Curiosities of the Conscience Fund.

At irregular intervals, says the Washington *Star*, a paragraph appears announcing the receipt by the treasury department of a contribution to the "conscience fund." These contributions nowadays vary from one dollar to between one and two hundred. A few years ago they were much larger. The money comes from all parts of the country, Philadelphia and New York leading in the number of contributions. A member of Congress from New York, when Mr. Bristow was in the treasury, referring to this fact, remarked that it showed conclusively that New York and Pennsylvania were the most religious States in the Union. Mr. Bristow replied that in his opinion it showed that those two States had done the most stealing. The moneywhich comes in from conscience-stricken people is on account of frauds on the customs, frauds under the old income tax law, or on the revenue. The income tax having been abolished some years ago, contributions on its account are very few now.

The first record of money received by the government from repentant defrauders was in 1863. When General Spinner was treasurer he kept the account separately, but the practice was discontinued. The money now, as it has been for the greater number of years since 1863, when the contributions began, is turned into the treasury as miscellaneous receipts. Repeated attempts have been made by members of Congress to secure appropriations to be paid out of the conscience fund. If the money goes into the treasury as miscellaneous receipts it ceases to be a separate fund, and cannot be drawn upon. It is not known how much the conscience money now amounts to. The total amount from December 1, 1863, to June 30, 1874, as given in the treasurer's report for the latter year, was $162,914. Since then no account of the contributions has been kept. Treasurer Gilfillan, however, estimates that the money now foots up $250,000.

The contributions, as a rule, come through the mail with a note saying for what purpose the money is forwarded. Very frequently a penitential explanation is included. Some of these explanations are very curious and some very laughable. The ladies contribute a good deal. They repent principally over false returns made under the income tax and for having evaded the duties upon articles of dress.

A lady visited this country in 1864 from England. She smuggled in while here a silk dress pattern. A short time ago she wrote confessing the evasion of customs duties and sending $15 to clear her conscience. She gave the value of the dress and wanted the balance sent back to her if the duties did not amount to $15. The customs division of the treasury made a computation based upon the duties charged in 1864, and found that the lady owed exactly $7.50. The balance was remitted. Ministers of the gospel are very frequently the medium through which the money is refunded. While administering spiritual consolation the confession of defrauding the government is made, and a restitution follows. The clergy transmit the money without mentioning names. The largest amount ever received as one contribution was $15,000 in United States 7.30 notes. This contribution was announced in the newspapers. Many and ingenious attempts were made to get this money out of the treasury. One man said that his father made the contribution, and that he was crazy. The contributor of it had carefully cut out the numbers of the notes so as to make it impossible to discover from the books who had sent them.

The Hero from Deadwood.

The hero from Deadwood does not have halt a show in Detroit, and he cannot be blamed for feeling that we are an unappreciative people. These heroes arrive here about once in four weeks on the average, and the latest put in an appearance yesterday morning, preceded by the rumor that he had struck it rich and made a clean hundred thousand dollars. When he entered a drug store on Michigan avenue he was followed by a dozen or more persons, who wanted to admire him and hear the story of his adventures. He modestly hesitated to begin, as all these Deadwood heroes do, but he finally started off with:

"It is, perhaps, useless to remark that Detroit offered no chance for an ambitious young man to get along."

"That's so," replied one of his hearers. "I know you did not get along here at all, and we had to make up a shake-purse when your old father died."

The hero swallowed something, bent his eyes modestly on the floor, and continued:

"I left this city with only $10 in my pocket, but with a heart—"

"Only $10, and I know it, for I lent you five of that and I never expected to see it again," interrupted a second admirer with a good deal of heartiness.

A shadow of pain flitted across the face of the hero, but he braced up and went on:

"I provided myself with mining tools and—"

"Did you get trusted or pay cash for them?" interrupted the man on the other side of the store.

The hero did not deign to reply, but said:

"I knew that energy and pluck would bring luck. Here at home everybody seemed to keep me down, but there—"

"Say, I didn't try to keep you down," suddenly observed a shoemaker. "Didn't I trust you for a pair of boots when nobody else would, and didn't I raise the money to pay your fine and saved you from a trip to the house of correction?"

The hero partially admitted the correction, and had just opened his mouth to go on when the druggist asked him to wait until he could put up ten cents' worth of castor oil for a customer. The hero waited, and when the oil had been put up he continued:

"I knew I had only myself to depend on, and that fact nerved me up. I pushed for the mines—"

"Is that a dog fight?" interrupted one of his hearers, as a furious growling was heard out doors.

All rushed to the door, but it was a false alarm, and after they had returned to the store the hero settled himself back and remarked:

"Here in Detroit energy, pluck and ambition counted for nothing. If I tried to climb—"

"And while I think of it," put in the grocer two doors below, "I'll hand you the account run up by your mother in your absence. I never expected it would be paid, but I couldn't see the old lady go to the poor-house!"

It took some little time for the hero to get another start, and he had not yet reached the mines when in came a constable, who asked him to step out doors, and after an earnest conversation he walked off in his company.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Gambling in New York.

Stock gambling and card gambling seem to go together. Some of the best poker players in New York are to be found among the Wall street brokers, and the faro dealers draw a good deal of money from the same class. It is a common thing in Wall street for a poker party to sit down about three o'clock, when the regular business is over, and play out the remainder of the day. And it is just as common a thing for women to take a hand in the same game at night, when card parties are formed in up-town parlors to kill time. Some one has said that women are gamblers by nature. New York women seem to have a special aptitude for poker, and a large number of them play the game as readily as whist or casino. Generally they don't mind telling what their hands are, and "king," "flush," "ace full" or "queens at the head" may fall from their lips as as trippingly as the style of trimming on a new dress.—*Albany Argus.*

A great many circulars are being sent out to women known to command funds of their own, inviting them to become members of the Women's Stock Exchange in New York, and to operate there. Women, when once launched upon a gambling career, are far more desperate than men. They form, or used to, by far the most tragical as well as the most conspicuous figures at the German gambling watering places before Bismarck extinguished them. Thackeray's picture of "Becky Sharp" at a German gambling town is one of the most vivid of his wonderful books. The readers of "Daniel Deronda" will recall the return by him of Glendowin's necklace which she had lost at a gaming table. The sensible men of New York are protesting against the new project. It will prove, they say, the ruin of women. They will pawn their jewels and compromise their characters and their happiness. The very inducement held out to them of "privacy and seclusion" is enough of itself to condemn it.—*Detroit Free Press.*

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD

Farm Notes.

To find the number of tons of hay in long or square stacks, the following is given as a rule: Multiply the length in yards by the width in yards, and that by half the altitude in yards, and divide the product by fifteen. To find the number of tons in circular stacks: Multiply the square of the circumference in yards by four times the altitude in yards, and divide by 100. The quotient will be the number of cubic yards in the stack. Then divide by fifteen to get the number of tons.

An exchange says: The rhubarb plant requires so little labor in its cultivation, and is at once so healthful and delicious, that every garden should contain a supply for home use. With the exception of forking up in the spring, and working in manure once every season, rhubarb plants require little attention until they have remained in the same spot five or six years. At the end of this time they should be divided and put in new soil.

A farmer experimented with the milk of a cow and found that it required fifteen pounds of milk in winter and twenty-two and a half in summer to make a pound of butter. Feed, in summer, pasture only; in winter eight ears of corn, soaked, and two quarts of bran, fed twice a day. The same cow gave nearly twenty-five per cent. more milk when milked three times a day.

E. M. Washburn, in speaking of the care of dairy cattle, says: In the best dairies in North Holland there is but a very small amount of grain fed to the cows or young stock, and of all I have imported I have never had one that would eat grain without teaching, by mixing with hay or roots, or some root they were accustomed to eat.

If a stock of bones can be secured, pack them in a barrel with a quantity of unleached ashes, and keep the whole moist but not wet. After a few months break up the bones into fine powder. This will possess every fertilizing quality of the best bone dust.

For scabby legs in poultry take equal parts of lard and kerosene oil, and thicken with sulphur into a paste. This should be rubbed upon the legs until the scabby parts come off, when they should be smeared with sweet oil.

Bone meal is one of the best fertilizers for grapes. It should be applied as early in the season as possible. About a ton to the acre will make a valuable dressing for two or three years.

To destroy pin worms in horses, give an injection of salt and water two or three days in succession, then administer a ball consisting of half an ounce of aloes and one drachm of calomel.

Keeping cattle on hay or straw alone is a little like living on bread, or potatoes, or meat alone, with nothing except that one dish. Feed some roots as well as hay or shorts.

Loss of appetite, thirst, diarrhœa, general weakness and blueness of the comb are the principal symptoms of chicken cholera.

Luck in farming is in selecting the seed with care, draining the fields, keeping out the cattle, and having good fences.

After chickens are a month old cracked corn and wheat screenings are better for them than dough.

Household Hints.

A TABLE ORNAMENT.—Sew coarse flannel around a goblet with the stem broken off, put this shapely dome upon a saucer of water, wet the flannel and sprinkle over as much flax seed as will adhere to it. The flannel will absorb the water from the saucer, which should often be replenished. In about two weeks the flannel will be concealed in a beautiful verdure, which will vie with any table ornament.

TO WASH NEW FLANNEL.—Put new flannel into clean cold water, and keep it in for a fortnight, changing the water six or seven times; then wash it well with clean warm water and soap to get out the oily matter. You will find the flannel will never get hard or shrink.

TO CLEAN HAIR BRUSHES.—A dessert spoonful of hartshorn to a quart of cold water, in a wash-hand basin. Dip in the hair brushes, and rub them until clean. Then rinse well with cold water; rub dry with a towel, and stand upright at an open window.

COVERING FOR JARS.—A good waterproof paper for covering jars used in preserving, etc, may be made by brushing over the paper with boiled linseed oil and suspending it over a line until dry.

STOCK SOUP.—Save all the bones from roast beef, mutton, chicken, turkey; put these bones in a pot, with three quarts of cold water, some salt; let it boil for five hours, then strain; cut some vegetables, carrots, turnips, cabbage, leeks, and put them in the strained stock; boil slowly for three hours more; just before serving, take a small piece of sugar, put it on an iron spoon on the stove until it melts and is converted into caramel, and stir it into the soup.—*Farkar.*

Potatoes Grown Without Planting.

A French gentleman, L. Lachaume, declares that he can produce proliferous potatoes at will—a conclusion based on the following experience: Last spring he placed a moderate-sized tuber on a cellar shelf, and systematically pinched off the sprouts every week. On the 1st of September the rind burst, and a few days after four or five small potatoes appeared. His explanation is that the constant repression of exterior growth caused this internal development of buds. Anybody can try this interesting experiment. Whether this singular tendency can be turned to any practical account remains to be seen. The young tubers are developed at the expense of the mother tuber, as is proved by the gradual disappearance and shriveling of the tissues of the latter, but when separated they will grow independently just as any whole seed potato or set could do. It is just possible that seed potatoes so produced might have some advantage over others produced in the ordinary way, especially for forcing purposes. As a matter of physiological significance this case is paralleled by the occasional production of internal buds in trees, and which owing to their imperfect development, produce the knots which are so commonly met with.

Dust for Lice on Cattle.

A writer in the *Farmers' Advocate* says: Some ten or twelve years ago an agricultural writer observed his bull to be free from lice, but not so the rest of his cattle; and thinking over the matter he came to the conclusion that the habit of pawing the dirt over himself must have the effect of keeping lice off the bull, and he tried dry earth on the rest of the cattle with the best effect. Ever since reading the above I have used nothing but dry earth, and have frequently put it on cattle having lice, and have found it perfectly efficacious, both as a preventive and as a cure. If in winter I find it needed and cannot get it otherwise, I go into my cellar and get a few quarts (no danger of using too much) and dry it on the stove. I then sprinkle it over the back from head to tail, and the earth, working in and through the hair soon destroys all lice. I believe the earth to be just as efficacious, less dangerous, and less expensive than tobacco or any of the acids recommended.

Why the "Thunderer's" Gun Burst.

Our readers will remember that about a year ago there was a thirty-eight-ton gun on board the British ironclad Thunderer burst, killing a number of men and wounding many more. A committee, appointed to investigate the disaster, came to the conclusion that the explosion was caused by a double charge. The gun, having missed fire when loaded with a battering charge (a 700 pound projectile and 110 pounds of powder), was again loaded with a full charge, and fired with both of the charges and the projectiles in the gun at the same time. This decision having been seriously questioned, the government ordered an experimental test by loading and firing the sister gun in the manner alleged. The test was made at the proof butts adjoining the royal arsenal at Woolwich. The second thirty-eight-ton gun was loaded and fired with a double charge of eighty and 110 pounds of powder, one 600 pound shell and one 700 pound Palliser projectile. The gun burst as its fellow did on board of the Thunderer, thus justifying the opinion of the committee of investigation as to the cause of that disaster. The muzzle of the gun and the projectiles were buried in the sand at the proof butts. The remainder of the gun, with the exception of its base, was blown to atoms.—*Scientific American.*

It is better to be unknown than to hav a pedigree that iz too much for us, just so it is better for a pekok to be bobtailed than to hav one too big to spred.—*Josh Billings.*

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND NOTES.

The number of Lutherans in America is somewhere between 689,195 and 894,925.

The ministers in the United States average about $25 a year from marriage fees.

The great Sunday-school centenary in London is to be celebrated during the week commencing June 27.

The *Churchman* says: The Protestant Episcopal church reported in 1877, 281,970 communicants; in 1878, 314,367; and in 1879, 320,000.

Mrs. H. Sibley, of Rochester, N. Y., has erected a Protestant Episcopal church at North Adams, Mass., at an expense of $25,000.

Robert Raikes, the originator of Sunday-schools, a hundred years ago, was then about forty years of age, and the editor of a newspaper in Gloucester, England.

The progress of Christianity in the Fiji islands is indicated by the fact that there are now 841 chapels and 291 other places where preaching is held, with fifty-eight missionaries engaged in preparing the way for others. The membership numbers 23,274.

The Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational church at Lenox, Mass., to accept that of the Madison avenue church of New York, at a salary of $8,000. Mr. Parkhurst has been the Lenox pastor for five years on a $1,500 salary.

Mr. W. M. Viney, a colored man, was recently ordained as a Presbyterian minister in Texas, being the first colored man ever ordained in that State by the Presbyterians. The Rev. T. T. Palton, the first Presbyterian ordained in Texas, was present and took part in the services.

Like Dean Stanley's sister, the late sister of Mr. Gladstone became a Roman Catholic several years ago, Cardinal Manning, a friend of her family, effecting the change in her sentiments—a change which induced her to endow his Archbishopric of Westminster with $5,000 a year in perpetuity.

The Congregational denomination has in Massachusetts 528 churches, of which 282 have pastors, 180 acting pastors, and 66 are vacant. There are 655 ministers, of whom 195 are not in pastoral service. The number of members is 91,787. The additions the past year numbered 4,200. Of these 2,421 were by profession.

Rev. G. B. Atwell, an aged Baptist clergyman of Pleasant Valley, Conn., once asking a blessing at a public dinner, said: "Adam sinned by eating and Noah by drinking, save us, Lord, from the sin of the one and the folly of the other. Amen."

An exchange reports that the clergy of various denominations in Minneapolis have taken up the movement against extravagance and for less parade at funerals. There have been such movements in various cities, but, says the *Baptist Weekly*, the practical good of clerical advice in this matter has failed to show itself.

The revised Bible, to be published during 1880 as the result of some years' labor of fifty-two English and twenty-seven American scholars, is to be issued by the University Presses (Oxford and Cambridge), they having borne the expense of the English committee. The expense of the American committee, about $10,000, is to be paid wholly by subscription.

A Railroad Running Away.

A railroad a quarter of a mile long, running from the top to the bottom of one of the mountains which surround Oil City, Pa., was being removed a short time since when one of the most novel accidents ever recorded took place. The rails, formerly the tracks of the road, were fastened together at the ends when laid, forming an unbroken line. The method of taking up the rails was to unspike them from the ties, then attach horses to the end of one line of rails at the foot of the hill, and disconnect the rails as they were drawn down at every two or three rail lengths. A few lengths of rail near the bottom were removed, and then the horses started the whole of the remaining line, nearly a quarter of a mile in length. The ties were covered with snow and ice. The line of rails moved slowly at first, but suddenly they began to increase in speed until the whole quarter of a mile of rails was gliding down the steep and slippery hill at the rate of forty-five miles an hour. The rail at the bottom, from long disuse, was turned up at the end like a sled shoe. The line of rails shot across the street at the bottom of the hill with great speed. On the lower side of the street, directly in the path of the flying rails, was Mrs. Henry Case's barn. The rails struck the side of the barn about a foot from the ground. The shock broke the connections in several places, and the air was full of flying rails, some of them being thrown three hundred feet. About two hundred feet of the railroad stayed together. It tore through Mrs. Case's barn as though the building was made of paper. The speed of the rails seemed to have been very little affected by its passage through the barn, for the whole line of rails came through on the other side. When it emerged from the barn it made directly across Mrs. Case's back yard, narrowly missing the building, but striking an outhouse, which it reduced to splinters. From Mrs. Case's it glided into the back yard of the James house. It made directly for the kitchen, but before reaching it came in contact with a heavy stone wall. This changed the course of the flying iron. It careened from the stone wall to a chimney on the James house, which it demolished. The iron again parted, one piece flying off to the right and plowing into the ground, making a furrow a foot deep for a distance of over fifty feet. This closed the career of that part of the railroad. The other portion jumped from the low roof of the James house to the top of David Lindersmith's three-story house. It here off the shingles for several feet when it came in contact with the chimney. This it knocked over, but had met with opposition enough to bring it to a stop. About fifty feet of iron remained on Lindersmith's roof.

The whole trip of the railroad iron did not occupy a minute, but in that time it created a bigger sensation than Oil City has ever seen for many a day. The striking of the stone wall by the iron, which turned it away from James' kitchen, doubtless saved lives, for there were several girls at work in the kitchen.

What Shall I Do?

In general, the well-balanced man is one who finds it most difficult to ascertain where he belongs, because he is like a marble, he will roll east, west, north and south equally well. Where this is the case, and the man has no preponderating wish or taste, but a vague state of mind to which all professions are alike attractive or alike indifferent, he must either adopt the advice of others or take the first opening that presents itself. The misfitting of men to their vocations is among the most mournful incidents of human life. Hundreds and thousands of men go through life doing respectably well that which gives them a livelihood, without finding in it once in their whole life opportunity to develop that for which God really sent them into this world. There is many a man preaching respectably poor sermons whom God sent into the world to be an inventor and mechanician. He has abandoned that for which he was built, and is as absurd in that which he has taken up as a duck waddling along the ground—being made to swim—or a locomotive off the track. There are a great many men engaged in farming who are fit to be judges, and who are indeed the natural judges of the men among whom they live, and accepted by whom as such. A great many who are born for fine art and taste suffer desolating hunger and thirst all their lives long, while steadily, if not resignedly, performing some mechanical drudgery for which they are ill-fitted, or not so well as an ordinary emigrant would be. Notwithstanding this, a man ought to be sufficiently versatile to follow and bend to the law of necessity. We once met a hostler and gardener studying a geography of such abstruse type of instruction that we could not follow it, though we had a college diploma, and on questioning him found he both read and spoke Latin and read Greek, though he could not speak it. He was adapted to something higher than the work in which he was engaged; but it was infinitely more creditable to him to take it up and do it well than to go about the street soliciting charity.—*Christian Union.*

The Explosion in the St. Petersburg Winter Palace.

The recent attempt to assassinate the Russian imperial family by blowing up the magnificent structure in St. Petersburg known as the Winter palace, is described in a special cable dispatch from Paris to the New York *Herald* as follows: The emperor was busily discussing the politics of the Balkan provinces, the elections to the Bulgarian assembly, the loyalty of the prince's subjects, the attempted compromise between the two parties in the State, when a servant announced that the dinner was served. The czar and his guests were so intent upon the subject of their conversation that the announcement was disregarded. Shortly afterward the servant returned. As he opened the door the emperor rose. At that moment a terrific explosion was heard. The czar had taken Prince Alexander's arm and was walking to the door. He stopped short at the sound. He then disengaged his arm and raised his eyes to heaven in gratitude. Neither spoke a word. The czar was perfectly calm, and an hour later sat down quietly to dinner beside the great gap in the floor. The empress was asleep in her room and heard nothing of the explosion. Express orders were issued that she be left in ignorance of the event.

The official account runs as follows: "At about seven o'clock last evening an explosion occurred in the basement of the Imperial Winter palace, under the principal guard room, by which eight soldiers of the Finland regiment of the guard, then on duty, were killed and forty-five were injured. The flooring of the guard room and several gas pipes were damaged. An official inquiry into the cause of the explosion is proceeding. It has been ascertained that the mine was filled with dynamite and gun cotton. The train by which it was fired can be traced to a cellar in the inner court, where a quantity of fuel was stored." It is generally supposed that the author of the crime was some official familiar with the palace. As soon as the news reached this city President Grevy had his name registered at the Russian embassy and sent a message of congratulation to the czar. At one o'clock M. de Freycinet, the premier, called on Prince Orloff, the Russian ambassador, to express the indignation that he and his colleagues felt at the outrage. All the evening papers express their horror of the crime. One of them announces that a Russian has been arrested on the Champs Elysees, charged, on an extradition warrant, with attempting the life of the czar.

Others describe the scene in the Winter palace after the explosion. As soon as the news got abroad the corridors were filled with an excited crowd, each member of it giving a different version of the affair. From all the private apartments poured the stream. Court chamberlains in gala dress glittered with rich gold embroideries, hurried down from the hall of St. George; and an army of white-capped cooks defiled from the subterranean kitchens. Court ladies, with sweeping trains and sparkling jewels, issued from their dressing rooms, and the watchmen, with their wives and families, came from their huts upon the roof. Round the statue of Alexander gathered a medley throng of officers in full uniform, maids of honor, coachmen, grooms, scullions and hundreds of inmates of the palace, whose names are supposed to be registered by the minister of the imperial household, but who are in reality as little noticed by him as the colonists who settle in Russian forests are noticed by the proprietor of the estate.

The first impulse of all these people was to hasten to offer their congratulations to the emperor. Their second was to return thanks for the preservation of the palace itself. In their eyes the building is sacred. The gilt cross on the roof of the private chapel, which survived the fire of 1837, symbolizes to them the blessing which rests upon it. It was this feeling which animated the workmen by whose industry it rose again to its old magnificence. It was this feeling that caused the humblest mujiks to bring their contributions to the expense of reconstruction. The news that no damage had been sustained by the heirlooms of the palace, that the portraits were undisturbed, the imperial uniforms unsinged, the court jewels uninjured, was received by the inmates with extreme satisfaction. All along the river side, between the Neva and the palace, surged a mass of the populace in sheepskins and furs, and torches flashed to and fro upon the ice. Many of the aristocracy hastened down the Newsky Prospect to offer their congratulations, but the police had strict orders to let no droveky pass the gates. At early morning the emperor drove to the Kazan church and returned thanks to the Virgin for his fifth preservation from death.

Ole Bull.

A New York paper has the following sketch of the life of this well-known violinist: When many persons read that the seventieth birthday of Ole Bull had been commemorated at Cambridge, Mass., by a surprise party, they probably thought he must be older because they had known him so long by reputation. He began his career very early, gained an eminent name in youth, and made his first visit to this country not far from forty years ago. He has had a very eventful life from boyhood to old age. He belongs to the romantic school actually not less than musically. Born at the Norwegian seaport of Bergen, his father designed him for a Lutheran clergyman; but, though a chemist of considerable skill, he could not put his boy into any retort from which ecclesiasticism in any form might be distilled. Ole's soul was set on music, and placing him at the University of Christiania did not wean him a whit from his passion. He neglected his recitations to play on the violin, and to go wherever he could hear an orchestra. He was a regular attendant at concerts and theaters, and one evening, when the leader of an orchestra was suddenly taken ill, he occupied his place, and acquitted himself most creditably. This circumstance—he was but eighteen then—ended his connection with the college, and the year following he went to Cassel to study under the renowned Spohr, then chapel master of the Duke of Hesse-Cassel. The composer failed to be as enthusiastic as the young fellow thought he ought to be, and so the latter dashed off in a huff to Gottingen to undertake a course of law. This he found distasteful, as may be supposed, and his ardent impulses hurried him to Minden. There he gave a concert, and his performance on the violin was warmly applauded. His quick temper involved him in a quarrel with another young musician, leading to a duel, in which he mortally wounded his adversary. He fled from Hanover to escape the law, and, after some months' wandering, arrived in Paris, poor, friendless, unknown. There he was so forlorn that, when his misery was aggravated by the theft of the little he had left to keep body and soul together, and by the loss of his beloved violin, he leaped into the Seine, with the intent to end his sorrows. He was rescued, however, and his story getting into print, a rich woman became interested in him, through what she conceived to be a strong personal resemblance to her lately lost son. She provided him with means, and enabled him to give a concert, which was very successful. He made a musical tour of Europe, and at the end of seven years had acquired a fortune. His style of playing was like that of Paganini, whom he resolved to excel, but whom he could never really approach. At twenty-eight, he returned to Norway with a Parisian wife, and settled on an estate he had bought near Bergen. Five years later he came over here; was enthusiastically welcomed, and went back to Europe with untold dollars. For a good while he roamed over the old world, gave concerts, made a campaign in Algeria against the Kabyles, built a theater in his native town, and tried to establish there national schools of literature and art. But his ideas were too liberal for Scandinavia; his sentiments offended the government; resulted in many troubles, including lawsuits and the dissipation of most of his wealth. His wife died, and he again visited America, founding in Pennsylvania a colony called Oleana, which was soon disbanded. He once more resumed his concerts, and at the opening of the Academy of Music here (1854) tried to establish Italian opera, and failed, losing heavily. Then he recrossed the ocean, made more money with his violin, and, after varied travels and experiences, has settled down in a New England town with a Minnesota wife, young enough to be his granddaughter. No composition of his is more romantic than his career. He is not a great musician, perhaps, but he is a very interesting character, and more than half his success is owing to his personal magnetism.

In deepening a river in the neighborhood of Norrkoping, says the *Timber Trades Journal*, in order to make it accessible for ships of heavier draught, among several objects of interest brought up from the bottom, eight oak trees were found at a depth of seven feet under the old bottom. The bark was almost decayed, and when it was taken off the wood was found to be hard and black, resembling ebony. The trees are supposed to have been lying in the earth 900 years. The trees have been sold to a firm of joiners, who intend using them for cabinet work.

Thirty-four years of constantly-increasing use have established a reputation for Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup second to no similar preparation. It relieves instantly and cures all coughs, colds, etc.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

The suit of the United States against Louis and Edwin Haas, of New York, for the recovery of $210,000, out of which it was alleged that the customs were defrauded by means of false and fraudulent invoices, has terminated by the jury returning a verdict in favor of the government of $48,113.10.

By the explosion of the boiler in John F. Thompson's sawmill at Randolph, N. H., Elden Page, Roger Johnson, Gilbert Sylvester and Mr. Buzzell, all workmen, were killed, and S. F. Henry was severely injured.

James Lenox, a well-known New York millionaire, founder of the Lenox library and the benefactor of many charities, died a few days' ago in his eightieth year. The ground and building of the Lenox library alone cost more than $1,000,000, and it is endowed with a permanent fund of $250,000. The collections of manuscripts books, engravings and maps, statuary, paintings, drawings and other works of art have no equal in the land.

The Rev. Edward Cowley, late of the New York Shepherd's Fold, was found guilty of cruelty to the children under his charge. The jury were out only eighteen minutes, and the prisoner cried bitterly when the verdict was rendered.

The New York board of education has dismissed a public school principal for intoxication and using "grossly improper language."

The Massachusetts Republican State convention will be held at Worcester, August 25.

Twenty thousand persons are estimated to have attended the annual masquerade ball of the Arion singing society, held at the Madison Square garden in New York. During the evening a colossal canvas egg, suspended in the center of the garden, was opened into halves, letting out a hundred sparrows, which flew about in bewilderment awhile and then settled down among the evergreens. The receipts of the evening amounted to $75,000.

In the height of a heavy gale Capt. Archibald Milliken, of the schooner Henry K. Congdon, lying at a Providence (R. I.) wharf, started to go to his vessel in a yawl, accompanied by G. Addison Rose, mate of the schooner N. F. Dixon, and his brother, E. W. Rose. The yawl capsized, and all were lost.

Dr. Brandreth, the pill manufacturer, died at his home in Sing Sing, N. Y., the other day, leaving an estate valued at between $2,000,000 and $3,000,000.

The Rhode Island Prohibition party, in convention assembled at Providence, nominated a State ticket headed by Albert Howards for governor.

The New York *Herald* fund for the relief of Ireland has been enriched by an anonymous contribution of $10,000.

The Pennsylvania Greenbackers will hold their State convention at Harrisburg, March 23.

For maltreating and starving the children under his charge Rev. Edward Cowley, of the New York Shepherd's Fold, has been sentenced to one years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $250.

A fire at 384 and 386 Broadway, New York, resulted in the death of two brave firemen, who were on the roof when it fell in, and a pecuniary loss amounting to nearly $1,000,000.

Western and Southern States.

Last month Page Wallace, a colored man, escaped from the jail at Leesburg, Va., where he had been imprisoned for committing an outrage on a white married lady. Soon after he waylaid and brutally assaulted Miss Morman, a school teacher, and then made his way to Maryland, but was captured and lodged in the Hagerstown jail. He was taken back to Virginia on a requisition, but the officers having him in charge had hardly crossed the State line when their prisoner was taken from them by several hundred masked men and hanged on the spot where he had outraged Miss Morman. After hanging Wallace the lynchers fired three volleys of bullets into his dangling body.

Owing to the heavy advance in the price of white paper the newspapers of New Orleans have adopted a resolution asking the representatives of Louisiana in Congress to use their influence to have the duty on printing paper, chemicals, and materials used in the manufacture thereof removed or materially reduced.

A dispatch from Marion, Ohio, says that two men—one a miller and the other a mechanic—have discovered perpetual motion.

During a recent session of the Louisiana lower legislature the speaker's pistol fell from his pocket, causing it to discharge. The next day the district attorney filed an information against the speaker, charging him with carrying concealed weapons.

During a windstorm in Cincinnati a frame house, occupied by John Deltenbach, wife and three children, was blown over, burying the inmates under the debris. The latter and an infant child were fatally injured, and the wife and the two eldest children slightly hurt.

Two men were instantly killed, two more fatally injured, and three others painfully hurt by a boiler explosion in a Peoria (Ill.) distillery.

Ten thousand persons witnessed the hanging of John Hall and Burrell Smith (colored) near Little Rock, Ark., recently, for the murder of Major Henry S. Pugh, in 1879. The two men were members of a regularly organized band of robbers, many of whom are now serving out terms of imprisonment for their depredations.

Several cars attached to a passenger train fell eighteen feet from trestle work near Jacobsburg, Ohio. A. S. Wiley, a farmer, and Mrs. Caldwell, wife of a director of the road, were killed, and ex-Congressman Danford, a member of the Forty-fifth Congress, was dangerously injured.

From Washington.

A letter of instructions to the supervisors of the census has been prepared at the census office. It says that in no case will a part of one county be joined in an enumeration district with another county. In general every town, township or ward of a county should be constituted an enumeration district if the population exceeds 700 or 800. The districts must be made small enough to secure the completion of the canvass during June. In cities having over 10,000 inhabitants the enumeration should be completed within two weeks. In active, intelligent enumerators can take from 200 to 300 names per day in a city. The district may therefore be safely made to embrace an estimated population of from 2,000 to 2,500. Time is equally long for enumerators can be appointed who will complete the canvass in two weeks it is better than to have one enumerator carrying on the work for a month. Every supervisor must swear that he will make his selection of enumerators without reference to political or party affiliations.

Constantine Brumidi, the well-known fresco painter, who has done all the frescoing in the capitol since 1854, died the other day aged seventy-five years. His huge allegorical painting in the dome of the capitol always excited the interest and admiration of visitors.

Some one in New York has sent $250 to the treasury "conscience fund."

Foreign News.

The correspondent of the Manchester (England) *Guardian* says he is able to state on the highest authority that there is no truth in the persisted reports that the Baroness Burdett-Coutts has given $2,500,000 for the relief of Irish distress.

A railway train in Spain, carrying a government treasure chest, was stopped by sixteen brigands. They were, however, repulsed by Marshal Serrano, who was a passenger and took occasion shot of the five gendarmes guarding the treasure.

The wife of Adam Murray, living near New Glasgow, N. S., recently gave birth to five live children, three girls and two boys.

Trains have been running regularly on the track laid across the frozen surface of the St. Lawrence river at Montreal.

Experts estimate the losses of farmers in Great Britain during 1879 at from $.00,000,000 to $75,000,000.

The pope has published a long encyclical letter against divorce and in favor of removing the marriage ceremony from all civil jurisdiction.

The German bark Marie Wilhelmina, from Liverpool for Baltimore, has been lost at sea. Only four of her crew were saved.

By a collision between a freight and passenger train in Cuba fifty persons were more or less seriously injured.

An official account of the explosion in the czar's Winter palace says that eight soldiers were killed and forty-five injured.

Heavy floods are reported in several provinces of Spain.

It is said that General Skobeleff will command the Russian main army of invasion, numbering 20,000 troops, marching from Tashkend across Bokhara to Merv, with the view of operating in the rear of the Turcomans, while two other armies, starting from Tchikiskar and Krasnovodsk respectively, will form a junction with him before the end of May.

A number of persons employed in the Winter palace at St Petersburg have been arrested for complicity in the attempt to kill the imperial family. The city council of London, by a vote of 72 to 45, refused to send an address of congratulation to the czar.

Four bailiffs who attempted to seize cattle for rent on a farm occupied by a widow in the county of Waterford, Ireland, were overpowered by a crowd of 500 persons and compelled to give up the cattle.

Martial law has been proclaimed in Constantinople with a view to preventing disturbances in carrying out proposed military reforms.

The law abolishing slavery has been promulgated in Cuba.

Professor Nevel Story-Maskelyne, of the mineral department of the British museum, writes to the London *Times* announcing the entire success of Mr. J. Ballantyne Hannay, of Glasgow, a fellow of the Chemical society of London, in producing diamonds. He says Mr. Hannay sent him some crystallized particles presenting exactly the appearance of fragments of a broken diamond, and these fragments easily scored deep grooves in the polished surface of a sapphire. His letter concludes as follows: "There is no doubt whatever that Mr. J. Ballantyne Hannay has succeeded in solving the problem and removing from scientific chemistry the opprobrium so long adhering to it. His process for effecting this transmutation is hardly less momentous to the arts than to the possessors of a wealth of jewelry. It is on the eve of being announced to the royal society."

Haulan, the Canadian oarsman, offers to bet $2,000 that he can beat any man in the world five seconds in a five-mile race on Toronto bay.

The alliance between Peru and Bolivia, who joined forces in the war against Chili, has been broken off.

From eight to ten persons are dying every day at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, of yellow fever.

By an explosion of shells in the arsenal at Valparaiso, Chili, twenty persons were killed.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

Petitions were presented by several Senators for a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote.

Mr. Teller has introduced a bill to enable Indians to become citizens of the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. Kernan, from the committee on finance, reported with amendments the bill to provide for a celebration at New York in 1881 of the one hundredth anniversary of the treaty of peace and recognition of American independence. The bill creates the "United States International Commission," under whose direction the exhibition is to be held. This commission will consist of two members from each State and one from each Territory, and about sixty citizens of New York, mentioned by name in the bill. This commission is to be appointed within sixty days after the passage of this act, and is required to report to Congress at the first session after its appointment a suitable date for opening and closing the exhibition, and such other matters as in its judgment may be important. The bill provides that no compensation shall be paid to the commission, its officers or agents, from the treasury, and that the United States shall not be liable for any expenses attending the exhibition or accruing by reason of the same. The commission is authorized to receive subscriptions of capital stock, not exceeding $12,000,000, to be divided in ten dollar shares. The shareholders are to be called together in the city of New York, by public notice, and are to elect a finance committee from among the shareholders or members of the commission, consisting of twenty-five persons, who, when elected, shall—if not already so appointed—be ex-officio members of the commission. The bill was placed on the calendar.

Majority and minority reports from the committee on privileges and elections in the case of Senator Ingalls, charged with securing his election by the means of bribing members of the Kansas legislature, were presented. The majority report exonerates Mr. Ingalls, but says that bribery and corrupt means were employed by persons favoring his election to secure that end. The minority report, signed by Messrs. Cameron, of Wisconsin, Logan and Hoar, exonerates Mr. Ingalls from any complicity in improper practices, and asserts further that corrupt means were used to defeat and not to elect him.

Petitions against the passage of the proposed House bill reducing the duty on importation of steel rails from twenty-eight dollars to ten dollars per ton were presented by several Senators, signed by officers of many railroad companies, among them the Pennsylvania, the Milwaukee and St. Paul, the Philadelphia and Reading, the Central of New Jersey, and the Delaware and Hudson Canal.

Mr. Randolph introduced an amendment to the bill for the relief of Fitz-John Porter. The amendment authorizes the President to nominate, and with the consent of Congress, to appoint General Porter a colonel of infantry in the United States army.

A memorial from the St. Paul (Minn.) chamber of commerce, asking that the President may employ a public steamship to receive and transport contributions to Ireland, after debate, was referred to the committee on appropriations.

Mr. Harris, from the select committee on epidemic diseases, reported favorably the joint resolution authorizing the President to call an international sanitary conference. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. Jones, from the committee on naval affairs, reported the following joint resolution: "The secretary of the navy be, and he is hereby authorized to employ any ship or vessel belonging to the navy of the United States, best adapted for such service, for the purpose of transporting to the famishing poor of Ireland such contributions as may be made for their relief, or to charter or employ under the authority of the United States a suitable American ship or vessel for such purpose. Any money so proposed to carry out the provisions of this resolution is hereby appropriated." The joint resolution was considered and passed.

Among the bills introduced and referred were the following: Concerning details from the army; to declare the meaning of the word "orphan;" to authorize the postmaster-general to make a settlement with postmasters for loss of money or materials without the fault or negligence of their employes.

Mr. Conkling presented a petition of citizens of New York, urging the