THE SECRET OF LONGEVITY.

Remarkable Cases of Persons Who Lived to a Rare Old Age—Why Some People Live Long—Interesting Statistics.

Every now and then the telegraph heralds the news of the death of one of Washington's body guards, or of some one who had seen the father of his country, or had remembered something about the trying times of revolution at the birth of the American Republic, and all simply because the heroes of these mortuary records manage to bridge over with a full use of their limbs and faculties the meagre span of a hundred years or so. In comparison with some of the remarkable instances of longevity which the St. Louis *Evening Post* has collected for the benefit of its readers, these poor centenarians are almost mere infants.

A Cincinnati paper mentioned, recently, that one Senor Mosel was still living in South America at the remarkable age of one hundred and thirty-five years. Mosel claims that he has discovered the secret of longevity, and it consists simply in observing the laws of nature faithfully by taking the proper amount of exercise required each day by the body and mind, and conducting one's self in accordance with the rules of health. He eats very sparingly, taking but one meal a day, and that in the evening after he has finished his day's labors, satisfying himself in the morning with a single cup of coffee. He says he was never sick but once in his long lifetime, and that was after he had, on one occasion, eaten some green apples. He is said to be still comparatively strong in limb, able to do the necessary work that his duties require of him as well as to give nature its daily share of exercise, and still retains his faculties apparently as bright and sharp as if he were but in the years of ordinary manhood.

The oldest woman in the world is supposed to be Mary Benton, now residing at Elton, in the county of Durham, England. She was born on the 12th of February, 1731, and is of course in her 148th year. She is in possession of all her faculties, perfect memory, hearing and eyesight. She cooks, washes and irons, in the usual family avocations, threads her needle and sews without spectacles.

It is a matter of statistical fact that in the district of Geezeh, which includes the pyramids, and a population of 200,000, there are 600 persons over 100 years of age, or one in every 333. Numans de Cuyan, a native of Bengal, in India, died at the incredible age of 370 years! He possessed great memory even to his death. Of other aged persons we might mention Mr. Dobson, aged 139, of Hadfield, England, farmer. His diet was principally fish, fruit, vegetables, milk and cider. Ninety-one children and grand-children attended his funeral.

John de la Somet, of Virginia, is 130 years old.

Old Thomas Parr, of Winnington, Shropshire, England, lived to the age of 152 years. He was first married at eighty-eight, and a second time at 120. He was covered from head to foot all over with a thick cover of hair.

Henry Jenkins lived to the extraordinary age of 169 years. At the age of 160, he walked a journey to London to see King Charles II. The king introduced Jenkins to his queen, who took much interest in him, putting numerous questions to the patriarch, amongst which she asked, "Well, my good man, may I ask of you what you have done during the long period of life granted to you, more than any other man of shorter longevity?" The old man, looking the queen in the face, with a bow, naively replied, "Indeed, madam, I know of nothing greater than becoming a father when I was over a hundred years old!" He replied to the king that temperance and sobriety of living had been the means, by the blessing of God, of lengthening his days beyond the usual time.

Edward Drinker, aged 103, of Philadelphia, rarely ate any supper.

Valentine Cateby, aged 116, at Preston, near Hull, England. His diet for the last twenty years was milk and biscuit. His intellect was perfect until within two days of his death. There died in 1840, at Kingston upon Thames, Surry, a Mr. Warrell aged 120 years.

There died, a couple of years ago, in Philadelphia, a Mrs. McElroy, a native of Northampton county, Pennsylvania, who had arrived at the remarkable age of 118 years. It appears she inherited the constitution of her father, who was a German, and who lived to be 107 years old. She remembered the occurrence of the principal events of the Revolution, and she frequently provided food for the American soldiers. She had a distinct recollection of Gen. Washington. In 1790, when thirty-two years of age, she was married to John McElroy, a revolutionary soldier, by whom she had seven children, four of whom are now living, two of them being twins. She had a remarkably vigorous constitution, and often assisted her husband in the mill before they went to Philadelphia. She would take up a bag containing 112 pounds of flour, with all ease, and place it on the back of a horse. She retained much strength and activity up to her death, and would have been taken for a woman of sixty or seventy, instead of 108 years of age. Twenty-one years before she received what is termed second sight, and could see as distinctly and clearly as ever. She did all her housework, waited upon her youngest daughter, fifty-one years of age, who had been blind for three years, and attended a store or shop which they kept in the front room.

Mary Randall died recently in the Thurles Workhouse, Ireland, at the age of 122. She was married before the breaking out of the American Revolution.

Grandmother Miller, of Brooklyn, who is now 106 years old, gives the following account of herself: "Father joined the rebels, as they called 'em then, I member when peace was declared, though. I was about twelve years old when mother took me over to New York to see Gen'l Washington and his army come into the city. It was about November somewhere in 1783. The Gen'l and the army came down from Harlem. I remember he rode a splendid horse, and Gen'l Knox was with him. I threw a bouquet in front of his horse; and he bowed to me and smiled. The troops were awful ragged, some of 'em, and my father was one of 'em"

In every one of these instances the secret of longevity has been the same. The laws of nature place no particular limit to human life, but if they are ignored the mental and material part of the law breaker must surely suffer for it. As the human machine comes from God, it is perfect in all its parts, and with proper warmth, food, air, light, drink, exercise and sleep, a person might live on almost indefinitely, or at least to a ripe old age. Death is rather the result of indiscretions and of ignorance on man's part than of the dispensations of Providence. In all the cases given above the parties barbored their health well. They lived as a man was destined to live, and partook not of the forbidden fruit that was daily the food of the short-lived persons about them. They have carefully discarded whatever would injure them, and have found sufficient enjoyment in the good things that nature does not revolt against. Then again there is another thing that tends to influence the years of a person's existence, and that is the occupation in which the individual is engaged. Certainly an employee in a white lead manufactory cannot expect to live as the man whose daylare spent in the fields, drinking in the great draughts of pure and invigoratingatmosphere, nor must the assiduous boy student hope to attain the same robust maturity that falls to the lot of the street gamin. From the following statistiel figures the truth of this assertion will eadily be ascertained:

Of 888 clergymen whose ages were obtained ninety did at 61.77 years, 123 at sixty-five, 303 it 62.55 and 372 at 64.47.

Of physicians, 19 average 60.23 years, and of this number forty-two lived 53.99 years; and 154 reaced 64.94.

David Rennet, a hysician of Rowley, Mass., died in 1719 aged 103 years, two months and three days. Edward Augustus Holyoke diedin Salem in 1829, at the age of 100 yers, seven months; and Hezekiah Meria, of Ward, who died in 1803, and Joh Crocker, of Richmond, who died in 115, lived beyond the age of 100 years.

Of lawyers, reports afford less material to judge of their longevity. The ages of fifty-two are given, whose average age was 46.68 years; of fifty-three others, 55.47 years. From this, it would appear that they do not live so long as clergymen and physicians; though the number of observations is too small to found a correct opinion upon.

A table in *Chambers' Journal* gives the following as the average duration of life among a large number of professional men in that country:

Statesmen and Lawyers	69.5
Physicians	68.0
Divines and Theologians	67.4
Musical Composers	65.7
Philosophers and Mathematicians	65.5
Artists	64.5
Miscellaneous Literaay men	62.6
Poets	59.8

Mr. Casper, of Berlin, Prussia, has calculated that in that country the age of seventy was attained by forty-two clergymen in 100; by twenty-nine lawyers; by twenty-eight artists; by twenty-seven professors, and twenty-four physicians. Dr. Madon, in England, in comparing the average age of celebrated men of different classes, found that naturalists lived seventy-five years; philosophers, sculptors and painters, seventy; lawyers, sixty-nine; physicians, sixty-eight; clergymen, sixty-seven.

The following table shows the average duration of life in several professions, businesses and occupations, derived from a series of extended observations made by persons who interest themselves in this sort:

	Average Years.
Farmers	64.89
Hatters	58.79
Coopers	57.39
Clergymen	56.64
Lawyers	55.47
Physicians	55.00
Blacksmiths	54.49
Carpenters	51.16
Merchants	50.73
Tanners and Curriers	49.90
Masons	48.45
Traders	46.72
Bakers	46.69
Cabinet Makers	44.80
Stone Cutters	44.46
Paper Makers	44.29
Shoemakers	43.41
Laborers	42.79
Seamen	42.47
Painters	42.36
Fishermen	41.63
Manufacturers	40.48
Mechanics generally	37.20
Printers	36.91

A Bit of Zinc.

By the analysis of some of the most ancient coins, and of metallic vessels taken from the excavations at Herculaneum, it is found that they contain a portion of zinc; yet, to the moderns, zinc is a new metal. Less than a century ago zinc was not considered as a metal at all. Homberg, a philosopher who wrote about that period, says: "Zinc is a compound of iron and tin;" thus implying that it had no individual existence, but it was a compound. Such, however, is not found to be the case by modern chemists.

Indifferent as we are to "a bit of zinc," there are few substances that have rendered more service, or been more instrumental to the cause of science and the progress of knowledge than this metal. Considered in relation to its own qualities, it possesses rare interest. Certain combinations of this metal with copper, under the euphonious names of "tombac," "brass," "pinchbeck," have been used in the arts, especially in China, from time immemorial. In the Celestial Empire, zinc in great purity is used for current coin. The money has frequently Tartar characters on one side and Chinese characters on the reverse.

Certain combinations of zinc, one called white vitriol (*i. e.* sulphate of zinc), and another flowers of zinc (oxide of zinc), are of great importance in medicine. The mechanical uses of metallic zinc are very numerous, giving rise to regular trades for the fabrication of zinc ware. The white oxide of zinc has come much into use as a harmless substitute for the poisonous white lead in painting. Iron chains and wire exposed to the air or water, are now all dipped into melted zinc before they are put to use. This operation, which is called "galvanizing," entirely prevents the iron from rusting. There are many other uses of zinc, which we cannot detail here. The great service, however, which zinc has rendered to man is in the galvanic battery.

Without electricity many arts would cease to exist; yet, for practical and commercial purposes, we could not generate electricity without zinc. What steam owes to coal, electricity owes to zinc. Whenever steam is used, coal is consumed; whenever electricity is used, zinc is consumed. Thus we find that electroplating and the wonders of telegraphic communications are indirectly indebted to zinc; and by the use of the telegraph we are enabled to answer Job (xxxviii. 35), in the affirmative, who, two thousand years ago, asked, "Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go and say unto thee, 'Here we are!'"

Billy Bangs's Hat.

There are a great many people who feel uneasy when the hat is passed round, but a hat like this one must trouble bad debtors worse than any body else. A facetious reporter in the City of Brotherly Love does up an old character there in the following fashion:

Billy Bangs is a collector of bad bills in Philadelphia. Everybody knows Billy there, and he collects the worst kind of bills—bills that people were willing to throw away if it were not for Billy.

As it is, they give their bad bills to Billy to collect. Billy Bangs wears a very high hat—a family relic. On the top he has painted in flaming letters: "Bad Bills Collected."

Thus arrayed, with everybody looking at his hat, he goes and knocks at the debtor's office—stands around his door, and makes the premises look generally ridiculous until the debt is paid. Then Billy takes fifty per cent. of it, and gives the rest to his client.

Recently, Billy Bangs was arrested. He had gone and stood around Dr. Dash's office a few days before. He called three or four times, always showing his high hat to passers-by. By-and-by, Dr. Dash got angry, and he went and kicked Mr. Bangs out—kicked him clear across the street.

Dr. Dash testified that Billy Bangs had damaged his good name—that he got all the neighbors to laugh at him, and that he was constantly doing this to good citizens of Philadelphia who failed to pay all their little bills.

The result was Billy's acquittal. The court said they had no right to regulate Billy Bangs's hat, and that he could wear a "plug" hat all covered with letters, with a town-clock on it, if he wanted to. So Billy is now the terror of everybody in Philadelphia—who don't pay.

What They Eat in Sweden.

The ordinary routine of dining seems in Sweden to be in wild confusion. Soup sometimes ends instead of beginning the dinner. Iced soups and cold fish are dainties to the Scandinavian palate. Much of the soup is nauseously sweet, flavored with cherries, raspberries and gooseberries, often with macaroon cakes and spikes of cinnamon floating wildly about in it. This is eaten as a sort of dessert, and is cold and often beautifully clear. If Heine bitterly reviled the English for bringing vegetables on the table *au naturel*, there is no such complaint to be made here. Everything is eaten with sauce—sauces red, white, blue, green, yellow and black—sauces celestial and infernal. Strong combinations of ice-cream heaped over delicions apple-tarts, or strange dishes of berry juice boiled down and mixed with farina, sugar and almonds, then cooled, molded and turned out into basins of cream, to be eaten with crushed sugar and wine appear at the end of dinner. The Swedes share with the Danes and Arabs a passionate fondness for sweetmeats. Everything is slightly sweet; even green peas are sugared, as well as the innumerable tea and coffee cakes, so that long before the unhappy tourist has finished his tour he is a hopeless dyspeptic or a raging Swedophobe.

THE DEATH PICTURE.

Photographs from a Dead Man's Eye—Curious Resuscitation of an Old Relief by Modern Scientific Experiments.

We take the following from an exchange: If, as Professor Huxley somewhere observes, the pathways of science are strewn with the murdered myths of antiquity, it is equally true that of late physiological inquiry has been instrumental in resuscitating many a previously-rejected superstition. From comparatively old times—for the nineteenth century compresses ages into decades—has descended the curious supposition that the object last visible to the dying eye is imperishably photographed upon the dead retina. The fact—for it is the fact that such testimony is possible—has been authoritatively denied, over and over again, by physiologists of established reputation; sneered at as a relic of metaphysical speculation reinforced by morbid fancy, and finally scoffed down as among the utter impossibilities. But it turns out, as has often been the case before, that this grim conception of poetic justice was founded in fact, and that under certain circumstances the development of such images, latent though they are, as identifiable photographs, is a very simple and practicable process.

But the picturesque aspect of the subject, and the aspect in which it appeals to the imagination most specifically, is, after all, the old question as to the possibility of obtaining persistent images on the dead retina; a question that has been settled in the affirmative by Kuhne, who, having placed the decapitated head of a rabbit in a dark box, exposed it, in the first instance, to the light of a window of ground glass; then hardened the retina of the eye in a five per cent. solution of alum for twenty-four hours in the dark, and thus obtained a distinct and identifiable photograph of the window upon its red posterior aspect. Such images are scientifically styled optograms, and retinas thus treated can be dried and mounted for permanent illustration of the curiosities of retinal physiology. This question has been carefully tested recently with eyes of horses and dogs in the dissecting room of one of our colleges, with the result of finding, as maintained by German physiologists, that such optograms can be readily taken within one hour after the death of the animal, and developed by rapidly dissecting out the retina and immediately immersing it in a ten per cent. solution of common salt. It is, therefore, one of the undeniable verities of science that, under favorable circumstances, it would be a matter of no serious difficulty to identify a murderer by this process, the fact furnishing only another illustration of the proverb that the strangest dreams of romance are verified by reality. No doubt a coroner's jury would treat the revelations of a dead retina with a little pardonable disrespect to begin with, but a single demonstration would suffice to convince even the most skeptical of professional jurymen.

Words of Wisdom.

It is but poor eloquence which only shows that the orator can talk.

If what is said be not to the purpose a single word is already too much.

We can hardly learn humility and tenderness enough, except by suffering.

As nothing truly valuable can be obtained without industry, so there can be no persevering industry without a deep sense of the value of time.

The most common error of men and women is that of looking for happiness somewhere outside of useful work. It has never yet been found when thus sought, and never will be while the world stands; and the sooner the truth is learned, the better for every one. If you doubt the proposition, go around among your friends and acquaintances and select those who have the most enjoyment through life. Are they idlers and pleasure-seekers, or the earnest workers? We know what your answer will be. Of the miserable human beings it has been our fortune or misfortune to know, those were the most wretched who had retired from useful employment in order to enjoy themselves.

Truth will never die; the stars will grow dim, the sun will pale his glory, but truth will be ever young. Integrity, uprightness, honesty, love, goodness, these are all imperishable. No grave can ever entomb these immortal principles. They have been in prison, but they have been freer than before; those who enshrined them in their hearts have been burned at the stake, but out of their ashes other witnesses have arisen. No sea can drown, no storm can wreck, no abyss can swallow up the everlasting truth. You can not kill goodness and integrity and righteousness; the way that is consistent with these must be a way everlasting.

Voyages in a Life-Preserving Suit.

Capt. Paul Boyton, who a couple of years ago made himself and the Merriman life-preserving suit famous by successfully floating across the British Channel, has recently accomplished another feat which puts all previous achievements in the same line far in the shade. Beginning at Toledo, Spain, he undertook the navigation of the river Tagus to its mouth at the Lisbon. The distance traversed was 600 miles, and the voyage occupied eighteen days. Captain Boyton's account of his journey is not calculated to render any one desirous of repeating the experiment. In some places the river became a torrent, dashing among sharp rocks at the rate of a dozen or two miles an hour; for miles it ran between precipices, and in a country seemingly destitute of human habitations. The swimmer "never knew but that the next angle in a canon would land me in a whirlpool or over a precipice." During the voyage 102 waterfalls and rapids were passed, one cataract being fully fifty feet in height.

From Lisbon Captain Boyton went to Gibraltar, and there swam across the straits to the African shore, direct distance thirty miles. The passage took seventeen hours, and the swimmer was swept far out of his course by the strong spring tides. The trial is regarded as one of the severest to which he has yet been subjected.

Morphiomania.

Morphiomania has become a great scourge in Berlin since the introduction of opium injections as a relief from bodily suffering and sleeplessness. Trades-people, merchants, judges, barristers, soldiers, students, doctors and clergymen become the victims of the habit, and when the medical attendants are called in it is too late to counteract the evil. At first, these sub-cutaneous injections offer the quickest and easiest means to allay pain and bring rest to the sufferer. But to prove effectual in its cure, the treatment must be continued for a certain time; and during that period the patient becomes so accustomed to these skin injections that they become indispensable. When the medical practitioner refuses to increase the doses, the patient unable to sleep or rest without the calming injection, procures the necessary instruments and applies the remedy himself. Sometimes, also, even after the patient has been cured without any undue doses, and when he should dispense with the opium injections, he delays doing so under the plea that they make sleep and rest so well. In fact, when once these subcutaneous injections have begun, they can rarely be left off. Like drink, the appetite for them increases until chronic drunkenness ensues.

Looking Glasses in Rat Traps.

A correspondent writes: "I do not think it is generally known that rats and mice will go into a trap much more readily if a piece of looking glass is put in any part of the trap where they can see themselves. They are social little creatures, and where they can see any of their tribe there they will go. I am quite sure of the effect the looking glass has, as I properly baited my trap for a whole week without being able to coax one of the depredators in: but the first night after putting in the looking glass I caught two—one very large and one small rat; and every night since, this device has made one or more prisoners."

A Sad Life and its Ending.

Of all tales, the saddest is that of a wasted life; and the more sad it is when some eccentricity of the person makes us smile. A few years ago, there lived in Washington, D. C., a dilapidated gentleman, whose eccentricities made him one of the "sights." Strangers sought an introduction to the fallen "Beau," who in gentle tones would remind them that a silver "quarter" was the "toll" paid by all who made his acquaintance. He never drank, saying when asked:

"Won't you take something?"

"Thank you, I never drink, but I'll take two cigars if you don't object. The price is the same as that of a drink."

His was a wasted life, for he was not wanting in talent, and had a good address.

A man, resembling in some respects this "dead beat" of Washington society, lately died in Paris of delirium tremens. He was of a noble family, was himself a viscount, and yet for years he was a social highwayman, levying "toll" at the point of the sword upon all whom he met. De Rocaltier would patronize the first-class restaurants of Paris from nine until midnight, and the nature of his patronage, and the methods by which he subsisted upon the public, are thus described:

If he were hungry, he took a piece of bread from one table, and a piece of pastry or anything that was handy from another. If he were thirsty, he helped himself to a few glasses of wine or cognac—the latter by preference.

Having eaten and drunk his fill, he was accustomed to place himself on guard at the door of any circle where gambling was going on, and, as gentlemen left, he begged the loan of a tenfranc piece.

As he was known to make a refusal a personal matter, and as he was a famous swordsman, he generally obtained the loan. Latterly, however, the spell began to lose its power by reason of the difficulty the viscount met with in finding a second.

Despite his poverty and the smell of brandy which always clung to him, his historical name and distinguished title secured for the viscount a certain prestige, particularly among young men from the country.

Very recently he had his arms in gold and colors, with crown, helm and shield bearers, engraved upon his carte, which, on being presented, had rather an imposing effect, and brought in the tenfranc pieces more rapidly. Of course he never paid the engraver, and possibly never got the bill, for he had a way of making known the fact that the presentation of an account was a deadly insult, to be wiped out only by blood.

When his last hour approached, he sought the consolation of religion. The priest came and exhorted him to repentance. As the good father left the room, the viscount rang the bell, and, address ing the *garcon* of the house, of whom he had secured a room, said, "Take down the name and address of that priest. He has used towards me a tone that is exceedingly offensive, and as soon as I am able to stand, I shall send a friend to him!" Then he lay back and died.

A Banker's Whim.

A Paris banker, a self-made man who had known the struggles of poverty in his young days, had an old time-piece over his bed when he breathed his last a few weeks ago. When he was a boy he used to say to himself: "When you are rich, you will buy a picture-clock representing a hamlet with its church and in the steeple a clock; and at the foot of the village a railroad, with a train in full motion, and on one side the sea, with ships sailing by." All these things were made to work by machinery in the clock which the rich banker bought. The train whistled and ran along the line, and the ships were tossed in the sea; and the key which set them in motion was carried in the old gentleman's pocket. The clock had the place of honor in his drawing-room, surrounded by paintings which cost their weight in gold, and there it remained for years. His wife and children did not like it. They laughed at it. They could not understand his whim. They did not know of all the old dreams which that picture awakened in him. His friends laughed at him for letting it remain in the drawing-room. So he took it into his own room. Whenever he wanted to renew his youth he would wind up the old clock, and then the steeple would chime, the sea roar, the ships toss backwards and forwards, and he would feel as happy as in the old days when he used to dream about the wonderful treasure.

A Rosy Future.

They were in the bell-tower of the city hall yesterday, and she leaned her yellow-haired head on his shoulders and listened to the mighty "tick! tack! tick!" of the big clock.

"We don't want such a big clock as that, do we darling?" she whispered.

"No, my little daisy," he answered, as he hugged her a little closer; "I kin buy a clock for two dollars which'll run three days to this clock's two. I've got her picked out already!"

"We'll be very, very happy," she sighed.

"You bet we will! I've figured it right down fine, and I believe we can live on twelve eggs, one pound of sugar, ten pounds of flour and one pound of butter."

"And you'll have a bank account?" she pleaded.

"I will, even if I have to buy a second-hand one!"

"And will we keep a coachman?"

"Yes."

"And have a piano?"

"Yes, darling."

"And I can have some square pillows with shams on them?"

"Yes, my tulip—yes!" we'll sham every thing from cellar to garret, have the front door painted blue, and—but less go'n look at some second-hand cook stoves!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

A Ferocious Alligator.

In the Norman river, Australia, the alligators are so numerous and daring that they will not leave the steamers' path until they are actually disturbed by the motion of the floats. As the steamer Pioneer was on its voyage, a Kanaka belonging to the vessel was standing on the margin of the river unfastening a rope, when he was charged by one of these terrible saurians. The people on board who saw the danger cried out to alarm the man; but before he could make his escape the alligator seized him by the thigh. The unfortunate man threw his arm round some mangroves, and so held on until assistance came from the steamer. Six men quickly seized him, and then there was a horrible trial of strength between human muscles and the jaws of the alligator. The captain struck the brute a blow on the head with an axe, which forced him to let go his hold, and the victim was dragged away. The alligator, however, made another charge up the bank, but was repelled with difficulty by repeated blows of the axe. The poor Kanaka's leg was taken off below the knee. Medical assistance was near at hand, but the excessive loss of blood rendered recovery hopeless. The man died within fifteen minutes after he had reached the doctor's dispensary.

A Sad Accident

A young woman, widely known in society in San Francisco, and possessing a large circle of devoted friends in and about New York, was suddenly cut off in the very flower of womanhood, but a few days ago in San Francisco, in a manner strikingly similar to the accident which, many years ago, sent to her last home one of New York's fairest daughters, Charlotte Canda. Miss Alice J. Hyde, while crossing at the junction of Market and Kearney streets, in San Francisco, with her mother leaning upon her arm, was suddenly struck down by a runaway horse and received fracture of the skull, from which injury she died two hours later. As she was assisting her mother across the street, she suddenly saw the terrified animal dashing down upon them, and, exclaiming "O, mother!" was instantly trampled down. They were the last words she ever uttered. The mother fortunately escaped without serious injury.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

Thomas P. Fisher was hanged at Mauch Chunk, Pa., for complicity in the murder of Morgan Powell, "a mine boss." While on the scaffold Fisher read part of a statement, emphatically averring his innocence.

A bill has been introduced in the New York Legislature providing for a Moffet liquor law similar to that which prevails in Virginia. By its provisions liquor dealers will be compelled to register each drink sold.

A receiver has been appointed for the embarrassed Sixpenny Savings Bank, of New York city.

Frederick Wiegand, a New York saloon keeper, tried to eject a woman who had entered his place to beg, when she kicked him so severely that he died in a few days, after intense suffering. The woman was arrested.

Madame Restell, the female physician whose criminal practices had gained her an unenviable notoriety in New York, and who had been recently indicted upon charges preferred by the president of the Society for the Prevention of Vice, was found dead in her bath-tub with her throat cut. Her death occurred a few hours before the time set down for her trial. She had become partially deranged by anxiety attendant upon her case and the fear of punishment, and in this state committed self-murder. Madame Restell began to advertise as a physician in 1836, and in 1847 was arrested upon the charge of having caused the death of a young girl. The trial lasted thirteen days and attracted great attention. It resulted in a verdict of guilty and a sentence of a year in the penitentiary on Blackwell's Island, where she lived in lavish style with her husband during the period of her imprisonment. Of late years she had occupied a magnificent residence on Fifth avenue and her wealth is estimated at about $1,000,000.

Patrick and John Reilly were carried over Niagara Falls the other day while attempting to cross the river in a small boat.

Booth & Edgar, prominent New York sugar refiners, have failed for nearly $750,000; and Joseph Foulke's Sons, an old shipping firm, have suspended with liabilities of $400,000.

The Womens' Hotel—the late Alexander T. Stewart's project to furnish a comfortable home for working women—was opened in New York to the general public for examination, and nearly 40,000 persons passed through the building during the evening. The immense marble structure faces three public streets and is built around a spacious court yard, which is itself a beautiful garden with many rare plants and a large fountain. Everything about the building is new and handsome, and the place will be conducted on the plan of a first-class hotel. There are 502 sleeping rooms and accommodations for one thousand guests. The cost of the hotel has been $3,700,000. Guests will be charged $6 a week.

The New York Assembly has passed a bill limiting the salaries of officials in cities and placing the power of reducing salaries in the hands of the common council of a city, except in cities where there is a board of apportionment, who shall act as it deems proper in regard to the amount of salaries and number of employees.

Governor Van Zandt, the Republican candidate, has been re-elected in Rhode Island. The general assembly is Republican.

Sylvester Town and his father-in-law, while attempting to cross a small lake a few miles north of Auburn, N. Y., in a boat were capsized and Town was drowned. Mr. Town had been married the previous evening.

General Thomas C. Devin, of the United States army, died at his home in New York, aged fifty-two years.

At the Commencement of the New York Medical College for Women twenty-five young ladies received diplomas to practice medicine.

Holt A Bugbee, Boston lumber merchants, have failed for $175,000.

A complimentary dinner was given in New York to Bayard Taylor, newly-appointed United States minister to Berlin. Speeches were made by Mayor Ely, William Cullen Bryant, Mark Twain and others.

Western and Southern States.

The Blair resolutions to authorize the attorney-general of Maryland to file a bill in the supreme court of the United States, reciting that due effect was not given to the electoral vote of Maryland by the votes of the States of Florida and Louisiana being counted for Hayes and Wheeler by the electoral commission, and asking that the court count said votes for Tilden and Hendricks as president and vice-president, passed the house of delegates of Maryland by a vote of 46 to 23.

Martin Burns, a farmer, drove into Chillicothe, Iowa, put up his team, shouldered an axe, and walking to where George N. Butin was laying a foundation of a building, without saying a word struck him a terrible blow on the head and ran away. Twenty minutes afterwards his body was found hanging by the neck in the barn where his horses were quartered. Butin was fatally wounded. The parties had some dispute about fence lines, which is the only assignable cause for the deed.

At Eastville, Va., Sidney Pitts and A. P. Thomas fought with pistols to settle a dispute. Two rounds were fired by each, and as they stood only six feet apart, Pitts was killed and Thomas wounded, probably fatally.

Samuel Goodwill, colored, was hanged at Live Oak, Fla., in the presence of 2,000 people, for the murder of a colored man last May. He died without a struggle.

In obedience to the Louisiana supreme court General Anderson, of the returning board, was released. The court refused to reopen his case.

The joint resolution of Montgomery Blair, instructing the attorney-general of Maryland to exhibit a bill in the supreme court of the United States on behalf of the State of Maryland praying for a judicial review of the electoral count, and which passed the house of delegates, was also passed by the Senate.

The Maryland Legislature has adjourned *sine die.*

The excess of imports over exports for February is $30,937,999. In 1877 the excess of exports over imports for February was $17,866,942.

Spring elections in various cities and towns of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois have been held, with varying success for both parties. In many cases local issues carried the day. In Terre Haute, Ind., the National party was successful over both Republicans and Democrats. In Michigan the Nationalists also developed unexpected strength.

The Chesapeake and Ohio railroad was sold at auction in Richmond, Va., for $2,750,000. It was purchased by the chairman of the committee of purchase and reorganization, in pursuance of a plan to reorganize the road.

Mr. J. Rechte and his child were drowned while trying to cross the Maumee river, in a skiff, near Napoleon, Ohio.

The steamer Dawn, with a cargo of cotton and live stock, was destroyed by fire, thirty-two miles above New Orleans. Loss, over $20,000.

Moss & Martin, Vicksburg (Miss.) cotton buyers, have failed, owing $100,000 and with no assets.

From Washington.

The Senate, in executive session, has confirmed the nomination of Mr. Schofield as register of the treasury, and has rejected that of Mr. Reynolds as first auditor of the treasury and of Joseph W. Huston to be attorney for Idaho.

The President has approved the joint resolution providing that the tax on all distilled spirits hereafter entered for deposit in distillery warehouses shall be due and payable before and at the time the same are withdrawn therefrom, and within three years from the date of entry for deposit therein. He has also approved the act to authorize the granting of an American register to a foreign built ship, for the purpose of the Woodruff scientific expedition around the world, and the bill making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defence for the fiscal year ending with June, 1879.

Attorney-General Devens has refused to comply with a request of the House to inform that body whether, in his opinion, the annual appointment by the President of ten cadets at large to the military and naval academies has been in pursuance of law or custom. In his note of refusal he says: "To the authority of the attorney-general to render his official opinion is limited by the laws which create and define his office, and it is not permitted him to give advice at the call of either house of Congress, or of Congress itself, but only to the President or the head of an executive department of the government."

The House committee on the revision of the laws regulating the counting of the electoral vote for President and Vice-President has drafted a bill to which a majority of the committee has agreed, to submit an amendment to the constitution of the United States fixing the tenure of the presidential office at six years and declaring the President ineligible for re-election.

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, has introduced a bill in the House to legalize a metric system of weights and measures.

The statistician of the agricultural department has completed his estimate of the condition and prospects of the crops for the next season. The reports from seven hundred correspondents of the department show that the area under cultivation for cereals, which has increased fifty per cent. during the past ten years, will, during the present season, exceed in acreage any former year. The winter wheat crop, which amounts to six-tenths of the cereal crop, will, from present appearances and with a favorable season, yield 360,000,000 bushels. The corn yield, it is thought, will not be less than 1,300,000,000 bushels.

The total expense of the war with the Sioux was $2,312,539.

The public debt was reduced $2,313,614 in March.

Secretary Sherman appeared before the House committee on banking and currency in regard to the preparations made by the treasury and the national banks to execute the resumption law.

A bill recently introduced in the House by Representative Harrison provides that there shall be created a new department, to be called the Department of Civil Service, to consist of five commissioners who shall be appointed by the President; provided, however, that no more than three commissioners at any one time holding such positions shall be appointed from any one political party. The term of offices shall expire respectively on the first day of January in the years 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888 and 1890. At the first meeting the commissioners shall draw by lot for their respective terms, and the commissioner drawing the shortest term shall be the head of the department, and thereafter the commissioner holding the shortest term shall be such head. The salary of the head of the department shall be $5,000 per annum, and of each of the other commissioners $4,000. It shall be the duty of the board to prescribe the qualifications requisite for appointment into the several branches of the civil service, and to examine all applicants for appointment. The bill further provides that no assessment shall be levied upon any officer of the United States for political purposes, and payment of any such assessment shall be cause for immediate dismissal from the service.

The joint resolutions of the State of New Jersey with regard to the late Centennial Exposition, presented by Representative Hardenbergh, have been referred to the House committee on the judiciary. They instruct the Senators and request the Representatives of that State to ascertain the balance due to the subscribers to the board of finance, and to prepare and support an act appropriating the same from the United States treasury. The resolutions also request the governors of the other original States to send a copy of the above named resolutions to the Senators and Representatives of their respective States requesting them to "use their influence to have the Centennial anniversary of our nation's independence closed up consistently with the honor and dignity of a nation holding so high a position in the estimation of the civilized world."

The House committee on elections has dismissed the Oregon contested election case of McDowell against Williams and the Mississippi contested election case of Lynch (colored) against Chalmers.

The United States commercial agent at Gaboon reports to the department of State that the knowledge of the Congo or Livingstone river, derived from Stanley's discoveries, is already bearing practical fruit. English missionaries have followed the course of the river to the first series of rapids, and are about to establish a missionary station at that point.

Foreign News.

Lord Derby resigned from the British Cabinet because it was decided to call out the 48,000 reserve troops. Lord Beaconsfield said in effect that as there was no hope of a congress England would have to rely on armed force to rectify the disturbed balance of power in the Mediterranean.

At a consistory held in the Vatican, Rome, the Pope nominated the Scotch hierarchy. He then appointed the Rev. Dr. Silas M. Chatard, rector of the American college at Rome, to be bishop of Vincennes, Ind., and the Rev. John J. Keane, of Washington, D. C., to be bishop of Richmond, Va. The Pope made the profession of faith, according to established usage, and took the oath to the apostolic constitution. Subsequently he conferred the scarlet hat on Cardinal McCloskey, of New York, who after the consistory had a private audience with him.

In consequence of the re-establishment of the Catholic hierarchy of Scotland, the Pope, it is stated, desires entering upon diplomatic relations with the British government, and has instructed Cardinal Franchi, the pontifical secretary of state, to take steps with that object.

General Grant has had an audience with the Pope, to whom he was presented by Cardinal McCloskey.

The following appointments in the British Cabinet are officially confirmed: The Marquis of Salisbury, to be secretary of State for the foreign department; the Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy, to be secretary of State for India; the Hon. Frederick A. Stanley, to be secretary of State for war; Sir Henry Selwin Ibbetson, to be secretary of the treasury in place of the Hon. F. A. Stanley.

The British Government has issued a circular to the European powers, complaining of the tariffs imposed by Russia on Turkey. It objects to the tariff in detail, and says that it would not be the interest of England to enter a congress "restricted by Prince Gortschakoff's latest reservations." It toappeals the Treaty of 1856 and the Declaration of 1871, and implies that both are still in force.

Russia is strengthening her positions about Constantinople.

The Queen's message, explaining why the reserve troops were called out was read in the British House of Commons.

A Constantinople telegram states that the Russians, fearing the Turks will remain neutral in a war with England, have called upon them to abandon fortifications on the Bosphorus and Dardanelles.

The Earl of Leitrim, his clerk and driver were all shot dead while riding near the nobleman's residence, county of Derry, Ireland. The assassination is thought to have been the result of troubles with tenants on the earl's property.

The Mexican Congress has begun its session.

A deputation of five hundred English Liberals called upon Lords Granville and Hartington and asked them, as leaders of the Liberal party, to oppose a war with Russia.

A London dispatch says the troops in the four remaining Russian districts have been called out.

According to a dispatch from Rome Russia has offered to send an embassador to the Vatican at once on the Pope accepting the present condition of the church in the Russian empire.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

Mr. Ferry, of Michigan, from the committee on post offices and post roads, reported, with amendments, the House bill to regulate the advertising of mail lettings. It provides that proposals for the letting of any contract for inland transportation, either than by railroads and steamboats (except for temporary service) the postmaster general shall cause to be published in not more than ten newspapers in the State or Territory in which the service is to be performed a notice in display type, not exceeding six inches of space, that proposals will be received and detailed information furnished by the department, within specified dates, and no other advertisement shall be required. ...A bill to authorize the building of a narrow gauge railroad from Bismarck to the Black Hills was reported. Adjourned.

The bill to regulate the advertising of mail lettings and for other purposes was taken up, and after the adoption of sundry amendments, was passed....The bill to increase the appropriation for arms to the several States to $1,000,000 was discussed. Mr. Morrill moved to amend by reducing the amount to $200,000. Pending discussion, the Senate adjourned.

On motion of Mr. Edmunds, of Vermont, the resolution to transfer to the State department for safe keeping the records of the commission on the electoral count, was taken up and agreed to....The bill removing the restrictions on the enlistment of colored men was discussed....The Pacific railroad sinking fund bill came up, after which the Senate went into executive session and then adjourned.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, offered a resolution that a select committee be appointed to consider the propriety of taking the tenth census of the United States. Agreed to....The Pacific railroad sinking fund bill was discussed without action. Adjourned.

House.

The Massachusetts contested election case was finally decided by the admission of Mr. Deane, the Democrat, by 124 to