County Register.

XIV. NUMBER 26.

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ocal Department.

N COUNTY REGISTER
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e REGISTER, Ironton, Missouri.

Closing of Mails.

through Mail—daily, except y,..... 12 M.
ail—North, daily.....8 P. M.
—South, daily,..... 12 M.
Goodwater, via. Sand Bluff, Edge Hill and Edithburg— .....6 A. M.
ainstein Silver Mines—Tuesursday and Saturday.....1 P. M.
C. R. PECK, P. M.

of the blithesome frog is dead in

id by the can or dish, at Oesterle's stewed, or fried, or raw.

morning was the ninth this winter ermometer had reached zero or be-

wns an egg-laying hen these days sza. This "fruit" is scarcer than w it here, and is selling at from s per dozen.

ofen have been packing ice the past s from eight to nine inches thick, s a crystal. Won't this be a bless the hot days of July and August?

past two weeks we have had excelsay, and the jingle of sleigh-bells e heard far and wide. The young ally have taken advantage of the

tabl[illegible] by the State for the purpose of educating and training the students to be instructors in our schools. I refer to the three State Normal Schools and to the Lincoln Institute. The latter is now a State institution, and is designed especially for the education of colored persons.

The receipts from all sources, including the balance on hand January 1, 1879, and disbursements from the revenue fund, for the last two years, are as follows:

Revenue Fund.	*Dr.*	*Cr.*
By balance Jan. 1, 1879		$120,224 98
By transfers from library fund.....		1,355 30
By proceeds from sale of $250,000 revenue renewal bonds in June, 1879.....		256,875 00
By receipts, 1879, from revenue sources....		1,443,603 49
By balance, 1880, from revenue sources....		1,323,586 74
By amount refunded by Carter & Regan		19 16
To transfer to school moneys March, 1879	$328,255 18	
To transfer to school moneys March, 1880	340,746 09	
To warrants issued in 1879.....	*1,414,583 19	
To warrants issued in 1880.....	778,053 43	
To balance.....	284,026 78	
	$3,145,664 67	$3,145,664 67

*This includes $250,000 paid for revenue bonds which matured June 1, 1879.

This shows a balance of $284,026.78 in the revenue fund. But a part of these receipts, though properly placed in the revenue fund, are not usual receipts, as $256,875 thereof were the proceeds of the sale of 250 renewal revenue bonds of $1,000 each, authorized to be issued and sold by an act of the Legislature, approved May 9, 1879, to pay the revenue bonds which were issued in accordance with the act of April 23, 1877.

It is to be observed, also, that $250,000, with $30,000 interest on the same, are not ordinary expenditures.

There has been expended for the maintenance and support of our eleemosynary institutions, for the last two years, the sum of $327,037.50, paid from the revenue fund. This includes the cost of rebuilding the Lunatic Asylum, in 1879-80, at St. Joseph.

There were also expended during the same time, in support of our common schools, the Lincoln Institute, the three Normals Schools and the State University, the sum of $1,145,381.89. But of this amount the sum of $363,720 was paid out of the interest fund, being the amount of interest which had accrued on bonds and certificates of indebtedness of the State, held in trust for the State school and seminary funds. Nevertheless, those sums of money were raised by taxation of our people during the last two calendar and fiscal years.

OF THE REVENUE.

The revenues of the State will naturally increase some with the increase of population and of wealth. The price of property, and particularly of real estate, has been greatly depressed for a few years past. In the latter part of 1879 the price of all kinds of property increased, but at too late a period to enable the enhanced valuation to materially affect the assessment of that year. It must be borne in mind all persons are required to give in the property held and owned by them on the 1st day of August, and the valuation of the same is to be made of that date, but the taxes will not be ready for collection on that assessment till the autumn of the next year. The following statement shows the valuation of the real estate, the personal property, and the railroads, bridges, and telegraphs in this State for the years named:

1878.	
Land.....	$218,726,215
Town lots.....	167,167,113
Personal.....	142,620,636
Railroads, telegraphs and bridges..	26,726,591
Total.....	$555,246,555

1879.	
Land.....	$212,519,110
Town lots.....	169,036,454
Personal.....	147,661,910
Railroads, telegraph and bridges...	29,143,969
Total.....	$558,361,443

The assessment of 1879 is the assessment upon which the tax has just been collected, and the assessment of property which was made upon the 1st day of August last is not yet completed, but the tax will be payable in the autumn of 1881, and will be levied on that valuation. Additional taxes will be derived from licenses and from the ad valorem tax levied on merchants and manufacturers, as well as dram-shop or beer-house licenses. For more particular and specific information concerning the revenue I refer you to the report of the State Auditor and the valuable tables accompanying it. I am of opinion that a portion of the renewal revenue bonds can be paid at their maturity, but not all.

STATE INTEREST AND SINKING FUND.

The tax which forms the interest fund is 1-5 of 1 per cent., or 20 cents on the $100 of the assessed value of property, levied on all real estate and other property and effects subject to taxation, and, by the provisions of the Constitution, is to be applied to the payment of the interest on the public debt. The interest on the public debt has been promply met and paid. The residue of the interest fund constitutes the sinking fund, and is to be applied to the extinguishment of the bonded indebtedness of the State. During the years 1877 and 1878, the sum of $535,000 was paid in the extinguishment of the public debt. The law provides when there is sufficient money in the sinking fund to purchase one or more bonds of the State, the Fund Commissioners shall call in for payment a like amount of the bonds of the State (the Hannibal and St. Joe Railroad bonds excepted), but the Commissioners shall not purchase or redeem any such bonds at a higher rate than their "face value." No bonds of this State fell due in 1879, according to the previous reports of the Fund Commissioners, and all description of bonds which the Commissioners were authorized to purchase, sold in market at a premium of from 4 to 10 per cent. None of the "option," or 5-20 bonds, were redeemable till the 1st of May of last year.....

Thus, while none of the bonded indebtedness of the State was paid in 1879, for the reasons given, yet in the year 1880 double the amount of bonded indebtedness required to

er" for a week glad to see, i had a rather r It is composed boys and a gi six weeks ago, old—took sick after a severe brother, some attacked with ness was follow Mr. Buford's, taken down, a is no apparent stricken down house is on h one would sup as there is in Last fall, M Mr. Buford, h family, losing same disease there must be may be in the ings. At anyr thoroughly ve as soon as the to see that all condition.

PERSONAL.—from St. Lout the marriage Dollie Linds

P. A. Mose cies of "the Success to hi

G. M. Pal the company half.

Where is J soul, we pine tions.

Our old f in town just other words, ceipt of a d mince pie, w

C. C. M. P in yesterday plumper th he tips the

400.

paid in 1880 was redeemed in that year. In four years last past, there has been paid of the sinking fund $1,035,000 of the indebt- of the State—a reduction annually of e than $60,000 of interest, leaving that h more of the interest fund applicable to payment of the bonded indebtedness of State.

he following table shows the receipts, in- ding the balance on hand on the 1st of uary, 1879, and the disbursements of the rest fund for the last two years, showing lance of $73,629.77:

balance January 1879.....		$ 156 039 79
receipts in 1879.....		1,240,784 84
receipts in 1880.....		1,188,755 87
warrants issued in 79.....	$963,332 00	
transfer to school oneys in 1879 to y interest on $300,000 school certificates.....	54,000 00	
ransfer to sinking nd in 1879.....	1,000 00	
warrants issued in 80.....	940,118 73	
transfer to school oneys in 1880.....	54,000 00	
transfer to sinking nd in 1880.....	499,006 00	
balance.....	73,629 77	
Totals.....	$2,585,080 50	$2,585,080 50

e State holds in trust for the seminary d $122,000, and for the school fund $1,058,000, king the sum of $2,080,000, all of which said ds are 5-20, and may now be redeemed, as years have elapsed since their issue. The cational funds of the State are principally sted in 5-20 bonds. I can not recommend course by which those funds shall be imred or their revenues diminished. To re- e the rate of interest or to reinvest (which only be done by paying a premium) the ount in any bonds of this State, will seriiy impair the revenue of those funds, and ill not believe, till I hear it so avowed, that one considerately desires to impair the ool funds or diminish their income. Of the te bonds, proper, outstanding, there are ,000 which may be redeemed at this time, as Legislature provided for their redemption r the expiration of twenty years. Until a ent examination, it was believed they were redeemable till 1883, and were so reported. residue of that series of bonds are redeem- s in 1882 and 1883. And there are $4,000 of ds of the North Missouri Railroad which fall due in 1885. No bonds will fall due year, and whatever bonds may be re- med must be called from the "option" ds.

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE STATE.

ot including the $3 000 000 of bonds of the te loaned to the Hannibal and St. Joseph road Company, on which that company promptly paid the interest, the bonded ebtedness of the State on the 1st of Januof this year was $16,259,000. This amount es not include a few bonds which are past and have been outstanding for several rs. Money was placed in New York for redemption of those bonds at the time y severally fell due, and from the date the ney was so placed by the Fund Commisners they have been regarded as paid. The ate holds in trust for the public school fund and for the seminary fund $3,031,000, which bonds have been so defaced as to destroy their negotiability, in accordance with a law of the last Legislature. This leaves in circulation only $13,228,000 of State bonds, and the annual interest is only $975,540. This does not include the temporary loan of $250,000 which will fall due next June.

THE MASTIN DEFICIT.

The State Treasurer, in January, 1879, reported a balance of the money in the Treasury was "deposted and held" as follows:

National Bank of State.....	$ 3,045 25
The Mastin Bank.....	286,187 80
Reid and Chrisman.....	5,000 00
Clinton County bonds in vault.....	49,000 00

The deposits and investments of the moneys herein stated were made without the consent of the Attorney-General and the Governor, and whatever security the Treasurer may have had was not submitted to the Attorney-General nor to the Governor to learn whether or not it was satisfactory. In brief, the deposits of said moneys were made entirely on the responsibility of the Treasurer, and without the advice or consent of any State officer empowered to pass on that question. In the month of May, 1879, there was paid to Colonel Gates $5,321.59, on account of a dividend due to him from the Mastin Bank. In October, 1879, the sum of $5,000, deposited with Reid and Chrisman, and the $49,000 of Clinton County bonds, disappear from the Treasurer's statement. If those bonds belonged to the State, then the money received on the two semi-annual coupons on each bond should have been paid into the Treasury. In December, 1879, the Mastin Bank deficit is diminished $33,634.01, and in the Treasurer's annual report, made to me in January, 1880, for the year 1879, it is stated he has realized the last-named sum from his official bondsmen, for which he has "assigned to them a like amount of my (his) claim against the Mastin Bank." Another reduction of the Mastin Bank deficit took place in June, 1880, of $20,000, said to have been received from one of the sureties upon the bond given by the Mastin Bank to Col. Gates for the safe keeping and return of his deposits, and paid in consideration that this bondsman shall be held to no further liability on that account. In the month of July last the further sum of $43,709.55 was deducted from said deficit, which was received from the assignee of said bank as a dividend on a claim allowed in favor of Col. Gates against it. From time to time, the amount of money deposited with the National Bank of the State of Missouri was diminished, until in September last it entirely disappeared from the Treasurer's report. There is now the sum of $183,522.65, as claimed by Col. Gates, held by the Mastin Bank. Promises have been made to me that this sum should be paid before the meeting of the Legislature, but those promises have not yet been redeemed. No settlement was approved by the Legislature of the Treasurer for the first two years of his term of office, nor was a settlement of his accounts made at the time of his giving his new bond. The laws did not permit nor authorize a suit to be brought against Col. Gates and his bondsmen; and the first time a suit can be brought on his official bond will be when he shall fail to deliver to his successor the funds which have been entrusted to his care and safe-keeping. If there shall be no deficit—if all the money with which he stands charged shall be legally accounted for or paid to his successor—then no suit can be maintained. But if, on the contrary, he does not lawfully account for all the money which came to his hands, and pay to his successor the balance (if any there shall be), he and his bondsmen will be liable on his bond for the deficiency. But it is claimed the State has priority of payment over all other creditors in cases of insolvency, and that this principle of law is applicable to the case of the Mastin Bank. That the State, by express statutory enactment, has priority of payment over all demands—except funeral expenses and expenses of last sickness in case of the estates of deceased persons—and also priority of payment of taxes assessed on real estate, is true. But does this priority of payment extend to any other cases? Good reason exists to cause such a statutory provision to be made, but the enactment of a law of that import can not have a retroactive effect. If the State can assert and maintain priority of payment in the case of the Gates deposit in the Mastin Bank, and cause all persons to whom the assignee in good faith has paid the dividends in the same manner as they have been paid to Col. Gates, then must all who have received dividends from the assignee of said bank be called upon and made to refund the payments already made to them, or sufficient to pay the deficit. And if priority of payment to the State exists in this case, and can be enforced, then the sureties of Col. Gates, who have already paid more than $30,000 for him, can assert this principle for their benefit. And if the sureties of Col. Gates shall now pay into the Treasury the $183,522.65 now held by the Mastin Bank, those sureties would, by existing laws, be subrogated to all the rights of the State.

REVENUE BONDS.

In 1877 I found the Treasury in a depleted condition. Certificates of indebtedness had been issued, liabilities had been incurred, and demands filed with the Auditor for settlement in the year 1876, amounting to more than $266,000, as stated in my special message to the Legislature in March, 1877. The revenues of the State at that time were insufficient to meet the exigency. I recommended a temporary loan to be made to supply this casual deficiency (and would have recommended a larger sum, but the Constitution forbade), in accordance with the provisions of the second clause of section 44 of article 4 of the Constitution. The authority was given and the loan was made. The revenues of the State were inadequate to defray the current expenses of the State Government, the other expenditures charged to revenue fund, and also to redeem those bonds. Hence authority was given by the Legislature of 1879 to redeem the revenue bonds by negotiating another 6 per cent. loan, payable in two years. Proposals were invited in the manner provided by law, and the loan was awarded to the highest and best bidder at a premium of 2¾ per cent., amounting to $6,875.

RATE OF INTEREST.

I recommended to the last Legislature a reduction in the rate of interest. The proposition at first was received with favor, but afterward alarm was created in the minds of some lest capital from other States should be withdrawn. But during that winter the Legislatures of the States of Illinois and New York considered the question—the first named State reducing its legal rate of interest to 6 per cent., and by enacting 8 per cent. per annum, while the State of New York reduced its rate of interest from 7 to 6 per cent. per annum. The same reason which influenced me then to make that recommendation, causes me to again recommend a reduction of the rate of interest to 6 per cent. per annum, with suitable provisions to cause the law to be respected and observed. It has been recently urged, in order to induce capitalists of this State to invest in the bonds of the State, that the capital so invested shall be exempted from taxation. There is no good reason presented to my mind why we shall amend the Constitution of the State and exempt any property from taxation. Why should the money of the capitalist be exempted from taxation because he invests it in the bonds of this State, or of the cities and counties of this State? Instead of encouraging all those who have capital to be money lenders, why not (if encouragement is to be given to any) encourage investment in mining, manufactures and in commerce?

EDUCATION.

The number of students at the State University, the School of Mines and the Lincoln Institute on the 1st of November last is in excess of the number in any previous year attending those institutions at the same date. The number of students at the State University, in all its departments, is now 500. This number of students is a sure test of the correct discipline maintained and the meritorious standard of education adopted at the University, and is a testimonial to the good character of the President and the other members of the faculty as educators and instructors of the youth intrusted to their care. At the Normal Schools fewer students are in attendance than in former years. This, perhaps, may be attributed to the fact that those to whom has been intrusted the management of the Normal Schools have been more strict in requiring the student to obligate himself to follow the profession of teaching in this State after he shall have graduated. This requirement is in accord with the basis upon which the Normal Schools were established, and should be exacted of the students by those schools. The School of Mines and Metallurgy, at Rolla, is in a prosperous condition. The frequent discovery of mines of the precious metals in the Territories, and the demand in this State for mining engineers, have no doubt caused an increase of students to qualify themselves to follow the profession of mining engineer and geologist. (In another portion of his message the Governor recommends an appropriation for the payment of the building now occupied by the School of Mines, which was purchased of the Board of Education of Rolla, and has not yet been paid for.) For the first time in its history, the Lincoln Institute has an entire corps of colored teachers. Prof. Page and his assistant teachers have thus far given general satisfaction to the trustees and the patrons of the institute. It is too soon now to be done, but the Lincoln Institute will, if properly cared for, occupy the same position to the colored people of the State which the University holds to the white people of the State. It was a wise act to place the Lincoln Institute under the control of the State Government, where it can be cared for and protected in the same manner as other State institutions are protected and maintained.

I requested the Superintendent of Public Schools to ascertain the number of students, on the 1st day of November in each year, for the last six years, in all the institutions of learning and education throughout the State, except the public district schools and private schools of like grade. It has been stated that the people of the West, if they emigrated from the Southern States, are not disposed to aid, encourage and foster institutions of learning. This opinion has probably been based upon criticisms expressed concerning the management of our public schools, and some are found condemning the system who only wish to censure the mode of management. We find in many portions of the State large and ornately built public school-houses—some of them three stories in height—and when the children of the school district are assembled, there is not a sufficient number of them to fill the rooms on the ground floor. And if this were all, it would be tolerable. But these school-houses were built with money raised by the sale of bonds issued by the district, and the school taxes for interest and other proper purposes became so enormous that the people can not pay them—much less the principal—and many join in a pardonable complaint against the system, when the censure is really intended to be hurled against the extravagance and recklessness of expenditure sometimes practiced in the name of the public schools. The people of the West and South are thouroughly imbued with the necessities of a free public education, and have demonstrated their perfect willingness to support and encourage such a system. So far as this State is concerned, its aid and encouragement of public schools will favorably compare with any other State in the Union.

A statement of facts furnished by the reports made to that able and efficient officer, Hon. D. Shannon, Superintendent of Public Schools, will substantiate the statements made by me. There are three descriptions of school funds: the State school fund, the county school fund and the Congressional township school fund. In 1874 the State school fund was $2,624,354. In 1875 that fund was increased about $286,000, and the increase was principally from the conversion of 5-20 United States bonds, held by the State, into bonds of this State. The State school fund now amounts to the sum of $2,909,792. The county and township school funds aggregated, in 1874, the sum of $3,057,440, but many counties that year failed to make a report of those funds.

The county and township school funds, and some special school funds held by counties and the City of St. Louis, this year amount to $5,867,359, and the total funds in this State for educational purposes, on the 1st of January last, was $8,950,805, and of this sum $3,031,000 are bonds and certificates of indebtedness of this State, upon which interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum is regularly paid. School moneys are now apportioned according to the number of children between the ages of 6 and 20 years—formerly between 5 and 21 years. The apportionment is made on the enumeration of the preceding year; thus, the apportionment of money for 1881 will be made on the enumeration of 1880. I give the enumeration and apportionment for a few years:

	No. of Children.	*Apportionment.*
1877.....	676,153	$539,760
1878.....	688,218	537,306
1879.....	702,153	562,795
1880.....	723,484	515,286

A fluctuation of the receipts of the revenue fund will cause a variation in the amount to be apportioned. The moneys apportioned are derived from interest on the indebtedness of the State to the public school fund, and 25 per cent. of the taxes received annually by the revenue fund. And it appears there was paid to teachers of the public schools during the last two years the following sums: In 1879, $2,211,926; in 1880, $2,218,637.

The result of the inquiries made by the Superintendent of Public Schools shows the number of students in the various seminaries of learning in this State—excluding the district schools and private schools of that grade—as follows, in the years named:

1875.....	6,993
1876.....	7,785
1877.....	7,985
1878.....	8,097
1879.....	8,667
1880.....	9,395

This table demonstrates that all the institutions of learning, of a higher grade, in this State are well patronized, and that the people are duly impressed with the great importance of giving to their children a good and thorough education.

THE STATE CENSUS.

Congress has provided that if any State or Territory, by its duly appointed or authorized agents, during the two months beginning on the first Monday of June in the semi-decennial years, shall take and complete a census, in all respects according to the schedules and forms of enumeration prescribed for the census of the United States, and deposit with the Secretary of the Interior on or before the 1st of September following a full and authentic copy of all the schedules returned and reports made by the persons charged with such enumeration, the Government of the United States will pay to such State or Territory a sum equal to 50 per cent. of the amount which was paid by the United States to all supervisors and actual enumerators at the last preceding census, increased by one-half the percentage of gain in population in such State or Territory between the two United States censuses next preceding. I invite your attention to this matter at this time so that, if you shall concur in the views I have expressed, steps shall be taken forthwith to change the law. The cost of taking the tenth census of the United States of this State is $98,770.79. And this includes the costs of obtaining statistics concerning manufactures.

The population of this State, by the census of 1880, is 2,169,091. By the census of 1870 the population was 1,721,295, showing an increase of 447,796 inhabitants in ten years, an increase of a little more than 26 per cent. in that time. The State census, exclusive of the city and county of St. Louis, showed a population in 1876 of 1,547,050, and of 1,370,106 in 1870, by the census of the United States, an increase of that portion of the State of 176,944, or 11 43-100 per cent. in six years—less than 2 per cent. per annum—and at the rate of 29,487 per year. The census of 1880 for the same portions of the State shows an increase of 239,651 inhabitants over the State census of 1876, an increase of nearly 15¾ per cent. for that period of time, and not quite 4 per centum per annum increase for the last four years, and at the rate of 59,912 inhabitants per year.

It will be the duty of this Legislature to divide the State into convenient districts for the election of Senators, as nearly equal in population as may be, as shown by the census recently taken by the United States, and also to apportion representation, in accordance with the provisions of our Constitution.

IMMIGRATION.

The people of this State—though conscious of its great natural advantages over other States, in climate, soil, production, the richness and abundance of its mines and mineral products, its fertile prairie lands, interspersed with timber of an excellent quality, its timber, suitable not only for building but for manufacturing purposes, and its rivers and streams of water—have not sought till recently to make known these great advantages to the people of our sister States, or to the people of foreign lands. The last Legislature provided for the establishment of a Board of Immigration, but the amount of money placed at its disposal was so inadequate to the expectations formed that the people themselves were forced to take hold of the question with vigor, and they stepped to the front to supply the means necessary to accomplish the objects desired. But in the meanwhile the State Board of Immigration had prepared and published a small pamphlet, giving a description of the State by counties, and an excellent map to accompany the same. The labors of the State Board of Immigration induced inquiry by the people of other States and of foreign lands, intending to seek a new home, concerning the advantages which this State possessed. In another portion of this paper I have shown that since September, 1876, to June 1880, calling the period of time four years, the population of this State naturally increased, and the increase by immigration was about 60,000 persons per year. The efforts of the Board of Immigration were ably supplemented by the voluntary association formed by the people of this State. Enterprising and wealthy gentlemen of St. Louis furnished the money required for the grand work. A Convention of the able and energetic men of the State was held in St. Louis in April, 1880. The action of this Convention did not aid to increase the population of this State embraced in the Federal census, but its influence is now felt, and has been felt since last autumn, and will continue to be felt for a long time. That association has published a map and a handbook of Missouri. In the latter there is a brief description of the advantages each county in the State possesses, and with the additional statistics which it is hoped will be published in a second edition the whole story of the

[illegible]

emergency, sickness or inability of any member to act, he shall assign himself to one of the divisions, so as to bear his due proportion of labor. The Court shall sit in bank whenever the constitutionality of a law shall be drawn in question; and in other cases of great importance, which may be defined in the proposition, a full Court may be held. By this means there will be, as with the Commission, two tribunals in session at the same place and the same time, each organized to properly discharge its duties. But, while I prefer this method, thus briefly and perhaps not distinctly-described, the necessity for relief is so great that if one measure can not succeed, another should be adopted.

SETTLEMENT WITH AUDITOR AND TREASURER.

A committee was appointed by me, in 1878, in the manner required by law, to make settlement with the Auditor and Treasurer, and report the result of their examinations to the Legislature for action. The committee performed its duty. Their report was made to the Legislature, but the Legislature failed to approve it, either in whole or in part, and utterly failed to take definite action upon it. Therefore, no settlement has been made with the Auditor and Treasurer for the two years ending on the 31st of December, 1878. The committee appointed by me in December last to make settlement with the Auditor and Treasurer can have no authority from me to make settlement for the years 1877-78. The law provides: "The inquiries of the committee shall be limited to the two years preceding the meeting of the General Assembly." I recommend proper measures to be taken to make settlement with the Auditor and Treasurer for the two years ending on 31st of December, 1878.

THE PENITENTIARY.

The following table shows the number of prisoners convicted in the Courts of this State, and in United States Courts, confined in the Penitentiary on the 31st day of December, for the years named:

Years.	*State.*	*U. S.*	*Total.*
1874.....	1,013	56	1,069
1875.....	1,257	21	1,278
1876.....	1,332	14	1,346
1877.....	1,276	23	1,299
1878.....	1,244	50	1,294
1879.....	1,238	35	1,272
1880.....	1,188	30	1,218

The cost of maintaining the prison for the several years herein named, ending on the 31st of December in each year, is as follows:

1872.....	$150,033 18
1873.....	155,101 61
1874	In charge of lessees.
1875.....	101,625 90
1876.....	126,199 62
1877.....	96,910 01
1878.....	51,951 52

The exhibit for the two years 1877-78 is not as favorable as it ought to be. A large amount of labor was bestowed on the Court-house for the Supreme Court, and other labor for the State, for which no compensation was allowed. The earnings of the prisoners were expended for their support and maintenance during all the years above named. The proceeds of prison labor are as follows for the years mentioned:

1876.....	$31,222 90
1877.....	71,871 41
1878.....	92,279 98

A portion of the earnings for the years 1877-78 were expended in buying horses, mules and implements of industry, and other materials for the use of the prison. The business of the Penitentiary for the last two years shows an excess of earnings over the cost of maintenance of $32,901.90. During that time the earnings were:

1879.....	$108,160 28
1880.....	103,456 75
Total.....	$211,617 03

The cost of maintaining the Penitentiary was as follows:

1879.....	$ 89,315 83
.....	89,399 27
Total.....	$178,745 13

f this balance of $32,901.90, $20,000 has been d into the Treasury, $1,578.46 in the hands the Warden, and $11,323.44 is in material ight by the Warden for the use of the prisand now on hand. In addition thereto, re is a larger amount of property and maial on hand at this time than there was two ars ago, which has been purchased from earnings of the prison. Much labor has n performed for the State in preparing the and erecting a workshop thereon, and in manufacture of brick, of which there is a ge amount on hand. From the results proed in the last four years, I have no doubt able Warden and his faithful assistants make the prison self-sustaining, includ- the salaries to be paid the Warden, the cers and guards.

REPAIRS OF THE CAPITAL.

he last Legislature appropriated the sum 12,000 for repairs of the State Capitol. The vernor says the money has been judiciously economically expended.

WAR CLAIMS.

adjudicating the claims of the State inst the General Government, incurred in suppression of the rebellion, delay has ocred on account of the authorities at Washton demanding the delivery to them of the ginal vouchers held by the State. Recomndation is made that authority be given by Legislature for this purpose, certified ies of all such vouchers to be retained by State authorities.

MILITIA.

here are now thirty-five companies of mil- duly organized and properly armed. Of se three companies of infantry are of colr persons—two in St. Louis and one in nsas City. There is one company of cavy and one battery, both in the city of St. is. The remaining thirty companies of inry are organized in different portions of State. All the troops are well drilled, and good state of discipline, and will compare rably with the militia of any other State. zeal and public spirit manifested by the ers and men of the militia is highly comdable, and entitles them and their rets to a partial hearing by you. Two batns are organized in the city of St. Louis two in the city of St. Joseph, and the total e rank and file numbers 1,530 men.

FISH CULTURE.

rovision was made in 1877 for the establishnt of a commission whose duty it was to in conjunction with the Commissioner of United States in stocking the waters of State with such fishes as they may conr best adapted to furnish cheap and nouious food. A small sum of money was appriated for this purpose. The last Legisla- provided for three Commissioners to disrge this duty. All the Commissioners e without compensation, and they were horized to buy or lease a suitable location erect a hatching house thereon. Three usand dollars per annum were appropri- for this purpose, and to defray other exses to be incurred by the Commissioners e discharge of their duties. In my opin- the money has been judiciously expend- A hatchery has been established and perly prepared, from which fish will be en and placed in the streams of water in State. A report from the Commissioners, expected, will soon be placed before you.

LUNATIC ASYLUM AT ST. JOSEPH.

uring the session of the last Legislature Lunatic Asylum at St. Joseph was deyed by fire. Temporary provision was e for the support of the patients, and the ty of Buchanan, with commendable genity, set apart a portion of its large and modious Court House to be occupied by patients. The building thus destroyed, its site, furniture and equipment, had the State more than $300,000. The sum of 0 only was appropriated by the Legislafor rebuilding the asylum on the site of one destroyed and for refurnishing it. aw required me to appoint three Comioners to carry its provisions into effect. pointed Dr. Geo. C. Catlett and Messrs. A. patrick and A. C. Dawes as such Commis- rs, whose services were rendered without pensation, and their duties were faith- and efficiently performed. Their esti- es of the work and payment therefor were nitted to me and received my approval. e are rooms in the fourth story of the ding not yet completed. The former buildas intended to accommodate only 300 pas, while the new asylum will accommodate atients. One of the Commissioners makes following brief statement: "The buildis greatly superior to the former one in ding one-third more accommodations as as a more comfortable home for the in- . It is well protected against the dangers re, and has ample ways of ingress and ss. The improved reconstruction has tly diminished the difficulties of manage- t."

CONCLUSION.

d now, as I am about to return to private I can say that during my official career, whatever position I may have served, I endeavored faithfully to discharge the s which devolved on me, and have sought romote the prosperity and welfare of the ie of this great commonwealth. My adtration of the laws of this State is a part history. It is spread out before the peoor their observation, and to their judg- I cheerfully submit the record I have e. JOHN S. PHELPS.

ecutive Office, Jefferson City, Mo., Janu- 1881.

ummary of State Treasurer's Report.

Showing balance Dec. 31, 1880:

State revenue fund.....	$266,600 74
State interest fund.....	73,629 77
State sinking fund.....	.....
State school fund.....	792 06
State school moneys.....	121,922 11
Executors' and Administrators' fund	17,822 13
Redemption of land fund.....	9 56
Insurance Department fund.....	149 15
Road and Canal fund.....	412 49
Swamp-land and indemnity fund....	.....
Militia fund.....	82 25
Earnings of Missouri Penitentiary...	20,000 00
Total.....	$531,515 96

The balance of $531,515 96 is deposited and held as follows:

Bank of Commerce, St. Louis.....	$338,637 42
Mastin Bank, Kansas City.....	183,522 65
In vault.....	9,355 89
Total.....	$531,515 96

The Money Paid Over.

We are gratified at being able to state that the arrangement referred to a few days ago, for turning into the State Treasury the balance ($183,522) due from the defunct Mastin Bank of Kansas City, has been consummated. The money was deposited in the Bank of Commerce in this city yesterday, that bank being the authorized depository for the State moneys.—*St. Louis Republican, Jan. 7.*

Snow-Bound on the Plains.

WE pitched our tents carelessly, intending to take an early start next morning. But, alas for our expectations! During the night a strong wind set in from the northwest, and about 4 a. m. it began to snow. None of us could judge well of weather indications in Nebraska, and our guide did not suspect anything serious, for the oldest inhabitant could not recollect a blizzard in October, and it was now only the 15th of the month. The guide thought and the drivers believed that the storm would cease at 12 m. and we, of course, trusted to their judgment. But, instead, the storm grew fiercer, the snow fell more rapidly, and the northwest gale increased in fury. Before night so much snow had fallen that if it had lain as it fell it would have been at least one foot deep, but now it had been piled into drifts so that our mules stood with their feet nearly as high as the wagon-tops, and the stove and furniture in our cook's tent were completely hidden from view.

The night shut in upon us gloomy and awful. We had two light canvas tents, in each of which slept four men, with just blankets enough to keep them comfortable in ordinary weather. But now we must provide for the guide, two drivers, and a porter, who had usually slept in the wagons, and, as they were but slimly provided with clothing, we must share our stock with them. There was but little sleep in the tent that night, for the cold was intense, and the wind was so terrible in its effects that we feared every moment the larger tent would fall, though we had strengthened it by poles and cords in every conceivable way. With the morning light it seemed as if all the spirits of the air were let loose, and all day long the storm roared with ever-increasing fury. The snow had so beaten in that when we awoke we were obliged to gather all our bedding into the middle of the tent to keep it from being wet through. No man could long endure the storm outside, and we stood huddled together from morning till night, stamping our feet to keep from suffering. Even then we could not keep comfortable. For hours together we stood with our backs braced against the tent to keep it from giving way under the great weight of the snow and the terrible force of the gale. I know of no language which can be used to convey to any person inexperienced in such a time any adequate conception of the fury of the storm. During the second day we succeeded in digging our little stove out of the snow-drift, and setting it at the entrance of our tent, we managed to keep a little fire through the rest of the day and night. But our store of wood was very small, and there was no more to be had within we knew not how many miles. The other tent's company had no stove and no fire. During the second night of the storm it was impossible that all should sleep at once, even if they could sleep despite the cold, for what with the stove on one side and all our provisions brought in from the wagons on the other, there was not room for all to lie down. Besides, it was necessary to keep the fire going lest we might all perish together. So we stood bending over the stove all night, two at a time, while the others tried to sleep. It was an awful night. To add to our anxiety, the guide and drivers declared that the horses and mules were likely to perish. They were a pitiable sight, indeed. Two of them had no blankets, and the others were little better off. At times it was difficult to conceive that the creatures before us were horses, so literally covered were they with a coating of ice. After two days and two nights the storm ceased.

It was now Sunday morning. We knew not where we were, and we doubted if the guide had any more definite knowledge than we. Every man was desperate. Some declared it dangerous to attempt to move through the snow, and that our only safe course was to remain, and, in case of necessity, use the wagons for fuel and the horses for food. Others declared their purpose to move at all hazards, and without delay. Finally we determined to move. We threw away all lugguge that could be dispensed with, and in grim silence started in the direction which we thought would bring us to the nearest hut. It was difficult traveling through the drifted snow, and it was bitterly cold. But all day long we pushed on, never stopping to feed a horse, breaking through the drifts with our ponies so that the teams could follow, till about 5 p. m., when we came in sight of haystacks, in the vicinity of which we knew there must be a ranchman's hut. I never say a happier set of men than were these when it became certain that what we saw were haystacks, and not the terrible sand-hills which had so often deceived us during the day. Grave men, merchants of Worcester, swung their hats aloft and shouted for joy. It had been a march for life.—*Cor. Worcester (Mass.) Spy.*

A Young Telegraph Operator.

THE frontier telegraph office at Williams's ranch, as stated in the *Examiner* some weeks ago, is managed by Hallie Hutchinson, a little girl nine years of age. A gentleman who returned from there a few days since says Hallie is the most remarkably intelligent little elf he ever had the pleasure of meeting. She handles her instrument with the success and precision of an old operator. Recently, when election returns were coming in, and the whole country was wildly excited to know the result, little Hallie sat at her instrument, her eyes aglow with intelligence, and gathered in the news from all over the Union, while dozens of brawny men crowded around to hear what the lightning brought, and to admire the wonderful skill of the little operator. While controlling the wires as she does, Hallie is not unlike other little girls of her age in her habits and inclinations. For instance, one end of her operating-desk is piled full of baby-dolls, and she spends a great deal of her leisure time dressing and nursing them. Brown County may claim the youngest telegraph operator in the world.—*Waco (Tex.) Examiner.*

CHARLES WESTFIELD made a wager he could put a bullet through the hat of the bar-keeper in a New York shooting-gallery. As he fired, the bar-keeper, named Wurgans, changed his position, and the bullet struck him in the head, inflicting a probably fatal wound.