

ing them. This is a geographical necessity. Is it to be supposed that the Czar will not avail himself of this opportunity, and send down a large force upon the rear of an expedition whose plans and purposes have been trumpeted for weeks past. While from the bottom of my soul I pray—not for the success of the Allies, but for the defeat of the Czar—I must confess there is not a little reason to fear that a sad catastrophe awaits the Allied arms, a catastrophe that can be arrested by little less than superhuman bravery and skill.

**THE MOONSHINE RAILROAD.**—Of this magnificent humbug, the New York *Tribune* says: "The Moonshine Railroad finally exploded some time ago, but an effort has since been made to pick up the pieces and patch them up, under the engineering of financiers and speculators no less eminent than Mr. R. J. Walker and T. Butler King. The scene of their operations was eminently favorable for the successful display of their genius; but times are hard, cash difficult to get, and the government of Texas too shrewd to be cajoled. After various attempts to get that State to receive shaky bank stocks and other indescribable insurances in lieu of the three hundred thousand dollars in hard cash, demanded by the Act for building the Pacific Railroad, it appears that they have finally retired from the field and undertaking in despair. The magnificent territory, larger and richer than the kingdom of many a prince, which Texas offers to whoever will build that mighty thoroughfare, is still to be had.—Who bids?"

**EGYPTIAN GRAIN.**—The editor of the *California Farmer* has received from Dr. H. M. Gray, recently returned from the Eastern States, several specimens of valuable seeds, among them a head of the "Egyptian Lentil," raised from seed taken from the "Mummy" which was exhibited recently, and described in Gliddon's history. It is a curious grain, and will in California produce abundantly.

**NORTHERN INDIANS.**—From the *Sbasta Courier* we learn that the condition of three or four thousand Indians on Pitt and McCloud

Rivers and their territories is such as to excite the sympathies of all who feel for suffering humanity. They are almost in a state of absolute starvation. The *Courier's* information is indisputable, and that paper contains a strong appeal to the Superintendent to aid and assist them.

**THE AMERICAN BONAPARTE.**—Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, late of the United States Army, having resigned his rank in the American service, has been appointed sous-lieutenant in the 7th French Dragoons, and has sailed from Marseilles, to join his regiment, now in the Crimea. A Marseilles paper stiles him Prince, and he is really entitled to it, but he has not yet officially reorganized as a member of the imperial family.

**THE STATE CAPITAL MANDAMUS.**—The *Sacramento Union* deems it a ridiculous supposition that the State officers will be forced to move bag and baggage to San Jose, at the command of Judge Hester and a Santa Clara sheriff. The *Union* expresses surprise however, that no definite steps have been taken by the defendants to carry the case before the Supreme Court, where the case must be finally decided. The *Sacramento Statesman* of the 9th, states that the Attorney General, Hon. Wm. M. Stewart, has perfected an appeal from the judgments of Judge Hester.

**OPERATIONS OF THE BRANCH MINT.**—From the *Alta* we learn that during the month of November, the coinage at the San Francisco Branch Mint amounted to—

Double Eagles.....	\$188,000
Bars.....	674,000
Total.....	\$862,000

A miner, says the *Columbia Gazette*, was killed at Gold Hill, on Thursday afternoon, by the falling of a bank into the claim on which he was at work. His name was Charles Sprague, age 38 years, from Dover, Maine. The deceased leaves a wife at home