JAPAN.

A Wrestling Match-The Champions,

KOBE, Japan, April 11.—On Suraday, the day after our arrival, the Governor sent an invitation to the American vessels to attend a wrestling match the following day:-

In a large vacant lot near the Governor's palace, at Osaca, was a sort of raised circus ring, covered by a shed, the pillars of which were wrapped in red and white paper, spirally arranged, like a barber's pole. At a little distance on one side, was another elevated stand, which appeared to be the place of honor, since I saw there the American Consul and Dr. H. among a great crowd of Japanese officials. In front of, and between these and the ring, were a number of chairs, also occupied by Japanese officers. Finding that we were late, and that all the seats were occupied already, we selected a standing place and prepared to view the performances at ease.

A JAPANESE GOVERNOR.

Presently approached no less a person than Ito, the Governor himself, shook hands with ns all, addressed us in excellent English, made a lot of Facanins get out of their chairs and bring them to us, sent for tables, sherry, champagne, and cigars, and sat down by and entertained us during the three hours which we stayed. He was as courteous a gentleman as I have ever met.

Ito was once Prince Satsuma's servant, and went to England some time ago in a sailing vessel. There he learned English quite well, and by his talents and application has since risen to his present position. Such advancement is rare in Japan, where occupations descend from father to son, and the son of a servant will surely remain a servant to the end of his generation, unless his extraordinary talents and extraordinary opportunities for exhibiting them enable him to rise.

WRESTLING MATCH.

The performances themselves are very odd to a stranger. The ring, which is raised to about the level of the eye of a man sitting in a chair, is made of fine sand. An officer, provided with a fan of a peculiar shape, presides over the contests, and places the combatants, giving the signal of attack by turning his fan over and urging them on with shouts and cries. The wrestlers are seated in two parties, one on either side of the raised platform, and before a match, a fellow with a fan in his hand comes up from one side, squats down, opens his fan, and cries, with every evidence of internal pressure, in a high singing voice, the name of the wrestler on his side. A like performance is gone through with from the other side, and then the heralds salute with their fans and retire. The combatants enter the lists together, stop at the outer edge and salute, while the master of ceremonies proclaims their names again. They then pick up a little sand and throw it into the air, raise their hands and get off a little prayer, and each goes to his own corner and takes a mouthful of water, which he atomizes by some

legerdemain, and spirts all over himself.

By the water ladle hangs a little basket of salt, a few particles of which he sprinkles on the ground, and begins to snort and bellow like a bull, to stamp around the inclosure, and to try the suppleness of his muscles in various ways. He is clad only in a very long blue scarf. which passes around his waist several times, and subserves such decency as Japanese morality requires. After more than a sufficiency of these performances, the opponents finally squat opposite each other in the middle of the arena, looking as unconcerned as they can the while. Presently one pushes the other over on his back, and to show there is no illfeeling, brushes the sand from his bare limbs as he rises. This is a false start, so the entire programme of drinking, salt sprinkling, bellowing, etc., has to be gone through with again, perhaps several times over, but finally the contest begins, and during the time it lasts is sufficiently interesting.

But it only lasts about five seconds, at the end of which one is thrown out of the ring. and retires defeated, while the other squats at his end of the ring and raises his right arm, while his name is intoned again by the master

of ceremonies.

THE CHAMPION OF JAPAN. The Governor explained to me that the poorest wrestlers came first, and the quality of the contests would improve as the exhibi-tion proceeded. So, after looking on awhile, we went to see the second strongest man in Japan-an immensely fat fellow, with a big belly and great dewlaps hanging from his jaws. He took a great fancy to my cane, and asked me if I thought it would support his weight. I did not think it would. From him we went to see the champion, Fi-ma-ku, who is the strongest man in Japan. He was a tall fellow, heavily built, weighing, I should think, about three hundred and fifty pounds, with a deep bass voice, great dignity of man-ner, and a peculiarly rich, fruity langh. After seeing his points and talking to him for awhile, we went back to the lists, where the contests were taking a new character, the winner in each fight holding the ring against

all comers until defeated. After these there was a solemn procession of little boys, gorgeously dressed in aprons which were heavily bordered with gold lace. These went through a variety of gyrations and motions, meaning I don't know what. Then followed older men, who went through similar performances, and finally the magnificent Fima-ku himself, preceded by a herald, who bore the emblem of championship, a beautiful sword, heavily crusted with gold, and followed by a numerous retinue. He wore also an apron much more gorgeous and much more heavily crusted with gold lace than the others, and challenged any five men in Japan to attack him at once. The challenge not being accepted, he snorted and stamped around for a while, and retired without wrestling. The No. 2, however, wrestled and threw his adversary, a large and very tall man, and it was most surprising to behold the amazing celerity with which that great corporation bobbed around the ring. So the performance was

Oldest Semitic Code of Laws.

The following letter, dated at Oxford, May 21, appears in the London Athenaum :-Outside the small band of Assyrian students, few know that we possess fragments of an ancient Semitic Code of Laws older than the Mosaic legislation or the earliest literature of India. A portion of these fragments will be found in the second volume of the "Inscriptions of Western Asia," page 10; the rest still await publication. The Code is written in Assyrian and Accadian—the primitive language of Chaldea, which represents a stage of growth in the Turanian family of speech out of which the Ugrian, Mongolian and Euskarian branches have respectively developed. On this account it has been held to be a product of Accadian legislation, and not to belong to the Semites at all. I have been led, however, to take a different view of the matter, from the facts, (1) that the Semitic mana is used in the Accadian text, and (2) that the Assyrian is

feminine singular of the first personal prowork of the Semitic conquerors of Assyria, dating from a remote period of their history. As written at a time when the conquered abo riginals still retained their languag., the Code bi-lingual, like the later inscriptions of Achiemenian and Sassanian kings. The fol-lowing is a translation of the fragments yet published. I have italicized all words whose meaning may be considered doubtful :-

"I. (1) A penalty. If a wife say to her husband, "Thou art not my husband," she shall be plunged into the river. (2) A penalty. If a husband say to his wife, 'Thou art not my wife, he shall pay two-thirds of a manch of silver. (3) A penalty. If a master maltreat (his) slave, put him to death, mutilate, beat, cruelly oppress, or do him violence, his hand that (so) offends shall measure out two-thirds of a bushel of corn.

"H. (1) If a man's issue sin and conspire with his enemies, he shall expel him from (his) house. (2) In every case, should a man put his son in possession, he shall not settle him (therein) (?). (3) For the future a man shall buy (his) grave in (his) estate. (4) A man shall have his grave in his own ground. "Here the Assyrian transcript is broken off, and our knowledge of Accadian does not permit a connected translation of the remain-

(7) His father and his mother (10) A woman possesses whatever she has built. (11) In every case for the future. (12) A penalty. If a son say to his father, 'Thou art not my father,' he shall make unto him restitution . . . and shall pay unto him a sum of silver. (13) A penalty. If a son say to his mother, "Thou art not my mother, he shall . . . and shall be expelled from the house. (14) A penalty. If a father say to his son, Thou art not my son, . . .

"Mutilated as these fragments are, they will still be of interest and value to the student of jurisprudence. Much light may be thrown by them upon many obscure problems of early law; the patriarchal relation, the position of women and slaves, the scale of punishments, and other questions, an adequate discussion of which would far exceed A. H. SAYCE." the limits of a letter.

Death of a Descendant of King Philip. Quite a remarkable man, in many respects, recently died in Albion, Michigan. This was Mr. Jonathan Mingo, who was born about 1792, on Montauk Point, Long Island. He belonged to the Narragansett tribe, and was a lineal descendent of King Philip; and at the time of his death had in his possession the powder horn which was taken from the body of that noted Indian chief when the latter was killed by one of Captain Church's men, at Mount Hope, in 1676. When he was about six years of age his father was killed by falling into a well, leaving a wife and six children. Soon afterwards a man by the name of Ketchum came from Huntington, about one hundred miles distant, and wanted Jonethan and an elder sister to go with him. Though very much afraid of all white men, he was persuaded by his mother to get into the wagon with his sister and ride. On the way he became alarmed, jumped out, and tried to escape, but was pursued, caught, and tied to the wagon, and so taken to Mr. Ketchum's home, with whom he lived in the direst slavery until he was twenty-one years old, and was then sent off with neither education, money, nor decent clothing. When about sixteen, he attended a camp meeting, and while standing outside of the tents, he heard the minister who was preaching say that "Jesus Christ died for all, the poor as well as the rich, for little children, though they may be ragged and barefooted." This was strange news for the poor Indian boy, who was himself ragged and barefooted. He accepted the offer, and became an hones Christian from that day on. When he returned home his master flogged him severely, and tried to cause him to abandon his religion by taking away his food. But he "preferred to enjoy the peace of God, even if he should be starved and flogged every day for it," When he joined the church (Methodist), he requested to have recorded opposite his name, "for life;" and when visiting the place a year or two since, he looked up the old record, and found it written there. more than sixty years he was sedulously true to that record. In his last hours he said he "looked over the accounts and all was balanced;" was "all packed up and ready to go," when the Heavenly Father should call for him. Mr. Mingo had lived in Albion about ten years, and was well known and highly esteemed. He leaves a wife, daugh-

RAILROADS.

ter, and three sons, two having fallen in the

Union army during the recent war.

Their Relative Cost.

The completion of the Pacific Railroad has induced a writer, who has had full access to railroad statistics, to compile some statements. which will be read with interest, respecting the relative cost of the construction of railroads in our country compared with other parts of the world. Whether these statistics are in every way trustworthy is not stated; but it is to be presumed that, having been derived from official documents, they will at least approximate to the truth, with as great a degree of accuracy as can be easily attained. In The total length of railwayss in the world is 109,177 miles; the entire cost has been \$10,829,751,982. The United States have 42,247 miles; Great Britain, 14,247; France, 9934; Russia, 4317; Prussia, 5926; Italy, 4109; Austria, 4429; South Germany, 2681; Spain, 3429; Belgium, 1703, and the North German States, 1311. British India has 4092, and the Canadian dominions 1348. No other lands exceed 1000 miles.

The distribution of railway to the area of territory and the ratio of population is sufficiently curious, but we have not space for the comparison. The cost of construction was greatest in Great Britain, and next greatest with us. She has laid out \$2,511,-814,435; our expenditure has been \$1,864. France is next, \$1,576,665,892; and then the tables show no more billions. Prussia has spent \$747,689,346, and Russia, \$724,700,274; Belgium, \$182,198,861. The relative cost is greatest in Brazil, where a mile of railroad costs on an average \$201,against \$176,260 in Great Britain; \$158,714 in France; \$97,201 in Holland; \$57,114 in Denmark; and \$44,255 in the United States. This is a wonderful disparity, and is more remarkable from the fact that labor is cheaper everywhere else than in the United States; but then the roads of other countries are better built and better furnished. The course of time and of events will necessarily increase the extent of our railway system, but taking all things into consideration, we have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the present facts in our history, and the Pacific Railroad is in itself a whole sys-tem, for it will involve almost endless ramifi-

of a very archaic character—atta, for instance, being used for both the masquine and the list dergymen.

BURIED ALIVE.

The people of New Orleans Were, on Friday last, startled by a report that a yozng lasty had been buried silve. The Picapinis says: The young lady, upon returning from early mass on a Sunday morning, was suddenly taken ill of disease of the heart, and, as was supposed at the time, was surjocated to death, owing to her annual deshiness. A physician, her own uncle, had attended her in her last moments, and pronounced her dead.

The death of this young lady in the bloom of life (at the age of twenty) caused much sympathy in the neighborhood, and her funeral, which took place in the evening of the day of her death, attracted a large concourse of people. She had died about 1 o'clock in the morning, and the funeral occurred at 5 in the evening. A New Orleans Horror.

large concourse of people. She had died about 1 o'clock in the morning, and the funeral occurred at 5 in the evening.

The report goes on to say, that on that same evening the sexton of the graveyard, having some business to attend to in town, left his son, of mature age, in charge of the keys, with the instruction to close the gates at the usual hour, after making his round through the cemetery, in order that no visitor might be accidentally confined inside. About dusk the sexton's son, while going his round, passing near the tomb in which the young lady had been buried scarcely an hour before, heard low and heart-rending meanings coming from behind the marble slab. Losing his self-possession, and overcome with fear, he hurriedly left the scene, and closing the main gate of the cemetery, went home, and it was not until morning that he related the circumstance to his horror-stricken family. Information of the facts was immediately sent to the bereaved family of the deceased, and workmen were soon engaged in opening the remains of the young lady.

The spectacle was too horrible to describe. Her face and body were in a terrible state of distortion, her hair torn from the roots.

In the terrible convulsions which had preceded her death, she had literally harrowed her beautiful face with her nails, and her clenched fists in contact with her foaming lips showed the traces of her teeth. It is unnecessary to say that life was entirely extinct.

We will not relate the terrible impression which

extinct.
We will not relate the terrible impression which We will not relate the terrole impression which this awful circumstance produced on the minds of those present, for it can be more readily imagined than described. The coffin and tomb were closed once more, this time forever, upon the victim of for-tune; and the story went out, but indefinitely, as we have already remarked.

-The new Protestant church at Madrid will seat 900, and more than that number attend every Sab--The Unitarian Church in New Bedford has voted to dispense with the bread and wine in com-

—General Howard has called Dr. Torsey, of Kent's Hill, Me., to the Presidency of Howard University. —Father Secchi, the celebrated Roman astronomer, s bringing out a new volume embracing the result of his recent astronomical observation.

—There have been three Popes besides Pius IX who have celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their

SPECIAL NOTICES.

U. S. OFFICE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

An appropriation (\$50,000) having been made An appropriation (\$50,000) having been made by Congress for purchasing
ARTIFICHAL LIMBS FOR OFFICERS
of the United States Army and Navy mutilated in the service, applications may now be made, in person or by letter, by officers entitled to the benefit of the act, and who desire the best Artificial Limbs, to

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HIBERNIA SOCIETY .-- A QUARTERLY meeting of the Society will be held on TMURSDAY EVENING. 17th instant, at 7% o'clock at GREEN'S, No. 731 CHESNUT Street. 614 4t* DENNIS B. KELLY, Secretary. IMPORTED CIGARS A SPECIALTY. Gentlemen about laying in their summer supply of Cigars or Smoking Tobacco will find my stock complete with all the choice brands, and at prices that cannot fail to please.

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CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE. PHILADELPHIA, June 1, 1869.

**NOTICE.—The SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST on the Funded Debt of the City of Philadelphia, due July 1, 1869, will be paid on and after that date.

JOSEPH N. PEIRSOL, 6 10 3w

City Treasurer.

BOY CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE. MATURED CITY LOANS.—The City Loans maturing July 1, 1869, will be paid on and after that date, at this Office, by order of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund.

JOSEPH N. PEIRSOL, City Treasurer. BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS
splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world; the only
true and perfect Dye; harmless, reliable, instantaneous; no
disappointment; no ridiculous tints; remedies the ill
effects of had dyes; invigorates and leaves the Hair soft
and beautiful, black or brown. Sold by all Druggists and
Perfumers; and properly applied at Batchelor's Wig Factory, No. 16 BOND Street, New York. tory, No. 16 BOND Street, New York.

"A PENNY SAVED IS EQUAL TO TWO Earned."—The time to save money is when you earn it, and the way to save it is by depositing a portion of it weekly in the old FRANKLIN SAVING FUND, No. 136 S. FOURTH Street, below Chesnut. Money in large or small amounts received, and five per cent. interest allowed. Open daily from 9 to 3, and on Monday evenings from 7 to 9 o'clock.

UYRUS CADWALLADER, 216

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA THE ANNUAL PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS of the Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman classes at the close of the College year, will be held daily (except Sundays) from 10 o'clock A. M. to 2 o'clock P. M., from June 4 to June 21. EXAMINATIONS FOR ADMISSION to the College will be held on June 23, beginning at 10% o'clock.

THE COMMENCEMENT will be held June 24.

FRANCIS A. JACKSON, 64 17t 6417t

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COM-PANY, TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT. PHILADELPHIA, May, 15, 1869. NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.-The books are now open for subscription and payment of the new stock of this THOMAS T. FIRTH,

OLD OAKS CEMETERY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

OFFICE, No. 518 WALNUT STREET. This Company is now prepared to dispose of Lots, clear of all incumbrance, on REASONABLE TERMS. The advantages offered by this Cemetery are well known to be equal if not superior to those possessed by any other Ceme-

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PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 3d, 1869. NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS. The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT, on the capital stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash on and after May 30,

Blank powers of attorney for collecting dividends can be had at the Office of the Company, No. 238 S. The Office will be opened at 8 A. M. and closed at 4 P. M. from May 36 to June 5, for the payment of

dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 3

THOMAS T. FIRTH. Treasurer. Nore.—The Third Instalment on New Stock of 1968 is due and payable on o before June 15. PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW YORK

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NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNER-SHIP.—The undersigned, the general and special partners of the firm of WHITE & SPARHAWK, a part-nership-fortmed on the 4th day of June last, under the act of Assembly of March II, 1836, entitled "An act relative to limited partnerships," have agreed to dissolve said partnership at a period provious to the time specified in the certificate of its formation, to wit, on the lat day of July next, 1869.

July next, 1889.
JOHN P. WHITE,
JOHN SPARHAWK,
GEORGE W. HARRIS,
JULIA H. BILLINGS,
Executed General Partners. EDWARD J. CHAFFE'S, Special Partners. S. J. DENNIS,
Executors of the Estate of J. M. Billings, deceased.

Philada., May 81, 1868.

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