## everiuy Extegraph


 Lavestigate oortain oharges agninat the englKolloy wns ohairman of the sub-oommittee, and the roport presents the evidenoo upo
Whioh he grounded his denunoistion of tho Rngineerr Corpo of the Navy in general, an weoks ago, in the Hoase. We have now be-
fore as the report of the Board of Kagineer Corp os the report of the Navy Deparartment and the roport of Judge Kelley's oommittee, upon
whilh to make some estimates as to the merits of the oase under consideration. Notwith-
standing gill this disposy of testimony on both sideas, howrver, there are some matters still in
considerable doubt. Chief Euginear Zeller Gas oliaimed that the inveastigation of the sit juatioe; he was phartial, and thast it did him in lomal oridence as to the judiciousness of the purohases of tools made for the Navy Yari,
and for the purpose of vindioating his own inal report of the Naval Committee befor merits of the oase.
The fasts, as whave them, are that Chief
Engineer Zeller purehased in New York a number of seoond.hand marine engine tool delphia. He claims that the tools were bough arder, and that they are capable of doing the haariest marine eagine work as well as
any maohines made. Jadge Kelley's com
aittoe, on the contrary, contend that the tools mittee, on the contrary, oontend that the tools maohine shop in the country; and they farther chlladelphis manufuctarera an opportunity to ompote, and that either he or his assistants
abrioated bids from those firms, so as to make it appear as if thay oompoted in regular
Sorm, and were ruled out on account of their axoeasive charges.
 Mianio \& Levy's Penn Works, and Mr. Joh mployed

## hased in New York are old fashioned, out

 oot auoh sa they would bay if fitting up shops On the ther hand, the Board of Ragineershho examined the matter by order of the Navy Department present the evidence number of prominent machinists, who swore
that the tools were not antiquated; as to materially affect their efficiency; that uog wore arrstolass tools in every respec,
uoh that they would purohase themselves, an fersonoe to paying a higher price for new one The following are the gentlomen who teatiiied
0 that effect:-John H. Long, Chief Eogineer of the United States Navy; Joseph G. Harrison, Jcoeph Belknap, consalting engineer, Ne Mocady \& Worden, Now York; Thomas

 agers of Now York and other oitios. In addition
to those, lotters endersing the samo views were Williammon, of Williamson \& Sonthars; Wilismson, of Wiliamson \& Brothers;
Wilbraham \& Brothers, John Birkbeck, Joh Stroot whatt, Phulladelphia; Lewis Lawss, of P. Morris, Towne \& Co., Philadelphia; Wan blighmont; Charles W. Smith, No. 135 North
blich Third stroet; and Robert H. Long, of
Long, Falton Works, Philadelphia.
Suoh is the array of testimony sides. "Where dootors disagree, whe shall
deoide " The most important ovidence is
that of Mr, John Birkbeok, whose evidence before the Committee and the Board is apparenilifed that "the general oharacter of the have all the modern improvements for doing marine work; they are not old-fashloned
patterns, and they are generally in good order; thore are Bome fow repairs required on them 60 put them in the best of first-olass order,
che oost of putting them in order would not roeed 2200 ; they are the proper kind of tool whe judiolons, instead of purohasing other coole at groater prioes." Mr. Birkbeok stated vas reguired to give eategorio
The most sorious charge brought agains Mr. Zoeller and his assistants by the sub-combuition; is that they fabriontod bids as having
 Chief Kugineer's oflice at the navy yard.
The able is that arrive at in this whole matter
purchasing tools was oonduoted in a very loose and unbusinasas-like manner by Chily
Kngineer Zeller. Hils asilitanta awear that kngineer Zeller. His asaistanta awear than
they waited upon Mesars. Sellera $\&$ Co an Mesars. Bement \& Dougherty at oertain times
and obtained price-lists from them, statiog, when they did so, that there was to be com-
petition in the purchase of the toole. The rms above-named, however, acoording to th
report of the sab-committee, only considere these transactions as the preliminary steps
to still
farther negotiations. A misunderstanding certainly appears to exist on thit
point. The report of the sub-oommittee
further stat Burther stales chat Mesaric. Sellers \& Co. and
Bement Dogherty positively dony that
that they were examined by the Board of En. gineers as to whethined thy ever maade of Kn
ive bida for the teols in question, and proounee the concluasions of the Bosrd to be false the contrary, report that papers, whitoh they
gave at length, were personally submilted to members of the abovc-mentioned afrms, snd
acknowledged by them to be the prioe-lists of tools offered to Chief Engineer Zeller. There
appears to be some fall-lledged fabrioations
somewhere on this point, and we hope that the report of the Naval Committee will let ud
know who the fabricators are. Complaints aro frequently made about the
red tape in our pablic offives, bat suoh a oase
as this shows the necessity and importance of red tape. Ins all matters where the expendi-
tres of the Goverument are nuch care cannot be exereised to havered all too
contracts, gpecifluations, receipts, exhilite otc., set forth olearly and numistakably in
blaok and white, and then if dispates ar' ae
they can be settled wither they can be settled withont much dififinilty.
This tool-purehasing matter does not appear
to have been probed to the bottom yet, and subject will give ns all the facts, without fear,
favor, or curtailment, and in such a olear and Khe Proposition to Mncrene the Num.
ber or Anembrymen.
$W E$ are glad to notice that Mr. Adsire has Ek are glad to notice that Mr. Adaire has
itrodnced in the State Legislature a proposi-
tion that the Constitation be so amended as
to anthorize an increase of the number of os authorize an increase of the number
Assemblymen to three hundred. The presen yatem is so lamentably defective that scarvel
any change can prove injurious, and there is
ood reason for antiolpafing benefioial regnl from the propesed reform. Legislation, as
now condncted at Harrisbarg, is ordinarily ither a failure, a faree, or a fraud.
Usefal business of a general Ubefal buniness and and general oharaaler habitaally neglected, and the raling prinoiple
of aotion is to do those things which ought not
to be done, and to leare undone thoese thinga when ought to be done. Nine-tenths of eaco
weesion is concumed in the seesion is consomed in the considaration
speeial laws or private bllis, and in these pro
 on business intereete of every desoription,
without kowing or caring what is the ren
nature of the enactments they vote for and without taking the trouble
oppose any meange that may
submitted nnless a belief prevails that "the is money in it," or that it may affeet partisan
intereets. Hundreda of blils are read orly by
their tities, aud under this carelesa gyptin their titlee, and under this careless aystem
adroit managers, who conciliste influentia members of committees, have little difilioulty
in securing the pasage of any obnoxionic
menanue they chose to favor. menanre they chose to favor. If it is importan
that the privileges granted in these multif rious enaotmenter fihould be beatowed, be devised to consider them, for it
ovident that they receive no con that members vote "yea" or "nay" without
an intelligent comprehension of their own
action; and that they pass bill No. 8056 or de. feat bill No. 12,945 from no better reason tha
a desire to oblige a friend or fellow-member patent plans for making laws, nnder any sya
tem of government, this is one of the ver worst. For practical purposes the people
might as well go buck to a despotiam virtaully roled by an irresponsible favorite, and look
to a king'b fool or a king's barber as the foum tain of law and janticic. The whole system it
so radically abeurd, and the time of legisia iora is so thoronghly preocoupied by the mul
ifarions detalis of private blle, that tifarions details of private bills, that hones
men find themselves hopelesely bewildered men ind themselves hopelessily bowilidered
When they endeavor to bring order out o
ohes, and to render real service of alegitl mate character, to the State.
The repeated attempts to transfer to the
oourts the private business with whith the

Legtalatare is burdened have proved abortive.
As soon as one olase of appllosats in disposed
 of, others take its pinoe, sid Chere in a ohronio
tendenoy to ancournge theso appliontionn, for
the obrions reanon that they briog griat to he obrions remanon that they bring griat to
be dond
amendmente, tho oheok this evil; bat it is pro
bable that an increseo of the number of mem


exouses for the more law-abiding citizans to
ikg the law in their own hands againgt then
 ame of New York as would be the trath con-







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