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Mecklenburg Times.

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VOL. I.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1889.

NO. 4.

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IN THE MARKET.

RATES VERY LOW.
Call on me when you come to Charlotte.
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STORAGE AND INSURANCE.
All farmers desiring to store cotton will
do well to call on the undersigned before
losing any contract; as I have excellent
facilities and will store and insure your
cotton at a charge of 25 cents per bale by
the month.

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At Alliance Cotton Office.

THE VANDERBILT WEALTH.

**IT NOW FOOTS UP TWO HUNDRED
AND SEVENTY-FOUR MILLIONS.**

The Annual Income from Interest Alone
Is Nearly \$14,000,000.—In Twenty-
five years the Whole Fortune Will
Amount to About \$1,000,000,000.—
Most of the Great Sum Invested in
Stocks and Bonds.

The combined Vanderbilt wealth
amounts to \$274,000,000, and the estimated
income from it per annum is
\$13,864,400. No other single family
in the world is so rich. If kept
intact the total fortune at the end of
twenty-five years almost reach \$1,000,-
000,000, and this result will be at-
tained by the simple arithmetical pro-
gression of compound interest. The
rapid increase of the Vanderbilt mil-
lions clearly shows how money begets
money.

If the combined Vanderbilt wealth
were all in one dollar bills the area of
paper would be just equal to the
amount of white paper required to
print 4,182,558 copies of the eight-
page world. If the bills were joined
end to end they would stretch out
31,321 miles, or, in other words,
would go a trifle more than once and
a quarter around the globe at its great-
est circumference.

A careful examination of the wealth
of individual members of the Vander-
bilt family makes the following ex-
hibit:

Cornelius Vanderbilt.....\$110,000,000
William K. Vanderbilt..... 85,000,000
Frederick W. Vanderbilt..... 16,000,000
George W. Vanderbilt..... 15,000,000
Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard..... 12,000,000
Mrs. William D. Sloane..... 12,000,000
Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly..... 12,000,000
Mrs. W. Seward Webb..... 12,000,000
Total.....\$274,000,000

Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt has
no fortune in her own name, contrary
to the general belief. She has an
annuity of \$200,000.

When William H. Vanderbilt died
he left a fortune, in round numbers,
of \$200,000,000. It is remarkable
how it has increased in the three
years that have elapsed since his
death. Old Commodore Vanderbilt
left his grandson Cornelius \$5,000,000
and his other three grandsons \$2,000,-
000 each. William K. operated ex-
tensively in the stock market five
years ago and, it was generally un-
derstood at the time, lost his entire
fortune which he had increased to
\$5,000,000. He was reported to have
received an allowance of \$70,-
000 a year from his father for his per-
sonal expenses thereafter and until the
death of the latter. About the time
of or shortly before the termination
of William K.'s disastrous experience
in Wall street Cornelius began specu-
lating and was reported to have lost
about \$3,000,000 of his fortune,
which had, however grown to \$8,000,-
000. The fortune of Frederick and
George Vanderbilt had also appreci-
ated in value, though not to the same
extent as the others. Frederick had
been very successful in stock specu-
lations and George had made highly
remunerative investments under the
direction of his father. Altogether,
there was in the family, outside of
William H. Vanderbilt's personal
fortune, \$12,000,000. Deducting that
amount, the wealth of William H.
Vanderbilt has increased \$69,000,000
since his death.

THE WAY THE MILLIONS HAVE GROWN.
The manner of the increase is both
plain and natural. In the first place,
the Vanderbilt estate was the best
invested in the world. Many of the
securities owned by the Vanderbilts,
for instance the Government bonds,
pay only 4 per cent.; but many others,
like railroad stocks and bonds, pay
from 6 to 8 per cent., so that an av-
erage of 5 per cent. is under rather
than over the correct rate of income
for the entire amount. Reckoning the
interest at 5 per cent. and compounding
it semi-annually, the natural im-
provement in the total wealth in the
past three years has been \$33,835,200
or, in round numbers, \$34,000,000.
The stocks of nearly all the Vander-
bilt roads have materially improved
in value. In some instances the im-
provement has been 25 per cent., in
others 20 and so on to a lesser rate.

In addition, profitable investments
have been made with the income.
Taken altogether, the increase in the
combined Vanderbilt wealth outside
of the interest easily reaches \$50,
000,000, which, added to interest
computed at \$14,000,000, makes up
the estimated gain of \$62,000,000
and \$2,000,000 more. The last
named sum is allowed for the personal
expenses of the Vanderbilts.

NONE SO RICH AS THE VANDERBILTS.
The wealth of the Vanderbilt family,
comprising only eight persons, is
greater than that of any other in-
dividual family in the world. The
Rothchilds are worth altogether
about \$1,000,000,000, but their
wealth is scattered among a great
many separate families and distant re-
latives. Cornelius Vanderbilt is the
wealthiest individual in the world.
The fortune of the richest individual
Rothchild is not estimated at above
\$75,000,000.

As a rule great fortunes are over-
estimated. The figures here given
are carefully prepared from authentic
sources, and are as nearly correct as
it is possible to make them. They
are in no instance excessive.

William H. Vanderbilt left \$10,-
000,000 to each of his eight children
and a special legacy of \$1,000,000 to
his son Cornelius. Then he directed
the residue, which amounted to about
\$220,000,000, to be divided equally
between his sons Cornelius and Wil-
liam K.

PASSING YEARS WILL FILE UP MILLIONS.
The following shows how the Van-
derbilt wealth, if kept intact, will in-

A LETTER TO FARMERS. CATAWBA COUNTY.

One of her Prominent Citizens Gives
Some valuable Hints to Farmers.
For the Mecklenburg Times.

[CONTINUED.]
Every stall ought to be well
littered with pine or wheat straw, or
leaves from the forest. When they
are well trampled, they should be re-
moved and put in pens mixed with
lime, ashes or acids, to assist decom-
position and be made fit for plant
food. Make all the dressing for the
land you can. Save all the rubbish
about the house. Haul muck from
the ditch banks and other places.
Pen it in the fields. Remove it from
the stables or houses. Let the at-
mosphere be as pure about the house
as can be, and let no leaks of impure
water into the wells or springs.
What kind of stock have you? Most
farmers will answer; scrub. Don't
you know that it is just as easy to
raise a descendant from John Wil-
fongs thorough-bred registered "John
Wardsworth," or from Capt. R. P.
Reinhart's registered short-horned
Durham, or John W. Robinson's reg-
istered Devon, or M. Bolingers pur-
blooded Jerseys (all of Catawba)—as
it is to raise a Jo Bunker scrub? If
you don't know it I can tell you it is.
When you have them grown, the
thorough-breds are worth, very often,
five times as much in value. Always
try to have the best of everything you
can raise or grow; not only of stock;
but of grain, vegetables, or fruit. In
order to do this, the farmer ought to
plough his land in the winter to raise
a good crop of cotton, corn, tobacco,
or any other crop that is to be grown
during the coming summer. In the
first place, you can plough deeper.
You can subsoil better. And any
farmer that expects to raise anything
on upland to an advantage ought al-
ways to subsoil and break his land
from 12 to 15 inches deep. By
breaking in the winter, the dews, the
rain and snow, all contain a consid-
erable quantity of ammonia—even the
atmosphere—and if land is well broken
in the winter, the ammonia is car-
ried down into the soil and there held
till taken up by the growing plants,
and the moisture and rain is kept in
deposit, to be given out as it is need-
ed, instead of being carried away on
top of the soil and wash the land
away, and run down into the streams.
After the land is well ploughed and
subsoiled, scatter your compost over
it, and plough it under moderately
deep. By this means you can raise a
bale of cotton weighing 500 lbs., on
every acre you plant, or 50 bushels
of corn. A large number of farmers
cultivate two and three acres to get
a bale of 500 pounds or the number
of bushels of corn above stated. It
is easier to work an acre of cotton
in rich land than it is on poor ground.
The one you can throw dirt to when
it first comes up—the other don't
get large enough scarcely during the
summer. Don't buy any commercial
fertilizer if you can help it. See the
wonderful tax that we have to pay
who use it. How can the poor tenant
pay for fertilizer? In the first place
he has to pay rent for the land, and
that is never less than a third of the
crop. He mortgages his crop to be
grown on the land for the fertilizer,
and when he does that the merchant
who furnishes his supplies charges
him well for what he gets. At the
end of the year he has nothing left af-
ter paying up his dues. Mortgage in
its original meaning means a dead
pledge. That is to say, the thing
pledged is dead to the man who makes
the pledge. As a general rule, when
one makes a mortgage the property
mortgaged is gone. It is like a city
besieged, it is a city taken. Don't
mortgage if you can help it. Some
times it is a good master if you will
work under it, but more often it dis-
courages and you never takes heart
again. Every farmer who will use
commercial fertilizer when he can
compost with acids and make a better
fertilizer for one third of the money is
wasteful and extravagant, and any
man that pursues this extravagant
course must become poorer and poorer
every year.

COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

It Will be Done This Year Under
the New Law—The Method.
From the New York World.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The electoral
votes for President and Vice-Presi-
dent this year will be counted in a
new way and under a new law. On
February 23 last year President Cleve-
land approved the bill providing for
the change of method. The first evi-
dence of the operation of the new
law came forth to-day when the Sec-
retary of State communicated to the
Senate and House certified reports
which he had received from the Gov-
ernors of the States, showing the
result of the late Presidential election.
Under the new law the Presidential
electors will meet in their respective
States one week from next Monday
for the purpose of electing the Presi-
dent and Vice-President. But the
result of that meeting will not be
officially declared until the second
Wednesday in February, when there
will be a joint Convention of the
Senate and House to receive the votes
of the Presidential electors, canvass
them and officially declare the names
of the new President and Vice-Presi-
dent.

Certificates of the result of the
November election have been received
to date by the Secretary of State from
only a portion of the Governors.
From day to day, as they continue to
reach the State Department, Secretary
Bayard will promptly transmit copies
of them to Congress. The law also
directs him to have a copy of each of
the certificates published in some
newspaper. The certificates which
have been received up to the present
time have been published in one of
the Washington newspapers. Some
of them are brief, compact documents
and do not take up much space, but
the certificates bearing the signature of
Gov. David B. Hill, of New York, is
not one of these. It occupies nearly
three pages of the newspaper in which
the publication was made.

The same law which requires the
Governor to send this certificate to the
Secretary of State also requires him
to present three copies of it to each of
the candidates elected to the Electoral
College. These three copies he may
deliver any time up to the day on
which the Presidential electors meet,
the second Monday in January.

Section 4 of the new law sets forth
in detail the manner in which the
electoral vote shall be finally counted.
Congress shall be in session on the
second Wednesday in February suc-
ceeding every meeting of the electors.
The Senate and House of Representa-
tives shall meet in the House of Rep-
resentatives at the hour of 1 o'clock
in the afternoon of that day, and the
President of the Senate shall be their
presiding officer. Two tellers shall
be previously appointed on the part
of the Senate and two on the part of
the House of Representatives, to whom
shall be handed, as they are opened
by the President of the Senate, all
the certificates and papers purporting
to be certificates of the electoral votes,
which certificates and papers shall be
opened, presented and acted upon in
the alphabetical order of the States,
beginning with the letter A; and said
tellers, having then read the same in
the presence and hearing of the two
Houses, shall make a list of the voters
they shall appear from the said
certificates; and the votes having been
ascertained and counted in the manner
and according to the rules in this act
provided, the result of the same shall
be delivered to the President of the
Senate, who shall thereupon announce
the state of the result, which announce-
ment shall be deemed a sufficient de-
claration of the persons, if any, elected
President and Vice-President of the
United States, and together with a
list of votes be entered upon the jour-
nals of the two Houses.

As there are not likely to be any
objections raised against any of the
returns which the joint convention of
the two Houses will be called to act
upon, there will probably be no delay
in making the official announcement
of the election of Harrison and Mor-
ton.

Death Was Her Bridegroom.
GREENVILLE, S. C., Jan. 2.—Last
evening Miss Fannie Heldman, daugh-
ter and only child of George Helman,
broke away from her father's house
and, evading all pursuit, ran a dis-
tance of several blocks and dropped
softly into Reedy River. Her body
was recovered half an hour later. She
suddenly became insane a few weeks
ago while making final preparations
for her marriage to a prominent young
attorney of this city, and has been
kept in her room by her parents ever
since.

To keep lamp burners bright, rub
them with Bristol brick or dry ashes,
every time the flames are cleaned.—
Mrs. M. L. Peaslee.

and woven and made into cloth good enough for a senator or governor to wear? Why not encourage our home industries and keep our money at home instead of sending to the north never to return? Why not raise sheep, the most profitable of all the animals— the only one that combines the two essential qualities of furnishing food and clothing? Our legislature will answer this question. It won't do to say hereafter dogs, dogs!

Progress of Ballot Reform.

The subject of reform in our elec-
tion methods is likely to attract great
attention in many of our State legis-
latures this winter. All the States
which have given it legislative con-
sideration heretofore, but have enacted
no laws—New York, Michigan, Ken-
tucky, Iowa and Connecticut—are
certain to return to it for the popular
interest in it is much greater now than
at any previous time. In fact, there
is scarcely a State in the Union in
which there are not earnest advocates
of the reform. In Rhode Island a
Ballot Reform Club was formed sev-
eral months ago for the express
purpose of drafting a bill to submit
to the legislature, and less formal but
no less earnest efforts in the same
direction are being made in other
States.

The record of the present year has
been one of great encouragement to
the friends of this most important re-
form. In April last the Wisconsin
act went into operation for the first
time, in a municipal election in Mil-
waukee. As our readers will perhaps
remember, this act is only a partial
application of the English and Aus-
tralian systems. It is notable as the
first application of the principle of
ballot distribution by the State. Under
its provisions the voter receives his
ballots from a sworn official of the
State in a room called the "ticket-
room," which only one voter is al-
lowed to enter at a time, passes alone to
the "voting-room," where he deposits
his ballot, and then goes out of a
door provided for that purpose. No
crowd of persons is allowed to collect
within one hundred feet of the poll-
ing-places, and no person is allowed
to offer tickets or to solicit votes within
the same distance. In brief, from the
time the voter enters the polling-place
he is free from espionage and intimid-
ation of all kinds, and can deposit a
free and secret ballot. The first trial
of the law was a most complete and
satisfactory demonstration of its prac-
ticability and wisdom. Not only was
the election the most quiet and orderly
that the city had seen in recent years,
but ticket-peddling and the browbeat-
ing of ignorant voters were annihilated
at a blow. The press of the city was
unanimous in expressing approval of
the workings of the new law.

The most important legislative
achievement of the year has been the
enactment of a complete ballot law in
Massachusetts. This measure, while
modeled primarily upon the bill which
the New York legislature passed, but
which Governor Hill vetoed, differs
from it in many respects. It contains
an especially valuable provision for
preventing the forgery of official bal-
lots, and is, taken all in all, probably
the most intelligent and comprehensive
application of the English and Aus-
tralian systems to American needs
which has been made. It places the
entire printing and distributing of the
ballots in the hands of the State, to
be paid for at the public expense. It
provides, also, for independent nomi-
nations by a specified number of
voters, and requires the printing of
the residence, street and number, of
each candidate after his name upon the
ballot. The Massachusetts law ought
to be carefully studied by the framers
of the new bill which is to be pre-
sented to the New York legisla-
ture this winter. It is likely to become
the model for bills which are to be
presented in other States, as indeed it
ought to be; for, aside from its great
merits, it would be most desirable to
have our different State laws upon
this subject as nearly homogeneous as
possible.

We speak with entire confidence of
the possibility of the different States
having such laws in the near future.
This is one of the reforms which must
come, for without it our system of
popular government cannot be main-
tained. Every election, especially in
our large cities, shows that until this
reform is secured all other reforms
are impossible of accomplishment.
The control of the election machinery,
of the printing and distributing of
the ballots, must be taken from the
politicians and put into the hands of
the State. That is, we must take the
power to control our elections away
from the men who have no responsi-
bility and no interest in government
save extravagance and corruption,
and put it into the hands of officials
who are sworn to do their duty. Of
what use is it to try to get honest men
nominated for office when we leave in
the hands of the political workers the
power to defeat them at the polls by
distributing fraudulent or defective
ballots, or by making "deals" and
"dickers" which cheat the people of
their will? We have talked for years
about reforming the primaries and the
nominating conventions, but not one
particle of progress has been made.
Under the Massachusetts law any 400
voters, in case of a candidate for
State office, and any 100 voters, in
case of a candidate for a lesser office,
by uniting in a petition in behalf of
a candidate of their choice can have his
name printed upon the official ballots
and have those ballots distributed at
the polls at the public expense. What
more certain way of reforming the
primaries could be devised than this?
If there were such a law in New York
City, there would be an end to the

astonishing spectacle which is there
so often presented to a "boss" setting
up a candidate of his own for office in
spite of all protests, and frequently
electing him in spite of all opposition.
Under such a law both "bosses" and
primaries would in a very short time
lose their present dominance in our
politics.

In fact, there is scarcely a form of
iniquity known to our election methods
which a good ballot law would not
eradicate. We should be rid at one
stroke of the assessments upon candi-
dates, of the bribing and bulldozing
of voters, of the nomination of noto-
riously unfit candidates, of "deals"
and "dickers" and "trade" at the
polls. All these would disappear, for
the simple reason that the machinery
of elections would be taken out of
the hands of irresponsible and often
dishonest men. Such an obvious and
imperative reform as this cannot be
long delayed.

Bill Simpson's Darter.
No matter how hard and ugly the
truth is, it is more pleasing than the
affection of what is not real. Exposé
is certain to follow people who
try to go through life behind a mask
of pretense. We have little sym-
pathy for people like "Bill Simpson's
darter." A gentleman traveling from
Buffalo to New York City tells the
story:

At Albany two ladies, dressed in
the extreme of fashion, entered the
car. Their manners indicated great
affection and consequent shallowness.
The only unoccupied seat in the car
was directly behind a quiet-looking
lady, evidently from the country. Her
dress was of calico, her bonnet of
plain straw, and her gloves were of
cotton. She could not however, have
looked meaner, and she had a good,
honest face.

As the fashionable ladies adjusted
their draperies in the unoccupied seat,
one of them said to the other:
"Don't you think it bad that there
are such poor accommodations on rail-
road trains now?"
"How—in what way?" asked her
companion.
"Why, here we are crowded up
with all classes of people, some of
them so common. Look at that per-
son in front of us."
"Horrid, isn't she?"
"Perfectly dreadful."
"How annoying to have to come in
contact with such people!"
"Belongs to some ordinary family.
If one could only exclude one's self
from such person's when traveling
short distances!" I suppose his horrid
in me to say it, but I have all my life
had such a repugnance to common
laboring people."

The lady in the calico must have
heard part of this conversation, but
her face was perfectly composed.
At the moment an elderly man in
the home-spun and home-made gar-
ments of a farmer came down the aisle.
He stopped before the ladies of fash-
ion, closely scrutinized the features of
the one having "such a repugnance to
common people," and, just as the train
stopped at a station, cried out loud
enough to be heard by every person in
the car:
"Look hyar, haint you old Bill
Simpson's darter? But I know you
air 'bout askin'." How do do, any-
how? You don't change a speak.
Got the same nose you had when you
wor a little gal o' twelve or fifteen
years, trottin' 'b'arfoot round my old
farm in Pontunk county.

"Yer mind how I joust ter give yer
two bits a day an' yer dinner fer
helpin' my younguns dig taters! Ho!
ho! ho!"
The young lady had dropped her
leaded veil and was nervously biting
at her fan, but the old farmer went on
heedlessly:
"They's been mighty changes sence
then. Your pap went out to Colara-
dy and made a big fortin' thar, an'
I hear you live in great style. But
I'll warn you, an' you tell 'im that you
saw old Jack Billins, what used to
give him a money a day's work when
he was so pore his family had to wait
till hens laid 'fore they could hev any
breakfast. You kin remember that
yourself, I recon."
"An' there wan't nobody gladder
nor me when yer pap did git rich so
sudden, for he was a mighty hard
workin' blacksmith, an' always pore
'cause of bad luck."
"My wife says she lost an awful
good washwoman when yer ma moved
an'—I git off here. Good by, good
by!"

The meekest, most subdued person
on that train during the rest of the
trip was—"Bill Simpson's darter!"

A Negro for the Cabinet.
To the Editor of the World.
If Abraham Lincoln were alive to-
day and forming a Cabinet he would
have the courage to choose an intelli-
gent negro for a place in it because of
the stimulus and encouragement such
an appointment would give to the
emancipated black race. But will
any other Republican President with-
in half a century have the requisite
backbone for perpetrating such an in-
novation? The white members of the
Cabinet might reconcile themselves
to it for expediency's sake—but the
"Cabinet ladies?" They are the
grand stumbling block. Even under
a Republican regime the Washington
400 will draw the line at an Ameri-
can colored woman, though they will
cuddle any dusky-hued foreigner who
comes hither in a diplomatic capacity.
AN OLD-TIME REPUBLICAN.

If you want to be miserable, think
about yourself, about what you want,
what you like, what respects people
ought to pay to you, and what people
think of you.

GENTLEMEN:
THIS WILL BE A GREAT BARGAIN WEEK AT
W. KAUFMAN & CO.'S
CORNER CENTRAL HOTEL.
The warm weather in the Fall has left us like the United States Treasury, with a
Large Surplus, but in our case it is Clothing.

A BOLD SACRIFICE.

WE WILL SACRIFICE OVER \$40,000 WORTH OF
MEN'S, BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING.
THIS IS THE THIRD DAY OF OUR SACRIFICE SALE.

READ OUR PRICES.
MEN'S SACK SUITS at \$3.75, worth \$6.00; a Sacrifice of \$2.25
MEN'S SACK SUITS at \$5.00, worth \$8.50; a Sacrifice of \$3.50
MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS at \$6.75, worth \$10.00; a Sacrifice of \$3.25
MEN'S BLACK CUTAWAY SUITS at \$7.00, worth \$10.50; a Sacrifice of \$3.50
MEN'S PRINCE ALBERT SUITS, DOUBLE BREASTED at \$15.00, worth \$20.00;
a Sacrifice of \$5.00

BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S SUITS.
BOYS' SUITS, SIZES 13 to 18 at \$4.00, worth \$6.50; a Sacrifice of \$2.50
BOYS' BLACK DIAGONAL SUITS at \$6.50, worth \$8.50; a Sacrifice of \$2.00
CHILDREN'S SUITS, KNEE PANTS at \$2.50, worth \$4.00; a Sacrifice of \$1.50

OVERCOATS.
MEN'S OVERCOATS at \$3.50, worth \$5.50; a Sacrifice of \$2.00
MEN'S ULSTER OVERCOATS, LARGE COLLARS at \$3.50, worth \$6.00; a Sacri-
fice of \$2.50
MEN'S CHUNCHILLA OVERSACKS at \$4.50, worth \$7.00; a Sacrifice of \$2.50
MEN'S BEAVER OVERCOATS at \$5.50, worth \$9.00; a Sacrifice of \$3.50
MEN'S CHUNCHILLA OVERCOATS at \$5.00, worth \$8.50; a Sacrifice of \$3.50

CHILDREN'S OVERCOATS.
CHILDREN'S OVERCOATS at \$1.35, worth \$2.75; a Sacrifice of \$1.40
BOYS' OVERCOATS at \$3.50, worth \$5.00; a Sacrifice of \$1.50
BOYS' OVERCOATS WITH CAPES at \$4.00, worth \$6.00; a Sacrifice of \$2.00

CHILDREN'S KNEE PANTS.
We have 500 pair, which must be sold, we start them at 25 cents per pair. A large
line of Hats and Caps. Boys' Steamer Caps at 25 cents.
WE ARE CLOSING OUT \$5,000 WORTH OF BOOTS AND SHOES.
To all Members of the Farmers' Alliance, we give a special discount on all purchases.

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Leading Clothiers,
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**Shirtings, Drills, Domestics, Linseys,
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CHILDREN.
HATS AND CAPS VERY CHEAP.

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WE HAVE A
LARGE STOCK OF
GENTS' BOYS' MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S FINE SHOES,
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We call Special Attention to our Men's Warranted \$3.00 and \$3.50 Calf Skin Shoes.
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