The Lesson of the Water-Mill.

Listen to the water-mill
Through the live-long day;
How the clinking of its wheel
Wears the hours away.
Languidly the Autumn wind
Stirs the greenwood leaves,
From the fields the reapers sing,
Binding up the sheaves.
And a prover b haunts my mind
As a spell is cast;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Autumn winds revive no more
Leaves that once are shed;
And the sickle cannot reap
Corn once gathered,
And the ruffled stream flows on,
Tranquil deep and still,
Never gliding back again
To the water-mill.
Truly speaks the proverb old,
With a meaning vast:
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Take the lesson to thyself,
Loving heart, and true!
Golden years are fleeting by;
Youth is passing too.
Learn to make the most of life,
Lose no happy day;
Time will never bring thee back
Chances swept away.
Leave no tender word unsaid,
Love while love shall last;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Work while yet the daylight shines,
Man of strength and will!
Never does the streamlet glide
Useless by the mill.
Wait not till to-morrow's sun
Beams upon thy way;
All that thou canst call thine own
Lies in thy "to-day."
Power and intellect and health
May not always last;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Oh the wasted hours of life,
That have drifted by,
Oh the good that might have been,
Lost without a sigh!
Love that we might once have saved
By a single word;
Thoughts conceived, but never planned,
Perishing, unheard.
Take the proverb to thine heart,
Take and hold it fast;
"The mill cannot grind
With the water that is past."

Boston Transcript.

Farm, Garden and Household.

THE CAUSE OF RUST IN WHEAT.—The Germantown *Telegraph* says:—"It is getting to be pretty generally understood among farmers, that the sowing of grass seed—clover and timothy—with the wheat in the fall, as has been common in nearly every wheat-growing district here, as well as north and east of us, is the cause of the rust on wheat, by reason of the moisture which the grass retains, affecting the grain stalks when maturing. These grass seeds, sown after the wheat crop has been harvested, will produce, it is claimed, as good crops the following year as if sown at the time of the wheat nine months previously."

TO CLEAN KID GLOVES.—To clean kid gloves, have ready a little new milk in one saucer, a piece of white soap in another, and a clean cloth folded two or three times. On the cloth spread out the glove smooth and neat. Take a piece of flannel, dip it in the milk, then rub off a good quantity of soap on the wetted flannel, and commence to rub the glove towards the fingers, holding it firmly with the left hand. Continue this process until the glove, if white, looks of a dingy yellow, though clean; if colored, till it looks dry and spoiled. Lay it to dry, and the operator will soon be gratified to see that the old glove looks nearly new. It will be soft, glossy, smooth, and elastic.

A GOOD COW AND HOW HE KEEPS HER.—Charles D. Hart, of McLean, N. Y., who "sold butter thirty or forty years ago for a shilling a pound," stated that for the past sixteen years he has but one cow. "The past season I made and sold up to December 1, 400 pounds besides what the family used, and have 30 pounds put up for the winter. She is eight years old. In 1869 I sold 340 pounds; in 1868, 312 pounds; kept butter to supply us the year. Her feed is common pasture, plenty running water, shade, one pint of corn meal, and one quart of wheat brain twice a day. Her mother and grandmother were extra cows for richness of milk and for quantity, and all would dry up as soon as cold weather set in, and go dry about three moths."

HENS.—Keep them in the fowl house or under sunny latticed sheds all the time, unless the days are very warm, and then let them out of the house for run, only for an hour or two when the sun is highest. If they become throughly chilled, they will not recover from it for several days. Variety in food is something that should never be forgotten. Corn is a staple; but oats, buckwheat, and mush made of Indian-meal, fed warm, should be used on alternate days. To insure health, where the ground is not bare, fowls should always have cabbages to pick over, and some pork-scrap cake or other animal food to supply the lack of insect food. Warm water is better than cold for their drink, and there should always be an abundance within easy reach. Do not forget oyster shells, which are far better than lime-plastering. And to give some interest to poultry operations, a debit and credit account with the fowls is always in order and always conduces to the best result.

CURING MEAT.—The Germantown Telegraph says: "To one gallon of water add one and a half pounds of salt, half a pound of sugar, half an ounce of saltpetre, half an ounce of potash. In this ratio the pickle to be increased to any quantity desired. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw it into a tub to cool, and when cold pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say four or five weeks. The meat must be well covered with pickle, and should not be put down for at least two days after the killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood, etc., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some omit boiling the pickle, and find it to answer well; though the operation of boiling purifies the pickle by throwing off the dirt always found in salt and sugar. If this recipe is properly tried it will never be abandoned. There is none that surpass it, if so good.

PRUNING VINES IN COLD WEATHER.—Pruning vines when they are frozen is said to be very injurious. We are not aware, however, that any of our vineyardists have ever conducted a series of experiments to prove the truth or falsity of this very common and often reiterated assertion. If the young or old canes are handled and bent while frozen, it would, no doubt, break some of the cells and injure them; but in ordinary pruning, that portion of the vine allowed to remain need not be in the least disturbed; for all tying up to stakes and trellises can be done in pleasant weather when there is no frost in the vines.

In pruning a cane we cut between the buds; and all that portion above the last bud left on the cane will die whether the separation is made with a knife, shears, or when frozen or otherwise. Pruning vines in cold weather is certainly not very pleasant work; but so far as being injurious, either to the vine, or the cuttings removed, we have our doubts, which are strengthened by the fact that thousands of vines are annually pruned without apparently any serious injury resulting therefrom.

THE PHILADELPHIANS boast that they are doing more than their share of paying income taxes. The total internal revenue of the city is $7,000,000. The total internal revenue of the whole country for the year ending June 30, 1870, was $185,128,859, of which Philadelphia furnished about one twenty-sixth part, while the population of the city, according to the recent census, is placed at about one-fifty-sixth of that of the country. From this it will be seen that Philadelphia has been paying into the National Treasury more that twice its share of taxes, according to the population accorded it by the census-takers.

That man out West who is always doing surprising things, recently sent an order to Chicago for a piano, and soon after wrote the dealers that he and his wife couldn't find the place to wind it and they wanted to be told at once how to make the thing go.

General News Summary.

NINETY-one bears were slain in Maine during the year.

THE Kansas penitentiary does not contain a woman.

Two hundred tons of silver ore per week pass through Salt Lake City.

THE wife of President Juarez of Mexico, is dead, after terrible sufferings. The city is overcast with gloom, as she was universally liked.

THE Democrats of the Second Congressional District of New-Hampshire have nominated N. Bell, of Manchester, for Congress.

A SPECIAL despatch from Lincoln, Nebraska, announces the election of P. W. Hitchcock to succeed John M. Thayer, as United States Senator from Nebraska.

THE total amount of logs secured at St. Anthonys Falls and points above on the Mississippi River, is 135,000,000 feet, of which 6,000,000 feet were manufactured into lumber. This is an increase of 32,000,000 feet over the year 1869.

THE police of Washington made an extended raid on the principal gambling houses in that city and arrested a large number of persons, spectators as well as principals. They were all lodged in jail, but were subsequently released on bail.

THE *Moniteur de Paris* avers that out of the 76 Generals who were in the French army at the beginning of the war, but 13 are still in active service; the remainder are prisoners of war, have been killed, or are suffering from incurable wounds.

Two children have died in Monroe Country N. Y. from poison contained in the virus used in their vaccinations, and many others are seriously ill. A few cases of small-pox had occured, and the citizens becoming alarmed, had their children inoculated, with this alarming result.

THE RIGHT OF STATES to tax insurance companies incorporated in other States at higher rates than local companies, has been affirmed by the United States Supreme Court in a recent case. A similar question, but involving the right to tax all companies incorporated in other countries, is now under argument in the same court.

A PROMISING young journal of Cincinnati makes the astounding statement that "When Sir Walter Scott denied the authorship of the Waverly novels, Dr. Johnson, the most rigid stickler for truth of all the English moralists, forgave the misstatement upon the ground that an impertinent question was not entitled to a truthful reply."

YOU CAN FORM NO idea, says a correspondent, of the tranquility which now prevails in Paris. It ought to be thought a very small country town of 5,000 souls, and at 8 p.m., not a sound is heard, unless that of the cannon, which, with its harsh voice, reminds us that we are surrounded by enemies. I think without cannon we should entirely forget that we are besieged, people get so easily accustomed to everything here."

THE LOSSES of the Saxon troops before Paris amounted, up to the 2d ultimo, to 2,194 killed, wounded and missing. On that day alone the Schutzen regiment lost 567 men, or about a third of its effective force. "In common with the whole country," say a letter from Dresden, "our King has been afresh painfully affected by the largeness of these losses." The writer adds that the entire Saxon fortress artillery has been dispatched to Paris.

A TERRIBLE accident occurred lately at the Rollin Mill in Thalgan, Austria. Fifteen workmen were employed in cleaning away the soot which had accumulated over the great furnace, when the boiler burst, and threw the hot water over them. In an attempt to get away, one of them jostled the man in front of him, on the narrow scaffolding of planks, and five of them were immediately precipitated into the forge below, where, in a second, they were reduced to cinders.

IN REFERENCE to the orange crop, a Florida paper says that the damage done by the cold weather has not been sufficient to prevent a full crop next year. The old trees will shed their leaves, but no further damage has been done, more than it may be the loss of a part of the present orange crop. The young groves have been to some extent injured, and those lately budded are killed. The bananas are killed, but as they grow up rapidly, the new shoots will come out, and bear fruit by the coming Fall.

AT KLANABURG, a small town near Vienna, a young couple had just returned from church where they had been married and were receiving the congratulations of their friends, when the bridegroom suddenly fell dead from apoplexy at the feet of the bride. She gave an awful shriek, tore the bridal vail from her head, and with it in her hand rushed to her own room, and, locked herself in, knotting it securely around her throat and hanged herself, so effectually, that life was extinct before the door could be forced open.

A TABLE COMPILED from the last census shows that there are in the United States sixty seven cities of over 20,000 inhabitants. New York, Philadelphia and Brooklyn stand first, in the order named. St. Louis and Chicago have passed Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, and Cincinnati, and stand fourth and fifth on the list, while Baltimore, which stood fourth in 1860, now stands sixth. In the matter of per centage of gain, Kansas City, Mo., is far in the lead; while New Bedford in the North and Savannah in the South are the only cities which show any actual decrease.

LE BOURGET is, or rather was, a village which the Prussians found it necessary to storm house by house. At length a dwelling was reached, on the outside of which, in a prominent position, was scrawled with charcoal and in German, "The Prussians are dogs and cowards! We shall kill them all!" Then German ferocity showed itself. Scorning to fire a single shot at the enemy intrenched behind this barricade, the German soldiers broke open the doors and windows amid the fire from within, and killed every Frenchman there found with the butt ends of their rifles.

Queer Story of a Miser.

A correspondent, writing from Knoxville, Ill., describes the peculiar death of a miser, in that town, who was reputed to be worth $20,000. He had a nephew, a very worthy young man, who was going out West to seek his fortune. A few days before he was ready to leave, he went to his old uncle to sell him some notes of hand which he held. The old miser would not touch them, but said, "you have always been a good boy; but only a little too extravagant; I will make you a little present before you leave." He drew a check on the bank for $5, as he supposed, but, owing to his bad eyesight and worse penmanship, it proved to be $500. This unaccountable act of benevolence soon became noised about town, and, of course, soon came to the ears of the miser. He rushed to the bank, and, under much excitement, asked one of the bank officials what the amount of the check he had given his nephew was, "$500," said the clerk. "What?" said the miser. "$500," said the clerk, producing the check. After reading, and trembling in every muscle, he gave one long-drawn sigh, and exclaimed, "My God! I am a ruined man," then sank down and died.

A GENTLEMAN visiting a school had a book put into his hand for the purpose of examining a class. The word "inheritance" occuring in the verse, the querist interrogated one of the youngsters as follows: "What is an inheritance?" "Patrimony." "What is patrimony?" "Something left by a father." "What would you call it if left by a mother?" "Matrimony."

The Maine State Prison has one hundred and sixty-seven inmates.

Alarming symptoms of suffrage fever. Little girl: "There, dolly, you must lie still and sleep all day, cause I've dot to do and vote."

Eight of the twenty-two members of the Minnesota State Senate, and fifteen of the forty-eighty members of its House were born in N. Y., State. Not one of either House is a native of Minnesota.

The Horrors of War.

As the war is prolonged its horrors increase. The bitter weather under which we are shivering in this country would alone involve a terrible aggravation of misery. In this respect it is long since such horrible scenes as were described by "A Military Correspondent" are but too probable in such operations as the Army of the Loire has lately been engaged in, and it is to be feared they have been many times multiplied within the course of the present month. That army has been executing a continuous "strategic movement" of retreat, and fighting almost continuous battles during some of the severest weather of the month. Both armies have been strained to the uttermost, and have had no time to look behind them. The horrible consequence has been that the wounded have practically been left as uncared for as the dead. They have in some instances been gathered off the field of battle, though there must be numbers who have been left to perish of cold on the spot where they fell. But even when carried under shelter they have simply been heaped together in uninhabited houses, and have sometimes lain there for days unattended, unfed, and almost uncovered. The scene at at Beaugency, described by "A Military correspondent," is one even more horrible, because a more prolonged scene of agony. In a house which had once been a *Pension de Jeunes Filles*," every room from cellar to roof was crowded with dead and starving men, lying so thick it was impossible to move among them." It was Saturday, and many of them had been there since the Wednesday, some since the Tuesday. All that time "not one drop of water, not one atom of food, had passed their lips," nor had any comforting hand approached them. If a broken legged sergeant had been able to throw his own coat over his more severely wounded officer that was the utmost relief any of them had obtained. Moreover, the windows of the houses were all broken, "and all these days and nights of almost Artic cold they had been lying on the bare floor with their wounds undressed." All the agonies of wounds, of cold, of hunger, and thirst, with all the horrors of death, were endured for days together by these helpless sufferers. The battle, in fact, had been raging for three days around Beaugency, neither side gaining such undisturbed possession of the town as to be able to think of the wounded. Even on the second day, German shells burst in hospitals where French volunteers were tending German wounded. That night there was only one doctor in the town capable of performing amputations, and there were 200 desperately wounded men in one building alone. "The dead lay thick among the dying, and as the former were dragged out their places were instantly filled. Miserable objects, with broken jaws or faces half shot away, wandered about pointing to their dreadful wounds and making pitious signals for water, which it was impossible for them to swallow. Officers and men, veterans and boys all lay in one undistinguishable mass of misery. Every moan that the human voice can utter rose from that heap of agony." This was on the Thursday. How many more scenes like the one we have just described might there have been seen in Beaugency on Saturday? And how many more in the numerous villages over which the storm of conflict has passed between Beaugency and Vendome?

CATCHING MUSKRATS.—It may have puzzled many of our readers to tell how muskrats, beavers, and other animals, are able to stay so long under water, apparently without breathing, especially in winter. The way they manage is, they take in a good breath at starting, and then remain under water as long as possible. Then they rise up to the ice and breath out the air in their lungs, which remains in a bubble against the lower part of the ice. The water near the ice is highly charged with oxygen, which it readily imparts to the air breathed out. After a time, this air is taken back in the lungs, and the animal again goes under the water, repeating this process from time to time. In this way, they can travel almost any distance, and live almost any length of time under the ice. The hunter sometimes takes advantage of this habit of the muskrat in the following manner: When the marshes and ponds where the muskrat abounds are first frozen over, and the ice is thin and clear, on striking into their houses with his hatchet, for the purpose of setting his trap, he frequently sees a whole family plunge into the water and swim away under the ice. Following one for some distance, he sees him come up to recover his breath, in the manner above described. After the animal has breathed against the ice, and before he has time to take his bubble in again, the hunter strikes with his hatchet directly over him, and drives him away from his breath. In this case he drowns in swimming a few rods, and the hunter, cutting a hole in the ice, takes him out. Mink, otter, and beaver travel under the ice in the same way, and hunters have frequently told of taking otter in the manner described.

King William is Emperor.

King William has issued the following proclamation at Versailles on the occasion of his assumption of the Imperial Crown. He says:

"In consequence of the appeal of the German Princes and of the free towns for us to restore the German Empire, after a lapse of sixty years, we announce that we consider it our duty to the Fatherland to accept the Imperial dignity. Henceforth we and our successors will bring to the title of Emperor of Germany the hope that God will vouchsafe a blissful future to the Fatherland, and that under our auspices, its ancient splendor may be restored. We partake of the dignity, conscious of our duty to preserve with German fidelity the rights of the Empire, and of its members to maintain peace and to support and strengthen the independence of Germany, in the hope that the German people will reap, in lasting peace, within our boundaries, the fruits of their bloody battles, and be safe against the renewal of French attacks. God grant that we and our successors may protect the Empire, not by war-like conquests, but by works of peace, freedom, and civilization."

There was a great military pageant at Versailles in honor of the restoration of German Empire.

MATTERS IN JAPAN.—The latest advices from Japan were received by steamer at San Francisco. Apprehensions of a renewal of civil war in the Province under Satsuma existed. Half a square mile of the City of Jeddo was burned Dec. 20. A powder-magazine exploded in that city Dec. 29, destroying several lives. The roads in the vicinity of Yokohama were again dangerous to foreigners, Commander Snooks, Pay-master Bowles and several sailors of the British man-of-war Ringdove, were drowned Dec. 20. Mr. Portman, interpreter to the American Legation, had been supended by Minister De Long, owing to complaints made by the Japanese. Four gun-boats are lying at Tien-tsin, China, and are to remain all Winter. The French Minister is blamed for the manner in which he settled the matter of the massacre. Mr. Seward and his party returned from Tientsin Nov. 30, and left for Hong Kong Dec. 7. They were cordially received by the Imperial authorities at Pekin.

Why Soup is Wholesome.

The London *Food Journal* says: Physiologically, soup has great value for those who hurry to and from their meals, as it allows an interval of comparative rest to the fainting stomach before the more substantial beef and mutton is attacked; rest before solid food being as important as rest after it. Let a hungry and weary merchant or lawyer rush *in medias res*—plunge boldly into roast beef, and what is the result? The defeat is often as precipitate as was the attack. When the body is weary the stomach must be identified with it, and cannot therefore stand the shock of some ill-masticated, half-pound weight of beef. But if a small plateful of light soup be gently insinnated into the system, nourishment will soon be introduced, and strength will follow to receive more substantial material.

In and around Paris.

From Paris and Versailles correspondence we make the following notes:

The German guns at present in position are all supplied with 500 rounds of ammunition, and both guns and ammunition are so placed as, in German estimation, to render them perfectly safe from being hit by the French return fire. The Prince of Hohenlohe has been given the command and direction of the seige operations, while the engineer officer in charge under him is the same who carried out the seige of Strasbourg. Thus, everything is ready; but I cannot help believing that it is so only to stop the cries and clamors of the German people at home, and of the soldiers abroad, who, one and all, are in a semi-state of open mutiny at the long delay which has taken place in their long-cherished hope being realized—of entering Paris in triumph and of a speedy peace being made.

The provisional government of Paris meets daily to consider the policy to be adopted to end the siege. The majority of members are, it is reported, thinking of leaving Paris in balloons to avoid signing the capitulation. General Ducrot is for massing the troops and for hewing their way through the German lines to join the provincial armies. He declares it *treason to the republic to surrender* 200,000 *soldiers* (regular army and Gardes Mobiles), to the Germans, and swears he will neither sign nor take part in any capitulation like Sedan or Metz. It was rumored in Paris he had gone off in a balloon during the preceeding night. This is a mistake, he is still here. He will probably make his exit by this way for he fights with a rope around his neck. You know he has betrayed his parole, which he gave up at Sedan.

General Blanchard is opposed to any such steps of desperation. He says there is no plain in the neighborhood of Paris sufficiently wide for 200,000 men to make such a dash; that the enemy's cavalry would make them prisoners; that the few who escaped would perish of hunger and cold by the roadside; moreover, where could they go? The Garde Mobile would refuse to obey any such orders, and it is believed the regular army would prove equally refractory to them. To attempt to carry out such a scheme would lead to the disorganization of the army and probably to frightful scenes in Paris. Conceive 200,000 men suddenly released from decipline and eager to make amends in riot for weeks of every sort of severe privation.

The Germans have opened a cannonade at this great distance because it enables them to worry the French and not expose their own men. They have opened the cannonade to force the French troops to keep the field in this severe weather, which is not only killing or disabling the French by hundreds daily (300 men have been brought in frozen in one night), but is disheartening them.

The order for the return to Paris of the troops was given only under pressure of officers, who declared their men would not, and could not, stand the severity of the frost. They sleep on the frozen ground, with no covering but a very thin blanket. They are insufficiently and irregularly fed. They are miserably shod. One night passed in these conditions is more fatal than a pitched battle. Therefore the Germans, with accustomed sagacity, have forced the French from the cover of Paris into the open fields, covered with snow and swept by cutting winds which penetrate the thickest garments.

There needs no bombardment to end the siege. Its consummation is at hand. There were 9,000 omnibus horses at the beginning of the seige; there are only 3,000 left—not four days' supply. We have eaten so many hearse-horses—you know funerals are a monopoly which is farmed to a company—Crœsus himself, were he to die, would be obliged to content himself with one horse to his hearse, though no Crœsus ever yet quitted Paris for Pere la Chaise except with four or six horses' tails turned on him. I went to Pere la Chaise yesterday; I was there only three hours, during which time thirty funerals passed by me. Two thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight persons died here between the 18th and 24th inst. Typhus fever swept away 221 (last week 173 perished by the same malady), small-pox 388 (instead of 391), and numerous cases of lock-jaw, gangrene, and purulent infection are reported in the hospitals. The apothecaries' shops are getting as empty as the grocers'.

A Lunatic's Shrewdness.

The cunning of lunatics is proverbial and they display at times not a little shrewdness of speech and purpose. There may be said to be sensible madmen, just as there is said to be wise fools. At any rate, we often find considerable method in the madness of some "clouded intellects."

A game-keeper and an inmate of an asylum at Neath, England, happened to meet on the lawn in front of the building.

Inmate—"Good-morning to you. That's a fine horse you have; pray what is he worth?"

Game-keeper.—"This horse cost my master sixty pounds."

Inmate.—"And what may that gun have cost which you have?"

Game-keeper.—"This is one of Westley Richardson's and consequently is expensive; it cost twenty pounds."

Inmate.—"And what are those dogs worth?"

Game-keeper.—"These dogs are worth about twenty pounds."

Inmate.—"And what have you in that basket?"

Game-keeper.—"A snipe."

Inmate.—"And what is that worth?"

Game-keeper.—"About sixpence."

Inmate.—"Well I should recommend you to ride off as fast as you can, for if our governor were to know that any man expended a hundred pounds to procure a six-penny bird, he would immediately seize him and put him in his asylum."

A RARE piece of good fortune has lately befallen an old lady living at Bosham, in West Sussex, England, and who was known to the inhabitants of that place as "Madame Idle,"—the title of Madame being bestowed upon her from the fact that she had spent part of her life at Paris. She lived upon a small income, that placed her just above the seafaring population from whom she sprang and amidst whom she lived. A short time ago she received a letter, which, not being able to read herself, she took with her on her next visit to the neighboring city of Chichester, and asked one of the trades-people with whom she dealt to decipher it for her. He did so, and found it was a letter from the solicitor of the late Marquis of Hertford, who died a short time ago at Paris, to the effect that his Lordship had left her by his will an annuity of £8,000 a year! She has since come into the receipt of this handsome provision for life, and has provided out of it for her relatives, who were in a humble position of life.

AT Digne, in Germany, several butts of wine were shattered by lightning, and their contents passed along the floor into a cistern beneath. It was found that, far from having suffered by the accident, the wine was improved so as to sell at sixty instead of ten cents per litre. Subsequent experiments tend to show that a current caused by the immersion of two platina electrodes in connection with a galvanic battery have a similar effect on wine. Even poor wines seem to assume an agreeable flavor through the process.

A RECENT INQUEST in London affords a remarkable illustration of the lengths to which vanity will carry woman. A domestic servant died suddenly. The doctor could not account for the death, and made a *post mortem* examination, which showed that the stomach had been reduced to the size of a baby's, and the heart pushed out of its proper place, through tight lacing. The coroner, a medical man of great experience, had never seen so aggravated a case of the sort.

THE Superintendent of the Census now declares his inability to furnish a compendium of his report before the 4th of March. The troublesome States appear to be South Carolina and Texas, from which not over half the counties have been reported.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

SENATE.

The Finance Committee was discharged from the further consideration of the subject of a tax on New York Central scrip dividend as a matter for the Courts to decide.

A bill for the redemption of the copper and nickle coins in sums not less than $20 was passed.

A resolution was presented calling on the Judiciary Committee to inquire how far Congress is authorized to regulate fare and transportation on railroads.

Among the petitions presented was one from citizens of Iowa praying for the "establishment of an umpire to prevent wars."

Bills were introduced providing for Government aid for the construction of a railroad from Portland to Chicago.

A bill abolishing the rank of Admiral and Vice Admiral in the Navy was passed with an amendment continuing them until vacancies occur.

Mr. Morton's resolution for a Special Committee to investigate the condition of affairs in the South was agreed to.

The certificate of election of Foster Bladget as a Senator from Georgia for the next term, was read and tabled.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Conkling incorporating the New York Port Tunnel Company with authority to Tunnel the Hudson and East rivers.

The Commerce Committee reported adversely the joint resolution accepting the proposals of the International Steamship Company for placing iron steamships in the Trans-Atlantic service, and they were indefinitely postponed.

In the Senate, Mr. O. P. Stearns, a new member from Minnesota, was sworn in.

The bill to reimburse States for interests on war expenses was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A resolution was adopted allowing the Committee on Southern Outrages to report from time to time.

The bill to increase the pension of disabled soldiers and sailors, and others, twenty per cent., for five years, was passed.

The necessity of reform in the civil service was urged by Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Wilson

In the Senate, the credentials of F. P. Blair were received.

A petition for female suffrage in the District of Columbia was tabled.

Bill to aid in the construction of the Atlantic and Great Western Canal was introduced.

HOUSE.

In the House a bill was received from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, appropriating $100,000 for a commission to fix the North-west boundary.

A bill was introduced and referred, for the admission of Utah as a State with an irrevocable provision in its Constitution prohibiting plural marriages.

A bill authorizing the sale of certain Indian lands was passed, with an amendment prohibiting contracts with Indians for a commission or compensation in effecting sales.

The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill was passed, the amendment increasing the salary of the Judges of the Supreme Court having been agreed to.

The Brooks-Hastings controversy was ended by a resolution exonerating Mr. Brooks from the charges made by Hastings, on the ground that the latter refused to give evidence in support of them.

In the House a memorial was presented protesting against the cruelties practiced in the war in France, and praying for an expression of sympathy with the French Republic.

A bill was referred, granting an American register to a British ship owned at New Bedford.

A bill for the consolidation of various Indian tribes, and the organization of the Territory of Okaloma was reported.

A proposition to raise the salary of the Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg from $1,800 to $2,500 was rejected.

In the House a petition was presented from New York merchants in favor of the appointment of Commissioners to audit and pay the Alabama claims.

During a debate on the bill to provide a government for the District of Columbia, the woman-suffrage question was brought up. Mr. Julian moved to amend the sixth section, which gives the elective franchise to all male citizens of the United States, by striking out the word "male;" and he requested a vote by yeas and nays. This was taken, and resulted as follows: yeas 55, nays 115. With some slight amendments the bill was passed. It proposes a territorial government for the district.

The Army Appropriation bill, appropriating $27,475,000, was reported.

In the House, among the bills introduced was one for determining the claims for damage done by Confederate privateers; one to connect the telegraphs with the postal service; one to encourage the building of steam-ships; and one to facilitate transportation and promote commerce.

A bill regulating rank in the navy was passed.

The House substitute for the bill providing a territorial Government for the District of Columbia was referred to a committee of conference.

An adverse report was made on the bill for refunding interest to the States on the expenses incurred in aiding the government to carry on the late war.

In the House, Mr. Corker, a new member from Georgia, took his seat.

The bill providing for the consolidation of the Indian tribes under a Territorial Government was recommitted.

A resolution adopted anthorizing the Committee investigating the case of the kidnapped cadets to take testimony at West Point.

Mr. Wood's amendment prohibiting the use of the contingent fund in the accomplishment of the annexation of San Domingo was rejected, and the bill passed.

THE SCAFFOLD IN VERMONT.—Henry Welcome, a lad of about nineteen years of age, was executed at Windsor, Vt., for the murder of Perry Russell, a venerable and respected farmer residing in the vicinity of the Village of Hinesburg. The object of the young assassin was to get possession of $10,000 worth of Government bonds belonging to Mr. Russell, but which the latter had deposited in the Bank of Burlington only a few days before the commission of the crime. Young Welcome selected as his weapon a barn-door hinge about ten inches long. Thus armed he knocked at the front door of his victim's house, and as Mr. Russell opened it struck the old man a terrific blow upon the head, felling him to the floor, after which he leisurely completed the work of death, and then ransacked the dwelling, without, however, accomplishing the object of the dreadful deed.

AN EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT happened to two young Scotchwomen at Castle Douglas, who slept together. A suffocating smoke having awakened the master of the house he arose and found that it came from his daughters bed-room, and, on going there, he found the bed on fire and the two girls dead from suffocation. To warm their feet they had taken to bed with them a hot brick, which being overheated ignited the feathers.

WHAT IS UP?—Great preparations of defence are going on at Strasbourg. Munitions are being accumulated. Some say these preparations are being made in case of *a possible diversion of Bourbaki in that direction*, and others say that is for a German Army falling back upon the fortress after the surrender of Paris.

A Charleston merchant estimates that the rice crop of the entire South in 1870-'71 will be about 85,850 casks. He expects 30,500 casks from South Carolina, 28,000 from Georgia, 50,350 from Louisiana, and the small remainder from North Carolina.

For Dyspepsia,

Indigestion, depression of spirits, and general debility in their various forms; also, as a preventive against fever and ague, and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphorated Elixir of Calisaya," made by CASWELL, HAZARD & CO., New York, and sold by all druggists, is the best tonic, and as a tonic for patients recovering from fever or other sickness, it has no equal.

The Markets.

NEW YORK.

BEEF CATTLE—Fair to prime	$10.00	a	15.00
HOGS—Live	7.37½	a	8.25
Dressed	9.25	a	9.37½
SHEEP	4.00½	a	6.00½
COTTON—Middling	...	a	.35
FLOUR—Extra Western	6.35	a	6.50
Ext a State	6.35	a	6.65
WHEAT—No. 1 Spring, new	1.46	a	1.46
RYE—Western	.85	a	.91
BARLEY—State	...	a	.85
CORN—Mixed Western	.77	a	.85
OATS—Western	.60	a	.62
PORK—Mess	18.50	a	21.00
LARD	11½	a	12½
BUTTER	.14	a	.50
WHISKEY	.92	a	.93
HOPS	8.00	a	13.00
CHICAGO.			
BEEVES—Choice	$7.00	a	7.50
Prime	6.00	a	6.75
Fair Grades	5.50	a	5.75
STOCK CATTLE—Common	4.00	a	4.75
Inferior	3.50	a	4.00
HOGS—Live	6.20	a	6.30
SHEEP—Live—Good to Choice	4.00	a	5.00
BUTTER—Choice	.18	a	.28
EGGS—Fresh	.27	a	.28
FLOUR—White Winter Extra	6.50	a	7.25
Spring Extra	4.65	a	6.00
Buckwheat	4.75	a	5.75
GRAIN—Corn—No. 2	.45½	a	.47
Barley—No. 2. new	.70	a	.75
Oats—No. 2	.38½	a	.39½
Rye—No. 2	.70	a	.71
Wheat—Spring, No. 1. new	1.19	a	1.19½
No. 2, new	1.02½	a	1.06
LARD	11½	a	.12
PORK—Mess	18.75	a	19.37½
PHILADELPHIA.			
PETROLEUM—Crude	.14	a	.14½
Refined	23½	a	.24
NAPTHA	.09	a	.09½
ALBANY.			
WHEAT—State	1.45	a	1.50
Extra	1.48	a	1.55
RYE—State	.98	a	1.00
CORN—Mixed	.78	a	.80
BARLEY—State	.75	a	.85
OATS—State	.58	a	.61
BUFFALO.			
BEEF CATTLE	5.00	a	7.50
SHEEP	3.50	a	6.80
HOGS—Live	6.50	a	7.50
FLOUR	5.90	a	7.25
WHEAT	1.20	a	1.30
OATS	.50	a	.52
RYE	.90	a	.91
BARLEY	.75	a	.82
LARD	.12	a	.14

A man in Memphis, after surviving the ingestion of twenty-four bottles of patent "bitters," is ungrateful enough to sue the advertiser thereof because they didn't cure his complaint.

Broad river, South Carolina, froze over last week for the first time in thirty-seven years.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY for February contains, among other notable features, a highly interesting illustrated article, by Prof. T. B. Maury, on "Weather telegrams and storm forecasts by the American signal service," giving an account of the English system of "Storm warnings," and showing what the United States Government has recently accomplished, and is proposing to do, in this line. "The New York merchantile library," by Mr. Hassard, illustrated. "Something about balloons," by J. R. Thompson, with a number of illustrations. A valuable paper, by Prof. Baird, on "The French conquest of Lorraine and Alsace," with map and medals. "The bondage of the pulpit," by Miss Wilkinson. Gail Hamilton's "Conference wrong side out." A "Valentine love story," by Edward Eggleston. "Wilfrid Cumbermede," and the continuation of Anderson's "Lucky peer," with a charming illustration, &c. Articles by Dr. Holland, on "Canada and Saint Domingo," "The Tenton and the Gaul," "Where are the young men," "Home and its queen," &c. Poetry by Alice Cary, R. H. Stoddard, and others. Scribner & Co., Publishers, New York.

Security and Safety.

Persons seeking a safe investment for their spare means, will do well to refer to a map just issued by Jay Cooke & Co., showing the system of railroads in the Northwest. The great centre of this system is shown to be the West Wisconsin Railway. Over this important line must pass the great bulk of the business between the Northwest, the East and South. An air-line between St. Paul & Chicago, Milwaukee and the East, it connects with and takes up the business of the Northwestern, the Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Illinois Central, the Green Bay & Mississippi Railroads (now building) and in addition the Michigan Central is building to it. At St. Paul it takes the business of the Northern Pacific, and makes an outlet for the grand system of railroads terminating there. It does this because it is the shortest and most direct route—an air-line, in fact, and travel and commerce seek air-lines at all times. In the future history of the railways of the Northwest, the West Wisconsin Railway cannot but fill a most prominent part.

Of this road, 120 miles are now built and running, and only 34 miles remain to be built to reach St. Paul, and thus make the connection perfect. A limited amount of 7 ber cent. gold bearing and gold interest bonds, to complete this great work, are now offered to the public. These gold bonds are a first, and only mortgage upon all the property of the Company, including its magnificent land grant worth *eight millions of dollars*, and in the hands of Trustees. Every dollar received from the sales of these lands must by law apply to the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds making their perfect security beyond a question. The road is pronounced by all one of the best built in the country, penetrates wealthy and very prosperous grain, lumber and mining regions of the Northwest, and the bonds, as an investment cannot fail to attract that attention from capitalists which their merits as to security, promptness with which the interest is met semi-annually, as well as the very liberal interest allowed, demands.

A NEGLECTED COUGH cold, or sore throat, which might be checked by a simple remedy, like "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*," if allowed to progress may terminate seriously. For Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, and Consumptive Coughs, "*The Troches*," are used with advantage, giving often-times immediate relief. Singers and public speakers will find them also excellent to clear the voice and render articulation wonderfully easy.

The Lesson of Nature.

Torpor is the characteristic of winter. Vegetation dies or falls into a state of trance. The whole aspect of inanimate nature teaches us that there is a paralyzing influence in the air, and seeks to teach us that our bodies require an increase of vital power to contend with it. Some of even the warm-blooded animals bury themselves in the earth and remain in a state of partial stupefaction until the season is over, and the elixir of the spring sunshine stimulates their stagnant blood, and restores their vigor. But man, although he feels the influence of the season, can protect himself against its inclemency. He has fuel to warm him externally, and can tone and strengthen his internal organization and endow it with the extra amount of vitality which the circumstances require. Of all invigorants that have ever been recommended for this purpose, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is the purest and the best. Fortified by the daily use of this wholesome vegetable tonic, the human system may defy the chills and damps of winter in any latitude. Its effect is to promote a brisk and regular circulation of the blood, and activity in all the secretive organs. Without the slightest tendency to produce fever, it imparts a healthful glow to the surface, and stimulates the exterior vessels to discharge, in the form of gentle perspiration, the useless matter eliminated from the blood. Thus the system is kept unclogged. Fever and ague, billiousness, indigestion and colic, all of which are the common consequences of the searching damps and low temperature of winter, may