

VOL. IV. NO. 5.

BEAUFORT, S. C. THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1876.

\$2.00 per Annum. Single Copy 5 Cents.

The Frost King.

From out his winter palace The king has started forth; The birds have left their summer nests; The wind is in the north; The river and the mountain...

ber, could be seen twisting and turning on their tails to where Mungul Deen sat tum-tumming and piping as unconcerned as if he were receiving visits from the doves of paradise instead of the deadly enemies of mankind.

Every one now noticed that the snakes were, in military phrasing, "changing front to the rear upon the center" by turning round upon their tails...

The spectators then descended from their rostrum, and I can testify as one of the party that on inspection that ground was found to be well covered with the carcasses of dead cobras...

Don Carlos' Letter.

The following is the full text of the letter of Don Carlos to King Alfonso, a few items of which have been before published: The attitude of the President of the American republic may be considered as the prelude of a war if you do not recognize the independence of Cuba.

A Sea Fight.

The Zanzibar correspondent of the Western Morning News, writing under date October 20, says: The bark Pan line has arrived at Zanzibar with coals for her majesty's ships.

SEVERE FRING.—Mr. E. J. Reed says: A faintidea may be formed, perhaps, of the extent to which Sebastopol was fired upon when I say that from a tax of six pence per cwt., which the government levied upon the proceeds of the sales of old iron, shot, and shell, picked up and sold by the people, a sum of nearly \$75,000 was realized.

A WESTERN TOWN.

The Ups and Downs of Gold Hill—Plenty of Stories and Lots of Letters.

Gold Hill, Nevada, is a city of steps. The town stands at the head of Gold canyon, a large ravine that empties into the Carson river at Dayton, some ten miles away.

But alas! the chimney-corners are gone; the pretty tiles are cast away and broken forever; the rush-bottomed rocking-chair has not now even a nook in the garret for it has totally passed away.

Death in the Ballroom.

Miss Wilhelmina Townsend, a young lady, died suddenly while dancing at a party in Boston. A party of young ladies and gentlemen, numbering about forty couple, held a soiree in Pythian Hall, and were having a merry time.

Wages Now and Before the War.

The Springfield (Mass.) Republican, which has been investigating the present wages of local labor as compared with the wages of 1860, confesses to some surprise at the result, all the important branches of industry except railroad services showing an advance still retained of from forty to sixty-five per cent., and the average advanced for all classes covered by the investigation being still fifty-two per cent.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Percentage. Railroads 35 per cent, Cotton 50, Woolen 65, Paper 55, Buttons 50, Cigars 50, Whips 44, Domestic 65, Iron and wood 64, Day labor 40, Average 52.

The table is one of interest, and deserves a little thought.

THESE GOOD OLD DAYS.

Oh! for the Good Old Days of the Long Ago!

Ah! those were the days when Santa Claus was a veritable personage, and no childish lips dared to scoff at him as a myth! There were chimneys then worth speaking of—great, wide, old-fashioned ones with plenty of room for the good little man to descend with all his treasures, and to fill the stockings at his leisure, while he warmed himself over the red embers of the half-burnt logs.

But still there are some of the pleasant old customs at Christmas which old Father Time has spared us. There stands the Christmas tree, brilliant with twinkling lights, and splendid with gifts.

Education of the Flea.

Mr. Bertolotto, the well known educator of the flea, is now in New York exhibiting his curious success in this line. The insects he employs appear to be the species of flea common to dogs.

The Georgia Swamp.

The expedition which is exploring the vast and hitherto almost unknown Okefenokee swamp, in Georgia, has discovered that there are no extensive lakes on the east side of the swamp, as has hitherto been believed.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

Report of United States Postmaster-General Jewell.

The report of Postmaster-General Jewell shows, among other things, that the ordinary receipts of that department during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1875, were \$26,671,218.50, an increase of \$299,344.80, or 1.13 per cent., over the receipts of 1874, being less than the estimate made in 1873 by \$1,809,831.

The weight of public documents sent through the mails from members of Congress was estimated by the department to be from two to three hundred tons.

What to do in Winter.

The winter comes in with appropriate cold weather. Now is the time to put on your thickest armor of flannel underclothing, and to see to it that the deservingly poor suffer no want.

An Anecdote of John Randolph.

John Randolph boarded in Georgetown while a member of Congress, and generally rode over to the capitol, but sometimes he walked. On a keen frosty morning he was walking over to the House, and soon after he crossed Rock creek bridge he was spied by Mr. B., who was walking on the opposite side of the street, in the same direction.

A Blessing.

The adage that afflictions are often blessings in disguise receives verification in the case of a poor man, whose wife during the first year of their marriage yanked at his hair until he became entirely bald.

ON THE RIO GRANDE.

How the Mexican Robbers Conduct their Raids and Carry off the Cattle.

Says the New Orleans Picayune: A gentleman who, for some time past, has been sojourning at Brownsville, Texas, and has had an excellent opportunity of observing the operations of predatory bands of Mexicans who cross the Rio Grande, gives the following description of the modus operandi of these raids.

It is generally at some fandango, which brings together the inhabitants of an extensive tract of country, that the plot of the excursion is concocted. All necessary preparations having been made, the Free Lancers make a rapid dash for the river, and after crossing, either by swimming, or by boats held in readiness by their confederates, the band strikes out into the country, but never in a direct route.

Bloody scenes are frequently enacted during these incursions. Not long since a band of Mexicans captured, at a small pueblo near Brownsville, a poor schoolmaster, who had unfortunately incurred their hatred. The villains deliberately hacked off the legs of the miserable man and then commanded him to walk on the bleeding stump.

A Tough Story.

Two old plowmen down East were once telling tough stories of their exploits in breaking up new ground. "Up to Dixmont," said one, "twenty-seven years ago this spring, I was plowing in stump ground with a team of nine pair of cattle for Sol Cunningham; and we were going along, making not very smooth work among rocks and stumps.

Borrowed the Money.

The Independent tells the following story: The evening before his inauguration as Vice-President, Henry Wilson called on Mr. Sumner and said: "Sumner, can you lend me a hundred dollars? I have not got money enough to be inaugurated on." Mr. Sumner replied: "Certainly." If it had been a large sum I might not have been able to help you; but I can always lend a friend a hundred dollars.

Served Right.

Of all small vices, tobacco chewing is about the most offensive; and it is astonishing that people will tolerate it. Here is an amusing embarrassment that the man deserved: A young Hartford merchant called on a young lady at New York, and was shown into the parlour by a servant. He was a little awkward, and he was a little nervous, and he was a little out of his mind, and he was a little out of his senses.

WILL NOT GO.—On one block in the western part of Detroit, says the Free Press, there are eight ladies who won't go to church on Sunday because a ninth lady has an India shawl on it and they have a large quid of tobacco from his mouth and threw it out of the window, as he supposed. When the lady appeared with a light, the most prominent object in the room was that young man staring in a very embarrassed way at a big chunk of tobacco pinning the lace curtain to the unopened window.

Items of Interest.

A good wife is a good thing, but a bad husband beats her. The late elections wanted ten Mississippi editors into office.

Seal-brown stockings are colored with picric acid, an active poison. If man thinks he would feel fatter off, by all means let him go.

There are 65,250 beggars in Paris, two-thirds of whom are females. An average crop of wheat in the United States is now about 300,000,000 bushels.

The Russian government owns 148 salt works, which produce annually about 400,000 tons.

Mrs. Matthew Griswold, of Connecticut, had governors for father, brother, husband, son, and nephew.

Call a boy John, and he will be steady; call him Charles, and he will deviate into Charlie, and go in for flirtation.

New York youths in their twentieth year affect curl. No wonder Spain trembles at the name of America.

Between five thousand and six thousand houses in Philadelphia have been registered for Centennial visitors.

Vice-President Wilson is said to have left an estate worth about \$3,000, and his place in Natick is valued at \$2,500.

The Belgians are the least litigious people in the world, as it takes an average of 27,000 of them to support one lawyer.

A high Ulan officer of the Prussian guards has been sentenced to a year and a half imprisonment in a military fortress for being married to a young lady who was not of noble birth.

There is a dispute between Indiana and Kentucky about the ownership of a small island in the Ohio river near Evansville. It will not be squabbled for any the less viciously because it is worth little or nothing.

The Leek (Staffordshire) Improvement Commissioners have refused to receive into their cemetery the following epitaph: "Twenty-one years a dutiful daughter, three years a chaste and virtuous sweetheart and forty years a loving wife."

A Mississippi alligator munched off the wooden left leg of an editor the other day, when he might just as well have had the whole body of a Congressman in place of it. Is there a moral here? Isn't there something here for parents and guardians to ponder over?

A man named Nathaniel Lyle smuggled himself into a box car on a branch of the St. Paul railroad, between Austin and Mason City, Iowa. The car took fire and Lyle suffered some injuries. Physicians swore that Lyle was afflicted with consumption, the result of partial suffocation and roasting in the car, and a jury gave the plaintiff a verdict for \$1,500.

Mme Antoinette Sterling, having been invited by Canon Kingsley to Eversley Vicarage, sang him his ballad, "The Three Fishers." She says: "He had never seen me before, and when I came to that part of the song which expresses the suspense of the weeping women on the shore, I heard him say: 'Go on—that's right.' But when the suspense was over and the bodies were lying on the sands, missing his precious exclamations, I looked up and saw him sitting with his face in his hands, crying at his own pathetic story."

The United States Currency.

It is shown in the report of the comptroller of the currency of the United States that there was received at the redemption agency of the treasury, from June 20, 1874, to November 14, 1875, \$219,866,445. Of this amount \$99,000, or about forty-two per cent, was received from the banks in New York city. The total amount received by the comptroller for redemption from the national banks during the period was \$166,935,253, of which amount \$15,094,354 were issues of the banks of the city of New York, \$12,549,877 of those of the city of Boston, \$5,650,657 of Philadelphia, \$3,360,735 of Baltimore, \$3,141,600 of Pittsburgh, \$2,796,945 of Chicago, \$1,841,749 of St. Louis, \$1,288,570 of Cincinnati, \$1,886,692 of New Orleans, \$1,110,780 of Albany, and of those of the other redemption cities \$3,307,796.

The amount of national bank notes now outstanding upon which the charter number has been printed is \$156,256,347, leaving \$101,960,555 of notes in circulation without such numbers. If the present system shall be continued, these notes are replaced by new notes bearing their charter numbers, economy will result to the banks, for the expense of assorting will always there-after be greatly reduced, and when this shall have been done the machinery now in operation will be ready and adequate for the redemption of national bank notes in specie.

The Egyptian Army.

Col. S. H. Lockett writes from Egypt to his friends in Montgomery, Ala.: I brought quite a number of applications for service in the khedive's army with me when I came. To all of these I have had to reply that the Egyptian government has no desire to employ foreigners simply because they are such. A few Americans were wanted to fill certain special positions, where previous instruction and experience would make them useful. These positions are connected with the staff departments of the army, and they are now nearly all filled. There are no foreign officers in the line of the Egyptian army—and they are not wanted. They could not command the soldiers because they do not know the language of the country. Besides, the native officers are now well-instructed, competent set of men. No man can be a non-commissioned officer unless he can read and write, and the commission officers all pass a rigid examination before appointment. Gen. Stone, chief of staff, has brought this about within the last six years. There are now twenty American officers in the Egyptian army. They are partly engaged in the bureaus at headquarters here in Cairo, and partly in explorations in the far interior.