JACKSONVILLE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1882.

TAX REPORM.

The recent election, has turned the current of political discussion in the direction of tax reform. It has operated as a sort of tax reform revival meeting, at which all the politicians of the memory of an American. all the parties seem to have received conviction of their many sins of omission in this regard, and been thoroughly converted. Senator Edmunds, who, it must be owned, has not heretofore been brilliantly conspicuous as a reform leader, comes to the front with a proposition to reduce the taxes. Hon, Sam, Randall who, when he was Speaker of the last Democratic House, organized the committees with special reference to preventing any reduction in taxes, has heard the voice of the people, has shifted his sails so as to catch the prevailing political breeze, and is now posing in the attitude of the most advanced tax reform leader. A great many of the Republican politicians agree with Senator Elmunds and distilled spirits, \$47,000,000, on to the Democrats with Randall. The intense zeal manifested on all sides in this new movement, is enough to pursuade the small band of men who, for years, have been demanding tax reform licans, 38; Democrats, 36; Indepen that at last their time has come. The dents, 2. The independents are Mamethods by which this reform is to be hone and Riddlebrger, and both will, accomplished, is the only problem in the minds of the politicians; and to its proper, and popular, solution all their energies are now engaged. Within the next month or two, the public will, no doubt, be favored with several dozproblem, each one warranted to work to perfection, and settle the whole ques tion to the entire satisfaction of the decided against him. country. The real truth is, that the people do not so much care who does the work, so it is well done. They are not so much interested in the suprem- labors. The claims are all largely re acy of a party, as the right and economical government of the country. In Hamilton \$5,000 each, Reyburn and a word, the cardinal doctrine in the political creed of this people is, patriotism. The sooner politicans and political leaders come to comprehend this fact, the sooner they will better serve the purposes which they profess. Whatever may be the appearance upon the surface, the underlying fact in this whole tax reform agitation is, not so much that people are burlened by a My texes, but that the toxes now collected create too large a surplus over the necessary expenses of the government. This year there was a surplus of one hundred millions of dollars. Next year, at the present rates, the surplus will probably amount to one bundred and thirty millions. This money is, and will always be, a prize to tempt jobbers and lobbyists and a fund for the purchase of popularity by the members of Congress no matter which political party may be in possession of the government. As one of the first conditions of the reform therefore the government must be made poor. The surplus must be reduced. The income kept, just sufficient to discharge the obligations. If this is done then job bery and robbery will cease, and the most fruitful source of political corruption be removed.

structed what he called a "solar gener- ington should not be made a state, and ator" by means of which he was en- the fact that she is not, is a standing abled to concentrate the rays of the rebuke to the policy of politics. sun so as to produce sufficient heat to boil water. The aparatus was so far a practical success, that he furnished heat sufficient to run an engine to which was attached a printing press The press was of ordinary size, and was thus kept in operation for over four hours, notwithstanding that the day was not very bot, and the sun was occasionally clouded. He printed, on an average, five hundred copies per hour of a journal prepared for the occasion Mr. William Calver, a Washington inventor, has recently secured a patent upon a much simpler process of producing the same results. He uses a number of mirrors so arranged upon a frame that the center of reflection can be directed to any given point. It is said that metals requiring a temperature of seven hundred degrees to melt are soon reduced to a liquid state.

that he would "not vote for any meas | confession of his connection with the sesses the power to oust a Republican surry favor with the prosecution and got dry -but then of course that is imeffect his acquittal.

I DITURIAL SOTES.

The public debt was reduced \$5,534, 142 during November.

A foreign journal wants to know has any reference to the direction of

Longfellow in Westminster. This is an honor wever before conferred upon

At the Industrial Exhibition in Cincinati more than 2 200 men and women were weighed in order to decide upon the average weight. The average weight of the men was found to be 154.02; that of women 130 87 pounds,

The next Congress will have over 60 contested seats to determine. The belief that the Democratic Congress will e extremely liberal to Democratic contestants has encouraged many defeated Democrats to trump up claim

The internal revenue report shows that the net receipts for the last fixed vear were \$138,884,000. Of this amount there was \$69,000 000 paid on bacco, and \$16,000,000 on fermented

After March 4, 1883, United States Senate will stand as follows: Repulin all probability act with the Repub blicans upon all important questions.

Pennsylvania furnishes a man who for pure, downright, undulterated meanness, is without an equal. He was sued for breach of promise of marens of formulas for the solution of the ringe and set up, as a defense, that the contract was void because it was made on Sunday. The court, of course,

The Board appointed to audit the claims for attendance upon the late President Garfield has completed its duced. Bliss gets \$6,500, Agnew and Boynton \$4,000 each and all other claims are cut down in proportion.

in free America. It applies to persons of all ages and nationalities. From one hour after sunset, until one hour before sunrise, any person found upon the streets, is liable to arrest at the option of the police. The law is aimed to reach persons believed to be engaged in criminal designs and is a result of the lawlessness now prevailing in that unfortunate island.

Washington Territory proposes making a determined effort for admission to the Union at the coming session of Congress. A commission, composed of a number of prominent citizens of the territore, is to be sent to Washington to urge upon Congress her claims for admission. It is hoped that the rights of this territory will no longer be ig A scientific Frenchman recently cor- nored. There is no reason why Wash-

Two young Indians recently addressed a large audience at the New York Tabernacle, They showed remarkable depth of thought and breadth of culture, and thoroughly delighted their hearers. This is the work of the Indian schools, and may be accepted as something of an indication of what these institutions are beginning to accomplish. A little of the surplus revenue of this great, rich government, might profitably be directed to the encouragement of these schools. There is a great deal of philosophy in the old saying that "nothing succeeds like suc cess" and now that these Indian schools are beginning to be a success there may be some hope for the assistance that has been only too long delayed.

Stephen W. Dorsey, the star router, has published a letter setting forth, as he claims, his connection with the star Senator Vorhees of Indiana is al- route frauds. He endeavors to impliready losing his love for practical civil cate MacVeagh, and James, and sevservice reform. He went out of his eral other prominent gent emen, in the 2004. way to declare, in a recent interview, mudd e, and claims that he made a full ure which would give the present en- affair a long time ago and was assured istering, Sunday, liquor law. When cumbents a life lease." This is an that he had nothing to fear. The let a saloen is closed Saturday night, other way of saving that he will not do ter is valuable because of the contra- a strip of paper is pasted across the anything to prevent the Democrats dictions which it contains of former door and sealed at either end with wax, making a free application of their old statements made by Dorsey and is upon which is impressed the special doctrine of "To the victors belong the likely to assist the prosecution in the seal of the policinan on that beat, spoils." There is very little doubt coming trials. It is now predicted Having thus been sea ed the saloon is that all this fine talk about civil serv- that Dorsey will turn states evidence considered secure, not only against the ice reform will melt into misty theory against Brady and thus secure his con- owner but the policeman as well. If so soon as the Democratic party pos viction. Dorsey hopes in this way to liceman could not find except when he

A Canadian A-tronomer has discovered a great storm, not a political storm, but a simon jure, thunder and lightning storm, which he promises to deliver to the inhabitants of this whether the star route investigation country on or about March the 7th next following the present date. This storm will make its maiden effort on The De n of Westminster has given the Gulf of Mexico and will then his consent to the placing of a bust of strike a bee line for this coast. It will not get here however, as, not understanding the passes or being familiar with the old emigrant road, it will butt square up against the Rocky moun tuins. This will so discourage it that it will confine its performences to the Mississippi valley and the New England states, and spend the whole force of its existence in shaking up the na tives of those sections. The Astron ner, whose name, by the way, is Professor E. Stone Wiggins I.L. D., has disturbed the political cognitations of our President to request that he take For Navy in out of the wet and store it away carefully out of the way of danger; for he says there will be high winds, and mighty waves and the stoutest ships, unless protected by the best of shelter, must go down. In view of these facts we feel like volunteering the suggestion that an investigating committee be appointed from some of our experienced salt water politicians, to investigate the high seas for the purpose of discovering our Navy in order that the Professors warning may be properly heeded.

New York has a new Sunday law which went into effect last Sunday. The law is very stringent and substan tially prohibits all labor that is not absolutely necessary. All places of business including news depots, barber shops, bath houses, and especially saloons, which are not connected with botel, are required to be closed. Milk wagons and bread wagons are stopped, and the public backs are not allowed to carry passengers. All driving h the parks or any where else, merely for anusement, is unlawful. Last Sunday, over five hundred arrests were made in New York City, including news boys, boot blacks, barbers, milk pedlers and people of almost every other occupation. It was noticeable Hon. T. J. Updegraff, Republican that most of the saloons were open as member of Congress from the 17th usual and very few arrests of saloon Ohio district, died last week at the age keepers were made. The reason assignof 60 years. He is the second member el for this is, that the political influence of the House who has died since the of saloon keepers is so powerful that last election, the other being Gen. An any officer making such an arrest would drew S. Herron Democratic member, be immediately dismissed from che elect from the fin Louisiana district. force. The law is generally condemned Dublin Ireland, is now subject to a by the New York journals and ridi culed by the people. It is the inten any such law is, or is likely ever to be, tion to illustrate its absurdity by its rigid enforcement and thus accure its early repeal.

> The Massachusetts Senatorship is exciting considerable interest. Sen ator Hoar's term expires next March, and he is bending every energy to become his own successor. Governor Butler is, of course, opposed to his election and is leaving nothing undone which promises to assist in his defeat. The Democrats will control 105 votes in the Legislature, and 142 are necessary to a choice. It is believed, by many, that Butler will be able to induce sufficient Republican votes, to unite with the Democrats in opposition to Hoar, to accomplish his defeat. But ler is apparently manouvering for the election of Gov. Long, but is really laving the wires for his own election. Now that Ben has elected himself Governor of the old Bay State, there is no telling what he may be able to do with the Legislature. It is said he has an expectant eye on the White House and regards an election to the Senate as a long step in that direction.

The transit of Venus, which occurred last Wednesday, was a matter of much importance in the scientific world. Venus crosses the suns disk in regular cycles four times every 243 years. The cycles is made up of four intervals, the lengths of which are in regular order, 1051 years, 8 years, 1211 years, and 8 years; after which the intervals repeat themselves. The main purpose of the observation of the transit is, to determine the distance of the sun from the earth. The last transit, which oc curred 8 years ago, though it is not vet fully figured out, has resulted in taking several millions of miles from what was formerly considered the dis tance to the sun. The present observations are expected to throw more light upon the subject. Venus will not again appear as a factor in this vexed problem until June 8th, A. D.,

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