses, leaving a balance in the treasury of over \$1,000. A very large order business has been done, besides keeping the rooms stocked with a great variety of beautiful articles for house, toilet and personal adornment. Hundreds of women who have seen better days have made it profitable to send the results of their industries to the exchange without the slightest publicity. One branch of this business is the sale of home-made cake, preserves and pickles, large orders coming for them even from England. Some rare old laces, historical china, etc., have been consigned also for sale by persons obliged to part with them, a number coming from the Southern States. The whole house, in which the society at present has only three rooms, is rented from May 1, and many new branches of industry are to be opened. The small commission "harged would not pay the expenses of the exchange. This is done from the subscription of \$5 a year o each of its members. Mrs. A. T. Stewart made a gift last year of \$500.

# AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

### A Faint Prospect That the Country May be Relieved of It and Le Duc More Expensive Than Useful.

Boston Herald. There is a faint prospect that the country may be relieved of the burden of Le Duc and the agricultural department. The committee on agriculture are discussing the propriety of reporting a bill abolishing the department entirely. Many of the committee regard it as an expensive humbug. Le Duc has added greatly to the unpopularity of the institution. A member of the committee is reported as saying that they would abolish the department in order to get rid of Mr. Le Duc. Mr. Covert of New York, chairman of the committee on agriculture, said to-day that he favored the abolishment of the department, and that a bill was being prepared with that end in view. He said that the department was far more expensive than useful, and that all the legitimate duties of the department could be better and more economically performed by other branches of the government. The expenses of the department have been constantly increasing, and without corresponding ben-

# Couldn't Cutit Short.

Letroit Free Press. A day or two ago a woman entered the telegraph office and said to the receiver of messages that she desired to telegraph her husband, who was in Chicago, for money. He pointed her to the counter supplied with blanks and told her the rate for ten words. She struggled away for a quarter of an hour, and then handed in the following: "Won't you please send me ten dol-

lars by next mail?" "I don't know whether that will do or not," she said, as she felt for her money. "If you were to receive such a dispatch from your wife, would you

forward her money?" "Well-well, I might," he replied in doubtful tones. "Now you wait! I don't like the

She tore it up, walked over to the counter, and in three minutes handed in a new one, reading: "Am out of food and fuel, and want ten dollars as soon as you can get it here! If you can't spare it I'll spout

the parlor carpet!" "That would bring the money from me," said the receiver, as he read the lines and marked the number of words. "Then I guess it will from him. Send it along, and if I don't get the money inside of two days you'll hear somebody ripping up forty yards of Brussels carpet off the floor!"

# Printing the Debates of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. - Senator Conkling to-day presented a proposal from Franklin Rives, of Washington. to print and bind the debates of Congress, and a memorial praying that the contract be awarded to him. He offers to print what is known as the Chargeessional Record under all regulations and governing this printing, the Govern-

book edition and to bind 'the same for 60 cents per volume. Mr. Rives asserts that he is and has been for the last six years ready to do the work for at least thirty thousand dollars less for each Congress than the

ment to furnish the paper, at the race

of 1 4-10 mills per printed page of the

#### office. Cypress Shingles

cheaper than ever before offered in R leigh for sale by Jones, ( reen & rest, with the full assurance that she | P well.

# THE TAX PAYER'S BOOM.

#### THE QUESTION AGAIN AGITATED IN THE SOUTHERNER.

The Democracy of the Thing ... Are the Figures Correct? And Other Matters Pertaining Thereto.

Correspondence Tarboro Southerner. LETTER NUMBER TWO.

Before the communication which appeared in your last was submitted to you for publication, a proof sheet had been sent in a confidential way to a large number of influential Pemocrats in various parts of the State, to obtain their judgment as to the propriety of publication, and if that was deemed advisable, with a request for suggestions as to amendments. The almost unanimous reply was, "Publish, of course! The Democratic party will support nothing that will not bear discussion." The suggestions made by them were incorporated and the corrected and revised copy was published by you. A copy of the unamended and unrevised proof sheet came into the hands of a paper that supported the 'subsidy" side of the question and was published by it. The statements put out by "Taxpayer" are intended for discussion and criticism, and should abide the same fate that is reserved for the "mud cut" appropriation, to wit: If they can not stand fair discussion and investigation, they should go under. But it is to be regretted that parties intending to criticise had not waited till the matter intended for discussion had been put out instead of publishing an incorrect proof-sheet submitted to friends for the very purpose of suggesting corrections.

So far as criticisms are concerned. they seem so far to fall under two heads. The first impeaches the Democracy of those who question "the right divine to rule" of "mud cut." They are like the heathen of old who thought to refute the truth as preached by Paul by "crying ont for the space of two hours, Great is Diana of the

Ephesians." We think we are taking the only step that can save the State to the Democracy by seeking to render this 'subsidy" a non-party question" A quasi-endorsement which we may have given the matter when the railroad was at Henry, is a very different matter from continuing the endorsement when we have gotten to Asheville, when we have experienced the expense and the uncertainty of railroad building across a mountain chain, and when the interest on the public debt is coming down to add to our burdens.

Those who cry out, "You'll split the party," remind us of Governor Vance's anecdote of the little boy who cried out to his father, "Pa, make Ben have himself." "Well, what's Ben doing?" 'Why, pa," replied the incipient mudcutter, "every time I hit him he hol-lers." So when the great tax-paying sections begin to move uneasily, these gentry, with their arms up to the elbows in our pockets, cry out, "'Have yourselves and hold still or you'll split the party." The Democratic party is made of stouter material. It is strong enough to do right, and it will take something stronger than the advocates of railroad subsidies to split this grand old party that has done so much for the rights of the people.

The second ground of attack of course is our figures. That the taxes paid by the seven counties through which the Ducktown Railroad is to be built is only \$8,637, or 1-60 of the State tax; that their total vote for Vance was 3,683, or about 1-35 of the Domocratic vote of the State; that the assessed value of their real estate was only \$1,768,000, or about one-sixth of what the railroad would ost from Asheville to Ducktown-these facts, and the similar startling figures as to the Paint Rock branch, seem undisputed. These facts can readily be seen by turning to the Auditor's Report for year ending Sept. 30, 1877, and the returns of the vote for Governor. Yet, it is upon these figures must turn almost entirely the question as to the proposety of building an expensive road, at the tax-payers' ex-

pense, in a poor country. They devote the energies of their attack upon the question of how much each year the State is spending, as it they can reduce the agony by spreading out the waste of money over a longer term of years. But let us examine these figures. The taxes raised by the tax list, by the aforesaid Auditor's Report for year ending Sept. 30, 1877, was \$518,000. One half of that is \$259,000. Now, this railroad subsidy is made up

of five items: 1. An annual and perpetual appropriation for iron of \$70,000, (see laws 1876-'77, p. 170.) Finding that the slowness of the work would not allow them to draw the full amount for iron, they got the last Legislature to allow \$20,000 of this to be used for "constructing and

operating. 2. The Legislature, by laws 1874-'75, 173, directed the re-purchase of the W. N. C. R. R., on which it had already lost \$4,400,000 of State bonds by giving \$850,0.0 of mortgage bonds on the road, bearing seven per cent, interest, the State paying the interest if the road did not, (which of course it does not) and thus there is another \$59,500 annually

drawn out of the public treasury. 3. Having put the State in for paying their interest, the mortgage bondholders next proceed to secure their principal by having the railroad pushed on, every dollar of the additional work of course passing under their mortgage as fast as added. An act is passed laws dispatch at all, because I tried to keep | 1876-'77, p. 170) giving the \$70,000 as it within ten words. I'll write anoth- above for steel or iron rail, and furnishng convicts to do the labor, the State to feed, clothe and guard them. The last Penitentiary Board Report p. 20, shows that the cash drawn out of the public treasury for that purpose on the N. C. R. R. was for two years ending Oct. 31st. 1878, \$98,126, or say \$49,000 per annum. Now we have in these three items cash, annually out of the treas-

Appropriations for iron, carts. Appropriation for interest - 59,500 Feeding clothing and guarding convicts on said work - - 49,000

Total cash - -

Nor is this all. 4. There is the value of the labor of the five hundred and eighty-eight able bodied laborers which the report shows to have worked on the road. This rail-

road work is generally paid high, and

the laborers are able bodied. In most

other States the convicts are hired out.

In Tennessee, after paying all expenses

me time, they brought in a net revenue of \$125,000, which reduced by that much the taxes of the people an I reimbursed to that extent the cost of convicting them Probably it is less now, but States that hire out their convicts get always a net revenue therefrom after paying expenses of clothing, guarding and feeding them. The Penitenreal cost at the Government printing | tiary Board Report, page 21, estimates that the work of these laborers was worth to the Western North Carolina \$101,000 per annum, or say \$52,000 above the \$49,500 paid for clothing, guarding and feeding. This \$52,000 would, if the convicts had been hired out to any-

body else, have gone as cash into the Treasury to reduce taxation. The \$49,-000 was considered high for feeding, clothing and guarding, and was reduced to \$41,000 by the last Legislature. But this makes no difference, for if the labor is worth \$101,000, and the clothing and guarding and feeding is reduced to \$41,000, the net revenue would be \$60,-000. So add to the \$178,500 the \$52,000 net revenue form labor which should go in the Treasury, and we've \$230,500. Now we come to the last item, which is the only one we have to quess at. By the act of 1874-75 one-half of the net earnings of the Western North Carolina Railroad were to go toward paying the interest on the mortgage bonds, as the State was only surety. Reports showing how much these net earnings were are not accessible. Under the management of W. A. Smith they were \$30, 000 per annum. It is to be presumed that under Maj. Wilson's excellent management they have not decreased. This \$30,000 is not a large net earning on a railroad one hundred and eighteen miles long and if not put into constructing the railroad (by stopping further constructing beyond Asheville would be available to reduce, \$30,000 of the outlay the State has been put to in the last five years and relieve taxation to

that extent. Add this \$30,000 and we

have a total of \$260,500, being over onehalf of the \$518,000 raised by the tax list in the whole State as above cited. But, it is said, the State is secured by a second lien. Space fails us to argue that point. Here is a property recently sold at public auction for \$200,000, now encumbered with a first mortgage of \$850,000 on which it is unable to pay any interest and a second lien is gravely argued as a good security. And that, too, when all the additions to the property come solely from the second lien holder, who is adding to his debt and the first mortgage holder's security, and is that most notoriously unprofitable of all work, to wit: railroad building in the mountains. There are some collateral points, such as Mr. Me-Aden's willingness for the tax-payers to go on and build the Paint Rock branch. As the Spartanburg road, and not the W. N. C. R. R., is to profit by building the connecting link in the Cincinnati & Charleston railroad known as the "Paint Rock branch," this is not surprising. But, if under these circumstances, the Spartanburg Railroad is not willing to build it when it will profit by it, ought the tax-payers of North Carolina and the Western N. C. the defenders to fire from. At the corners and at intervals along the walls Railroad), who will not profit by it, be willing to build it? The Spartanburg railroad people have declared themselves willing to build it, but it is true they were not then engaged in their present delightful occupation (which we will in time see on the Western N. C. Railroad) of the mortgage bondholders "freezing out" the men whose money built the road. A. TAXPAYER.

### VANDERBILL'S RAILROADS.

Report of the Central and Hudson River as Made to State Engineer. ALBANY, Dec. 17 .- The report of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, received by the State Engineer, is as follows: Capital at \$89,428,-300; funded debt, \$39,801,133,33; bonds and mortgages given or assumed by the company upon purchase of real estate, \$685,174.61; rate of interest on funded debt, 61 per cent. The total cost of road and equipment, by last report, was 509,-894,095.45; total cost, by present report, \$100,773,416.74; length of road from New York to Buffalo, 441 75-100 miles. The company own 61 engine houses and shops, 594 engines and 8 dummies, 364 first-class passenger cars, 95 secondclass passenger cars, 167 baggage, mail, and express cars, and 16,486 freight cars

of all classes. Lines owned: New York to East

Albany, and Albany to Buffalo. Total miles of track, 2,156 45-100. Lines leased: Troy and Greenbush; Niagara Bridge and Canandaigua, Spuyten Duyvil and Port Morris Junction (Buffalo), Syracuse Junction, New York and Harlem, and Lake Mahopac roads. Total miles of leased track, 35 4-100. This company have also operated the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley, and Pittsburgh Railroad, 104 miles, under lease from Dec. 1, 1872. The operations are not included herein, as separate accounts have been kept and a separate

report made. The number of passengers carried was 8,130,543; transportation expens s and maintaining roadbed, \$2,845,740.33; repairs of machinery, \$2,763,716.45; ope-

rating, \$10, 513,616.05. Receipts-From passengers, \$5,953,-101.94; from freight, \$18,270,250,38; from car service, \$1,023,037.41; from rents, \$1,209,889,45; from mail service, \$494, 447.78; from telegraph, \$672,043; from interest, \$382,444.23; from use of road, \$227,427.37; from miscellaneous, \$829,-

Payments - For transportation \$16, 123,072.83; for interest, \$2,749,761.14; for dividends (rate 8 per cent.) \$7,139,528; rentals of other roads, \$1,929,263.67; balance, \$454,957,96. The capital of the New York and

Harlem is \$10,000,000; subscribed, \$9,-450,000; paid, \$9,450,000; funded debt. \$106,173.29; bond and mortgage property, \$700,000. The following statement is of the city

road, the steam line being embraced in

the report of the New York Central and Hudson River road: Receipts-From passengers, \$496, 867.36; from other sources, \$123,921.83. Payments-For transportation, 8336,-

977.16; for dividends, \$283,500. The capital stock of the Central Park, North and East River Railroad Company has been erroneously stated as

### being \$1,500,000. It is \$1,800,000. The Situation in Russia.

Red lamps having been put on every house in St. Petersburg, as lurid tokens of official panic, the next new restriction is that every coachman, public or private, must servilely obey every order of a policeman, so that if a private coachman driving his master to the doctor's, or to church, is directed by a policeman to drive him to a secret prison, or into the country, or toward Siberia, he must obey without hesitation. Coachmen are also not to get off their sledges. Thus the terror of the roval household is to be visited on the whole people.

# Scarcity of Game in France.

Game is so rare in France this year that the sportsmen have recourse to strange expedients in order not to come home empty-handed. One is to buy half a dozen hares and to let them free in a meadow, after having carefully attached a collar to their necks, with the name and address of the owner legibly inscribed upon it. If the sportsman misses his mark, and gets away, its owner is sure of finding him again.

of clothing, feeding and guarding, at Each of Warner's Safe Remediesthe Safe Kidney and Liver Cure. Safe Pills, Safe Nervine, and Safe Bitters, is asserted to be the best of its class and the intention is to keep it so. If any medical expert can add an Ingredent which will improve any one of them, he will be paid a high price for the improvement.

# Billiard Table For Sale.

One new Nonpareil Novelty Carome Table, Brunswick & Balke make, for sale. Apply to M. Bills, City Bottling | half that amount. This accounts for Warks, Raleigh, N. C.

# THE AFGHANS IN ARMS.

THE MOUNTAIN STRONGHOLDS IN POSSESSION OF THE REBELS.

General Roberts Cut Off and Threatened by an Overwhelming Force of Natives.

London, Dec. 16.-The news from Afghanistan grows hourly more serious. It is feared that the tragedy of 1842 may be repeated, and the entire British force now in Afghanistan be annihilated. Private advices from Calcutta give a view of the situation far more alarming than the authorities have permitted to be made public. The Viceroy of Egypt telegraphs that communication with General Roberts is cut off. The natives have cut the telegraph wires near Rugdullak, and thus have intercepted all communication between General Roberts and his reserves. The situation is extremely critical. The whole of Afghanistan is in a state of violent agitation, and every mountain pass and stronghold is in the possession of armed insurgents. The tribes beyond Gandamuk are disputing the advance of General Gough, who is endeavoring to effect a junction with

General Roberts. The Duke of Cambridge is to-day in consultation with the members of the Administration staff at the Horse Guards, but it is fe.t that nothing can be immediately done to relieve General Roberts and his army from the extremely dangerous position in which they are placed. At last accounts Roberts had taken refuge in Shikar cantonment two miles north of Cabul. and there are grave doubts whether he will ge able to hold even this position unless speedily and strongly reinforced. His last report stated that the enemy in his immediate vicinity numbered thirty thousand fighting men, and that he is liable to be attacked at any moment by overwhelming numbers. The antonments of Shikar are surrounded by high brick walls, loop-holed, with an outer ditch. Behind the walls earth has been thrown up adding to their strength, and making a platform for are bastions for guns. The fortilication is a strong one, but the odds against the British are so great as to cause the gravest fears for the result of the at

LONDON, Dec. 18 .- Later and more detailed accounts of the situation in Afghanistan have just been received at the War Office. Lord Lytton telegraphs that General Roberts is in a strongly intrenched position, and has 7,000 offective men, 23 guns, and supplies for tive months. General Gough, in attempting to advance to reinforce Roberts, and meving from Rugdullak, has been stopped by a general uprising of all the tribes in his front, and his situation is perilous. A relief army, 10,000 strong, is now being massed at Peshawur. But the season is so far advanced that operations will be difficult, and spring may come before any effective

advance can be made. CALCUTTA, Dec. 17. - General Tytler after capturing Zawa, burned the town He then returned and encamped at Dagh. The Afghans were badly cut ap in the engagement. Remnants of telegraph wire and other British property found at Zawa show the complicity of the natives there in the recent out-

LONDON, Dec. 18. - A dispatch from Calcutta says General Roberts had received a warning of a general rising of the tribes, through some agents who had been sent to collect revenues some days before the appearance of Mahomed Jans' army at Cabul, but he refused to believe the advices received, and was

taken by surprise. The inhabita its of Cabul are disaffected, and are holding communications with the Afghans. The combined tribes number 60,000 men.

The Largest Sapphire in the World I have recently been favored with the sight of one of the famous jewels in the world-a stone that has its history and its pedigree, and is celebrated in the annals of the trade and in the annals of the noted gems of Europe; I have held in my hand and admired beneath the rays of the sunlight, the finest sapphire that is known to exist. This beautiful and well-nigh priceless stone combines in a singularly perfect degree, the leading qualifications of size, shape, color and water. In form, it is flat oval, being about two inches long by an inch and a half wide. It is cut slightly en cabochon on top, and into a multitude of small facets beneath. Its hue is perfect, being a warm, lustrous Marie Louise blue, not so dark as to show black beneath the gaslight, but having all the velvet softness and purity of tint that is required in a really fine gem of this description. Its weight is 300 carats, and it belongs to a noble and wealthy Russian family, in whose possession it has been for the past two centuries, and it has been placed by its owner in the hands of one of the great diamond merchants of Paris for safe keeping. One of the Rothschild family has offered for it no less a sum than \$300,000, but the offer has been refused. I asked the courteous gentleman in whose care it has been left as to the actual value of the stone. He told me that, being, as it was, perfectly unique, no precise value could be set upon it, but that he was inclined to estimate it at some \$400,-(60). He also showed me a string of enormous graduated pearls of extreme purity and fineness the center one was as large as a small cherry, and he told me that the necklace belonging to the noble Russian was composed of six strings of equal beauty and exceptional size. The great sapphire was inquited to be worn as a brooch, being surmounted with large diamonds of some 20 carats each. Its guardian informed me that the pendant belonging to this

#### they do not compare with this magniticent gem." - Paris Le . One Experience from Many.

brooch was composed of a large pear-

shaped sapphire weighing 60 carats, and

set in diamonds. The whole collection

of jewels belonging to this one family is

worth over \$2,000,000! "There is no

such sapphire as that largest one," con-

tinued my informant, "even among the

crown jewels of Russia. I furnished

myself two yery line ones to the em-

press, each weighing 60 carats, but

"I had been sick and miserable so ong and had caused my hashand so much trouble I and expense, no one seemed to know what ailed me, that I was completely disheartened and discouraged. In this frame of mind I got a bottle of Hop Bitters and used them unknown to my family. I soon began to improve and gained so fast that my husband and tamily thought it strange and unnatural, but when I told them what had helped me, they said 'Hurrah for Hop Bitters! long may they prosper, for they have made mother well

#### and us happy." "-The mother. Practical Economy.

Before Patapsco Baking Powders was patented and placed on the market, consumers had to pay 50 cents per pound for the Old Rut Powders. You can now buy Patapsco for about onethe popularity of Patapsco.