HOOLS.

the Report of nt Mayfield.

ON QUESTION.

tables show general

ent has been free from friction Harmony has vailed among the teachofficers.

considered the schools ear have been satisfactory results accomplished as great d have been expected.

school law passed at your last contains a few conflicting s of minor importan e which call to the attention of the ttees on education during your

w changes in the law are needthese I will suggest when I the subjects to which they

enrollment for the year is than ever before in the history State. Last year the number te pupils was 103,728 and this 09,159, an increase of 5,431 I pupils last year 119,292 and year 123,178, an increase of a total increase of white and pupils of 6,316. This inhas surpassed the most sanexpectations of those charged he management of the depart-

ng November 1st and ending 80th, caused by the change in r. Had the schools that were during the summer months included in this report as they have been had the scholastic een twelve months instead of possibly the enrollment would

been still larger.

This scholastic year was but

months instead of twelve, com

schools for the whites average onths, and those for the color months. It will be observed e average is not as great as last year for by the shorten ools for the summer months e next scholastic year. Had cluded in this year the avergth of the session would have creased beyond that of any

the summer monhts into It may have been expected at the expenditures for the be largely in excess of ous years. But it should bered that the counties on sis used only the tax form d, a poll tax and a two mill some counties not on a cash y a poll and a two mill tax d, and in no county was the nt of poll and three mill tax he condition of the schools

the act passed at your last funds on hand and those nce for the permanent ad have been invested by treasure as follows:

different counties rendered

se both proper and expedi-

is is but an instance of the

ity of making the law more

per cent couds, \$ 22,000-00 41 per cent. 13,757 95 41 per cent.

11,700 00 per cent. con-

\$ 49,157 92 the year ninety-eight ises have been erected at a \$8,733 12. The school r whites number 2,448: \$570,863 90; those for umber 1.632, valued at 35; making an aggregate houses, valued at \$746,he total furniture and apvalued at \$74,653 33,

led to the value of houses, tal value of school prop-1,329 78 he year special school disbeen established by the county boards, and a special tax levied under the general law authoriz

ing the same, which districts are under the jurisdiction of the State board, as follows; Anderson 2. special tax none; Banwell 12 special tax 10; Berkeley 1, special tax none; Chesterfield 2, special none; leton 2, special tax none ; Fairfiel 1, levying a special tax.

country boards, and a special tax levied, under the general law authorizing the jurisdiction of the State board, as follows: Anderson 8, special tax none: Barnwell 22, spocial tax 9; Berkeley 2, special tax 2; Chester 1, special tax none; Chesterfield 10, special tax 7; Clarendon 2, special tax 2; Colleton 12. special tax none; Edgefield 10 special tax 1; Fairfield 16. special tax 10; Florence 7, special tax none; Greenville 1, special tax 1; Hampton 3. special tax 1; Kershaw 7, special tax 7; Lancaster 1, special tax 1: Marion 4. special tax 2; Marlboro 1, special tax 1; Nowberry 7, special tax 7; Orangeburg 11, special tax 11; Pickens 3, special tax 2; Sumter 1, special tax 1: Union 1, special tax 1; York 4, special tax 1; making a total of 137 disdricts, with 66 levying a special tax

There are eighty-nine public schools in the State, as shown by the school commissioner's reports, in which the public funds are supplemented by private subscriptions. In some of the counties, reports not included in the above, the school com missioner say "many " nearly all," "one fourth to one-third," etc.

The school commissioners' reports show eighty five academies and high schools in operation this year.

The State colleges, male and female, have had a prosperous year. Reference is here directed to their several special reports, and to their separate mention in the body of this report, that you may have a full and clear conception of the condition of each of them. All the private colleges, male and female, have been well attended and appear to be in a most prosperous condition.

The vexed question of free tuition in State colleges should be settled dimunition of the independent sover- be reported to the House at 5 o'clock and put to rest. For many years it has been a subject of dissatisfaction and complaint on the part of the friends of the other colleges in the State and thus has worked injury to all the interests of education. - That berald of peace, the happy moment doubtlesss be interesting, owing to constant deceptions. Threats are freesuch dissatisfaction should exist is not surprising in the absence of all uniform law or practice on the subject in the several State colleges The private and denominational colleges the scholastic year, putting are dependent largely upon their tuition fees, and their friends com plain of what they consider a want ools for the summer months of due regard for their interests and

Under such circumstances, and for the sake of all the interests concerned, it is very desirable that some intact the right of sovereignty and the morning after the holiday recess it is careful management all the equitable and permenent settlement condition necessary to the maintenance quite likely that the matters pertain of many of the counties have of the question should be reached, rought to a cash basis, and in which would be uniform in its appliother counties some of the cation to all the State colleges, and districts have been brought to just alike to the interests of the State government upon the opening of parbasis. In but few of the and of the private colleges. So long liament. s are all the schools on a as the question remains open, the agitation and the harm resulting from otal school expenses for the it will continue, and the failure of the executive government and partly returned to the city, and the subject ere several thousand dollars each successive legislature to settle last year, but this is also ac- it only increases the irritation and le for by the shortening of danger. In the hope of reaching not encounter insuparable obstacles to issue on the opening day, owing to lastic year and putting the such a settlement, and thus harmoniz- its rapid action in this sense, looking the fact that there is not likely to be ing so far as possible all the interests to the patriotic uniformity of opicion of higher education in the State, I recommend that at an early day in underlie the application of the reforms. the session the committee on education invite a conference of the presidents or superintendents of all the colleges of the State and of the Rico, will form the foundation stone of State board of education, with the the new regime; but an additional deview of agreeing upon a general cree, account of which will be given to scheme which may then be enacted the cortes, will amplify to such an exinto law, and henceforth enforced in tent these reforms that a genuine home all the State colleges. I feel sure administration will be constituted in our that such a conference would meet in Antilles, in the first instance for Cuba, the spirit of compromise and with an |but to be extended to Porto Rico as intelligent desire to advance all the soon and at the same time as it may be interests of education in the State. possible to apply it to the former island. Of course the special scholarships, for normal or other purposes, should be protected, but the general ques tion of tuition fees might be settled npon a just and uniform plan, with which plan the private colleges would doubtless co operate I beg leave to commend this suggnstion to

> early consideration W. D. MAYFIELD, Superintendent of Education.

In the near future, we predict that the Irish potato will be planted largely in the South as a field crop. It is well known that potatoes raised from our second planting made in July or August are superior for Spring planting to those obtained from New Eng-

The Irish Potato.

land or Nova Scotia Thousands of barrels are yearly shipped to the South and find ready sale for use on the table or for plant

ing in gardens. The advantage is by nature on our side, and we should use it One difficulty is in the way, and that is to get the tubers to germinate with certainty when planted But the way that be holds now. out of this trouble will be found when there is the demand urgent enough to stimulate investigation When that time comes a wide opening will be made for disposing of a valuable crop that will increase as its chine shops of the Southern railway as will select from various heads of Ayrvalue becomes known. Its keeping an apprentice. The lad, he said, had shires the best specimens obtainable on qualities are superb.

"The Diocese," a four page monthly paper, has made its appearance in card, he said : "I asked Gantt to hold serve as foundation of a pony stud at Clarendon 1, special tax none; Col- Columbia It is published by Capt up his hand and answer how much Bilimore. In various parts of Eng-J. K. P Neathery and edited by money had been contributed by my land will buy hackneys. Crossing the special tax 1; Greenville 5, special Bishop Capers. In his salutatory the colleagues and Secretary Duncan to islands of Jersey, Guernsey, and others special tax 1; Bishop states that he "will write The Cotton Plant. Gantt evades of the group in search of cows and Oconee 2, special tax 2; Orangeburg boat diocesan matters, and matters the question by saying they they hadn't bulls of the famous island breeds. Mr. 1, special tax 1; York I, special tax trat especially touch our parish and given anything to his knowledge. I Vanderbilt is desirous of securing a THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE none; making a total of 31, with 17 diocsan church life and work." will give to Mr. Gautt the best hat its few of the cattle peculiar to Brittany, Notes of church news and communi- Columbia if he will say that they have but the law prohibiting the importation Previous to this year special school cations from members will be re-

Spanish Promises.

The Reforms to be Instituted in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Jan 1.-Senor de Lorme, the Spanish minister, resident here, furnishes the Southern Associated Press the following copy of a telegram from Minister Tetuan : "In the council of ministers, presided over to-day by her majesty, the queen regent, a tion of the committee on rules, arroyal decree was signed, which will ap- ranged the business of the House for confirm previous reports of the characply to the island of Porto Rico the last the first week of the new year On ter of the same and repeat of reforms voted in the cortes on the Tuesday and Wednesday the Loud the same story of Zertucha's 15thof March, 1895

"The preamble to this decree is of the greatest importance, because of the of serial novel publications and a flag of truce and that Cirujeda and statements it contains regarding Cuba. "sample" copies of newspapers at his forces were ambushed. As soon It begins by explaining the reasons the second-class rate will be the as Maceo appeared, the Spaniards openwhy the reforms are applied to-day and special order. Discussion under the ed fire. Maceo being in front fell from wherefore this has not been done before; amongst other paragraphs, it con- reading of the Journal on Tuesday, The rest of his staff, some of whom tains the following, which, owing to the 5th instant, until 2 p m on were wounded, managed to escape and their importance, I copy in their en- Wednesday, and under the five-

government considers that the proper ing will begin upon the pending time has arrived for giving to the world amendments and the final passage of ample proof of its firm resolve to fulfill the bill. When the bill was called carried the apparently dead Maceo with the engagements voluntarily contracted up rather unexpectedly several weeks them He remained unconscious four by the nation, by implanting and carry ago it developed surprising strength, ing into effect in Porto Rico, the form but since then the opposition has been of the system of government and civil active, and the chances of its pass administration, voted by the cortes and age are now considered rather doubt sanctioned by her majesty and which, ful. conveniently enlarged and extended, will be applied in due time to Cuba.'

government proposed the give a more of the Journal ample scope to the reforms when, as a arrives for the definite application of the opposition which exists among the reforms which form the ground work lien over all the physical proper. of the law applied to-day to Porto Rico, of the companies, which, it is claimbut also will extend to both provinces ed, the present lien does not cover, the reforms which have been offered and substituting for all outstanding with the view of a local character, obligations a new 4 per cent mortwhich shall facilitate the complete gage, the Government debut to be intervention of the country in its own carried at 2 per cent per annum affairs, maintaining at the same time cortes by the advice of her responsible

respecting the fundamental ideas which

. Briefly, the law of reforms voted by the cortes and sanctioned by the crown. which his to-day to be applied to Porto

(Singned) Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A Minority Report. That is Whan Commissioner Thomas is Going to Pres-

Railroad Commissioner H R Thomas, who has gained considerable notoriety from his row with the other members of the commission over the fertilizer rate question, was in the city yesterday. Mr Thomas made the announcement during the day that he was preparing a minority annual report which would be presented to the general assembly.

When asked about Editor Gantt's last reply to him he stated in regard to the reference to his brother, that his kinsman had been employed by the railroad lang before he was elected a railroad commissioner, and that he did not see fit to resign that position because of his (Thomas') election as a member of the board. His brother held practically the same position then

In regard to the reference to his son at the salary he got there

The Outlook in Congress.

What the Two Houses are Likely to do this Week.

the holiday recess the house of Rep resentatives, upon the recommendabill to amend the postal laws so as to treachery. They say that Maceo with prohibit the transmission of the mails | bis staff came to meet Abumada under general rule will continue from the his horse, Gomez also tell at his side. minute rule upon the proposed stantly gathered all its small forces and "'In the actual circumstances, the amendment until 4 o'clock, when vot

After this bill has been disposed of the rest of the week-Thursday, Fri-"In unfolding the bases of the re- day and Saturday-will be devoted forms with that scrupulous care which to the consideration of the Pacific the complex nature of the case and its Railroad funding bill, reported by many and varied problems demand, Judge Powers, chairman of the comthe undersigned minister has been in mittee on Pacific railroads Two spired with a sense of the necessity of days will be given to general discus ample administrative decentralization, sion and one day to debate and action and has proceeded to the utmost limit, in committee of the whole upon the which the actual law allows, without proposed amendments. The bill will eignty of the nation. At the same Saturday, and the vote on its pas time, true to the solemn promise made | sage taken on Monday, the 13th in before parliament by its president, the stant, immediately after the reading

The debate on this measure will

When the Senate meets on Tuesday of that right sa was stated in the words ing to our foreign relations and the her majesty deigned to address to the position assumed by Secretary Olney for the Executive will at once begin to take shape. Whether Senator Cameron will call up the Cuban reso "The amplified reforms can be partly lution on the opening day of the sesput into practice by means possessed by sion is not yet known, for he has not The government is confident that it will thought that he will seek to force the a quorum of the Senate present

Senator Hale, who is looked upon as the leader of the Anti-Cuban recognition sentiment in the Senate, said yesterday that several Senators who have been heretofore silent on the subject had come out against the Cameron resolutions, and there was now no possible chance for its pas-

On the other hand, Senators Cameron, Lodge, Chandler, Morgan and Mills assert that the sentiment favoring action by Congress is becoming more vigorous, and that the fighting will be forced from the start. Senator Hale, who in the absence of Senator Allison, is acting chairman of the committee on appropriations, expects to have the army bill reported to the Senate on Wednesday, and this will be put forward to antagonize the Cuban proposition.

The Harmon Appeal.

It is said that the governor will on Saturday take up the Harmon murder case. This, as is generally known, has been appealed to the supreme court, where it is now pending. It is unusual for the executive to interfere under such circumstances, but it is understood .that the defense is pressing for action before Governor Evans retires from office, and that he has been told they will abandon the appeal if the governor takes up the case.

Mr. F C. Caughman, father of the deceased, is in the city. He, with his attorney, Col. P. H. Nelson, will appear before the governor and vigorously oppose executive action at this time. - The State.

F. S. Peer is on his way to Europe he said that the lad was a student at for the purpose of buying for George Clemson college. He would not study W. Vanderbilit choice stock of varithere and as a punishment he took him ous kinds to be placed on the estate from college and placed him in the ma- near Asheville, N. C. In Scotland he not been able to buy his own clothes basis of blood and points. In Wal-s he will pick from the herds which roam Speaking further about Mr Gantt's on the mountains a number of posies to

Maceo Brought to Life.

Excitement in Habana Over the Report That he Still Lives.

HABANA, Jan. 2 .- via Key West, Jan 2 -Reports that Maceo is alive are coming constantly from the field Washington, Jan. 3 - Just before | and all tend to show that he is recuperating rapidly. Letters received in Habana from his medical attendants explain the nature of his wounds and reach Balmordore. Acostas' camp inrushed to the assistance They made a desperate fight and drove Cirujeda in'o Punta Brava, recovered the bodies and days and five nights, and when prepared for burial it was found that he was still alive. As soon as he was able to be transported he was carried with the greatest care under a strong escort to the Cienega hospital, though others say to Siguauea.

It appears that the project of the Cubans as soon as Maceo is able to move is to send him to the United States, and a steamer has already been ordered for the purpose, and thus personally prove that he is alive.

Great excitementpre vails in Habana over the news. It is widely discussed, even the Spaniards are talking of the possibility of his being alive. A member of the exchange produced a sensa tio other day when he announced the fact and a commotion followed Weyler's position is critical and the Spaniards are highly indignant at his ly made that if Maceo is alive. Weyler the reforms to both the Antilles as soon members of the House to the action of will be dragged through the streets. as possible, her majesty's government the majority of the committee. The bill He surely earnot return to Spain after will hasten to apply to Cuba not only proposes to extend the Government the outbursts or joy there over Maceo's death. His last foolish utterances concerning the pacification of the Pinar to crush 500 famished rebels.

> The low price of tobacco has not lessoned the ardor of the tobacco growers as we hear that there will be more of the yellow leaf planted pext year than last -Manning Times.

> Governor-elect Pingree, of Michigan, favors a law that will send to jail every person who smokes eigerettes as well as those who sell them, and declares that if such an act is passed during his term of office be will sign it.

> One of the Berlio newspapers declares 300 factories in Germany have resumed operations since the recent election in this country. The proprietors of those concerns are obviously under the erroneous impression that the un-American Wilson-Gorman free trade bill is to continue in force permanently -N. Y. Mail and Express.

> One of the most abominable divorce records is that of a Rhode Island woman who has married for the sixth time, although five of her so called husbands are not only living but four of them were ushers at her alleged wedding. Strange to say, she will be married in a church and a clergyman has been found to perpetrate the disgusting

The progressive ladies of Westfield, Indissued a "Woman's Edition" of the Westfield News, bearing date of April 3, 1896. The paper is filled with matter of interest to women, and we notice the following from a correspondent, which the editors printed, real zing that it treats upon a matter of vital importance to their sex : 'The best remedy for croup, colds and bronchiti's Cough Remedy For family use it has no equal. I glad gladly recommend it." 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by Dr. A. J. China.

A Cure from Lame Back

"My daughter, when recovering from an attack of fever, was a great sufferer from pain in the back and hips," writes Londen Grover, of Sardis, Ky. "After using quite a number of remedies without any benefit she tried one bottle of Champerlain's Pain Balm, and it has given entire relief." Chamberlain's Pain Balm is also certain cure for rheumatism. Sold by Dr. A. J. China.



and Sound" to see and hear a STIEFF PIANO That's just why a STIEFF would be a most appropriate XM &S PRESENT. It exemplifies the intest phase of Plaucforte Construction. We only ask an examination of our instruments and their comparison with others. Their exquisite tone and delightfully local effect gives them a peculiar charm. Accommodating terms CHAS M STIEFF. Baltimore-9 N. Liberty St Washington-521 Eleventh St. N. W.

SHAREHOLDERS MEETING.

Bank of Sumter, will be held at the Bank on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1897, at 12 o'clock noon. L. S. CARSON, Cashier. Dec. 16-4t.

The State's Militia.

The Adjutant General's Report.

The adjutant general has prepared and forwarded his annual report to the adjutant general of the United States giving the figures showing the status of the volunteer militia force in this State. They are interesting. Under the new enlistment act the number of men in the State militia has been materially decreased

There are now 97 active companies in the State-31 cavalry, 2 light batteries, 61 in the infantry and 3 in the naval militia. In addition to these there are 6 resesve companies as follows: Greenbrier Rifles, Fairfield; Hickory Grove Rifles, York county; Montgomery Rifles, Spartanburg; Saluda Rifles, Saluda; Mountvilles Light Infantry, Laurens, and a new company in Kershaw county.

The total militia is as follows: General and staff officers 47, in the cavalcy 1,212 officers and men, in the light batteries 77 officers and men, in the infantry 2,398 officers and men making a grand total of 3,734 officers and men.

The number of privates is as follows: Cavalry 648, light batteries 47, infantry 1,479

light batteries 12, infantry 316. The total number of non-commissioned officers is as follows: Cavalry

officers is as follows: Cavalry 145,

The total number of commissioned

310, light batteries 18, infantry 603. The number of men in this State available for military duty but unor-

ganized is placed at 20,000. General Watts says in his report that the militia force of the State is in better condition to day that it has ever been. He also says of the new enlistment law that it has been of great benefit to the militia, as heretofore "the force was entirely volun-

Dragged by Wild Horses.

Presence of mind and cool nerve are what H. Fersten, a cowboy, possesses del Rio have also greatly incensed the to a marked degree. To these he owes Spaniards, they knowing that it is a his life, which seems to have hung on a gross lie The idea that are only 500 slender thread one day last week. rebels in the province is deemed simply He left Billings early one cold absurd when Weyler personally admit- morning, riding a horse and leadted a fortnight ago that there existed at | iog three bronchos. He crossed the teast 3,000. The Spaniards also ridi- river to go to the Crow reservation. cule the fact of the need of eight gen- where there is no settlement, when his erals, twenty colonels, and 40,000 men horse slipped and fell. This caused he led horses to jerk back, throwing him from the saddle and entangling his legs in the rope. The frightened borses then ran, dragged Fersten, who realized at once his awful danger and lay on his back, says a Butte epecial to the Philadelphia "Times" It was necessary to act quick. So with

rare presence of mind and consummate coolness he reached for his knife, opened it with his teeth, but in slaehingat the rope had it knocked from his hand. He then reached around to his revolver. Suffering severely from contact' with the bard, frozen ground, he managed to fire, but did not hit the nearest borse fatally. Then he fired again, this time bringing down the horse, to which he clung in such a manner as to relieve him from further bruises and the strain of the rope which had already broken a small bone in his leg. The horses soon stopped, when he was able to extricate himself from the danger of . his situation. He immediately mounted a horse and returned to Billings for medical aid This instance deserves to be put down as one in which rare presence of mind and nerve were displayed, under the most trying of circumstances. But the hardy cowboy only smiled and seemed to regard it more of a joke than anything else. He blamed bimself for being caught of his guard and in such a position as to be dragged by wild

Richard Cornelius, cashier and for forty-two years connected with the Farmers and Planters National Bank of Baltimore, was found to be \$60,000 short in his accounts, and committed suicide by drowning in the Druid Hill Park duck pond yesterday

HONEY.

Choice Extracted Honey, by the gallon or less quantity.

For sale at my residence, or orders may be left office of the Watchman and Southron

N. G. Osteen.

Fast Freight Line BETWEEN

Sumter, S. C.,

The North, Northwest, South and Southwest,

AUGUSTA & GEORGIA R. R.

Rates and information furnished by H. R. JACKSON, T. F. A ..

Columbia, S. C. A. G. JACKSON, G. P. A., Auguste, Ga Dec 8.

districts had been established by the ceived d published also.