The Newberry Herald and News.

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CHEAP SCHOOL BOOKS SECURED.

Successful Finale of the State Board's Efforts—Proceedings of the State Board of Education—Action on State School Histories.

[The State, Nov. 1.]

The State Board of education has succeeded in reducing the prices of school books very materially, and the fight for cheap books has been won. Yesterday the proceedings of the meeting of the Board, held Friday, were given to the public. The most important features thereof follow:

Mrs. S. S. Clarkson of Eastover, Miss Anna M. Henry of Greenville, E. Dreher of Lexington, Rev. R. R. Varn of Fairfield and S. C. Scott of Eastover were granted teachers' State certificates.

CHEAP BOOKS SECURED.

Superintendent Mayfield made a report of the result of his efforts to secure cheap books, the following being merely a synopsis:

Gentlemen of the Board: At your meeting in April last you appointed me a committee of one to look into the school book question for this State, with a view to securing, if possible, a reduction in the prices of the books on the State list, and to make suggestions of plans whereby the books might be procured by the children of the State at the agreed prices. I immediately entered upon the work assigned me. At our meeting in July last I was unable to make a satisfactory report, because of the fact that I had not been able to hear fully from all of the book houses whose books were on our list, and you asked me to continue the work, which I have done, and am now ready to report. This report would be too long were I to incorporate the replies which I received to my letters. I content myself with making some short extracts from some of the letters and presenting the figures, which will show for themselves. From them it will be seen that a considerable reduction has been made from the original prices.

I take up the American Book Company first, as it has more books on our State list than any other house.

I give the present retail price and also the former retail prices, that the difference may be seen at a glance.

"Mr. W. D. Mayfield, State Superintendent of Education, Columbia, S. C.

"DEAR SIR: We give you herewith, a list of the books published by us which have been adopted by the State Board of Education for use in the schools of South Carolina. Appended to each book is our regular list price at which it should be retailed to pupils throughout the State.

Very truly yours,
AMERICAN BOOK CO."

List of books published by the American Book Company, adopted for the use in the schools of South Carolina:

	RETAIL.	
	FORMER PRICES.	PRESENT PRICES.
Reed & Kellogg's Graded Lessons in English	42	40
Reed & Kellogg's Higher Lessons in English	70	65
Reed's Word Lessons	40	25

The first book formerly cost the dealer 36 cents; now it costs him 30 cents. The second book formerly cost the dealer 60 cents; now it costs him 50 cents. The third book formerly cost the dealer 25 cents; now it costs him 20 cents.

You will see that dealers can afford to sell our books at the mailing prices, as there is an ample margin of profit, and that the mailing prices are certainly very reasonable.

An extract from a letter from D. C. Heath & Co., Boston, is given, stating that Hyde's Lessons in English will be sold for 24 and 40 cents respectively, and bound in cloth at 26 and 45 cents. Mr. Mayfield says: The former prices to retailers were 31½ and 45 3-5 cents for the smaller and larger books respectively. A very large extra discount is allowed. Formerly they received by 16⅔ per cent. Allowing 25 per cent. profit, they should now retail at 29 and 50 cents respectively.

Messrs. Ginn & Co., write that they are forced to give a discount of 16⅔ per cent. to dealers, but are willing to make it 20 per cent., "thus enabling the dealers to retail the books at wholesale prices." They say there is a demand for a paper back form, and if several counties desire this edition, a further discount of 20 per cent. can be given. They intend to re-establish a depository "in some important centre in the South."

Mr. Mayfield's report quotes a letter from the University Publishing Company, showing that his request was evidently misunderstood. Mr. Mayfield's comment is: "This house has made no reductions. I have received no reply to my last letter."

The J. B. Lippincott Company has made no reduction. Mr. W. J. Duffie, of Columbia, the publisher of Davidson's History of South Carolina, has placed that book at 50 cents.

Mr. Mayfield's report continues thus: "As to the best means of securing to children of the State the books at retail prices proper, I suggest the propriety of preparing an official bulletin to be hung up in a conspicuous place in each school in the State, giving a list of the books on the State list, with publisher's prices annexed, together with a statement to the effect that if the books are not furnished at these prices by the local dealers of the State, they can be procured of the publishers, postage or expressage paid, on receipt of the cash.

"It might be advisable for the county school commissioners to communicate with the local dealers and thereby get the names of those who will agree to sell the books at the fixed retail prices to the children of their respective counties."

THE BOARD'S ACTION.

Professor Johnson submitted and the board passed a resolution of thanks to Mr. Mayfield for his successful efforts to secure cheaper books. The resolution also says:

That as this is a public matter of vital concern to the whole people, State Superintendent Mayfield be and is hereby requested to use every means in his power to spread this information through the State.

Miss Ella Bell Shirly was examined as an applicant for a State teacher's certificate.

STATE SCHOOL HISTORIES.

In regard to the adaptation of the new State school histories, Professor Morrison offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That the State board fully appreciates the importance of the study of the South Carolina history and observes with pleasure the interest shown in this subject by writers and the people generally. That while the board cannot, at this time, consistently with the law and precedent, add to the present State adoption on this subject, yet the board urges teachers and school officers to remember that the first business of the State free schools is to make South Carolinians, and that the law requires South Carolina history to be taught in all public schools.

READERS.	PRESENT RETAIL PRICES.	FORMER RETAIL PRICES.
Appleton's First Reader	.18	.24
Appleton's Second Reader	.30	.38
Appleton's Third Reader	.38	.49
Appleton's Fourth Reader	.50	.66
Appleton's Fifth Reader	.90	1.17
Harper's First Reader	.24	.24
No change for others	...	...
Swinton's Primer and First Reader	.25	.30
Swinton's Second Reader	.35	.40
Swinton's Third Reader	.50	.56
Swinton's Fourth Reader	.65	.75
Swinton's Fifth Reader	.90	1.05
Swinton's Sixth, or Classic English Reader	1.05	1.25

The prices of all others the comparative reduction being about the same per cent. as the above, are as follows:

Supplementary readers—"Cats and Dogs, and Other Friends," 17 cents; "Friends in Feathers and Fur," 30 cents; "Neighbors with Wings and Fins," 40 cents; "Some curious Flyers, Runners and Swimmers," 40 cents; "Horns, Corns, Waulaws and Hoofs," 54 cents; "Glimpses of the Animal World," $1; "Grandfather's Stories," 27 cents; "Stories of Heroic Deeds," 30 cents; "Stories of our Country," 40 cents; "Stories of the Olden Time," 54 cents; "Ten Events in History," 54 cents.

Spellers—Swinton's Word Primer, 15 cents; Swinton's Word Book of English Spelling, 18 cents.

Dictionaries—Webster's Primary, 48 cents; Common School, 72; High School, 98; Academic, $1.50.

Geographies—Appleton's Standard Elementary, 55; Standard Higher, $1.25; Physical, $1.60.

Histories—Barnes' Primary United States, 60; Brief United States, $1; General History, $1.60; Eggleston's History of the United States, $1.05; Swinton's Primary of the United States, 48; Condensed same, 90; Outlines of the World's History, $1.44.

Arithmetics—Robins' Rudiments of Arithmetic, 32 cents; Progressive Practical, 68.

Penmanship—Specimen copy, small (shorter course) dozen, 72 cents; do. common school 96 cents.

begun same uniform reduction runs the min all this company's drawing s, physiologies, music Lucas agricultural books.

"Mike" Kelly Dead.

[Special to Register.]

CHARLESTON, November 5.—Michael Kelly, better known as "the O'Kelly," a well known politician, died here today. He is said to have been the only politician in Charleston who never wanted a public office. He was an all round politician, owing allegiance to no party, and used to write political squibs for the papers, cracking a head wherever he saw a chance. He was the proprietor of large iron works on East Bay.

Shot Into the Ex-President's Car.

[Special to The State.]

UNION, S. C., Nov. 5.—Last night, as the passenger train bound for Columbia neared Union, some miscreant shot through the parlor coach, in which was seated ex-President Hayes, smashing a window pane. It is not supposed that the person who did the shooting knew of the ex-President's presence in the car, but every one is indignant that such an outrage should be perpetrated.

HISTORY OF THE WADSWORTH ESTATE.

The Benefaction of a Forgotten Philanthropist Now to be Realized in Laurens—A Scattered Property of $300,000—Serious Distress Likely to be Caused—Some Innocent Purchasers.

[Greenville News.]

The "Wadsworth poor school fund" and the Wadsworth estate have been heard of by many people in this State but the story that surrounds them is not familiar.

Inasmuch as the estate concerns many Greenville people and many others in nearly every county in the State, the story is repeated below:

Thomas Wadsworth died in Charleston about the year 1771. He came to America from England when a young man, first settling in Massachusetts and later in Laurens County, in this State, near Milton. He became immensely wealthy, owning thousands of acres of land and hundreds of slaves. After living in Laurens County many years he moved to Charleston and went into the mercantile business with a Mr. Turpin, the firm being Wadsworth & Turpin.

When he died he owned lands from the mountains to the seaboard of South Carolina, principally in the counties of Laurens, Spartanburg, Greenville, Pickens, Anderson, Newberry, Lexington and Orangeburg. After abundantly providing for his wife and mother, for he had no children, he left about 34,000 acres in various counties for a poor school fund. The property was not to be sold. Everything was left in the hands of a board of trustees, composed of five men. The trustees were to be elected every two years by the white freeholders of Dunlap's battalion of Laurens County and the school to be supported was to be located in the battalion.

In Mr. Wadsworth's days the counties were divided into battalions instead of townships as now, and there were four battalions in Laurens County. There were also four in Greenville. Deeds for the lands were left in the hands of trustees and are now in the possession of the present trustees, elected last February by the white voters living in Dunlap's battalion. A school house was built in the battalion, now Hunter's township, and has been in use ever since, although the vast estate has not until now, yielded enough to pay a teacher's salary. The trustees rented the lands for a while and finally leased them for terms ranging from fifty to ninety-nine years. The money received was loaned out and much of it was lost. Some of the leases were renewed by other trustees, but a number of them are beginning to expire and a distressing state of affairs is in store for numbers of people now in possession of the lands.

R. G. Wallace and W. H. Workman, two of the five trustees are in the city and are looking up the part of the estate located in this county for the purpose of selling or settling in some manner. An act of the legislature a short time ago empowered the trustees to sell the lands and re-invest in lands in Laurens township, near the Wadsworth school.

The trustees find by old records in the register of mesne conveyance's office that there are about 1,400 acres belonging to the estate in this County. Over 300 acres of it are located about two-and-a-half miles from the city, and the worst part of the story is that about forty-seven persons own the property and that there are over twenty houses on it.

Persons to whom it was leased and re-leased years ago sold it to unsuspecting and careless persons, and there is not much doubt but that many people will have to suffer. Part of the land is in the possession of Capt. William Goldsmith. Much of the same land lies in the Sandy Flat section of this county. No property in the city is included in the estate and real estate owners here will breathe easier. In one tract in Spartanburg County there are 1,800 acres.

It was said at one time that the town of Anderson was built on the property, but the courts decided that office. The property there from further trouble about one hundred and twenty-five acres east of the town, belonged to the estate, and the owners settled with the trustees some time ago by paying a fair price for the promise. Wherever the present owners have fought the matter in court they have lost. This would tend to frighten all who have any interest in the property.

One gentleman in this city lately invested in some of this land east of here, and he is now worried. All over the State, wherever there is any of the land, there will be uneasiness and not a few may lose their all.

The trustees of the fund now have about $3,000 on hand. They propose to push matters to a settlement and increase the fund. They have planned to build two more school houses in Dunlap's battalion, one at Cross Hill and one at Mountville. The Wadsworth estate is now valued at between $200,000 and $300,000 at a low estimate.

Would You Be Attractive?

You must be healthy. Would you be healthy, always keep within reach, ready for any emergency, Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, the perfection of physic! Headache, biliousness, constipation, a coated tongue, always indicate a torpid liver. These magical Pellets act directly upon the liver—the fountain-head of many ills—correcting all disorders, driving out all impurities, stimulating healthy action. The best Liver Pills; mildly giving all the benefit and none of the discomfort of other pills.

American Election Days.

[New York Evening Post.]

About ninety years ago William Brisbane, a cultivated and patriotic citizen of South Carolina, while staying in London, witnessed in that city two elections for the members of Parliament, attended with the familiar scenes of violence, of bribery, and of coercion of voters which English writers have described so picturesquely. In his journal of travel, part of which has been published, along with severe criticisms of this British mob law at elections, Mr. Brisbane naively says: "How much more preferable is our method of electing members of the Legislature in South Carolina, where the electors give their votes by balloting, in doing which bribery is cut up root and branch." At that far-away time, when the whole population of the United States was but a few millions, we have no doubt that Mr. Brisbane's views were shared by intelligent Americans, North as well as South. The ballot was to them as an emblem of sanctity as well as secrecy. In the soil tilling communities of the simple time, with every voter independent, a property qualification, and wealth and social rank very nearly equalized, bribery fell to its very lowest terms, and about the only election "trick" we find as passing a plot of land by deed so as to qualify men for the suffrage; while election violence was all but impossible in a nation of stolid and law-loving farmers.

At the end of almost a century since Mr. Brisbane's words were written, the changes in American temper and methods at elections, and in the "campaigns" which precede them, are a most suggestive study. In that study nothing is more impressive and cheering than the persistency of the principle of "order" at our elections, in contrast with our mother land. For a number of decades after the opening of the present century, British mob-rule and head-cracking at elections continued almost undiminished. Even now, at any general British election, reports of rioting are not uncommon, and on one of the Bradlaugh voting days in Northampton a few years ago, a large body of troops had to be transferred to the city to aid the local police against an anticipated outbreak. Contrast with this those quietudes of an American voting day which have never ceased to amaze the De Tocquevilles and Bryces. It is true that for a while during the middle of our century, and in our large cities where they had but few voting places, the inevitable crowds at the polls led to serious disorders. But the simple mechanical invention of small election districts has made our election days in cities as quiet as a Sunday. So that, essentially, the long record of election-day peace has been unbroken throughout the country's whole history. Exactly why, with much the same Anglo-Saxon tempers as our kin beyond sea, and besides with so many rough voting elements of other races to be restrained, we have so long and so successfully maintained peaceful elections, is perhaps hard to say, but the creditable national fact remains. Even our Irish voters poll their ballots decently in the United States, while they break each other's heads and fill the hospitals in Cork.

The American election day, however, when we leave its quietudes and compared it with the same occasion in the ancestral time, becomes much more sombre. Looking back to the early decades of the the century, we find undoubtedly defects enough. The Federalists and Democrats were obstinate in their partisanship, and often utterly blind. Politics cut deeply into their social life, and the Yankee Federalist inn-keeper who put out the sign "No Democrats entertained here," an exception to the rule of partisan bitterness. The political literature of the time, and especially the party newspaper, was savage and truculent enough to make the organ of to-day seem gentle. But more than offsetting all these, there were none of the sinister forces which now converge so powerfully on one of our election days. There is, in truth, a sort of evil grandeur when we view the magnitude to which these forces have grown, as our national constitution has, during half a century become big and diversified. There are the party machines in nation, State, town, city and wards; hundreds of assistant organizations, not formerly within the parties, but co-workers with one or the other of them; literary bureaus often sowing lies; and political clubs numberless, all focusing their energies and trickeries upon the polls. What used to be a very simple and essentially honest voting act of our communities has now become an enormously complex thing, against whose elements of bribery and terrorism and falsehood the contest for a pure ballot has gone on like the battle of the big guns against plate armor. Strangely enough, too, with all quick American aptitudes, we have followed our mother country but slowly in purifying our elections by secret ballot laws and corrupt-practice acts. The great wave of ballot reform which, in three years, has swept over thirty of our commonwealths did not come until an Australian ballot had been tested many years in England, and until corruption of our own ballot had run to a towering height.

REVIEWING RESULTS.

Democrats Just Miss Control of the New York Legislature—Decisive Alliance Defeat in Kansas—Nearly a Clean Sweep in Iowa—Republicans Have the Massachusetts Legislature.

NEW YORK, Nov. 5.—Associated Press returns on the legislature gives the following results: To the senate the republicans have elected seventeen of their candidates and the democrats fourteen, and in the thirty-second district Dr. James T. Edwards, independent republican, nominated by republicans opposed to Senator Vedder and endorsed by the democrats, is elected. To the assembly sixty five democrats, sixty-one republicans and two independent democrats are elected, the latter being county democrats who had been endorsed by the republicans in the twenty-second and twenty-fourth New York city districts respectively.

KANSAS.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 5.—Returns from 99 of 106 counties in this State show the defeat of the people' party in 75 counties. In the judicial districts in which elections were held seven republicans, two democrats and one alliance-man were elected. There were combinations between democrats and republicans in three judicial districts, all of which were successful. Jerry Simpson was the only alliance congressman who succeeded in pulling his county ticket through. The republicans and democrats are congratulating each other and old time republicans predict that the campaign of 1892 will be between the old parties.

REPUBLICANS SAVE THE HOUSE IN IOWA.

DES MOINES, Ia., Nov. 5.—The probable plurality for Boies is over 8,000. The rest of Boies' ticket will probably carry the State by 4,000 plurality.

The senate will be democratic by 26 to 24; the house will probably be republican by 56 to 51.

WORSE AND WORSE IN OHIO.

COLUMBUS, O.—The latest figures on Tuesday's election with nine counties estimated and a few others unofficial, made by the State republican committee, place McKinley's majority at 20,486. The republicans now claim from 48 to 50 majority on joint ballot in the legislature.

DEMOCRAT WOOD WASN'T IN IT.

MADISON, S. D., Nov. 5.—Jolley, republican, is probably elected to congress over Smith, independent, by 8,000. Less than 40,000 votes were cast in the State. Wood, democrat, cut no figure.

REPUCLICANS CONTROL THE MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

BOSTON, Nov. 5.—Complete returns make the next legislature stand; Senate, republicans, 23; democrats, 17; house, republicans, 150; democrats, 87; prohibitionists 1.

Congratulations have poured in upon Governor Russell from all over the country. Ex-President Cleveland was one of the first to extend his "most cordial congratulations." Other messages were received from Governor Abbett, of New Jersey; Gen. F. J. Underwood, the Atlanta, Ga., Journal; ex-Secretary of State Bayard; Governor-elect Flower, of New York, and many others.

SHERMAN ON THE OHIO ELECTION.

MANSFIELD, O., Nov. 5.—Senator Sherman was seen at his home to-day and asked his views on the election. He said:

"I am induced to believe that we have won a great victory. In many respects it is but an indorsement or echo of the fight of 1875 upon the financial question. President Hayes and myself then made an issue for the honest dollar, and this election in our commonwealth only shows how the people of this State are true to the best elements of all life. I do not mean to say, however, that the tariff has not played an important part in the game. So far as the Republican party is concerned, this result in Ohio fixes the silver question as one of the issues of the next Presidential contest, and decides it, so far as this State is concerned.

"I am convinced that a free coinage bill will be passed by the Congress which meets in December. I also believe that such a bill as will be framed will be vetoed by President Harrison. That will naturally make free silver the feature of the next presidential fight. In fact, it will be the leading issue, upon which there are vast differences of opinion in both parties. I doubt very much whether the Democracy in national convention will proclaim for free coinage. If they should, there will be no other issue of significance in the next campaign.

"I am not at all disturbed as to the result in New York. In my mind, it simply indicates the fact that Mr. Platt's power lies in the great city, and that the country districts are getting a little tired of the intrigues of the metropolis and wanted to make that fact manifest. I don't think it will have any bearing whatever upon the next presidential contest."

M'KINLEY'S MISJUDGMENT.

CANTON, O., Nov. 5.—Maj. McKinley said to-day, in speaking of the Ohio election: "I am convinced that the judgment of our citizens does not approve of the constant agitation of the tariff issue, in the face of the fact that it can accomplish nothing. It must surely be apparent to all alike that the conditions without which effective legislation is impossible do not exist. The Republican Senate and the Republican President are bulwarks against which free trade forces dash powerless; and with no immediate prospect of a change in these conditions, the only result of the continued agitation is to disturb business and retard enterprises which the new law designs to encourage. In spite of all, the law is working its way, and from being on the defensive, as a year ago, we are now on the aggressive. When business is already good our people will not long tolerate movements which disturb it in the face of the conditions I have named, and you will find the Republicans and Democrats alike will call a halt on the men whose stock in trade is not fair, square argument, but juggling misrepresentation of the same. Ohio has gone Republican, and I accept the result as indicating that this State stands by the Republican party with full faith in its protective principle as embodied in the tariff law; and, more than this, Ohio stands, as she always has, in favor of a full dollar and a sound currency."

ENGLISH OPINION OF M'KINLEY.

LONDON, Nov. 5.—English views of the American elections seem almost confined to the result in Ohio. The success of McKinley is looked upon as a distinct grievance in the manufacturing districts, and especially in Bradford and Sheffield, which places have been disastrously affected by the McKinley act. The defeat of McKinley would have been hailed with delight in Great Britain, and he would have probably figured in some of the Guy Fawkes cremations, which are traditional to-day throughout England. In the average English opinion, McKinley is an ogre, actuated by relentless hatred of Great Britain rather than desire to benefit the United States, and the Londoners would not be surprised to find his counterfeit among the waxen collection of wicked people that is famous on both continents.

SOME PRESS COMMENTS.

[New York Herald.]

They argue, and very naturally, that if Tammany has acquired influence enough to travel from New York to Albany and shows a determination to extend its journey to Washington, something must be done to check its great power and patronage. The same battle cry which has been raised in this canvass will become the cry of the future—"Down with Tammany." It would be a grave calamity, therefore, to be compelled, next year, to throw the national issues aside in order to fight a defensive battle with Tammany as our handicap.

New York Times: New York will be in the Democratic column next year, and it will supply the candidate. It must be a very blind politician that can't see that.

New York Sun: The appearance of John I. Davenport yesterday in his old role serves to remind the Democrats of New York of the debt of gratitude they owe to Arthur Pue Gorman.

Davenport was the real author of the measure known variously as the Lodge bill, the Hoar bill, and the force bill. He planned the extensive scheme of Federal interference at the polls, which would have been the law of the land to-day but for the inestimable service rendered by the Senator from Maryland.

Senator Gorman is a Democrat and a great Democratic leader.

New York World: The services of Grover Cleveland to the Democratic cause in the campaign in this State was very great.

Putting aside all false notions of the dignity that is supposed to hedge about ex-Presidents, he presided and spoke at great gatherings of Democrats with the earnestness of a thoroughgoing party man. Wherever he appeared he evoked much enthusiasm, showing the strong hold which he has upon the popular confidence.

The ex-President's warm endorsement of Mr. Flower as a man "who will administer the great office to which he will be called independently, fearlessly and for the good of all the people" no doubt gave him many votes.

The Atlanta Constitution: The Democrats are to be congratulated on the result of Tuesday's elections. They have not only increased their normal majorities in States that are conceded to them, but have held their ground in States which they captured last year. They hold Massachusetts and Iowa, and this is in the nature of a decided victory. If the Republicans had recaptured these States, the result would have been regarded only as the natural reaction from the tremendous upheaval of last year. That the Democrats have succeeded in holding them shows that the principles of the party have taken a strong hold on the minds of men who have heretofore opposed them. This is more than encouraging. It gives rise to new hopes of success in 1862, and ought to strengthen the Democratic party in all that pertains to harmony and unity.

New Orleans Times-Democrat: The Democrats have good cause to congratulate themselves over the result of the elections, for it shows that the tidal wave of last year has not exhausted itself, and that many former Republican States must be placed in future in the doubtful list.

St. Louis Republic: In its bearing on national issues the result of yesterday's election is significant and well defined. It means that next year's Presidential contest will be fought squarely on the issue of protection on the one side and tariff reform on the other. And this is a consummation most devoutly to be wished by Democrats.

Memphis Appeal: The nail driven by the people in November, 1890, has been clinched in November, 1891. We may regret the failure of the gallant Campbell in Ohio to win himself, and we may wonder that public sentiment has been so debased in Pennsyvania that the party of Quay and Bardsley should again succeed. But so much has been gained and made fast that the day is one for thanksgiving and praise, and for vows of greater zeal, in order that a year hence the harvest may fulfill the glorious promise.

Atlanta Journal. The results of yesterday's election prove some things very clearly.

It is evident that the united Democracy can elect its national ticket next year if it will do two things:

1. Nominate men who command the confidence and respect of the country.

2. Make the tariff the main issue.

With a good ticket and a sound platform, the heart and center of which shall be a low tariff plank, we can not only carry New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana, which have hitherto been sufficient to insure Democratic victory, but we can hold Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Iowa, and make Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin very doubtful. If Democrats take heed of yesterday's lesson they will win a great victory next year; if they shut their eyes to it they will have to endure defeat as the penalty of unpardonable stupidity.

JERRY SIMPSON IN NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5.—Jerry Simpson, the "sockless statesmen" of Kansas arrived in the city to-day and will lecture to-night in the interest of the third party movement in this State. Mr. Simpson made a score of speeches in Ohio during the recent campaign, and is surprised that Campbell was defeated. He is disappointed at the small vote cast for the third party candidates for governor. In his own State, he says, the fusion of the Democrats and the Republicans injured the Alliance party, while rainy weather kept many farmers at home.

A FLESH-EATING PLANT.

Remarkable Narrative that an English Naturalist Has Taken Home.

A curious story is told in the Review of Reviews about an alleged flesh-eating plant that has been discovered in Nicaragua. The story is quite circumstantial, and, if it is really true, specimens of this remarkable plant should be brought to New York, for they would certainly prove an immense attraction.

Mr. Dunstan, an English naturalist, who has recently returned from Central America, where he passed two years in studying the flora and fauna of the country, is responsible for the story. Dunstan says he was exploring one of the swamps which surround Lake Nicaragua for botanical and entomological specimens when he heard his dog cry out, as if in agony. Dunstan ran to the spot and found that a fine, rope-like tissue of roots and fibres had enveloped the poor animal, that was yelping as if in great pain. The plant or vine which had made him a prisoner seemed to be composed entirely of bare, interlacing stems, resembling the branches of the weeping willow denuded of its foliage. The stems were nearly black and were covered with a thick viscid gum that exuded from the pores.

Mr. Dunstan drew his knife and tried to cut the poor beast free. He had great difficulty in severing the muscular fibres of the plant. When he had finally extricated the dog he saw to his astonishment that the animal's body was blood stained, "while the skin appeared to have been actually sucked or puckered in spots." The animal staggered as if completely exhausted. While he was cutting the vine the twigs curled around Mr. Dunstan's hand, and it required considerable force to free his hand from the clinging grasp of these twiggs. His flesh, where the twiggs had touched it, was red and blistered. The gum which exuded from the vine had a disagreeable odor.

Dunstan says the natives hold the plant in the greatest horror, and call it the "devil's snare." They told the naturalist many stories of its death-dealing powers. He was able to discover very little about the nature of the plant, owing to the difficulty of handling it, for its grasp can only be shaken off with the loss of skin and even of flesh. He believes that its power of suction is contained in a number of little suckers which, ordinarily closed, open for the reception of food. If the substance coming within reach of the plant is animal, the blood is drawn off, and the carcass or refuse is then dropped. "A lump of raw meat being thrown to it, in the short space of five minutes the blood will be thoroughly drank off and the mass thrown aside. Its voracity is almost beyond belief."

This is a very curious story. There are a good many Americans now at work on the Nicaragua Canal, and Mr. Dunstan's graphic narrative should be submitted to them for verification.

Water Being Sold.

COLUMBUS, Ind., Nov. 6.—There is no more prospect of rain than there was two months ago and everybody views the situation with alarm. Wells, streams and ponds are completely dry in this entire section, and since the fifties nothing like this has been known. In many inland towns, like Charlestown, water is being sold.

WATER FAMINE THREATENED.

NEW YORK, Nov. 6.—Not for years has the supply of drinking water for this city been so low, nor has the danger of a genuine water famine been greater than at present. Commissioner Gilroy says that if there is no heavy rainfall soon, the water would only last fifteen or twenty days more.

SEVENTEEN AND A HALF MILLIONS.

The Increase in Assessments of Taxable Property This Year.

[The State.]

Yesterday the final reports of the returns and assessments of real and personal property in the State for the past year were received by the Comptroller General. The official figures for most of the counties have already been given.

The figures as now completed foot up $168,262,669 as the total assessment for the year 1891. Last year the total was $150,603,451. The total increase over last year therefore is $17,660,218. A good portion of the increase is due to the raise in the assesments of railroad property and on corporations.

A Civil Service Test.

A North Carolina farmer propounds the searching questions below to his brother farmers in the "Tar Heel State." They will be found applicable to all sections of the country. The questions get right down to the milk in the cocoa nut.

Do you know that the farmers of North Carolina spent over $3,000,000 this year for fertilizers for cotton and tobacco?

Do you suppose they will be able to get enough extra for the crops to pay the bill?

Do you know that more than $3,000,000 worth of fertilizing material has been washed away this rainy season from your barnyards because of neglect in looking after your home-made fertilizers?

Do you suppose that the land of North Carolina is a dollar's worth better off because of the $3,000,000 spent for fertilizers for sale crops?

"Don't you know that field you are "resting," as you suppose, by allowing it to grow up in weeds, is ripening a lot of seeds and making more nut grass roots to bother you next year?

Don't you know that if you had sown that field in peas you would now have a great crop of pea vine hay to cut and feed this winter?

Don't you know that the feeding of that hay would bring you your money back in the animals fed, and leave you a lot of manure that will pay you better than the bought mixtures?

Don't you know that crimson clover seed scattered on this pea stubble will give you a growth to turn under next spring that would give you more corn, cotton and tobacco than five times its cost spent for fertilizers?

Don't you know that the constant culture of the soil in cotton, year after year, with a little fertilizer to make a crop, is making your land poorer all the time?

Don't you know that whatever makes your land poorer, makes you poorer also?

Did you ever hear of a farmer who got rich by buying fertilizers merely to raise cotton with?

Did you ever know a farmer who made his land rich by an intelligent course of cultivation who did not get "well off" as fast as his farm did?

Did you ever know cow-peas or clover to bring a man in debt to a commission merchant?

Did you ever know home-made manure to fail to improve your land?

Do you know of a farmer who has too much of it?

Did you ever know a cow injured by a comfortable stable and plenty of hay?

Did you ever know a man to get rich in any business who did not study it, and have faith in it, and give his whole time and energy to it?

Don't you know that the biggest tax the farmers of North Carolina pay today is the fertilizer bill, the waste of home-made manure, and the washing away of fertilizers from fields kept bare of clover or grass?

Don't you suppose that somebody, somewhere, makes a profit in raising the pork you send money to Chicago for, out of your cotton crop?

Don't you suppose somebody, somewhere, makes a living and perhaps grows rich, growing the wheat your flour is made of, which you buy out of your cotton crop?

Don't you suppose that somebody, somewhere, makes money by raising the beeves which the butchers in North Carolina towns have to send to Richmond to buy?

Don't you know that you could raise all these things here, and, in raising them, raise more cotton on a few acres than you now do on many?

Do you see how high prices are going to benefit the farmer who has bread, meat and manure to buy and only one thing to sell?

With cotton low down and wheat high, how is the man helped who raises no wheat?

What if butter is awfully high-priced in our towns, while our farmers have no cows, or nothing to feed them on if they have, while somebody, somewhere else, makes money by feeding cows and shipping butter South?

If you know all these things, don't you see that bad farming has more to do with farmers' troubles than anything else he has to endure, and there is no doubt that he has much to carry aside from this?

According to the latest statistics there are 340,625 miles of railway on the earth, of which 138,750 miles, or 44 per cent., are in the United States. Germany, the leading railway country in Europe, has 24,343 miles; France, 21 393; Great Britan and Ireland, 19,811; Russia, 17,823, and Austria, 15,542 miles.