

Two-thirds of the young tobacco plants in western North Carolina were killed by recent frosts. Vegetables and wheat were greatly damaged at numerous points on the mountains.

Miss Amelie Rives, the Virginia novelist, has, says the *Atlanta Constitution*, been offered \$30,000 by a New York publishing house for a novel. This is the largest offer ever received by an American author.

Maine, where capital punishment was abolished in 1883, is since that date, according to the *Belfast Age*, "fast gaining the title of the wickedest State in the Union." According to the prohibitionists, Maine should be a model State, but a number of murders of a peculiarly brutal nature have been reported from its rural districts.

The government of Sweden has placed a prohibitory duty upon American pork, to retaliate for the refusal of the United States to carry out what Sweden understands to be the stipulations of the treaty of 1827. It is also stated that the Chinese government has threatened to exclude American petroleum if the prohibition of Chinese subjects is continued. If retaliation is going to be fashionable, other countries may be expected to take a hand in.

The Emperor of Brazil was reported better, but extremely weak.

The latest accounts of the German Emperor continue to be favorable. Much anxiety continues to be felt regarding Stanley, of whom there is as yet no intelligence.

No intelligence of the condition of General Sheridan is to hand at the time of our going to press.

Mr. Bright is reported to have passed the crisis of his disorder, and to be now in a favorable condition.

Mr. Gladstone has received an address signed by 1200 Quakers in favor of Home Rule. We hardly thought there was as many Quakers left in the United Kingdom.

An American Club has been established in London. Sir Edward Thornton presided at its first annual meeting, supported by Mr. Henry White, American Charge d'Affairs.

Mr. Edmund Yates describes Queen Natalie of Servia as "decidedly of the 'fine woman' order; tall, broad and massive, with large features and black eyebrows and eyes, and black hair."

A number of Anarchists picked a quarrel with M. Rochefort, and invaded the office of the *Intransigeant*. Henri, however, drew a revolver and defended himself until the arrival of the police.

There has been some uneasiness manifested lately about Stanley, who has not been heard of for a considerable time. Dr Schweinfurth, however, writes from Brussels, that there is no reason for anxiety.

A French law, passed March 1st, prohibiting foreign vessels from fishing in the territorial waters of France, lays down a precisely similar line in regard to inshore fishing as that agreed upon at Washington recently.

Six shopmen were burned to death in a fire which took place at a linen drapers and silk weavers establishment in the Edgeware Road, London, and several others were injured by leaping from windows. The loss is \$200,000.

The adulteration of food in Russia has attained such proportions that the Government has taken it vigorously in hand. Several Moscow adulterators of tea have been punished, one having been deprived of political rights and banished to Siberia for life.

The Pope's diplomacy has again scored a success. He has assented to the protection of Catholics by the French in Syria, Palestine, and other countries of the Levant, in exchange for French concessions in regard to the internal religious policy of France.

The Derby has been won by Ayrshire, a bay colt by Hampton, dam Ayralanta by Galopin (winner in 1875), owned by the Duke of Portland. Ayrshire had an excellent record previous to the Derby, the 2,000 guineas, on May 2nd, being among his victories.

The new metal turrets with which France has been experimenting have proved unable to stand the new projectiles from modern guns. This, says the *London Times*, condemns the ironclad ships without giving them a chance of showing what they could do.

General Boulanger's attempts at supreme popularity are very likely to upset the body politic of France, by simple disturbance of men's minds. The monarchists are already on the alert, and insisting that France is in need of a "Savior," who is, of course, the Count of Paris.

It is reported that the Presbyterian Church in England and Scotland is engaged in the preparation of new articles of faith, of a less exacting character than the famous "Westminster Confession." It is none too soon that the church sees it to be expedient to relax the cast iron Calvinism of that dogmatic creed.

The endeavor to push British commerce into the jealously guarded country of Thibet has brought on a small war. Two actions have taken place in which the Thibetans have been defeated with considerable loss. The Indian Sikkim expeditionary force under Col. Graham, is small, and the war is not likely to attain any importance, except in its bearing on the extension of trade.

A nice constitutional question is likely to arise in New South Wales out of the decision of the Supreme Court that it is *ultra vires* of the Legislature to exclude foreigners. The Cabinet appeals to the Legislative Council, though it is difficult to see wherein the authority of that body is superior to that of the Assembly. As between a Legislature and a Supreme Court, the question of inherent authority reminds one of the vexed question of the priority of the hen or the egg!

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