RELIGIOUS NEWS AND NOTES.

The first Evangelical church in Japan is to be erected from funds sent by Christian converts of the Sandwich Islands.

The 16,000 churches of the Methodist Episcopal church owe in the aggregate $7,000,000, an average of $4,000 to each church.

In the Methodist Episcopal church in this country there are forty-two Swedish pastors, 4,590 communicants, and fifty-three churches.

Last year 3,200 new members were added to the Baptist churches in Sweden. Not yet are Baptist preachers in Sweden allowed by law to solemnize the rites of matrimony.

The American Baptist missionary union will begin mission work in Liberia this year, with the object of establishing ultimately a mission in the interior.

The Baptists of Virginia boast of five men who have held pastorates for upward of twenty-five years. Two have held pastorates over forty years, one over thirty-seven, one thirty-three and one thirty-one.

The American Baptist missionary union have, during the past year, added twenty-two to their missionary force, and twenty per cent. to their revenue, raising in all $314,860.88. Of this the women's missionary societies gave $69,170.21.

Some of the Russian papers have lately published statistics respecting the Catholic church in Russia, not including Poland. In Russia proper there are one archbishop, four bishops, 1,664 priests and a population of 3,387,778 souls distributed through 1,044 parishes.

The last religious census in France shows that there are 35,387,703 Roman Catholics, 467,531 Calvinists, 89,117 Lutherans, and 33,119 of other Protestant denominations. The Jews number about 50,000, and 90,000 are attached to no church.

The English Congregational aid society aided last year some 514 churches and 284 mission stations, with $88,240 to the churches and $35,000 to the mission stations. The income of the society was $169,450. Some assistance was also given in raising ministerial stipends.

The Presbyterians are rejoicing over the success of the new plan of providing for the expenses of their general assembly. The assembly paid its way easily this year, and had a balance in the treasury. The receipts were $3,000 in excess of those of last year. The number of commissioners present was 538, of whom 256 were elders.

Crashing into an Iceberg.

The British war ship Flamingo had a narrow escape recently, while cruising off the coast of Newfoundland, from being crushed to pieces by an enormous iceberg. The presence of icebergs on the coast was known to the captain and officers of the Flamingo, and a very sharp and careful outlook was kept up. Two men were posted on the jib-boom end at the time, and it was one of these that first descried the huge mountain of ice ahead, and sounded the word of warning. The officer in command immediately telegraphed to the engine-room to have the engines reversed at full speed. In a moment the propeller was at work pulling the war ship back out of the grasp of what nearly proved a fatal foe. The two men at the lookout on the jib-boom end had barely time to scamper in over the boom and bowsprit, when crash went these two spars, driven in on the deck with terrific force, smashing and unlocking all the fastenings and couplings on deck.

When the steamer forged off from the huge berg the ice towered 100 feet above her mastheads, with terrible menacing projections threatening in their fall to sink the little war vessel deep down in the Atlantic. At a later season of the year such a collision would probably have been attended with complete destruction to the steamer and all on board, but the icebergs now sailing along the coast of Newfoundland are hard and cohesive and not liable, as in autumn months, to shiver into pieces by the least jar or impact, or even by the ordinary detonation of a gun.

Had the iceberg broken up as the bows of the Flamingo crashed upon it there could be no survivor to unfold the dreadful tale. The berg was at least a half mile in length, and averaged about 250 feet above the surface of the water, or more than 100 feet above the masttops of the ship. It was fortunate, too, that there was no sea on, as in such a case the berg might have rolled over on the steamer when close to it and crushed it into staves. After parting company with the iceberg the Flamingo was got round and headed for St. Johns, where she arrived about an hour and a half after the accident.

The Famine in the Caucasus.

It appears from the Russian newspapers that the famine in the Caucasus and in some other provinces of Russia is of an unprecedented severity.

The *Moscowskia Vedomósti* reports the following case: In the village of Khajikent, of the Elisavetpol province, an Armenian, Mirza, with his wife and four children, had been starving for some time. His neighbors, equally destitute, could not help him. One day, after a fruitless search for food, he returned home, where he found his wife in tears and his children crying aloud for bread. In sheer despair he flung himself into the flames of a large oven, after killing his wife and children. Thus in a moment perished a family of six persons. The incident is reported officially.

A correspondent of the *Russky Courier* writes to that journal from Baku as follows: On my way to Shemakha I met many inhabitants who were plucking up grass and eating it. A sack of grass is sold here at three rubles! As to the cattle, they perish by hundreds.

The *Otsor* says: The governor of the province of Erivan has received the following dispatch from the chief of the Ordubatsky district: "The population of the district are starving; they have begun to feed upon the grass." The governor has sent orders to a rich proprietor to feed the people until the government supply arrives.

The *Orenburgsky Listok* says: It is harrowing to look at the starving population and ruined cattle raisers of our province (Orenburg), but the sight of dying cattle is heartrending, too.

The *Russian Vedomósti* says: In the village of Nicholaevskoy two peasants were starved.

The *Caucasus* says: The inhabitants of many villages of Elisavetpol province have no provisions whatsoever; the women and children are wandering in the fields and digging roots.

The *Smolensky Vestnik* says: The peasants of the Briansky district have had no flour for some time past; they are feeding upon bran mixed with ground bark.

The *Saratovsky Listok* says: The inhabitants of the Nouvouzensky district are happy over the discovery of a new food. They collect seeds of different sorts of grass, grind them and make bread. Though very bitter it allays hunger.

The Colorado Rush.

It is all well enough to say "Go West, young man," but when the advice is accepted it should be with a purpose to locate in some good farming country or thriving settlement, and take a hand in the general development. But a great majority of those who pursue the star of empire in its westward course go to Colorado. The rush just now is immense. People are pouring into Denver at the rate of from 4,000 to 5,000 per week, every train from the East being loaded to the utmost limit of its traction power. The streets of the city are thronged with strangers, and present the appearance peculiar to holidays. Nearly all the new-comers expect to secure immediate employment, either there or when they reach the mining districts. Most of them are provided only with sufficient means to get back again, and many speedily avail themselves of the opportunity. It is like a great tide pouring into the estuaries of the sea, only to recede when it has reached its height. There are no doubt available chances for the investment of capital in agricultural and manufacturing enterprises in Colorado, but unless one knows just what to do the risk is hazardous. The advice of all who write disinterestedly to those in the East who have employment, and who are thinking of going to Colorado, is to stay where they are.—*Rochester Union.*

The "Union of the Titans" is a new society just established in New York city. Each applicant for membership must be at least six feet in height, and also "very much of a gentleman."

THE LIGHTNING FLASH.

Incidents of Death and Destruction by the Thunderbolt.

A farmer living in Midland township, Ohio, was killed by lightning.

Mrs. A. G. Small, of Provincetown, Mass., was rendered insensible by lightning. Her residence was damaged.

In Todd county, Ky., Silas King was instantly killed and Marion Lindsey so injured that his recovery is doubtful.

A little girl's face was distinctly photographed by lightning upon a window pane in Laurel, Ohio, during a recent thunder-storm.

Henry Davis was killed while working in a barn near Brown township, Ohio. The barn was also burned by the lightning stroke.

While unhitching their team, Ashbel Wells and his son, of Fairview township, Me., were stunned by lightning, and one of the horses was instantly killed.

Near Lake View, W. T., a large pine tree was torn into fragments by lightning and every vestige of it entirely consumed by the fire that resulted from the stroke.

Marion Moseley, of Henry county, Ga., lost his total supply of fall pork and bacon by one stroke of lightning. The hogs, ten in number, were under an oak.

Lightning killed a greyhound underneath a schoolhouse floor in Clara county, Ky., but left uninjured the twenty-five children who were sitting at their desks.

A demolished house and the instant death of a Mrs. Martin and her two children was the work of a lightning stroke at Priceville, Ill., at midnight.

Lightning destroyed the house of Job Ennis, a Mennonite, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, killing Ennis. His wife expired from the shock the next day.

Lightning struck the barn of Jacob High, near West Jefferson, Ohio, killing Henry Davis, who had taken refuge there, and burning the building and its contents.

Lightning cut queer antics at Jasper, Mich. It struck the windmill of Nathan Shumway, completely shattering the stone pump, and, following outside, killed two cattle.

Edward Sevier, of Murrayville, Ill., was struck by lightning at Russell's Pond, and instantly killed. His clothes were torn from his body, and his shoes thrown a great distance.

A young man named Lyers, of Ottawa, was struck down by lightning while walking the streets during a storm. He recovered, but one side of his face was badly scorched, and part of his clothing was burned.

It was ten years ago when Mrs. Nesbet, of Guilford, Ont., was struck by lightning and thrown from the buggy in which she was riding, but she survived to be killed by another stroke during a recent storm.

Two horses attached to a buggy in which were J. E. Haslam, wife, infant and nurse, of Perry, Ga., were thrown to the ground by a stroke of lightning, but horses and inmates escaped miraculously any positive injury.

In Geneva, N. Y., lightning struck a horse in the mouth and passed through his body, killing him instantly. The groom, Edward Burke, who was sitting near by, was made perfectly insane, and ran about crying: "Catch him, catch him."

A drunkard, of Nashville, Tenn., while wild with delirium, dug a grave and lay down in it and died. His wife, who was frantic at the sight, called loudly upon Heaven to take her also. On her way home she was struck dead by a lightning bolt.

The Reformed church, of Sharon, N. Y., was struck by lightning while the Sunday-school association were in session in the church. No one was seriously injured. The lightning struck the steeple, followed the chimney and into the stove, which were burst into atoms.

The first instance on record of the killing of a mule by lightning occurred at Bard, Iowa. The bolt struck the barn of J. H. Hartman in the roof at the gable, making the four inches in diameter through the hay down into the stables, instantly killing three horses and a mule. The flash did not set the hay or woodwork on fire.

During a heavy thunder-shower at Mechanic Falls, Me., a boy was sitting at the foot of a balm of gilead tree which was struck by lightning. The tree was splintered, but the boy was apparently uninjured. Soon after the accident he was seized with nausea, and on a physician removing the little fellow's clothes there was found upon his stomach and chest an imprint resembling the trunk of the tree, its branches and buds as perfect as could be drawn by the hands of a skilled artist.

Remains of a Giant Race in Ohio.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, writing about the remains of a giant race found in Muskingum county, Ohio, says: The mound in which these remarkable discoveries were made was about sixty-four feet long and thirty-five feet wide, top measurement, and gently sloped down to the hill upon which it was situated. A number of stumps of trees were found on the slope, standing in two rows, and on the top of the mound were an oak and a hickory stump, all of which bore marks of great age. All the skeletons were found on a level with the hill, and about eight feet from the top of the mound. Now to a more particular description of these antediluvian remains:

In one grave there were two skeletons one male and one female. The female face was looking downward, the male being immediately on top, with the face looking upward. The male skeleton measured nine feet in length, and the female eight feet.

In another grave were also found two skeletons—male and female—with the female face looking upward and the the male face looking downward. The male frame in this case was nine feet four inches in length and the female eight feet.

In another grave was found a female skeleton which was incased in a clay coffin, holding in her arms the skeleton of a child three feet and a half long, by the side of which was an image, which, upon being exposed to the atmosphere, crumbled rapidly.

The remaining seven were found in single graves, and were lying on their sides. The smallest of the seven was nine feet in length, and the largest ten. One single circumstance connected with this discovery was the fact that not a single tooth was found in either mouth except in the one incased in the clay coffin.

On the south end of the mound was erected a stone altar, four feet and a half wide and twelve feet long, built on an earthen foundation nearly four feet high, having in the middle two large flagstones, upon which sacrifices were undoubtedly made, for upon them were found charred bones, cinders and ashes. This was covered by about three feet of earth. This excavation was made under the direction of the Muskingum County Historical Society, and the things alluded to in this letter, or dispatch, can be verified by a number of witnesses who were present and watched the work as it progressed. It was pursued with great interest and diligence, there being the strongest incentive to prosecute the investigation, for such remarkable developments in mound-opening are very rare, and are therefore fascinating in the extreme. Their future labors were also rewarded with additional developments, which, if they do not throw additional light upon this giant race of people that once inhabited this country, will at least stimulate research.

What is now a profound mystery the result of the excavation may in time become the key to unlock still further mysteries that centuries ago were commonplace affairs. I refer to a stone that was found resting against the head of the clay coffin above described. It is an irregular-shaped red sandstone, weighing about eighteen pounds, being strongly impregnated with oxide of iron, and bearing upon one side two lines of hieroglyphics.

Bulgaria is a nice kind of a place to live in. A resident says that when three or four armed Bulgarians meet an unarmed Turk alone, they generally cut off his head; and when three or four Turks meet a Bulgarian under similar circumstances, they generally cut off his head. When the Turk loses his head the case is ended, but when the dead Bulgarian is found there is an inquiry. Turks are arrested and examined, and encouraged to speak the truth by the application of red-hot irons to the soles of their feet.

SUICIDES IN THE SUMMER.

Causes That Lead to an Increase of Cases in Hot Weather—Opinions of Two New York Doctors.

It is observable that every year, as soon as the heats of summer commence, there is a large increase in the number of suicides among men, but not a corresponding accession in the voluntary mortality of women. Why men should, or rather why they do, kill themselves more then than in any other season, and why the cause, whatever it may be, does not operate equally upon both sexes, were questions propounded a few days ago to Edouard Seguin, Sr., one of the most distinguished authorities on mental alienation and neurology in this country. He replied:

It must be due, in a great degree, to what is burned in the vast furnace called the sun. The quantity of heat we receive is certainly a very important factor in human actions. In the fifteenth century that fact was glimmeringly perceived, and the scientists of that day were on the right track. They attributed to the celestial bodies the greatest influence upon the lives of men; and while they went astray in their deductions for lack of scientific guidance to appreciate the bearings and causes of the facts they observed, they were still so far right in their observations that they demonstrated that the great revolutions, battles, riots and other bubblings of humanity took place in the hottest season. The heat fevers and excites men, and temporarily aggravates their conceptions of the vital importance of influences affecting their interests. Women, remaining more at home and under conditions of shelter, clothing and habits of life that render them less exposed to the depressing and exciting influences of the heat than men, are less seriously affected mentally by the temperature. I say "depressing and exciting," because excitation and depression go together, the latter inevitably following the former by a law of nature. Well, in the spring, under the awakening and vivifying influence of the season, men have great expectations of love, of business, of social and political successes, etc. When the time comes that the sun no longer shines upon them, but darts his fiery beams, then the season of depression comes; they have experienced failure, or success is at least delayed, or they foresee failure and their consciousness of either unhappy condition is increased, their reactionary power is weakened by the depression consequent upon their former excitation, and they collapse into suicide. If suicide was absolutely due to necessity—the want of the necessities of life—there would be more in winter than in summer, for now the one who cannot eat a steak can fill himself with radishes, and he who cannot buy coal for a fire may warm himself in the sun. We do not hear that in Ireland, when the famine was at its height, there were many suicides; but you have a good many in Paris, and even here in New York, where food is not scarce, and among those who have no difficulty in obtaining it. We cannot, therefore, deem want, and the desperation consequent upon physical want, its chief causes.

No. Its causes are mental. A man forms calculations, and they do not come to the point he realizes. That he wants to end the struggle and be happier—to "go to rest," as they say. I think, too, that suicide is rather in proportion to other forms of insanity, though I do not think that all suicides are insane. But it is a form of collapse like insanity. Now, there are two forms of collapse due to a cause extremely prevalent to-day. That cause is the enormous influence of the element of chance in the business of to-day—in other words, to gambling in all its forms. The intense attention upon mental combinations, inseparable from gambling in business, is liable to produce insanity. The tension in forming combinations and plans in which one knows that chance is a great factor, and consequently a source of deep anxiety, strikes directly at the brain, and the shock produced by sudden announcements of the failure of those plans and combinations produces affections of the spine. Diseases of the mind are the results of the first; locomotorataxy and other affections the direct consequences of the second. Suicide is but one of the conclusions of the miscarriages of the figures of the laboriously-formed plan or combination upon which the gambler of business has erected his hopes of the future.

This form of suicidal impulse which we have now had its homologue in the Roman empire. It is know that the Romans destroyed themselves simply because they did not succeed in the realization of projects they had formed, and one of the greatest examples of that was the philosopher Seneca. Having failed in educating a good emperor and produced only a scamp by his process, and having become very rich and mixed in all the gambling of the day—which was much like what we have now—he was first overtaken by paralysis, of which there is the incontestable mark in the drawing of the mouth seen in all his busts; and then, pursued by a nervous fear that the emperor would take away his life, he did away with himself.

And now a great many men to-day are in that plight, their brains and spines racked by the alternate excitations and depressions of gambling, their nervous systems subjected to the strain of fear of the future, and they give way, as is very natural. That women are comparatively very little subject to such influences is the great cause why the suicides among them are, at all times, but especially in the hot weather, fewer in proportion to the whole number than those of men.

Dr. Jared Linsly, one of New York's oldest and most highly respected general practitioners, who was formerly for many years connected with Bellevue hospital, says that he does not remember ever to have known a case of an attempted suicide in which it death was sufficiently delayed after the perpetration of the fatal act to permit an expression of a wish by the victim, there was not manifested an intense desire for life, a passionate regret for the rash deed that had been done. And if there is any one thing which the venerable doctor hates and contemns above all other things, it is a pistol, which he says is so handily used by men in moments of depression with fatal effect beyond hope of recall. It is his belief that suicide is seldom a premeditated act, but in almost all cases the instantaneous result of a momentary impulse.—*New York Sun.*

Superstitions of the Sea.

Old wives of the sea coast hold many superstitions concerning the "hollow sounding and mysterious main." Thus Dickens tells us that Barkis lingered in his dying until the turn of the tide, when, the tide going out, Barkis went out with it. In New England it is unlucky to kill a pig in the wave of the moon or at the ebbing of the tide; the pork will shrink in the boiling. Water in the dinner-pot evaporates more rapidly over the fire when the tide is "dead low." It is unlucky to eat fish from the head downward; it drives away the fish from the shores. To tell the stage of the tide without going to the beach, look in a cat's eyes; the pupil of every intelligent cat's eye is elongated when the tide is at the flood. Never count a catch until the day's work, or sport, is done. Otherwise the sport is spoiled. Similarly the seaside farmer never counts his lambs until the season for their dropping is over. But it is not alone in rural communities that men and women keep up customs and rites founded on pagan superstitions. Among the ancient Greeks and Romans it was a common custom for the bridegroom to give his bride, on the wedding night, a considerable sum of money by way of purchase for her person. From this usage, no doubt, we have derived the custom of making wedding presents, under which so many people groan. The ancient Saxons gave a betrothal ring, or other gift which was called "a wed," and from which we have derived a very charming word. Fifth avenue throws an old shoe after the departing bride. Is this because our sterner forefathers ordained that the bridegroom should tap his new-made wife on the head with his shoe as a token of her submission to her lord?

The Brassey family in England must, next to W. H. Vanderbilt, be almost the largest holders of securities, other than real estate, in the world. Their father left them over $30,000,000 in personal property, and they do not own more then $75,000 a year real estate.

Mexico, with its vast and productive territory has only 584 miles of railway in operation.

The Work of the Session.

When Congress adjourned, besides the great number of measures not yet reported from committees, there remained about 800 bills and joint resolutions on the Senate calendar, and about 1,400 bills and joint resolutions on the House calendar (including some 960 pension and other private bills) which have been reported with committee recommendations for passage (many of them measures that have passed one or the other of the two houses), but all of which go over to take their chances at the next session. Aside from the regular annual appropriation bills the following are the more important public measures that passed both houses and became laws during the last session of Congress:

An act to provide for celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the treaty of peace and the recognition of American independence, by holding an international exhibition of arts, manufactures and the products of the soil and mine, in the city of New York, in 1883, subject to the supervision and under the auspices of the government of the United States.

An act to amend the internal revenue laws in regard to distilleries (known as the Carlisle bill).

An act authorizing an allowance for loss by leakage or casualty of spirits withdrawn from distillery warehouses for exportation.

An act for the relief of settlers on public lands, allowing their rights to relate back to the date of their settlement, the same as if they had settled under the pre-emption laws.

An act to abolish all tolls at the Louisville and Portland canal.

An act to provide for the construction of a marine hospital at Memphis, Tenn., at a cost not exceeding $30,000.

An act to provide a building for the use of the United States circuit and district courts, custom house and postoffice at Pittsburg, Pa., at a cost not exceeding $750,000.

An act appropriating $200,000 for the purpose of acquiring sites and the erection of suitable posts for the protection of the Rio Grande frontier.

An act appropriating $50,000 to complete the survey of the Gettyburg battlefield and to provide for the compilation and preservation of data showing the various positions and movements of troops at that battle, illustrated by diagram.

An act to provide for the Yorktown centennial celebration.

An act providing for negotiation with certain foreign governments relative to the importation of tobacco into their dominions.

An act for the construction of a public building at Toledo, Ohio.

An act to increase the pensions of wholly disabled soldiers and sailors.

An act to ratify and carry into effect the agreement with the Ute Indians.

An act to amend the statutes in regard to immediate transportation of dutiable goods.

An act relating to timber trespassers committed prior to March 1, 1879, relieving the trespassers from prosecution upon payment of the price of the timber.

Act to amend certain sections of the revised statutes concerning mineral lands, allowing non-resident locators to make the affidavit necessary to obtain patents.

Act for the payment of the awards of the Southern claims commission.

Act to provide for the settlement of all outstanding claims against the District of Columbia.

Act to constitute a joint commission for carrying into effect the French claims treaty of January 15, 1880.

Act to provide for the repayment of fees, purchase money and commissions paid on void entries of public lands.

Joint resolution for the relief of parties who have made contracts to deliver cut hoop iron prior to a certain date in respect of the duties imposed.

The amount appropriated during the last session of Congress included in the regular annual appropriation bills, the River and harbor bill, the deficiency bills and miscellaneous appropriations aggregates about $186,000,000.

The following are the principal bills remaining on the Senate calendar: The sixty surgeon bill; prohibiting military interference at elections; prohibiting officers of or claimants against the United States from contributing money for elections; to establish a territorial government for Alaska; extending the time for the completion of the Northern Pacific and Texas Pacific railroads; to provide for the allotment of lands in severalty to Indians; for the relief of the Poncas; for the payment of the five per cent. claim of lands of certain States; to incorporate the Interoceanic Transit company; providing for a commission to report upon the regulation of commerce among the States; the Kellogg-Spofford case and the bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter.

Among bills on the calendar of the House are those to regulate emigration; the funding bill; the Irish relief bill; to organize a court of pensions; the Chinese indemnity bill; to regulate the duties on hoop, band and scroll iron; the sugar and Tucker tariff bills; the postal telegraph bill; to restrict the emigration of Chinese; to amend the Constitution as to the election of President; to regulate the pay and number of supervisors of election; to amend the Pacific Railroad sinking fund act; for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. The most important Senate bills remaining on the speaker's table are those to define the terms of chief supervisors of elections; for the appointment of a tariff commission; the electoral count joint rule, and the mineral land bill prepared by the commissioner.

Some Very Old People.

Mr. William H. Warren, of Warrensville, Ohio, is ninety-eight years of age, and occupied the first log cabin built in that city. He made his own garden last spring, and is in excellent health and spirits.

Mrs. Nellie Ligon, of White Chapel Hill, Ky., is ninety-five years of age. She still sews on the muslin and has no use for glasses. In speaking of her early life she relates many escapes from bears and Indians.

Near neighbors during their lifetime, Uncle Timothy Doxsey, of Pearsall's, L. I., and Zachariah Story, of Christian Hook, were born on the same day. They are now ninety-three years of age, and both spry and hearty.

Lewis Rockwell lives in Lackawaxen, Pa., and is 102. His wife when she died was ninety-five years old. He is not the only living member of the family, but has several brothers and sisters, whose united ages are 571 years.

Mrs. Mary Hodgins, of Lucan, Toronto, died recently aged ninety-one years. She settled in that region forty-seven years ago, when the country was an unbroken wilderness, and was the only white woman thereabouts.

Annie E. Potter died in the New York Baptist home for aged people after living long past her centennial anniversary. When ten years of age she was kidnaped from school in India and sent in a ship from Calcutta to New York.

Statesville, N. C., has two old but active citizens. J. W. Miller does his own plowing, although in his eighty-seventh year. Bartlett Morgan walks in and out of town, a distance of eighteen miles, although he is eighty-four years old.

The Indian chief Louis Walso, who lives at Lake George, is over 100 years old. The British government has just paid him a long-expected pension for services rendered as chief of the Abenequis in the contest of 1812.

The father of the Reverend William Roberson, who died recently in Bold Camp Creek, Va., did not marry until he was fifty years of age, and lived with his wife seventy-five years, dying at 125. The minister was in his ninety-seventh year when he died.

"Old Pompey Phillips," a colored man, died at Berkshire, and is supposed to have been 109 years of age. He was once a slave in Hillsdale, N. Y., and said he saw Washington in 1785. He leaves a daughter eighty-six years of age and a son seventy-four.

The Rev. Noah M. Wells, the oldest Presbyterian clergyman in the country, died recently in Erie, Mich., at the age of ninety-eight. He preached in Eastern New York until 1825, when he went to Detroit and organized the first Presbyterian church there.

Mrs. Peter King, who died recently at Otsego, N. Y., was just rounding a century of life. She was a native of Ireland, and settled in this country when there were no railroads or stages, in days when people used to go to Albany, a distance of eighty miles, to get groceries. Her eyesight was as perfect up to the day of her death as it had been in her youth. She was the oldest person in Otsego county.

After Matilda Jackson, of Paris, Ky., had closed a century of life, she left what she called the white Methodist church and connected herself with the colored Christian church, and was immersed in a pond.

Moses Howe, of Dracut, Mass., is now in his ninety-second year. He preached his first sermon sixty-six years ago. On a recent Sunday afternoon he preached from the same text, and occupied an hour and a half. He has married 1,920 couples and buried 3,530 persons.

John Widner died in Rochester recently just as he had finished a century of life. He was born in New Jersey, but went to Newtown, near Elmira, when seven years of age. In 1817 he was employed as overseer over fifty slaves that worked the farm of a Mr. Rose, in Monroe county, New York. He learned the Indian language when a boy from his Indian playfellows, and did not forget it.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Eastern and Middle States.

Professor Comstock, of the agricultural department at Washington, has made an investigation into the ravages of the army worm in Delaware. He reports that the pest is working north. The worms still continue the work of destruction in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Farmers are in utter despair in the localities where this scourge is found. Prospect park, Brooklyn, has been vigorously attacked by a large swarm. The worm much resembles a common caterpillar, such as insects elm trees. It varies in length from one inch to two inches. The head is black and the body green in color. It crawls rapidly and eats voraciously, hurrying from one head of grain or grass to another.

The American schooner Eunice P. Newcomb, Captain Anderson, which arrived at Boston a few days ago from Port Antonio, reports that when twelve miles off from the Cuban coast, she was fired upon by a Spanish frigate. The frigate fired two shots, when the schooner hoisted the American flag and hove to. Then an officer and crew, armed with pistols, boarded her and searched for arms. The matter is to be investigated by the State department at Washington.

During a dense fog the ocean steamers Queen, of the National line, from London bound for New York, and the Anchoria, of the Anchor line, from New York bound for Glasgow, came into collision about 300 miles east of Sandy Hook. Both vessels were badly damaged and a hole was made in the Anchoria about fifteen feet long. The passengers of both vessels were greatly frightened until assured that neither would sink. All the passengers on the Anchoria were transferred in boats to the Queen, and then both vessels made their way to New York.

A farewell breakfast was given a few mornings ago at Delmonico's, in New York, to Edwin Booth, the well-known tragedian, who is about to visit Europe.

Among recent arrivals in New York from Europe were 330 Mormons, bound for Utah.

The census returns show a total population in Philadelphia of 842,428.

Out of a population of 4,000 at North Adams, Mass., fifty one-third have been attacked suddenly by a mysterious disease resembling cholera, and which it is thought may have been caused by some impurity in the water.

The First National bank of Brattleboro, Vt., has failed, and Colonel Waite, the president, has disappeared. The deficiency will reach $250,000. Frauds dating back for many years have been discovered.

In the international regatta on the Seekonk river, at Providence, ten men started in the four-oared race of professionals. William Rose, of St. John, N. B., came in first; James Riley, of Saratoga, N. Y., was second, and James A. Ten Eyck, of Peekskill, N. Y., third. Hanlan, the champion, who was looked upon as a sure winner, led at the outstart, but was taken with a pain in his side and had to stop rowing. The prizes were $3,000 to the first man; $1,500 to second and $500 to third. Frank E. Holmes, of Pawtucket, R. I., won the amateur three-mile race and received a massive silver cup valued at $1,000.

Three workmen were killed and four injured by an unexpected explosion of powder in a blast at the foot of West Forty-fifth street, New York.

A nine-year-old Brooklyn girl has been arrested for picking pockets and her father is charged with receiving what she stole.

The census returns show Brooklyn to have a population of 555,000 against 482,000 in 1875.

There is great excitement in the neighborhood of Sheridan, Pa., over the reported discovery of gold.

A Chicaman in Paterson, N. J., when asked by the census enumerator how old he was, thought the enumerator was an agent of the army, and wanted to draft him into the military service. Hence John answered that he was "ninety years oldee allee timee," but when a policeman was called he admitted that he was twenty-five.

The ship Liverpool arrived at New York a few days ago having on board the crew of a bark that had collided with and been demolished by an iceberg.

About forty survivors of the recent Narragansett disaster on Long Island Sound met in Boston the other day and resolved to take all possible steps to obtain indemnity for losses sustained.

A foreign vessel arrived at Boston the other day, having aboard eleven Algerians who had escaped from the French penal settlements at Cayenne. The Boston authorities refused to permit them to land.

The noted trotter Lew Scott, after winning a free-for-all race at Bradford, Pa., was stricken with paralysis of the heart and died almost instantly. On the same day during the steeple chase on the Coney Island racecourse the horse Glengariffe ran into a fence rail and was killed.

George F. Slosson defeated Jacob Schaefer, the billiard champion, in a match in New York for the championship of the "champions' game."

The steamboat Adelaide, running from New York to Long Branch, was run into and sunk in the North river, New York, by the Rockaway excursion steamer Grand Republic, but luckily there were few passengers on board of either boat and no lives were lost.

A fire at Batavia, N. Y., destroyed every building in Batavia street.

A Methodist minister in a Jersey City (N. J.) church denounced the officers and crew of the steamer Narragansett as "a set of cowards," when a man in the congregation jumped up and called the preacher a liar. He was arrested and proved to be W. S. Young, captain of the Narragansett.

Western and Southern States.

Great damage has been done in portions of the West by heavy rains and floods. At Oconto, Wis., nearly one million feet of logs were lost and the damage done to the lumber interest exceeded $250,000. At Frankfort and Cicero, Ind., many buildings were destroyed by a cyclone.

They had a summer snow-storm the other day at Minneapolis, Minn.

The steamboat Carrie Thorn, bound for Brownsville, Texas, with a cargo consisting of 150,000 pounds of wool and hides, struck on a snag and sunk.

At the Prohibitionist national convention, held in Cleveland, Ohio, 142 delegates were present, representing twelve States. The Rev. Dr. Miner, of Boston, presided. Judge Black made a speech. For President, Neal Dow, of Maine, was nominated by acclamation, and for Vice-President A. M. Thompson, of Westerville, O.

The American Institute of Homeopathy has been in session at Milwaukee, Wis., representatives from all parts of the country being in attendance.

United States Senator Vance, of North Carolina, and Mrs. Florence S. Martin were married the other day at the residence of the bride's mother in Oldham county, Ky. Senator Vance was a widower.

The Arkansas Greenback State convention has nominated a State ticket with William P. Parks for governor.

The Indiana Republicans have nominated Albert G. Porter, first comptroller of the United States treasury, for governor.

Judge J. B. Howell, an ex-United States Senator (he was elected in 1870) at Iowa, died at Keokuk in that State a few days ago, aged sixty-four years.

During a fight between four disorderly cattle herders and a sheriff's posse near Cimarron, New Mexico, every one of the former and one of the latter suffered death.

Samuel Howard was hanged at Bastrop, Texas, for the murder of Alexander Farmer, his brother-in-law, in 1878.

According to the census returns Chicago has a population of 475,000.

By the fall of a carload of tools down a gold mine at Gold Hill, Nev., four miners were instantly killed and four others severely hurt.

The Colorado Greenbackers have nominated Rev. A. J. Chittenden for governor.

Cincinnati is shown by the census to have a population in round numbers of 300,000.

From Washington.

The public lands bill passed by Congress provides that when any lands of the United States shall have been entered and the government price paid therefor in full, on proceeding shall thereafter be maintained on account of material taken from said lands, and that no civil suit shall be maintained for any material taken in the ordinary clearing of land, in working a mining claim, or for agricultural or domestic purposes in maintaining improvements on the land of bona fide settlers, or on account of any material taken by any person without knowledge of the trespass or without fraud or collusion by any person who in good faith has paid the officers of the United States for the same; provided that the provisions of this section shall apply only to trespasses committed prior to March 1, 1879. It also restores the provisions reducing the price of lands within six miles of railroads to $1.25 per acre, where they were placed in market at $2.50 per acre prior to 1861.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of General James Longstreet, of Georgia, to be United States minister to Turkey.

At a cabinet meeting the other day it was decided to demand of the Spanish government an explanation of the conduct of one of its frigates in stopping and searching the American schooner Ethel A. Merritt off the coast of Cuba.

Among the nominations not acted on by the Senate, and which expire at the close of the session, was that of ex-Governor Hartranft as collector at Philadelphia.

The Senate on the last day of the session rejected the nomination of Charles Pelham, of Alabama, to be associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico.

On the last night of the session Representative Garfield was serenaded at the Riggs house.

During the session of Congress just terminated 1,197 bills and joint resolutions were introduced in the Senate and 4,288 bills and joint resolutions in the House of Representatives. The number introduced during the first (special) session were respectively 773 and 2,526, making a grand total of 8,784 bills and joint resolutions introduced thus far during the present Congress.

The President has appointed ex-Governor John F. Hartranft, collector of customs for Philadelphia, the Senate having failed to confirm his first nomination.

The following is a summary of the appropriations made by Congress during the recent session: Regular pension bill, $32,404,000; pension deficiency, $9,322,999.22; postoffice appropriation, $39,093,420; postoffice deficiency, $1,250,000; military academy, $516,234.38; fortifications, $550,000; consular and diplomatic, $1,184,135; navy, $14,405,797.70; army, $26,425,809; Indian, $4,656,314.20; Indian deficiency, $135,000; legislative, executive and judicial, $16,274,223.50; sundry civil, $22,623,821.60; river and harbor, $8,929,500; District of Columbia, $1,714,498.67; agricultural, $255,300; regular deficiency bill, $4,577,002.04; printing deficiency, $350,000; House and Senate contingent fund deficiencies, $39,012; miscellaneous (estimate), $2,400,000; total, $186,805,058.40. The "miscellaneous" estimate includes $1,095,000 for public buildings not provided for in the sundry civil bill; $200,000 for new military posts; about $400,000 for war claims; $100,000 to carry into effect the French frigate. The frigate fired two shots, when the schooner hoisted the American flag and hove to. Then an officer and crew, armed with pistols, boarded her and searched for arms. The matter is to be investigated by the State department at Washington.

During a dense fog the ocean steamers Queen, of the National line, from London bound for New York, and the Anchoria, of the Anchor line, from New York bound for Glasgow, came into collision about 300 miles east of Sandy Hook. Both vessels were badly damaged and a hole was made in the Anchoria about fifteen feet long. The passengers of both vessels were greatly frightened until assured that neither would sink. All the passengers on the Anchoria were transferred in boats to the Queen, and then both vessels made their way to New York.

A farewell breakfast was given a few mornings ago at Delmonico's, in New York, to Edwin Booth, the well-known tragedian, who is about to visit Europe.

Among recent arrivals in New York from Europe were 330 Mormons, bound for Utah.

The census returns show a total population in Philadelphia of 842,428.

Out of a population of 4,000 at North Adams, Mass., fifty one-third have been attacked suddenly by a mysterious disease resembling cholera, and which it is thought may have been caused by some impurity in the water.

The First National bank of Brattleboro, Vt., has failed, and Colonel Waite, the president, has disappeared. The deficiency will reach $250,000. Frauds dating back for many years have been discovered.

In the international regatta on the Seekonk river, at Providence, ten men started in the four-oared race of professionals. William Rose, of St. John, N. B., came in first; James Riley, of Saratoga, N. Y., was second, and James A. Ten Eyck, of Peekskill, N. Y., third. Hanlan, the champion, who was looked upon as a sure winner, led at the outstart, but was taken with a pain in his side and had to stop rowing. The prizes were $3,000 to the first man; $1,500 to second and $500 to third. Frank E. Holmes, of Pawtucket, R. I., won the amateur three-mile race and received a massive silver cup valued at $1,000.

Three workmen were killed and four injured by an unexpected explosion of powder in a blast at the foot of West Forty-fifth street, New York.

A nine-year-old Brooklyn girl has been arrested for picking pockets and her father is charged with receiving what she stole.

The census returns show Brooklyn to have a population of 555,000 against 482,000 in 1875.

There is great excitement in the neighborhood of Sheridan, Pa., over the reported discovery of gold.

A Chicaman in Paterson, N. J., when asked by the census enumerator how old he was, thought the enumerator was an agent of the army, and wanted to draft him into the military service. Hence John answered that he was "ninety years oldee allee timee," but when a policeman was called he admitted that he was twenty-five.

The ship Liverpool arrived at New York a few days ago having on board the crew of a bark that had collided with and been demolished by an iceberg.

About forty survivors of the recent Narragansett disaster on Long Island Sound met in Boston the other day and resolved to take all possible steps to obtain indemnity for losses sustained.

A foreign vessel arrived at Boston the other day, having aboard eleven Algerians who had escaped from the French penal settlements at Cayenne. The Boston authorities refused to permit them to land.

The noted trotter Lew Scott, after winning a free-for-all race at Bradford, Pa., was stricken with paralysis of the heart and died almost instantly. On the same day during the steeple chase on the Coney Island racecourse the horse Glengariffe ran into a fence rail and was killed.

George F. Slosson defeated Jacob Schaefer, the billiard champion, in a match in New York for the championship of the "champions' game."

The steamboat Adelaide, running from New York to Long Branch, was run into and sunk in the North river, New York, by the