EIGHT CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the carrier every Saturday. All other subscriptions in advance.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1881.

There is a rumor afloat in Richmond to the effect that Col. Superintendent V. Bailey, Railway Mail Service for the Third Division, com' prising Maryland (excluding the Eastern shore), Virginia, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia, had been removed from office. Whether this rumor is cor. rect we wil know in a short while.

Blaine positively states that he will resign his Secretaryship in January and will retire from politics. On the footsteps of this fdisclosure come the inimitable Charley Foster, of Ohio, with the information that Blaine will be nominated for President and elected in 1884, and it is also innocently intimated that the aforesaid Charley F. might be persuaded to allow his name used in connection with a second place upon such a ticket

Mr. Frank Hatton, the recently appointed Assistant Postmaster General, learned the trade of printer in his father's office, that of the Cadiz (Ohio) Republican. At the age of seventeen he entered the army, and before he had attained his twentieth year he had been made a lieutenant. After the war he assisted his father on the Journal at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, and in 1874 he purchased a half interest in the Burlington Hawkeye, of which paper he is now sole proprietor and editor.

The Virginia Election.

J'o-day will decide one of the most severe and bitter contests in the political history of Virginia. From the very first of the campaign the papers have been full of accounts of duels, free fights and the hurling of the most caustic vituperation. Indeed, the politics of no country or section has ever witnessed such bitterness, and it is somewhat to be feared that this feeling will assert itself in pugilistic form around the voting places, during the election.

The Colored Fair.

We take it that the Industrial Exposition of the colored people, which closed at Raleigh last Friday, should be a source of much pride to every one of that race in this State, and, indeed, no little gratification to every true hearted North Carolinian regardless of color. As near as we are aware the colored race of this State have been the first to inaugurate such exhibitions of workmanship and artizanship among that people, and this mere fact should be a lasting rebuke to those Northern editors who have asserted that the negro was treated with injustice and cruelty by the white population.

President Arthur.

[New York Herald]

The real purpose of all this kind of fly-dirt criticism of Mr. Arthur is to get the public to believe that he is not his own man but some one else's. There is no reason to believe anything of this kind-no facts to show that Mr. Arthur, call-

ed unexpectedly to the office of President, is not entirely capable of administering that office and as determined to do so as any of his predecessors have been. That he will prefer for his subordinates in the labors of administration those whom he knows best, and in whom he has the most confidence, is natural. It is what every President does. If those whom he appoints are honest and capable that is all the public cares about. If they shall prove the reverse Mr. Arthur will hear from the public. But until he actually commits faults all attempts of ambitious or disappointed politicians to bring his undeclared purposes into suspicion are improper.

The National Debt.

[News and Observer.]

The treasury statement of the public debt, just published, shows that the entire debt of the government of every kind is \$2,026,495,-438-say two billions of dollars. There is in the treasury \$240,960,-971 in available funds. The interest on the debt is \$60,962,245, and it is likely that this interest will be still further reduced during the coming year. The reduction on the principal of the debt last year was \$101,000,000, and is is estimated that for the present year it will be \$125,000,000, as that will be the surplus revenues for the year. It is this situation of affairs which renders this an auspicious time to abolish the internal revenue taxas tion and do away with the deputy marshals, spies, informers, inspectors, collectors, &c., who form a horde of officers, irritating our people and keeping portions of our State in a continual uproar. The expenses of the ffovernment can be very considerably reduced, and the tariff can be made largely more productive by a careful revision. So that with these two strings to our bow no fear need be felt that the government would be embarrassed by repealing the internal revenue laws.

The receipts from all sources last year were \$363,000,000; the receipts from internal revenue were about \$125,000,000; from customs about \$200,000.000; from miscellaneous sources about \$38,000,000. As we had a surplus last year of \$100,000,000 and there has been such a considerable reduction of interest since, it is clear that without any further curtailment of expenses our receipts, independent of the internal revenue, will suffice to run the government. But it is right and proper that there should be a further curtailment of expenses, and such will be the Demo-

cratic policy.

But more than that, the tariff should be revised. It is now protective tariff, and under its exacting NEW STOCK OF GOODS clauses and high duties the importation of certain foreign articles of prime necessity is well nigh prohibited. The Democratic platform is a tariff for revenue, and we shall insist that such changes shall be made in the tariff as will alter its character from a protective tariff to a tariff for revenue only. By this means the tariff can be made to yield us much greater income than we now derive from it. Let us take the item of rails for railroads alone. There are in round numbers 100,000 miles of railroads in operation in the United States, of which 7,000 were built last year and 7,000 this year.

The amount of revenue now derived from importations of iron and steel rails is only \$2,300,000, because the tariff of fourteen dollars per ton on the iron, and twenty-five per ton on the steel rails is almost prohibitory. There was less than 120,000 tons of iron and steel rails imported last year. Under a tariff for revenue only five times as much would be brought in, for the country consumes annually about one million tons. Steel' rails, whose value was \$1,643,700, paid a tax of \$1,478,658, or nearly as much as they were worth. Iron rails, whose value was \$1,635,980, paid a tax of \$824,747, or more than half what they were worth.

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