

WILMINGTON MARKET.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 24, 1860. SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—Sales of 216 casks at 30 cents for Country, and 17 do. at 394 cents for New York casks.

DOMESTIC MARKET.

Beef, 124@16 cents per lb. Mutton choice, 124@16 cents per lb. Veal choice, 20 cents per lb. Fresh Pork, in carts, 124@15 cents, in Market 20 cents per lb.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

BEEFWAX.—Scantling, 15 00@20 00. SHEEP CATTLE.—LIME. 90@1 50. BARKS.—CUBA. 50@55. SPTS. T. NEW. 30@35. N. Y. 30@35. 2 hand do. 20@25. 75. 2 hand do. 20@25. 75. 2 hand do. 20@25. 75.

lands." The historian must mean when those islands were first discovered by Captain Cook, Pritchard, our best authority, supposes them "nearly on a level with the New Zealanders or Tahitians, or perhaps very superior to the Australians, which is very low indeed. They were but little change, if any, when they became known to the Romans. They are pictured as large and tall, excelling the Gauls in stature and strength, with heavy features and clumsy frames, and according to the geographer Strabo, "they did not stand firm on their legs."

And this was England at the beginning. Long afterwards, when centuries had intervened, the savage was improved into the barbarian. But from one authentic instance learn the rest. The trade in slaves was active, the English peddlers bought up children throughout the country, while the people, greedy of the price, sold their relations, sometimes their own offspring. In similar barbarism, all Jews and their gains were absolute property of their king; and this law, beginning with Edward the Confessor, was enforced under successive monarchs, one of them making a mortgage of all Jews to his brother as security for a debt. Nothing worse is now said of Africa.

The Cost of the War. Commissioner Wells, in his report presented to Congress, gives an estimate of the cost of the late war. The Government spent in war expenses and expenses growing out of the war, down to June 30th, 1860, \$4,171,914,498. This excludes what the administration would have cost had there been no war, and may be called the net cost to the Government of the rebellion.

Teach Girls To Do Housework. Many mothers, often those who are the most competent to teach their daughters the housewifery arts, in which they themselves excel— are backward about doing so because of their very thoroughness, and their dislike of seeing the work awkwardly performed. "I prefer doing it myself, for then it is done right," says one thoughtful mother. "I have no knack of instruction," says a second, who is averse to teaching her child those things which she had been patiently taught by her own mother.

There are few who have not seen something of the discomforts of an ill-ordered home and ill-cooked food. No mother would willingly contemplate the prospect of such a home for her son or daughter on leaving the parent, but what security for happiness can there be where the only dependence for home comforts is upon hired help? The best of servants, knowing their mistress to be ignorant, are almost sure to become careless. But to the scores of girls who every year marry, expecting to perform their own household work, ignorance brings quickly retribution. Love in a cottage thrives feebly on saleratus bread and heavy crusts. Fast fades the romance from newly wedded lovers when sour biscuits and muddy coffee begin to rouse the demons of indignation and sick-headache; and low spirits and gloomy faces will surely follow in due course.

A girl of ten may be taught to take entire care of her own room, to make her bed and sweep, to dust the furniture and arrange it as she likes best to bring her own clothing and bed clothing to the wash at the proper time, and to mend and put it away when it comes from the ironing-table. At twelve she may learn the mystery of bread-making and commence helping in the general domestic routine.

Desperate Attempt to Destroy the Gunboats. [From the New York Times, Friday.] A desperate attempt to destroy the Spanish gunboats, on Wednesday evening was foiled by the vigilance of those in charge of the flotilla. For four days two young men, George Adams and Albert Sears, late of Garibaldi's guerrillas, have been at work to drive the Cubans to some action. They raised ten men and had two boats ready, but the Junta would not even spend \$25 to buy combustibles. Their plan was as follows: Twenty-five men were to be placed at the foot of Fourteenth street behind a pile of lumber, and at a given signal, were to throw hand grenades on the unfinished boats lying at Thirteenth street. When they were on fire two tug boats were to come up and offer assistance in towing three or four of the ready to sail boats away, while fifty men lying at the foot of the same street were to board them, revolver in hand, and run the boats out of the harbor. Torpedoes were ready to assist in destroying the others remaining. In spite of the Junta, the men would have made an attack last night had not the spy Gordon, who is in Mr. Pinkerton's employ, betrayed them to the Spaniards, so that when Sang came to look after things, he found the boats ready to meet any attack, and about one hundred and fifty armed men patrolling the streets in the vicinity of Delamater's yard. They left disgusted, and went by railroad to some part South, with fifty men, where, on the coast of Virginia a steamer will be ready to take them up. They have nothing to do with the Junta, and only work for the cause of General Jordan, who, if the gunboats leave the city, will never have a chance to come back to this continent. They are well supplied with arms and torpedoes, and by spies which they have engaged they will know of the departure of the Spanish boats from the city in time to lay torpedoes to destroy the boats.

"Blessed be Nothing." The Albany Post thus sensibly replies to a statement made by the New York Herald, that during the last twenty years William B. Astor had so managed a fortune of twenty millions as to roll it into sixty millions. "Suppose he has, what then? What has made by the operation, except increased wealth? Astor, with sixty millions, can do more oysters, quail, woodcock and boned turkey than he did when he was worth ten millions. He uses no more oysters than we do. He dines no better, and has a thousand times less fun. We beat him on the sleep, and have no law-suits with tenants and trespassers. Robbers lay for Astor every time he goes out of doors after dark. They don't think of us. Astor, with sixty millions of dollars, has six millions of troubles. To keep the run of his rents, bonds and estates, keeps Astor in work about fourteen hours a day, and yet Astor only gets "three square meals" a day which is just what we obtain without any millions, any tenants, any real estate, and only work eight hours per day. If men's happiness increased with their money, everybody would be justified in worshipping the Golden Calf. The happiness increases with their earnings up to a certain point—the point necessary to secure them the comforts of life—say \$2,000 a year. All beyond this is superfluous, it is productive of no good whatever. The richer the man, the greater is the probability that his son will live on billiards, and die in the inebriate asylum. With contentment and \$2,000 a year a man may be as a prince. Without contentment you will be miserable even if your wealth equals the rolls of Astor.

M. Emilio de Girardin, his journal La Liberte expressed some uneasiness in regard to the attitude of the United States toward Spain, and points to the recent activity in our navy yards as an indication of a possible armed intervention on our part in behalf of the Cubans. M. de Girardin is one of the most distinguished publicists of the present day, and he has witnessed many strange vicissitudes and revolutions in public affairs. He will therefore learn with composure that he has been grievously mistaken, and that the armaments which he fancies to be destined against Spain are, on the contrary, fitted out according to an understanding between Mr. Sidney Webster and Mr. Hamilton Fish on the one side and Gen. Prim on the other to help the Madrid Regency in reconquering Cuba and restoring slavery. M. de Girardin may be somewhat surprised in finding the American General who rose to power by fighting against slavery in the United States, allowing himself to be seduced by such a man as Hamilton Fish into turning against the very principles to whose vindication he had been indebted for his renown. However, M. de Girardin need not go very far to find a parallel for this species of renegadism. Has not Louis Napoleon also violated the principles by pretending loyalty to which he rose to power? Why should France alone have a renegade for her ruler? If Gen. Grant has an ambition in the same way, why should he not gratify it?

Simon Wolf, Esq., Register of Deeds, of Washington, D. C. received a telegram from Paris, stating that the expatriation of Jews from Russia had already commenced and would continue until spring. We can hardly believe that the enlightened and liberal Czar will allow the enforcement of an obsolete law in opposition to the opinions of the great mass of liberty-loving people, both in America and Europe. To the delegation of Israelites, which recently visited President Grant in relation to this matter, the latter gave every assurance of sympathy, and promised his good offices with the Czar to prevent the act of injustice referred to. In view of this we believe that the Czar will ultimately be induced to pursue a more liberal policy with reference to the Israelites in his dominion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

U. S. Internal Revenue. NOTICE. ALL PERSONS WHO SELL SHELL OR ANY Fish, or both, from carts, in New Hanover or Duplin Counties, are hereby notified to appear and take out a United States Internal Revenue License on or before the 15th of this month, or they will be assessed and charged penalty according to law.

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