

A decided relief could be afforded the people of this State by the Legislature by the pass of a bill allowing taxes to be paid semi-annually instead of all at one time.

The House passed a bill appropriating \$5,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the late storm.

The committee on Towns and Counties was instructed to consider the propriety and expediency of furnishing Town Officers with printed blanks and forms, same as school officers.

Mr. S. Miller introduced a bill and joint resolution to encourage the planting and cultivation of fruit and shade trees.

A joint resolution was introduced by Mr. Rogers, as follows: Received, By the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, that the Legislature do resolve...

FRIDAY—The Senate, which had previously voted \$2,000 relief, raised it to the House's sum, \$5,000.

RUSSIA and England are trading close to ground that may be full of trouble. Russia wants to annex Khiva, in Central Asia, and desires the co-operation of England.

RAILROAD and Life Insurance Companies are the final refuge of politicians gone dry of usefulness has passed. Gov. Banks' is the latest case.

By Senator Pillsbury—To appropriate money (\$150,000) for erection of buildings for the State University.

By Senator Nichols—To appropriate money for erection and furnishing a family building, (\$15,000) shops and laundry \$5,000 for the Reform School.

After considerable discussion a joint resolution passed the Senate authorizing the Governor to take steps for the defense of the rights of the people of Duluth and the State to have the canal and dyke at that place and appropriating \$10,000 to be expended by him for that purpose.

An American Company has obtained a lease of Samana Bay, and the lease has been ratified by the Dominican government. It has control, not only of the Bay, but virtually of the island of San Domingo as well.

HEAVY frosts in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware on Friday swept away bridges and destroyed railroad tracks, bridges and other property. Seven trains were wrecked on different roads and forty-five persons injured.

On Friday the body of a man frozen to death was found near Detroit, Mich. A man in Chittenden county, Vt., has made an experiment designed to ascertain how far soil is protected from cold by snow.

At the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Masons in St. Paul last week, Rev. C. G. Griswold was elected G. M.

HOW SMALL OUR PRESIDENTS BE

Senator Morton delivered on Thursday an elaborate speech in the Senate on our present manner of electing a President and Vice-President, in which he pointed out the dangers connected with the Electoral College system.

He would prefer that the President should be elected by the people as one community, giving the election to the man who received the highest number of votes, without regard to State lines or municipal divisions, so that the national character should be fully represented in one department of the Government.

On Thursday a grand reception was given at Chisholm by the Empress Eugenie and Napoleon IV. to 1,000 soldiers, statesmen, and other distinguished Frenchmen. The Empress and her son passed through the rooms filled with people, all in the deepest mourning, and gave their hands to be kissed.

There is nothing more fashionable now-a-days than a libel suit. No well regulated paper can afford to be without one. The latest in the suit instituted by the Turkish Government against the London Times, for libel in publishing a communication alleged to have been signed by the Turkish Minister in London, containing statements in reference to the finances of the government of Turkey.

A BILL has been prepared by the Committee on Postoffice in the House of Representatives for reducing the rate of letter postage on two-cent and requiring pre-payment on all printed matter. The postage on all newspapers would have to be paid at the office of publication.

AMONG the contents of the Galaxy for February are the following: "The Wetheral Affair"; "Norway"; "Life on the Plains"; "Casual Cogitations"; "From London to New York"; "Woman as Companion"; "The Life and Writings of Emily Bronte"; "A Vagabond Heroine"; "Life Assurance"; "Up to London for the season." Sheldon & Co., publishers, New York.

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A DISPATCH FROM SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco says concerning the recent Indian battle: "Additional reports from the scene of Friday's battle with the Modocs, give the number of whites known to be killed at ten, and the wounded thirty. Lieut. Roberts, who was in command, cannot live. The Modocs fought naked, and with the greatest desperation, springing from rock to rock, picking off the soldiers, and compelling many to hide themselves until darkness afforded the means of escape.

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THE PUGET SOUND TINNER.

LETTER FROM MON. S. GARFIELD. WASHINGTON, Jan. 14th, 1873. EDWARD JOURNAL.—By accident, a letter from O. E. Garrison, published in your issue of the 5th ultimo, came under my notice, which refers to and comments upon my statement relative to the timber product of the Puget Sound country. He seems to doubt my statements, and thinks the lumbermen of Minnesota will do so also.

Mr. Garrison claims to have been exploring and surveying in Minnesota for the last ten years. The great trouble with him seems to be, that he has not explored and surveyed anywhere else. He reasons that, because he has found a forty-acre tract in that State which would yield over 700,000 feet of lumber, therefore no such tract exists anywhere. He is as much as logical as the president of the tropic who claimed that water could become solid, and proved his position by the statement that he had always lived on the water and never saw any that was solid.

It is safe to say that no one who has never been west of the Rocky Mountains can form any idea of the amount of timber which can and does grow upon an acre of ground. The article from which Mr. G. quotes, I can show him a single log, only sixteen feet long, which will make more lumber than he can obtain from any five acres of land in the State of Minnesota, and a single tree which will turn out as much good lumber, as any eighty-acre tract in his State. I did not refer to these facts in the article referred to, for the reason that the public mind was not prepared for the whole truth on this subject. This is apparent when a man, claiming to be an old timber explorer, writes at the statement that one tree will make nine or ten times as much lumber, or that eighty trees will make as much as a single acre of ground.

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LATE NEWS ITEMS.

—Governor Dix's health is said to be poor. —Mrs. Ohas. Sumner lives in Venice. —English farmers are gloomy on account of the wet. —John C. Breckinridge is living quietly at Lexington, Ky. —The ex-Regent General N. B. Forrest is in Louisville. —Baltimore exports annually \$8,000,000 worth of oysters. —Blondin, the lumatic who crossed Niagara on a tight rope, is performing in London. —Gen. Joe Johnson is thriving as a leading life insurance man at Savannah. —Bourgeois is superintendent of street railways at New Orleans, with a good salary. —Mrs. Harkness, of Spurgeon's congregation, in London, teaches a Bible class of 800 women. —The east has a cold spell of weather, which has stayed the rising rivers and postponed the floods. —Louis Philippe and Louis Napoleon, the last two rulers of France, both died in England. —Miss Lewis, the American (colored) sculptress in Rome, has two \$50,000 orders from English aristocrats. —Benefit is wandering in the direction of the Pygmies, gathering material for a forthcoming book. —The expenses of New York City last year were nearly \$9,500,000 less than under Tammany-Democratic rule. —The rebel General James Longstreet has a public position which enables him to maintain him and his numerous family. —Foster, the New York ear book murderer, has got to hang, the Court of Appeals having decided against him. —Professor Abbat, of Naples, is working cures of debility by transfusing healthy man's blood into the veins of his patients. —Gov. Oglesby, of Illinois, refuses to interfere with the sentence of McNulty, the wife murderer, and he will be hanged next month. —A fire in Ottumwa, Ill., on Sunday, destroyed the splendid Union block, and several stores and offices. Loss, \$150,000, mostly insured. —It is stated that the Federal Government will send the Eric Rivalley for over \$100,000 in taxes on dividends and coupons, which that company has not paid. —Senator Sumner is in a wretched physical condition, it is said. For weeks he has never slept except under an opiate injection under the skin. It is feared he will never resume his seat.

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