Washington's Only Sister.

Mrs. Betty Lewis, Washington's only sister, is described, in *Scribner's Magazine*, as a woman of many virtues, and well beloved of her famous brother. In the future, however, she is not likely to be celebrated for her spelling than anything else. We quote the following letter from the article:

"JULY 5th, 1796.

"MY DEAR BROTHER I received your Letters of the 26th and 29th of June, the day after I wrote to you I was attack with the ague and fever which has lasted ever since I had never been clear of a fever since, I Expected your comeing threw Baltemore that you would ascertain Mr. Parkes fortune thoe I believe he would not tell anything fals on the Occation, Harriot's Brother Wrote her a letter from Baltemore and likewise one to Mr. Parks congratulateing them on their Intended Union which he sayes he makes no dout will be a very happy one, Lawrence was here at the time that Mr. Parks firs spoke to Harriot on the subject and I beg'd of him to make all the inquire he could but never hard from him until the letter I have mentioned here and concluded from that he had Inquired and was well Pleas'd, when Mr. Parks ask'd my consent I told him I had nothing to say to it that you ware the Person to be appli'd to, I have never concern'd myself with it I think Harriot is Old Enough now to make choice for her self, and if thay are not happy I believe it will be her one falt, he bars the Best caracter of any young Person that I know.

"I now my Dear Brother have to thank you for your good intention of sending me a mule if you had any to spear, but had no write to Expect you to Disfrinish your self,

"I am much obliged to you for your invitasion to Mount Vernon but it is utterly out of my Power to get up, I believe I wrote to you last fall that I had but two old Horses and in Tenn [word left out] from that my stable was broken open and the best of them carri'd of and from that day to this I have not har'd a word of him that was the forth charriot Hors that I had lost in Fredericks you may Believe I had no great Parsiality for the Place, Harriot is Better and is gone to the forth of July in Town but I think she looks badly.

"My Love to you and my Sister Washington concludes me your

"Affectionate sister

"BERRY LEWIS.

"P. S.—I fear that you will hardly make out this as I have a violent Headake and a horrid caugh—I beleve Harriot is distressed to know how she is to be Provided with things for a Weding Dress."

This was probably the aged sister's last letter to her brother; for she entered into rest early in March, 1797. Her portrait, taken in her youth, represents her as a tall, handsome woman, with brown hair and eyes—her head held proudly erect and her full lips firmly, almost haughtily compressed, as if she had just issued some positive command to her army of tall sons.

The Comstock Mines.

A correspondent writes about the celebrated Comstock mines in Virginia city, Nev., as follows: The demand for timber and fuel for the Comstock mines is immense, and from the base to the summit of the Sierras the pine forests are being rapidly denuded The cost of the timber which is put underground to prevent the mines from caving in is $17,000 a day, or $6,200,000 a year. The demand of the bonanzas alone is some 2,200,000 feet a month. The timber used is transported over a narrow-gauge railroad running from Glenbrook to the summit of the Sierras, 1,500 feet above the level of Lake Tahoe. The road is 24 miles in length, with an abrupt, tortuous grade of from 120 to 165 feet to the mile. It passes through a tunnel cut out of the solid rock 500 feet in length. On reaching the summit the timber is placed and sent on its way in a V-shaped flume of some fourteen miles in length, extending over the rocky and rugged portions of the mountains to Carson City in the valley. Often a day's run in the flume is 500,000 feet of timber and 1,000 cords of wood for fuel. The cost of firewood is $6,000 daily. I am told that the cost of the candles used in the mines daily is $16,000, while the cost of ice to cool the water for the miners in the lower level is $12,000 a day. The expenses of milling are $16,000 a day. These and other expenses bring the total cost of working the Comstock mines up to at least $70,000 a day, or $25,560,000 a year.

The heat in the lower levels of the Comstock mines is perfectly intense, and it is a wonder how men can endure it; but they do. I have been talking with a miner, who tells me that in some of the drifts it is next to impossible for men to work. Miners are so often overcome with the heat that they are rendered insensible. Fresh air is constantly supplied. There are cooling-off rooms or boxes provided in the mines, where the temperature of the air is kept down by compressed air, and these places afford some relief. It is so hot that men often get their skins blistered as bad as if it had been done by scalding steam. Very often the iron tools are so hot that they cannot be touched without burning the hands. The work in several mines is carried on to a great disadvantage on account of the recalcitrancy of the heat.

The Force of Habit.

Among the conspirators shot the other day for scheming the massacre of the president and his ministers in Guatemala was a young student, by name Rafael Segura, whose skill in forgery is represented as having been surprising. He had forged the signatures of the president and general-in-chief to various fraudulent documents and orders required for carrying the plot into execution. On being arrested he was brought before the president, and pleaded in defence of his acts that he was without a father, and absent from his mother, and that by promises of promotion under the new regime and of large sums of money he had been induced to commit the forgeries in question. The president requested him to give a proof of his talent, which he did by immediately writing an order with the name of the president so exactly imitated that even the president himself declared that unless he had seen it written he could not have told that it was not his own. Thinking that a youth possessed of such gifts might ultimately become a useful member of society and a good servant of the Republic, the president told him that he would give him a full pardon, and, further, would, if he wished it, assist him in his career by giving him employment under the government. Segura, who thanked the president for his generosity, made the most earnest assurances of good conduct in future. The first use, however, he made of his liberty was to forge an order for the release of Rhodas, one of the principal offenders—an order which only by the merest accident failed to effect its purpose. This was too much for the president, and Segura, being sentenced to death by the military tribunal, was shot with the other conspirators on the 7th of November.

Japanese Holidays.

The Japanese are supposed to have no days of rest, and a religious day of rest they certainly have not. The shops are never closed except for a day or two at the new year, and such a thing as a close holiday like the English Sabbath is totally unkown to them. The government officers, however, have regular rest days, called "ichi-roku," one-six. The first, sixth, eleventh, sixteenth, twenty-first and twenty-sixth of the month are the holidays, and these days are observed by all the officials and upper classes. According to the *Japan Mail*, however, it is the intention of her majesty the empress to observe Sunday as the rest day in lieu of the ichi-roku. When the Japanese altered the calendar from the lunar to the Julian it was said that this change was to have been also introduced; but nothing more was heard of it, and subsequently there was an attempt on the part of some Japanese authorities to induce foreigners in their employ to keep ichi-roku instead of Sunday, but in this they failed. We do not think that necessarily the change on the part of the empress has anything in it that does not appear on the surface.—*Celestial Empire.*

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

The Buildings Described—Who Will Take Part in the Great Show.

Busy and cheery notes of preparation come across the sea from the brilliant pleasure capital on the banks of the Seine. The universal exposition of 1878 grows apace, and Paris already begins to deck herself for the festive season. On the heights of Trocadero, overlooking the city and the winding river with its many bridges, rises a lofty, crescent-shaped palace, half oriental and half French in its architecture, that partly encircles with its two long wings a broad, sloping parterre, soon to be gay with fountains and flowers. From this parterre a noble stairway, looking at a distance like a great cataract turned to marble, descends to the water side and ends in a graceful bridge spanning the Seine. Across the river the once bare plain of the Champ de Mars, ordinarily used for military manœuvres, is almost covered by a vast structure in the form of a parallelogram. This is the exhibition building proper. The idea is borrowed from the Main Building at the Centennial, but the structure is of greater width and less length. In the center is an open court, upon which each exhibitor may have his facade which it can construct and decorate in a way to illustrate its own national architecture. The *Palais d' Industrie*, as the principal building is called, extends almost from the Seine to the front of the Invalides, only a little space being reserved around it for walks and grass plats.

The exhibition will excel that of 1867 in extent and brilliancy, if half the reports we hear are true. There will not be as many countries represented as came to Paris to glorify the second empire. Russia and Turkey, grappling in a death struggle on the slopes of the Balkans, will pay no heed to the invitation to join in the friendly strife of the arts of peace. Between England and France there will be the keenest competition. Most of the other European powers will exhibit. Sweden and Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Spain and Portugal are already represented by their commissioners, and promise larger displays than they made at our Centennial. It is still too soon to speak definitely of the character of the American exhibit, but it will unquestionably be better than at Vienna in 1873 or at Paris in 1867. Canada, Mexico and Brazil have applied for space. So have the Australian colonies, those enterprising little embryo states of a future great republic. The venerable civilizations of Asia, China and Japan will show the wonders of their ingenuity and handicraft, and even Siam and Persia, will join in the gay procession.

A Mad-Stone.

The Dallas (Texas) *Herald* says: The *Herald* recently made mention of a mad horse, the property of C. J. Wilkerson, which he, as well as several horse doctors, contended was not mad. Dr. Cornelius, the health officer, thought it was, and ordered the removal of the animal outside the city limits which was done. Its owner tied the horse in the timber, and the next morning on going to the place found it had died. In removing the rabid animal, Wilkerson received a severe bite on the back, directly between the shoulder blades. The wound was very painful, and gave him no little trouble as well as anxiety. He called on Dr. Hughes, and stated the facts to him. That gentleman applied a mad-stone he has, and it stuck fast. The operation was repeated six times, the stone sticking each time. Wilkerson, when bitten, had on a thick coat, and it seemed almost impossible for any of the saliva to have reached his body, yet such seems to have been the case, the stone sticking fast each time it was applied. The doctor then applied it to a knife-cut on the body of the unfortunate man, but it refused to stick. The man expressed himself as feeling greatly relieved of pain by the application of the stone, and the process will be continued.

While Dr. Hughes does not claim that it possesses all the virtues attributed to it, yet he is willing to let any one thus afflicted come and use it free of charge. This stone is said to be a most excellent one of its kind, and has never failed to cure those to whom it has been applied. It was left to Dr. Hughes by Dr. P. C. Venerable, of Mecklenburg, Va., who used it successfully for forty years. The stone, which was found on the Staunton river, in Halifax county, Virginia, is a black color, resembling, since it has been polished, a piece of gutta percha. When used, after each application, it is boiled thoroughly in milk to extract the poison.

A Forgetful Bridegroom.

An absent-minded gentleman in St. Paul, Minn., recently applied to the county clerk for a marriage license. "What's the brides name?" asked the official. The bridegroom paused, coughed, stuttered, sneezed, blew his nose, scratched his head, and finally stammered: "I can't recall it, but I'll go and ask her." Having obtained the desired information, he returned and paid the fees for the license. A few days afterward he took his bride to a minister's house, and proclaimed his anxiety to be married on the spot. The minister said that he would marry them if they had procured a license. The bridegroom rummaged in his pockets and found it not. He had forgotten to bring it with him. "I must have the warrant," said the minister solemnly. The bride handed her prospective lord the keys of his trunk, and he set out for his house to fetch the document. The marriage ceremony was finally performed, but the lady was ill at ease. "What comfort can I have," she mused, "if he can't remember anything." She forsook him that very afternoon, and hastened home to her mother.

Alphabet of Short Rules.

Attend well to your business.
Be punctual in your payments.
Consider well before you promise.
Dare to do right.
Envy no man.
Faithfully perform your duty.
Go not in the path of vice.
Have respect for your character.
In everything be just.
Judge mercifully of others' faults.
Know thyself.
Lie not, for any consideration.
Make few acquaintances.
Never profess what you do not practice.
Occupy your time in usefulness.
Postpone nothing you can do now.
Quarrel not with your neighbors.
Save something against a day of trouble.
Treat everybody with kindness.
Use yourself to moderation.
Vilify nobody's reputation.
Watchfully guard against idleness.
Examine your conduct carefully.
Yield to superior judgment.
Zealously pursue the right path.

—*Christian Standard.*

An Infuriated Monkey.

A tame monkey, belonging to a baker named Hartz, in Atlanta, Ga., fiercely attacked a little child, two years old, of a citizen named Harris. A brother, five years old, was carrying his two-year-old sister, when the monkey assailed him, tearing with fearful force the child from his arms. The alarm was soon given, and several parties came to the rescue. The animal seemed terribly enraged, and was tearing the child's flesh with a horrid ferocity. He was attacked with clubs and sticks, but only after a severe beating would he relinquish his grip. It was found that the enraged beast had torn the flesh terribly on her left arm, and inflicted very severe wounds. They were not considered fatal, but it is certain that but for prompt aid the child would have been torn to pieces by the infuriated beast.

A Biddeford (Me.) girl has just secured a husband by means of her graduation essay. It was published in one of the papers of that city, and an extract from it, in which the young lady declared her intention of earning her own living, was widely copied, and met the eye of a Cincinnati iron merchant, who was so much taken with it that he sought the author's name and address. A correspondence ensued, and the young lady was persuaded to abandon the determination announced in her essay.

A Terrible March.

Mrs. Rosa Griffith, wife of Capt. D. A. Griffith, Third United States Infantry, sends to the Reading (Pa.) *Eagle* an account of the terrible march of the regiment to their new post at Missoula. The account says: "The regiment, which had been stationed in the South for some years, was ordered to the Pennsylvania coal region during the strike lists last summer, and was then suddenly ordered West to assist in subduing Chief Joseph and his Nez Perces Indians. They went to Corinne, U. T., and from there were ordered to Montana, several of the companies being ordered to Helena, and the balance of the regiment to the new post at Missoula. The hardships endured by the troops during the tramp of over 600 miles were terrible. The men of the command were ill-prepared, by reason of their long residence in New Orleans, for the rigors of early winter in the Rocky Mountains, and their sufferings were acutely intense. During a part of the journey they were exposed to a violent snowstorm, with the thermometer fifteen degrees below zero. Not an officer or soldier in the regiment was provided with overshoes or gloves. Not a few of the men were nearly barefooted, and added to the agony of freezing feet was the additional torture of being forced to grip the cold steel of their muskets with naked hands day after day. When the regiment left New Orleans, there were not five dollars in possession of officers and men. The women and children belonging to the command, including the wives and offsprings of the officers, numbered thirty-two, and transportation for these, of course, had to be secured at individual expense. It is said that but for the timely aid of friends, who, understanding the impecunious condition of the rank and file, advanced a little money out of their own private means, these dependent and destitute followers of the camp must have suffered abandonment in their time of greatest need. On the march northward to Corinne several of the women and children fell sick under the terrible exposure, and for weeks their lives were almost despaired of. The transportation outfit allowed the command was limited to three ambulances. As there was not a dollar of money in the regiment, the simplest wants of the sick could not be gratified, as the isolated ranchmen and hunters in that country refused to part with anything when the cash was not forthcoming. Finally, as the regiment was nearing the end of their march, ragged, footsore, penniless, and shivering, some of the officers sold their payrolls for cash, but not without the sacrifice of a discount of twenty-five per cent. on the dollar."

A Fierce Fight With Wolves.

On Wednesday night last, says a recent number of the Spring Valley *Vidette*, a Norwegian farm-hand (whose name we cant spell to save us), living northeast of this town, Spring Valley, Fillmore county, Minn., in the edge of the big timber, had a lively fight with three wolves. He started out after dark, with a single-barreled shot gun, to shoot down a wolf whose howls he could hear some distance off in the timber. The stars were bright in an unclouded sky, and even in the woods the hunter could see quite plainly for a short distance. The howls of the animal led him in the right course, and the sounds grew plainer as he advanced; and after about an half hour's search he espied the wolf crouched upon a brush heap, in an "opening" in the shrubbery—evidently a den. The wolf not retreating upon his approach, he immediately fired at it. The wolf sprang at him before he could make the first motion toward reloading his gun, and in about three seconds the snow and shrubbery were flying right and left in a tussle between man and beast. Emboldened by hunger, the fierce animal endeavored to fasten on the man's throat, and though the hunter succeeded in giving the wolf two or three severe blows on the head and sides, it seemed only the more enraged and ferocious, and gave tongue to continual howls and snarls while maintaining the fight. Two other wolves, evidently called by the howls of the first, appeared on the scene. The last two were smaller than the first, but as ferocious as leaders. Clubbing his gun, the man finally landed a terrific blow on the neck of one, laying it out lifeless, and then began a retreat for the timber edge, beating off the brutes as well as he could. When the clear field was reached his weapon was minus the stock, and he held only a bent gun barrel in his hands, having hit the trees about him oftener than the wolves; but he succeeded in keeping them from doing any serious injury until he came to the open country, where he turned and ran for dear life. The wolves followed him but a short distance.

Twenty Years Trying to Move.

Twenty years ago a gentleman living along the Tennessee line, not more than thirty-five or forty miles from Glasgow, concluded to move to California. The proposition met the cordial assent of all his family. Everything was shaped toward the removal. When the time came the land was unsold and some business remained unsettled. It was agreed that the mother and remainder of the family, except the father, should commence the move, which in those days consumed months in making. The father remained to settle up the affairs and sell the farm, intending to start as soon as he could wind up. The gentlemen set himself to work, but found it an up-hill business to adjust his affairs, and could find no suitable purchaser for his land. Two or three years passed in fruitless efforts to get ready to leave, and eventually the muttering of war was heard, and speedily the blaze of civil discord caused all hope of family reunion to vanish until the conflict should pass. The war over things were in no shape for immigration. Time passed on until the gentleman has reached an old age, and infirmities have taken hold of him, and now the probability of the family meeting beyond the grave is all that lights up the hopes of either wing of the long separated family. The family were bound together by the strongest ties, and the long separation has been a most painful one. It is certainly a most singular history.—*Glasgow (Ky.) Times*

Wonderful Surgical Operation.

A St. Louis paper describes a surgical operation recently performed there, which it claims is without parallel. The operation consisted in removing the jaw of a man suffering from a cancer and substituting a metal jaw. The man was laid upon two inclined trestles and chloroformed, after which the diseased jaw was cut away. Then the account continues: Now began the insertion of the metal jaw—a feat without parallel in the annals of surgery of the world. It was inserted by drilling into either end of the artificial maxillary or jaw and putting may be termed a pivot into the end of it and then making another hole in the remnant of the jaw, and, as it were, fitting the artificial metal maxillary on to the rami, and then melting it. Such was this wonderful operation, which lasted four hours and forty-five minutes exactly. After his recovery to consciousness, Mr. Foerster said he had experienced no pain, and, indeed, felt nothing of the entire operation. He spoke a little yesterday, and did not seem to be much inconvenienced with his novel jaw. He is not yet completely out of danger, but all the symptoms are favorable to a rapid recovery. He will never be able to masticate, but must always live on liquids or very soft food, for, of course, he is toothless.

Death of Ex-Congressmen.

The following ex-members of Congress died during the year 1877: Ether Shepley, Maine; Joseph J. McDowell, Ohio; James L. Johnson, Kentucky; Joseph Johnston, Virginia; John F. Benjamin, Missouri; Christopher Morgan, New York; Amos Nourse, Maine; Lorenzo Sabine, Massachusetts; W. G. Brownlow, Tennessee; Richard Haines, Kentucky; John Pettit, Indiana; D. D. Pratt, Indiana; George T. Davis, Massachusetts; Jesse Lazear, Maryland; Cyrus Edwards, Illinois; Wilson Shannon, Ohio; Sobieski Ross, Pennsylvania; John W. Chanler, New York; John V. L. Pruyn, New York; George Grennell, Massachusetts; Rutger B. Miller, New York; John F. Driggs, Michigan.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Eastern and Middle States

Waning interest in the marriage of Thomas Lord, the wealthy New York millionaire, to Mrs. Hicks, has been revived by the publication of Mr. Lord's answer to the charge of his sons, that he was of unsound mind when he contracted the marriage and had been unduly influenced by his wife. After the marriage the contracting parties disappeared and could not be found, although all the time they were living privately in New York. The bridegroom's sons instituted legal proceedings against their father and had a commission to inquire into his mental condition appointed. In his answer, Mr. Lord asserts that he is of perfectly sound mind, in proof of which he furnishes the affidavits of two prominent New York physicians, who certify that he is perfectly sane and capable of taking care of himself. He further states that after the marriage one of his sons sent a letter to Mrs. Lord threatening to kill her, his own children, and himself; that previous to the marriage letters opposing that event were written by his sons and their lawyer; that he kept secluded after his marriage because he feared some act of violence toward his wife at the hands of his sons, and furthermore the engagement was one of long standing and not a sudden whim. A stay of proceedings was granted by Judge Donohue.

A meeting in favor of the silver movement, held in Cooper Institute, New York, was addressed by General Ewing, member of Congress from Ohio.

Joseph Woods was hanged at Malone, N. Y., for the murder of Stephen Barber, last August.

The families of two watchmen guarding hotel property on Coney Island beach, near New York, were overwhelmed by the rising tide during the heavy gale, and drowned. Three women and five children perished.

Thomas Durkin, treasurer of Scranton, Pa., has been deposed from office, a deficit of $1,000 having been discovered in his accounts.

The Dutch Reformed Church, of Syracuse, N. Y., was destroyed by fire, and a loss caused of $30,000, on which there is $25,000 insurance.

The Hinkley locomotive works, of Boston, have suspended, with liabilities amounting to $300,000.

The almshouse at Freeport, Me., was destroyed by fire, and two of the inmates—an old couple—were burned to death.

Henry W. Genet, prominently identified with the Tweed ring, and who has been hidden in unknown quarters ever since he ran away from his sheriff first year ago, after his conviction for obtaining money from the city under false pretenses, returned to New York and gave himself up to justice. He was held in $25,000 bail.

Richard J. Dell, a farmer about eighty years old, living near Woodbury, N. J., was fatally injured by a young bull as he was attempting to drive the animal away from the cattle yard.

John and James Cassidy, aged one and two years, were smothered to death in a New York tenement house by the smoke from a burning mattress, and the recovery of their elder brothers, aged four and five, was made doubtful through the same cause.

The Mercantile Savings Bank, of Boston, has been enjoined from doing further business. Depositors will probably not be heavy losers.

Sweet, Cook & Co., wholesale boot and shoe dealers of Buffalo, N. Y., have suspended, with liabilities of $150,000.

The Boston book publishing houses of J. R. Osgood & Co., and Hurd & Houghton, have consolidated under the firm name of Houghton, Osgood & Co.

A. M. Turney, paying teller of the Bank of North America, in New York, was arrested for having stolen nearly $100,000 from the institution during the past five years. He had been connected with the bank twenty-five years, and was respected and trusted.

The counsel for William M. Tweed has made a written application to the attorney-general of New York for the release of his client, on the ground that the reasons why the application should be granted.

Prominent among recent failures of New York business houses is that of Joel Hayden & Co., manufacturers of brass goods, for $400,000.

The New York chamber of commerce adopted a memorial to Congress against the Bland silver bill.

Western and Southern States.

Later reports of the disaster to the steamer Metropolis on the North Carolina coast, state that the number of lost is about one hundred. Shortly after leaving Philadelphia the vessel sprung a leak, and the pumps breaking, she became unmanageable. It was then determined to beach her, and all hands were admonished to provide themselves with life-preservers. When the vessel struck a panic ensued among the passengers and the wildest excitement prevailed. Immense waves broke over the ship and many persons on deck were swept away. In the roar of the storm it was impossible to hear the orders of the captain or his officers and all discipline was soon at an end, every man looking out for himself. The ship struck at about seven in the morning, and near noon a man appeared on the beach, on horseback waving his hat and promising assistance. Shortly after the men of the life-saving station appeared, but were unable to help those on board. The only assistance they could give was to pull the half-drowned people out of the surf as they battled for life with the impetuous waves. Neither could any boats be lowered from the wrecked vessel on account of the high sea. At noon the vessel broke in entirely, and all on board engaged in a fearful struggle for their lives. The beach was strewn with the bodies of the unfortunate crew and passengers. The captain of the vessel states that if a deep roller had not deadened his life-saving station at the time the vessel was beached, little or no loss of life would have followed. Many of the laborers on board who lost their lives left destitute families in Philadelphia. Many of these women with the office of the railroad contractors were heart-rending, women whose husbands were on the ill-fated vessel wailing piteously and begging in heart-rending tones for news of the missing ones. The life-service men fired three lines over the wrecked vessel, and then their ammunition gave out. At this time 160 men were seen clinging to the rigging. Fifteen of the survivors then formed a line in the surf by joining hands and succeeded in saving twenty-six of the drifting men.

Philip Watsonke (or red) was hanged at Covington, Ky., for wife murder; and William Wieners suffered a like penalty at St. Louis, for the murder of A. V. Lawrence, a bartender in a variety theater.

The Memphis (Tenn.) chamber of commerce have passed resolutions in favor of the Bland silver bill.

The survivors of the wrecked steamer Metropolis arrived at Norfolk, Pa., and were cared for by the citizens. Nine of them were sent to the hospital. Among the survivors the opinion prevails generally that the vessel was rotten and unseaworthy, and should not have been allowed to put to sea. An investigation will be made. The captain of the Metropolis insists that she was perfectly seaworthy.

William Sturges, prominent in railroad circles filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy at Chicago. His liabilities are over $1,000,000.

J. Madison Wells, of the Louisiana returning board, who made his escape recently when the other members of the board were arrested, voluntarily surrendered himself at Bigelet Station, La., and was brought to New Orleans.

A boy who had been brought to Baltimore from the West Indies, and was believed by many to be the missing Charlie Ross, was visited by Mr. Ross, who said the child was not his. Mr. Ross states that this made 573 boys he had been called to see or had been written about, and his hundreds of failures to identify each waif as his own, had taught him to entertain no sanguine hope. He supposed he should continue to see boys until he died, but did not expect to find his own son in any of them.

A New Orleans dispatch states that the steamer Lessie Taylor, on the Atchafalaya river, was sunk, and a colored woman and child, besides four or five deck hands, were drowned.

Hon. Nester Maxan, a prominent lawyer of Texas, was killed in a duel at Matamoras. Two rounds were fired, when his opponent announced himself as satisfied. Mr. Maxan, however, demanded another round, was shot through the body and almost instantly killed.

The San Francisco chamber of commerce has adopted resolutions opposing the Bland silver bill and the proposed repeal of the resumption act.

A libel suit in Cincinnati against P. T. Barnum and others attracted great attention and lasted ten days, resulting in a verdict for the plaintiffs for $40,000. The suit was brought by the managers of a show on account of a publication made by the defendants in the Utica (N. Y.) *Observer*, which, plaintiffs claimed, broke them up.

The greenback party of Michigan held a convention in Jackson and adopted resolutions in favor of the remonetization of silver and the repeal of the resumption act.

At New Orleans the trial of Gen. Anderson, of the Louisiana returning board, on the charge of falsifying the returns during the presidential count, resulted in a verdict of guilty by the jury, and he was remanded for sentence.

The committee on federal relations in the Maryland house of delegates, to which was referred the memorial of Hon. Montgomery Blair, on the 8th of January last, calling upon Congress to reopen the electoral question and ascertain judicially who was elected president at the last election, and give effect to the will of the people, reported unfavorably on the memorial.

From Washington.

The public debt was decreased $1,668,076.53 in January, and since June, 1877, it has been decreased $15,870,837.

Commissioner Du Luc, of the agricultural department, requested the resignation of Mr. Dodge, the statistician of the department, and Mr. Dodge declined to comply with the request. The commissioner thinks that tea can be grown in this country, while Mr. Dodge maintains that it cannot be grown here. Hence the request for a resign.

Francis Murphy, the temperance agitator, with his son and daughter, called on the President and Mrs. Hayes, the other day, and met with a pleasant reception.

A meeting of Republicans in Washington was held to decide what steps to take to protect the Louisiana returning board.

The finance committee of the Senate considered what is known as Senator Wallace's long bond bill for investment of savings, and it was agreed to and reported to the Senate. The bill authorizes the issue of $100,000,000 fifty-year compon bonds of denominations of $25, $50, and $100, bearing interest at the rate of 3.65 per annum. They are to be issued in the name of the person who pays the money, and to be registered in his name, but may be transferred to any assignee, and may also be registered in the name of any owner. In this respect they are equally safe with registered bonds. They may also be assigned in blank, and when so assigned they become coupon bonds, and pass by delivery, like any other coupon bonds. This will enable the owner to dispose of them when he wishes. The interest is payable at any national bank on presenting the coupon with the bond. They are purchasable with legal tenders at coin value, and the proceeds are to be applied to redeeming the outstanding bonds bearing higher rate of interest. The purpose of the bill is two-fold, first, to give an opportunity for investment of savings, and second, to initiate the policy of placing the debt among our own people.

The House committee on the judiciary took a vote on the proposition for a sixteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States, giving women the right to vote, and stood a tie—five to five—Mr. Harris, of Virginia, who is opposed to woman suffrage, being absent.

The House committee on pensions agreed to report a bill for the revision of the pension laws. It provides that if applications for pensions are made within five years from their death, or discharge of the soldiers, or officer commanding whom the pension is asked, such pension, if granted shall date from the time of death or discharge of the pensioner. Pensions from which applications are made after five years from the time of death or discharge, shall date from the time when such application is made. The bill contains a clause which allows to be replaced on the roll pensioners whose names were stricken off on account of aid given to the South during the war, but it is so worded that only so much pensioners as are now living. It confers no benefit on the heirs of those who are dead.

A Washington dispatch states it is probable that Congress will soon authorize the establishment of an official gazette of the United States, to be published weekly and to contain a complete record of the official action of the government and all the advertisements of the several departments of the government. There has never been any such official publication, and it is proposed now as a solution of the advertising question which has been referred to Congress by the President and the heads of departments for new legislation.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Mr. Hilliard to be United States minister to Brazil, and rejected that of Mr. Williamson as collector at New Orleans.

Foreign News.

George Cruikshank, the celebrated English artist and caricaturist, is dead.

Greece has declared war against Turkey, and the government has ordered an army of 12,000 men to cross the frontier and occupy Thessaly, Epirus and Macedonia, in order to prevent massacres of Christians in those provinces.

The peace preliminaries and armistice have been signed at Adrianople, and the Eastern war is practically at an end, the Grand Duke Nicholas having ordered a suspension of hostilities. The peace conditions are as follows: The erection of Bulgaria into a principality; a war indemnity or territory in compensation; the independence of Roumania, Servia and Montenegro, with an increase of territory for each; reforms in Bosnia and Herzegovina; an ulterior understanding between the sultan and the czar regarding the Dardanelles; the evacuation of the Danubian fortresses and Erzeroum.

The British consul at Shanghai telegraphs that 9,000,000 people are now reported destitute in Northern China. The foreign relief committee appeals to England and America for aid.

A dispatch from Shanghai, China, announces that an asylum for women and children in the city of Tien-Tsin, has been burned, and that more than 2,000 persons are said to have perished in the fire.

Ten persons were suffocated or trampled to death during the excitement caused by a false alarm of fire at a circus in Calais, France.

The Greeks carried the town of Domoco, containing a garrison of 2,000 Turks, at the point of the bayonet, losing 150 men. Five Turkish men-of-war have started for the Greek coast.

A new ministry has been formed in Turkey, and the office of the grand vizier has been abolished.

A woman fired twice at the Prefect of St. Petersburg, while he was giving the usual audience for the reception of petitions, dangerously wounding him. The would-be-assassin was arrested, but refused to divulge the motive of her act.

A large number of business failures have taken place recently in Montreal.

The Emperer William, in his speech at the opening of the German parliament, expressed a hope for speedy and durable peace in Europe.

During a revolt in Costa Rica, Central America, a band of insurgents entered Greytown and carried off 500 head of cattle.

Intense excitement was created in London by the announcement that the Russians were about to occupy Constantinople notwithstanding the armistice, and crowds thronged the streets, singing "God save the Queen" and making demonstrations in favor of the government. The popular feeling was intensly hostile to Russia and the windows of the town house of Mr. Gladstone and of the *Daily News* office were broken by the excited crowd. In the house of commons the government's request for a supplemental credit was granted, an amendment in opposition to the same having been withdrawn.

The Pope of Rome died in that city on the 7th, after a long illness. The following is a sketch of his life: Pious IX—Giovanni Maria Mastai Ferretti—was born of a noble family at Sinigaglia, near Ancona, on May 13, 1792. He visited South America on a religious mission in 1823. In 1827 he was made Archbishop of Spoleto, and he attained the dignity of Cardinal in 1840, in June, 1846, he was elected by acclamation the successor of Pope Gregory XVI. After the French revolution of 1848, the Italian liberals demanded greater concessions than the Pope was willing to grant. After several violent demonstrations on the part of the Roman population, Pio Nono escaped to Gaeta in disguise in November, 1848. A republic was organized at Rome in 1849, but was subverted by a French army, which took Rome in July of that year, and restored the Pope. During the war of Austria against the French and Sardinians in 1859, the people of the Romagna and the Legations revolted against the Pope, and the Papal States were annexed to the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel. In January, 1860, the Pope issued an anathema against those who abetted the invasion of his dominions. This was probably aimed at Napoleon III. Rome was declared the capital of the new kingdom of Italy in 1860. Since that date the question of the Pope's temporal power has remained in suspense, as one of the great problems of European diplomacy. About the 10th of December, 1866, the French army left Rome. The Pope protested against the abolition of his temporal power, but he remained in Rome. He convoked by an encyclical letter an Œcumenical Council, which met at Rome in December, 1869, to define the doctrine of papal infallibility, which, after a long deliberation, was finally promulgated in July, 1870. From that time to his death the Pope led a comparatively uneventful life at the Vatican.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

Mr. Saunders, of Nebraska, submitted a joint resolution supplemental to the joint resolution in relation to the international exposition to be held in Paris this year. It provides for the appointment of eighteen additional commissioners to attend the exhibition. Ordered to be printed....Mr. Eaton, of Connecticut, sent to the clerk's desk and had read resolutions of of the Connecticut legislature condemning any attempt to postpone the resumption of specie payment, and remonstrating against the passage of the Bland silver bill. Laid on the table and ordered that they be printed.... The silver bill came up, and Mr. Beck submitted an amendment directing the secretary of the treasury to purchase not less than $3,000,000 per month in silver bullion, and coin it, or as much more as the mint can coin. Mr. Beck explained his amendment, and Mr. Bayard spoke in opposition to the silver bill. Adjourned.

Mr. Hoar presented 120 petitions from 6,361 citizens of the United States, praying for an amendment to the constitution of the United States so as to extend the right of suffrage to women....Mr. Conkling presented a petition from citizens of New York asking Congress to relieve the starving people of northern China. He also presented petitions from citizens of different counties of New York, all favoring the remonetization of the silver dollar of 412½ grains. Mr. Conkling said these petitions were all printed in the same form and seemed to be the result of a combined movement. One of these petitions contained a foot-note, signed by sixty citizens who were opposed to the remonetization of silver....Mr. Wallace, of Pennsylvania, from the committee on finance, reported, with amendment, the Senate bill to authorize a long bond for the investment of savings....Mr. Eaton spoke against the Bland silver bill, and proposed a silver dollar of 384 grains; Mr. Howe favored the bill and Mr. Teller, of Colorado, submitted an amendment providing for the issuing of certificates of deposit based on silver bullion deposited in the United States treasury. Adjourned.

Mr. Thurman spoke in favor of the Bland silver bill and Messrs. Kernan and Christiancy against it. A substitute offered by Senator Christiancy provides for the coinage of silver dollars of 412½ grains at the mints of the United States, but that gold shall be the standard of value; the present subsidiary silver coins are to be legal tender in all cases to the amount of $10; the silver dollars and subsidiary coin and silver bars stamped at the mints or New York assay office with their weight and fineness, and the trade dollars are to be made legal tender according to their market value, to be fixed monthly by the secretary of the treasury, the treasurer of the United States and the director of the mint, on a gold valuation, in accordance with the current rates of the markets of the world, which valuation is to be promulgated and published in the principal cities of the United States; in fixing the value of coins the cost of coinage is to be added. The substitute further provides that the United States legal tender notes may be redeemed upon presentation with silver of the valuations fixed as above, and when so redeemed shall not again be issued, but shall be placed to the credit of the sinking fund. Owners of silver bullion are permitted to deposit it and receive in return certificates redeemable at the place of issue in silver bars at the fixed valuation. Adjourned.

A resolution was agreed to instructing the committee on appropriations to inquire whether adequate provisions for prompt action in pension cases exist in the pension bureau and surgeon-general's and adjutant-general's offices....The Senate bill to remit taxes on insolvent savings banks was amended so that no savings bank having no capital stock shall, on account of mercantile or business deposits on which no interest has been allowed, be denied the exemptions, and passed....The Senate resumed consideration of the silver bill, and Mr. Blaine, of Maine, spoke, mainly in support of his substitute, a dollar of 425 grains. Mr. Johnston, of Virginia, spoke in favor of the remonetization of silver. Adjourned.

House.

Among the bills introduced in the House was one by Mr. Southard, of Ohio, authorizing the payment of customs in legal tender notes, and one by Mr. Mills, of Texas, directing that all bonds hereafter issued by the government shall be payable, principal, and interest, in gold, silver, or legal tender notes....The consular and diplomatic appropriations bill was reported. It asks for $1,134,935, as against $1,138,574 last year, the reduction being reached by cutting down salaries of ministers and consuls and discontinuing representation at some points.

An effort to pass a resolution directing the ways and means committee to report an income tax bill was defeated by—yeas, 105; nays, 88—less than a required two-thirds majority. Adjourned.

Mr. Hewitt, of New York, presented petitions from citizens of New York and Boston, asking Congress to do something to mitigate the horrors of the famine in China....The House went into committee of the whole and discussed the military academy appropriation bill. Adjourned.

Mr. Cox, of New York, offered a resolution directing the committee on commerce to investigate the causes of the wreck of the steamer Metropolis, and the conduct of the life-saving stations in connection therewith; and also to examine into the question of the necessity of legislation to prevent unseaworthy and improperly ladened vessels from going to sea. The resolution was adopted....Mr. Peddie, of New Jersey offered a resolution that as the trade dollar is being refused by the post-offices, and only received by merchants at a discount of eight or ten per cent. the secretary of the treasury stop the coinage....Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, offered a resolution authorizing the President to invite an international monetary commission to consider and recommend a uniform ratio in the value of gold and silver. Referred....After discussion on the Pacheco-Wigginton contested election case the House adjourned.

The California contested election case of Wigginton against Pacheco was debated. Wigginton (Democrat) was declared entitled to the seat by a vote of 136 to 125 and the oath of office was administered to him. Adjourned.

The Desperate Fighter.

A man came into the *Chroniele* office this morning, and announced that his name was Sandy Stiggins, from Pioche. He was six feet high, had a revolver strapped to his hip, and carried a formidable-looking rifle. After introducing himself, he inquired where the Justice mine could be found.

"You see, I've walked all the way from Pioche to git a sit as a f