A DEALER IN MENAGERIES.

How He Made a Fortune out of Canaries—Investments in Rhinoceri and Hippopotami.

A New York letter to the Atlanta (Ga.) *Constitution* says: One day I was walking down Chatham street, New York, when my steps were arrested by a queer sound, proceeding from a store. It was a sort of chirping tumult, as if all the birds in the world had met in a debating society. I had little difficulty in finding the door from whence the chopped volume of music issued. It was, I believe, No. 55, a handsome front and a large store. I sauntered to the door and looked in, and saw a sight that I do not think can be duplicated in America. On each side of the store the walls were lined with bird cages, from top to bottom. The groundwork was of canaries, and there must have been thousands of these yellow tufts of fuss and feather. Underneath the swarming tiers of canaries were large compartments in which were pheasants, cranes, and every rare bird, sacred or profane, that I ever heard of. On the higher shelves were smaller song birds and show birds, from inane love birds, or whistling finches, up to the hoariest and hoarsest of parrots.

In this wilderness of cages a shortish man, evidently of Teutonic build, was walking leisurely. As he saw me he turned and came forward with that easy, pleasant grace common to well-bred city men. I saw at a glance that he was of the best type of Germans—hearty, self-poised, intelligent and cordial. His face was clear, thoughtful and strong—the face of a man who has seen the world, has fought it and whipped it. I am thus special in describing him because I found him one of the most agreeable and entertaining men I ever met, engaged in the most unique business, and the Napoleon of his profession.

I don't know how I came to know so much of him so soon, except that he displayed that engaging frankness that the traveled man shows to the inquisitive provincial. At any rate, I discovered after an hour's chat that I was talking to Henry Reiche, of the firm of Reiche & Bro., dealers in birds and wild animals. This firm is famous the world over, and stands without competitors. In the name of this firm there are organized bands of hunters in all parts of Asia and Africa engaged in capturing elephants, lions, tigers, etc., for shipment to the branch house in Hamburg. From this point the animals are supplied to England and the Continent and shipped to America. All wild animals that fill the menageries and parks of this continent came through the bright-eyed German with whom I spent that delightful day. His history is full of interest.

In 1844 or '45 Charles and Henry Reiche, two young Germans, having little less than the practical education that seems to be natural to young Germans, were bird peddlers in New York. They went about from street to street selling birds from stands. Their trade was principally in canaries, which they had sent over from Germany, where they only cost ten or twelve cents each. They did a pretty fair business up to 1852, when they made a daring stroke that laid the foundation of a fortune and established the enormous business they now control. At that time California was in the flush of gold finding. Gold was plentiful there, but luxuries few. There was no transcontinental road, and the Isthmus route was tedious and costly. Young Reiche, knowing that canaries were unknown there, and believing they would become the rage when once seen, determined to carry over a cargo. He, therefore, got 3,000 of the yellow fellows together, and, packing them in little cages, started for the Isthmus. Arriving at Cartagena, he had his birds carried across to Panama bay, by natives, and caught a ship there and soon reached San Francisco. He was late in reaching the ship, and the captain was about to sail without him, but, seeing his boats filled with covered boxes, thought it was belated mail matter. When Reiche drew near, the captain hailed him and asked him what he had.

"Canary birds," replied Reiche.

"Canary birds!" shouted the captain. "If I'd known it was birds, I'd ha' left you long ago."

Reiche's first idea of the flush tide he was to ride was caught from a homesick Englishman, who, hearing the whistle of a bullfinch that had been accidentally put in with the canaries, offered to pay the expenses of the entire cargo for that finch. At this amounted to $283 Reiche saw that he had struck a rich lead, and he put the price of canaries at $25 each. They did become the rage. Hotels, saloons, private residences, all must have a canary. The little yellow birds made a craze like the tulip mania. The price soon went up to $50, and the cargo was soon sold. Reiche returned to New York a rich man.

About this time the menagerie became an American institution. The "moral" show went abroad through the land, and there was a demand for Asiatic-African animals. For years Hamburg, in Germany, had been a sort of depot at which such animals were gathered by incoming ships from the tropics. Reiche conceived the idea of establishing a house there, and supplying it steadily with all sorts of beasts, to be captured by bands of hunters, working under his direction in the deserts and jungles. Up to that time the supply at Hamburg had been casual, depending on what sailors or ship captains might bring over. Martin Reiche went into Africa and Asia, and found that his best method was to depend upon native hunters, acting under order of their sheikh and directed by a few white men of courage and address. His system was soon so organized that his beast depot at Hamburg became the largest in the world. It was supplied constantly with all sorts of captures, from tiny antelopes up to elephants, running through all the gamut from leopard to rhinoceros. From Hamburg he now supplies the most of the parks and gardens of Europe, and ships heavily to America. He imports every wild animal sold in this country, and keeps a "large and assorted stock on hand." Nine-tenths of the animals in Central park, New York, and a large proportion of those in other parks are his property. When he receives a consignment of lions or hippopotami, or a few rhinoceri and giraffes are billed to him, he places them in Central park, where they await a purchaser. He keeps in his store only a few of the smaller animals—and even the aviary in Central park is stocked with his birds. He considers twenty lions a good average stock, with probably as many tigers, a dozen elephants, four rhinoceri (or rhinocerosses), and other beasts in proportion.

The most extensive animal he deals in is the hippopotamus. A good hippopotamus is worth (to a man who wants him) from $10,000 to $12,000. They must be captured when they are young and raised on goat's milk. A caravan of hunters returning across the desert with captured animals is a strange sight. About one thousand goats are brought with the caravan to furnish milk for the antelopes, hippopotami and other milk drinkers. As the goats cease giving milk they are killed and fed to the flesh eaters. The animals are carried in bamboo cages, rigged with ropes, and slung across the backs of camels. From the coast they are shipped to Hamburg, where Mr. Charles Reiche receives them, and thence they are distributed according to demand. Elephants are captured when young, and usually by driving them into immense traps that converge rapidly until the beasts are cribbed into reach of ropes. A fine elephant will bring from $1,000 to $5,000. Of course, the price of animals varies with the demand. You must get a man that wants a beast before you can get any price for him—then the price depends upon how much he wants him.

"You see," said Mr. Reiche, smiling, "you wouldn't give $10 for that lion there (for we had now drifted to Central park) for your own use, and yet he is worth $2,500."

A good companionable tiger can be bought for $1,200, and a nice leopard is worth about $400. Monkeys sell in the bunch by the dozen at about $30 each, and a rhinoceros brings about $3,000. A giraffe is very expensive and very delicate, and a zebra, striped up to the regulation of ninety-nine and one is worth about $1,000. Giraffes die of indigestion, the rhinoceros, despite his heavy overcoat, is a frequent victim of consumption, and the monkey dies of emotional languor.

The depot for sea lions is San Francisco, where a man named Mullett superintends. They are taken on the south California coast, and bring about $400 each. Polar bears come from the Arctics, and are worth about $2,000. They are kept in deep caves that are damp and sunless, or in dens set in ice and with huge blocks of ice dripping from the top. The point at which Mr Reiche buys them is Hamburg, very few being taken in our Arctics. The snake trade is one of the important departments. The headquarters for snakes is Para, in Central America, though, of course, the boa comes from the Nile, and the anaconda from Africa. There are various depots for rare fish, and Mr. Reiche is an enthusiast on this subject, being owner of the New York aquarium. The bright-colored fishes come from the tropical waters, and the dull-colored from Actic stations. The ostrich has less sense than any land animal, and yet is worth $1,000. They are caught while young. Birds come from all quarters. The most expensive is the bird of paradise, which sells for $200 to $500, according to plumage. Parrots, parroquets, and monkeys are brought in great numbers by sailors who come in on foreign ships.

The principal shipping points are Alexandria, in Egypt, and Ceylon, off Southern India. At the first point the animals from the Nile region and the heart of Africa are collected; at the latter the tigers and lions from the jungles of India. The bed of the Nile is the best hunting ground, as it has been for years. Almost every wild beast of the tropics may be found there, and in fine sample. The African elephants are the smallest and most stupid, but otherwise the beasts from Africa are large and vigorous.

The amount of business done by Mr. Reiche is wonderful. His standing order for canaries is 10,000 birds a week. These are imported from Germany and sent all over the continent. He has an agent in Savannah, and has sent shipments to Atlanta. Frequently he receives $50,000 worth of animals in one manifest. There is a growing demand from circuses and menageries and zoological gardens all over the country. No circus now travels without its menagerie, and no park is complete without its zoological department. There is a large sale for rare birds and antelopes for private parks and grounds. Mr. Vanderbilt once gave $500 for a bird of paradise. A large number of parrots are sold and trained to talk and sing, a good talker being worth $100 or $200. The supply of all birds and animals must be kept up by importation, as few of them breed in captivity. Lions and tigers are about the only animals that breed in captivity, and they bring only such ragged and puny cubs that they are not salable. The growing demand, therefore, and the losses by death must be supplied by fresh captures and importations. Consequently Mr. Reiche's hunters are kept busy, and his ships are always coming in. Frequently he receives a special order from some circus or park for a certain animal. This order is at once dispatched through various agents until it reaches the hunters, who organize a special expedition and capture it. A pair of hippopotami are now being brought over for a circus at a cost of about $20,000.

A large business is done exporting American animals; this business, as well as the importing, is controlled by Mr. Reiche. The grizzly bear is the typical American beast, and is always in demand for European buyers. The buffalo, moose elk, and caribou are the larger animals exported most heavily, they being American types. The opossum, the gray squirrel, the red fox, the hedgehog, are the most popular of the smaller animals, while the puma is in great demand as a new type. The mocking bird is a great favorite among birds, and Mr. Reiche has men who search the Southern forests for them annually. The red-headed woodpecker is exported heavily as a show bird, and the robin is esteemed in English parks as a quiet but handsome fellow. There is a very large profit on the exchange. Mr. Reiche once bought a pair of fine cranes in Schoharie, N. Y., to fill an English order—giving $25 for them and receiving $400. There is an interesting story connected with the famous London show elephants, showing some of the points of the animal trade. A Mr. Kelly, a banker, who drifted into the show business by a mortgage on the Van Amburgh menagerie, sent out a ship to Ceylon. He loaded it with a number of Yankee houses, all ready for putting together. He had the sashes, doors, locks, and everything complete. Arriving at Ceylon, he sold the houses at an enormous profit, ballasted his ship with coffee, and put thirteen elephants and a lot of animals aboard. He made $30,000 clear money by the trip, and had his elephants clear. Of this herd five were trained for the London show, and one of them, "Baby," is the mother of the first elephant ever born in captivity.

Of course, Mr. Reiche has amassed a huge fortune in his unique trade. He is more than a millionaire, and is certainly growing richer. He has a superb residence at Bergen, N. J., where he is surrounded by every luxury that taste and money can command.

Curiosities of Speculation.

It is curious to note what men will do to make money. Some months ago there was quite a brisk speculation in hops, there being as usual two parties—the bull and the bears—composed in this case of the farmers, who naturally wished prices to go up, and of the brewers, who just as naturally wished prices to decline. The contest raged furiously in this city and elsewhere for many weeks, as there was really a large amount of money involved. A well-known circular, publishing the quotations of hops here, gave great dissatisfaction to the bears, because its prices were not up to their ideas; and, as the commercial reporters had been in the habit of publishing circulars, it was resolved, at a mass-meeting of the farmers, not to subscribe for any paper that published the obnoxious quotations, and a protest to office to that effect was actually sent to all the great dailies of this city. With the right or the wrong of this controversy it is not our purpose here to speak. Suffice it to say that hops can stir up a tempest in more than one way.

Then again, some years ago, when it was proposed to put duties on tea and coffee, there was quite a lively speculation in these articles. One speculator was credited with holding about 60,000 bags of coffee; and the speculation in tea was equally important. At the time of the famine in Bengal, Hindoostan, some years since, there was great speculative activity here in rice, and some heavy losses as well as handsome gains were scored. It was trading on the distressedness of others, for the inhabitants of Bengal depend almost entirely on rice to sustain life, and it was assumed that, when the crop failed in that region and famine ensued, there would be a great demand for rice; but this was no worse than speculating in breadstuffs, whereby the poor are often the chief sufferers.

Again, at the time of the Russo-Turkish war, when Turkey was invaded, it was the signal for immense transactions in opium, which now comes mainly from that country. And even now there is a large speculation in this in progress, based on an anticipated falling-off in the next crop. A number of large drug houses here and in Smyrna, Turkey, control the bulk of the stock, and have already realized large profits on their venture. Turkish prunes, at the time of the war alluded to, were also bought up largely by speculators, and for a while proved profitable; but ultimately this article of speculation, which few would think of in such a connection, proved the ruin of more than one strong house. Fortunes have been made and lost in indigo speculations; and, for that matter, this article has far more commercial importance than might at first be imagined. Then a few years ago, when we had the potato-bug invasion, there was a large speculation in paris green, and the market advanced materially, partly owing to the large demand and partly through the exertions of speculators. Another curious speculation was that in canary seed, two or three years since, when it was supposed that the crop would prove a failure. A speculator, with a genius for statistics, actually prepared an estimate of the number of canary-birds in the United States, and the quantity of seed consumed per day, and considerable money was really made in this strange venture. And yet the cases cited here are but a few among many that might be named where what would be called curious sorts of speculations really pay better than half the railroad or mining stocks that are foisted on a credulous public.—*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper.*

One of the home missionaries on Puget sound, holding a meeting in a mixed neighborhood of whites and Indians, observed that the Indian women, carrying their babies according to their usual custom, were surprised to see that among the whites the men carried the babies. At next appointment the power of example was seen, as the Indian men came carrying the babies for the first time.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

The Best Management of Grapevines.

To prune a tree or shrub severely when in full growth is known to be hurtful, and only those who have fairly tested it know its extent. There is not only a shock checking growth, but hurting the tree for years, if not permanently; and where the excision of limbs is severe it may kill the tree. Some will bear the strain better than others. The willow is one of these. A few years ago I removed a clump of rose willows, cutting it off even with the ground. It had been growing some ten years thriftily, and was cut in July. New shoots put out, but tardily and spindling, and made a growth of about eighteen inches, the leaves gradually turning pale and becoming mildewed and finally dropping. Another clump near by, of the same age, was cut in spring before the buds pushed. The growth of this was magnificent, dark, thrifty and healthy, because there was no shock, no hurt, and hence no occasion for mildew. I had a similar experience with a black currant hedge, which I cut back severely when in full growth, mildew following. This was three years ago. My cutting back since then has been done early, when the wood was yet in its dormant state, and a clean, healthy plant is the result. These, and numerous other cases that might be mentioned, are conclusive that mildew follows severe injury.

The treatment we give the grapevine is a parallel case. We cut back severely our thrifty sorts in the fall or spring and pinch back in the summer. Now a single cutting when the vine is in a dormant state may not hurt it perceptibly, as in the case of the willow and currant, and as is the practice with the hedges generally. But it is too much to continue it yearly; add to it the summer pruning, and put the reduced leaves to the task of perfecting a heavy, unthinned crop of fruit, and the usual mildew or rot, or dropping of leaves, or all, is the result. Our fruit trees are cut and forced in their growth until the cry of disease has become general. Berries are taken from their shaded situation, the strawberry out of the grass, and the blackberry and raspberry from the forest border and abandoned new land, and exposed to the hot sun, and subjected to the strain of cultivation. Is it a wonder that deterioration follows such treatment? Nature will allow improvement where it favors her law or habit, but she never fails to punish rashness, because her advance is slow and gradual.

Let us conform to this. Our crop, then, though more moderate, will also be more uniform, with less of the mishaps we now complain of. The grapes need more room on the trellis, a smaller number of clusters, and the consequent reduction of the number of seeds, which are such a severe draft upon the vital forces. At the same time the volume of fruit is little lessened, and the quality is certainly improved. When I practiced manuring and hacking I got mildew; when I gave run on the trellis, lessened the clusters and diverted the growth, I got health and a fine improved crop with the same vines and others, and for many years. Now and then a little mildew will show, when, in a growing season, a sudden check is given to transpiration by humidity, heat-forcing, aided by a strong soil, and dampness restraining. The same thing will happen to grain, but much less to the true and shrub growth in their natural state. It is when they are subjected to the strain and abuse of cultivation that our trees and shrubs, our grapevines and berries are subject to disease. No one will dispute that excess of all kinds in fruit-growing should be avoided in manuring, in pruning, in the number of specimens, and in the situation with respect to exposure and the condition of moisture in the soil.—*F. G., in Country Gentleman.*

Health Hints.

FOR A BURN.—If the skin is not broken use raw linseed oil or varnish. If the skin be broken, wet with a leather and the white of an egg, and sift on charcoal through thin muslin.

HEADACHE.—We have known some extreme cases of headache cured in half an hour by taking a teaspoonful of finely powdered charcoal in half a tumbler of water. It is an innocent yet powerful alkali.

A VAPOR BATH.—A vapor bath may easily be prepared at home. Place a pail of hot water under a cane-bottomed chair, or if you have not one, put a narrow piece of board across the pail; on this the patient should sit for half an hour, covered by a blanket reaching to the floor, so as to keep in the steam.

A CURE FOR A COUGH.—The New York *Tribune* says: The following recipe is sent by a valued friend who has found it very efficient in her family in curing coughs: Tincture of blood-root, two ounces; tincture of lobelia, two ounces; tincture of tolu, two ounces; essence of anise, three drams; essence of wintergreen, one dram; two quarts of molasses. Dose, one teaspoonful every three hours, or oftener as the case may require.

Women's Rights in Mississippi.

The new code of Mississippi has cut up by the roots all the ancient disabilities of married women, and they are now free and equal in every respect to their husbands. It is the most complete legislation yet had upon the subject. Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. Meriwether should at once move to that State and not cease this agitation till the right to vote has been secured as thoroughly as the rights of property have been.

"Section 1167. The common law, as to the disabilities of married women, and its effect on the rights of property of the wife, is totally abrogated, and marriage shall not be held to impose any disability or incapacity on a woman as to the ownership, acquisition or disposition of property of any sort, or as to her capacity to make contracts, and do all acts in reference to property which she could lawfully do if she were not married; but every woman now married, or hereafter to be married, shall have the same capacity to acquire, hold, manage, control, use, enjoy and dispose of all property, real and personal, in possession or expectancy, and to make any contract in reference to it, and to bind herself personally, and to sue and be sued, with all the rights and liabilities incident thereto, as if she was not married."

"Sec. 1168. Husband and wife can sue each other."

"Sec. 1169. A married woman may dispose of her estate, real and personal, by last will and testament, in the same manner as if she was not married."

"Sec. 1170. Dower and courtesy, as heretofore known, are abolished."

Other sections confirm the general laws to these radical changes. Husband and wife inherit from each other all their respective property if there be no children, and each a child's part if there be children or the descendants of children. They may dissent from each other's wills and take of each other's estates according to law, except that if there be no children, in case of such dissent the dissentient gets only half of the estate if he or she has no estate of his or her own. If the dissentient has property of his own or her own, equal to one-fifth of what he or she would be entitled to in the others's estate, then the deficiency is to be made up out of the other's estate.—*Memphis (Tenn.) Avalanche.*

The Thunderbolt.

The name thunderbolt, which is still in use, even by good writers, seems to have been introduced in consequence of the singular effects produced when lightning strikes a sandhill or sandy soil. It bores a hole often many feet in length, which is found throughout lined with vitrified sand. The old notion was that an intensely hot, solid mass, whose path was the flash of lightning, had buried itself out of sight, melting the sand as it went down. It is quite possible that this notion may have been strengthened by the occasional observation of the fall of aerolites, which are sometimes found in the holes they have made, still exceedingly hot. And at least many of the cases in which lightning is said to have been seen in a perfectly clear sky is to be explained in the same way.

Another remarkable peculiarity, long ago observed, is the characteristic smell produced when lightning strikes a building or a ship. In old times it was supposed to be sulphurous; nowadays we know it to be mainly due to ozone. In fact, all the ready modes of forming ozone, which are as yet at the disposal of the chemist, depend upon applications of electricity. But, besides ozone, which is formed from the oxygen of the air, there are often produced nitric acid, ammonia and other compounds, derived from the constituents of air and of aqueous vapor. All these results can be produced on a small scale in the laboratory.

A WOMAN'S CHECKERED CAREER.

End of a Long Life Filled With Remarkable and Romantic Incidents—Born at Gibraltar of Noble Blood, Married at Twelve and a Mother at Thirteen Years—Her Social Triumphs in the Country.

Mrs. Abijah Smith is dead. Thus ends a career strangely interesting because of its varied lights and shadows—a veritable romance. On the high fortified rock of Gibraltar there was born to the noble house of Gannecliff, in the summer of 1793, an heiress, upon whom with much ceremony and pomp was bestowed the christian name of Isabella. This infant is she who, at the age of eighty-seven, has been given a last resting-place at Montrepose. Four years passed in the life of the child-heiress of Gannecliff, and a dreadful epidemic swept the "rock" left her doubly an orphan; both father and mother were lost to her, and by adoption she became a member of a certain noble Spanish family, who gave much more care to all else than moral or mental culture. She was in possession of her father's large estates, and with every attention given to her whims and willfulness her development was rapid even for that clime; at twelve she was married, at thirteen was a mother, and at seventeen a widow with four children. Her husband was Jose De Sa Manos, a Spanish gentleman of leisure, the victim of a duel entered into upon her account. Not long subsequent to the death of De Sa Manos three of his four children died; thus was his widow left with but one relative in the world. This was a daughter, christened Inez, who, in accordance with the written will of her father, was consigned to the care of a Catholic sisterhood in Paris, for instruction such as he deemed meet. To the daughter went all the father's property, and Donna Isabella was once more "adrift in the world," with no tie to bind her to the prudent life that should have been hers.

The season of 1815 was a brilliant one at Gibraltar, and visitors were there from all over the world—among others Captain George W. Walker, the owner of an American trading vessel, and brother of Commodore Walker, of the United States navy. At a ball given by the American consul Captain Walker met Madame De Sa Manos, and, despite numerous warnings from friends to the effect that she was the "greatest flirt in Gibraltar," within two weeks he carried her off as his bride. Turning all her convertible property into gold, she sailed with her new lord for Philadelphia. His rank in his country was high, he being directly connected with the Winthrops and others of the first families of New England; and he was possessed of much wealth, having a rarely excellent trade between New York, Philadelphia and Southern ports. The married life of Captain and Mrs. Walker was, however, not all sunshine. It extended over twoscore years; the first fourth of which the lady was exceedingly glad in the constant company of her husband, sailing with him on every voyage, and becoming so far the master of navigation thus according to her boast of after years, she was on one occasion, with the gallant captain seriously injured and below deck, able to save his vessel from the fury of a gulf storm. But the time came when she tired of sea life, and while her husband continued to sail, she deemed it much more proper to shine in social circles at Saratoga and Niagara in the summer and at Washington and other centers when the snow came. Rumors of intrigue reached the ears of Captain Walker when fair tides would bring him home, and frequent and bitter were the scenes of domestic jubilation. The Washington shone with the circle that attracted the foremost men of the nation. "Andrew Jackson," said she, "has pleaded with me for favor, and more than one Senator has prayed me to notice his cause. Martin Van Buren time and again singled me out in crowded drawing-rooms imploring me to give him a monopoly of my society. I knew Clay and Webster, and Benton and Calhoun and Randolph—all of the great men of the day—I knew them well."

Such boasts were evidently not baseless; the lady to the day of her death retained a packet of letters in which words of admiration—and, indeed, sentiments even more decided—appeared, connected with the autographs of the men she mentioned as among her devotees. And there were eloquent epistles from others almost their peers. Gen. Winfield Scott appears perhaps not to advantage, in a billett th'at would have better become an ardent country swain. N. P. Willis, the poet, writes pleading for an interview, pouring out his "feelings unspeakable" in a half dozen stanzas, the which, by the by, are to be found in a subsequent published volume of his poems. There are other letters from other men of prominence in the political, literary and social world of a half century ago, but there is no demand for their publication. Not all of Mrs. Walker's time was spent in this country; she crossed the Atlantic seven times before she was forty, and in the first society of London and Paris she was conspicuous many seasons. And she made many conquests—"harmless they were," she ever averred, as in her latter days she recalled them.

In 1854 Captain Walker died; but his widow remained free but three years, when she accepted the suit of Abijah Smith, of this city, and came from New York to become mistress of that individual celebrity's home on Golden hill. The marriage was an unhappy one. When by an explosion at his saw-mill Smith was seriously injured, the home was broken up, his wife chafing under the restraints put upon her by an invalid husband. While yet she was Mrs. Walker she had made a "dash" in Wall street, and, leaving Golden hill, she continued her speculation in Erie, Reading and Panama. "I would never touch the other stocks," she declared. "I knew what I was about, and I did not come out a 'lame duck;' I doubled my fortune in two years."

During the past twenty years Mrs. Smith has for the most part made her home this city, though not as the helpmate of her husband, who died last year. The property that she held at her marriage she retained in her own right, and thus was entirely free from dependence. Recently her advanced years weighed heavily upon her, and she grew testy and at times sullen and morose. Without one of kin in all the world, she gave little care to the amenities of life as deserved by those with whom she had to do. The daughter, Inez, died long years ago in a convent, and save when recalling that daughter, or recounting social triumphs of the past, Mrs. Smith was seldom an agreeable companion; and with her better nature had gone also the beauty of face, statelitness of form, and other grace that gave her prominence and power in days bygone. It was her boast that the leading artist of France had pleaded long and eloquently to have her sit to him; three times had her arm "and such an arm!"—bren cast in plaster as a model for sculptors of renown. But time had wrought a change; her features were shrunken, and other evidences there were innumerable that the beauty and power of other days had altogether passed.—*Kingston (N. Y.) Freeman.*

Rat-Killing Extraordinary.

A correspondent of the *Fancier Chronicle* sends the following: Hollinwood, near Manchester, was the scene of a rather novel rat-killing match the other day, between Mr. Benson's fox dog, Turk, and Mr. Lewis' monkey, for $25. The conditions of the match were that each one had to kill twelve rats, and the one that finished them the quickest to be declared the winner. It was agreed that Turk was to finish his twelve rats first, which he did, and in good time too, many bets being made on the dog after he had finished them. After a few minutes had elapsed, it now came the monkey's turn, and a commotion it caused. Time being called, the monkey was immediately put to his twelve rats, Mr. Lewis, his owner, at the same time putting his hand into his coat pocket and handing the monkey a peculiar hammer. This was a surprise to the outlookers; but the monkey was not long in getting to work with his hammer, and once at work he was not long in completing the task set before him. You may talk about a dog being quick at rat-killing, but he is really not in it with the monkey and his hammer. Suffice it to say, the monkey won with ease, having time to spare at the finish. Many persons present thought the monkey would worry the rats in the same way as a dog; but the conditions said to kill, and the monkey killed with a vengence, and won the $25, besides a lot of bets for his owner.

The various theaters in New York city employ 24,000 people.

NEWS NOTES.

Eastern and Middle States.

At the New York Democratic State convention, held in Saratoga, Judge Charles A. Rapallo was nominated for chief judge of the court of appeals. The delegation from New York city was divided equally among Tammany and anti-Tammany.

Speaker Samuel J. Randall has been nominated for Congress in Philadelphia for the tenth consecutive time.

The first day's registration in Brooklyn this year showed an increase of nearly 17,000 names over the first day in 1876.

Two boys quarreled over a game of cards at Reading, Pa. One shouted, "Here's one for your head," and threw a big stone which broke the other's skull, killing him.

A woman 101 years old was arrested as a vagrant the other day in New York.

Edwin Pooler, a lad of sixteen, employed in the agricultural works at Ilion, N. Y., was caught in the machinery and whirled about at a terrific rate. One arm was twisted off and both his legs and neck were broken.

The project for an international park at Niagara Falls is being pushed.

The historian, George Bancroft, has just celebrated his eightieth birthday at Newport, R. I.

A statue of the poet Robert Burns, has been unveiled in the Central park, New York. The statue was received on behalf of the city by Mayor Cooper, and George William Curtis delivered an address.

Archibald Forbes, the famous English war correspondent, arrived in New York a few days since. He will make a lecturing tour of the United States.

Western and Southern States.

By the bursting of a boiler belonging to a steam thresher on a ranch near Princeton, Cal., the fireman and two Chinamen were killed, and the engineer and six others were seriously scalded.

The prisoners confined in jail at Grenada, Miss., set fire to the building, which was entirely consumed. All the prisoners were released and made their escape.

Deadwood, Dakota, has just had a fair which lasted a week and which was the first ever held in the Black Hills.

General Grant presided and Senator Conkling spoke at a Republican mass-meeting in Warren, Ohio.

F. M. Shaw, late president of the First National bank of Paola, Kansas, which went into liquidation some months ago, has been arrested by a United States marshal, charged with making false entries in the report of the condition of the bank.

A ceremony by telegraph took place a few days ago, the contracting parties being H. A. Latham, manager of a telegraph office at Albany, Mo, and Miss Linnie Faris, at Portland, Ind. Miss Faris stood beside the officiating minister in the telegraph office at Portland while the ceremony was transmitted. The ceremony occupied thirty-six minutes. The bride started for Albany, Mo., the next day to join her husband.

Oliver & Robinson, tobacconists of Richmond, Va., have failed for $188,000, with assets placed at $160,000.

Cotton reports from various points in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida indicate a falling off in the crop as compared with last year.

Two boilers in a saw-mill at Bay City, Mich., exploded and were hurled 450 feet. The fireman was killed and three other persons were badly injured.

The steamer Issac Bell, together with her cargo of 750 bales of cotton and other merchandise, while lying at her wharf at Portsmouth, Va., was destroyed by fire. She was valued at $20,000, and the cargo at $41,000.

From Washington.

During the last fiscal year the United States sent 126,468 pounds of letters to Great Britain, 84,433 pounds to Germany, and 19,994 pounds to France. The newspapers and periodicals transported in the domestic mails weighed over 30,000 tons, on which $1,226,412 postage was collected. Nearly 9,000 tons, paying postage to the amount of $346,529, weighed in New York. Chicago ranks next with 3,000 tons, and St. Louis is fifth with 1,348 tons.

It is discovered that a safe in the office of the second auditor of the treasury at Washington, where are deposited a large number of trinkets and personal effects taken from the dead bodies of Union soldiers whose relatives could not be traced, has been robbed of property worth $5,000.

A statement of the domestic money order transactions of the postoffice department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1880, has just been completed. It shows that during the year 7,240,537 orders for $100,352,818 were issued against $88,254,461 for the previous fiscal year.

The statue of Admiral Farragut, by Mrs. Vinnie Ream Hoxie, has been successfully placed in Farragut square. The statue is of bronze, out of the old propellor of Farragut's flag-ship, the Hartford. It is of heroic size, and represents Farragut with a marine-glass in his left hand, and with his left foot resting upon a block and tackle. The statue stands upon a pedestal of Maine granite ten feet six inches high, and the total cost is $20,000. It has been covered with sail-cloth to await the decision of the naval authorities as to the date of the unveiling ceremonies.

The daughter of ex-President Zachary Taylor has been paid $16,000 by the treasurer. This was the balance of the salary which General Taylor would have received had he lived until his term of office expired.

The surgeon-general in his annual report states that 24,860 seamen were treated during the year at a cost of $462,185.

During September the public debt was reduced $8,974,891.68. There is cash in the treasury, $199,945,260.40; total debt, less cash in the treasury, $1,915,594,182.66.

The following statement shows the coinage executed at the United States mints during the month of September:

	No. of Pieces.	Value.
Gold nominations.		
Double-eagles	73,016	$1,460,320
Eagles	109,076	1,090,760
Half-eagles	292,916	1,464,580
Three dollars	16	48
Quarter-eagles	16	40
Dollars	16	16
Total gold	475,056	$4,015,764
Silver dollars	2,301,000	$2,301,000
Cents	2,380,000	23,800
Total coinage	5,151,056	$6,340,564

The report of the commissioner of the general land office shows that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, there were surveyed 15,699,253 acres of public lands and 652,151 acres of private land claims. Disposals of public lands during the year were made as follows:

	Acres.
Cash entries	850,740
Homestead entries	6,045,570
Timber-culture entries	2,193,184
Agricultural college scrip	1,280
Locations with military bounty land warrants	88,522
Swamp lands patented to States	3,757,888
Lands certified for railroad purposes	1,157,375

Foreign News.

A steamer sailed the other day from Liverpool for New Orleans, having on board 150 British farmers for Texas.

Turkish troops near Scutari are dying of fever at the rate of 200 a day.

The sea serpent has again been found, this time off the coast of British America. A dispatch from Victoria says: A genuine sea serpent, six feet in length, with an orthodox mane, head shaped like a panther's and a tail whittled down to a sharp point, was brought in by Indians recently, they having caught it in deep water in the straits of Debaro. Its appearance creates intense interest among savants, and old fishermen cannot place the monster. The sea serpent has been photographed, and the body will be preserved in spirits and sent to Ottawa for classification.

Fifty barges on the Nava[illegible] have been destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of $250,000.

A meeting of five hundred Orangemen at Gilford, county Down, Ireland, has passed resolutions calling upon the government to suspend trial by jury in murder cases, and declaring that citizens of the United States and other foreigners abusing the hospitality of the country by denouncing the institutions of the United Kingdom should be expelled.

According to the last issue of a well-known German work on population, the number of people now on the earth is 1,456,000,000 as against 1,439,000,000 two years ago.

The municipality of Paris levies a duty on almost everything which enters the city; that of London on scarcely anything but coals, which furnish a large revenue.

The war between the British and the Afghans has already cost $90,000,000 and has lasted two years.

Garibaldi and his son Menotti have resigned their seats in the Italian chamber of deputies. They say that they are unable to remain as deputies in a country where liberty is trodden under foot.

Mr. William McArthur, liberal member of the house of commons, has been elected lord mayor of London.

Prince Bismarck will probably have presented in the next session of the Prussian parliament a bill for the formation of a state workingmen's assurance and mutual assistance society, to which employers and employees will be bound to contribute. The bill is projected as a step toward arresting German emigration.

There has been a large fire at Lisbon, Portugal. Many shops and houses were gutted.

The Spanish government has resolved to proceed against all priests who introduce politics into their sermons, and to dismiss all mayors who are notorious Carlists.

A reward of $5,000 has been offered for the arrest of the murderers of Lord Mountmorres in Ireland.

All the editors of the chief journals at St. Petersburg have been summoned before General Melikoff and told that their continual discussion of a constitution for Russia was highly displeased the czar; that nothing more on the subject would be allowed to appear, and that during the present reign it would be premature to discuss a constitution.

An international exhibition at Melbourne, Australia, has been formally opened. All the principal nations are represented.

A large number of Turkish priests and dignitaries have united in an appeal to the sultan to resist the demands of the great powers.

A syndicate for the fortification of the Panama canal is said to have been formed in Paris.

JOURNALISM.

A Practical Article for Young Men Who Want to be Editors and Wield a Moral Influence.

All the way from the university of a far distant State comes to us an application for a position on the *Journal* as an editorial writer. It comes from a young man who says he has been pursuing a special course of study with a view of adopting journalism as a profession. He has about finished this course and desires to enter immediately upon his life-work. The young gentleman writes that from early youth his ambition has been to wield a moral influence, and he sees no hope of exercising this influence save as a journalist. He has tasted of science, of language, of philosophy; has labored to form a style which he could use with effect; has sought out new paths, and endeavored to make new paths where he found none. His knowledge of political history, law and political economy he thinks would enable him to discuss the average questions of the day intelligently. In treating questions of social interest, his knowledge of social economy might not prove amiss. As a journalist he would keep his life purpose ever before him. In his paper he would introduce new features—to old ones he would give the charm of novelty. In political discussions he would shun insignificant partyisms or personal reflections—everything save a fair presentation of party principles and party interests. As manager he would exercise judicious economy, as editor, untiring energy and brain.

The young gentleman is no doubt honest and sincere in his statements, but they weigh nothing with an experienced newspaper man. Journalists are not turned out of universities ready-made. Journalism is a profession which can only be mastered after long years of active service—on the same principle that to be a good lawyer, or a successful minister, or a competent mechanic, one must have practical experience, and can attain prominence only after long years of patient labor. Young men on leaving college are apt to think they could shape the destinies of a nation if they could only get control of the columns of some newspaper. Perhaps a young graduate does get an opportunity to write editorials for some country weekly. He launches a bolt, and then anxiously awaits the report. He generally waits in vain, and is both pained and chagrined to find out that his majestic utterances have attracted no attention whatever. Perhaps he gets a position on one of the big dailies, and with a proud heart he hands in to the managing editor a long article, over which he has spent several days and nights in writing and re-writing, only to be mortified beyond measure, by the matter-of-fact chief, telling him in out that thing down to two stickfuls, even if he does not tell him the paper has no room for any such stuff. He may further tell the young man, whose ambition is to wield a moral influence, that they want no opinions from him, they want news, and that in a condensed, concise form. The conceit may further be taken out of the young man by being detailed to write up the stock yards, or sent to get the points in a scandal case, and told that he must get his report into a half column and have his copy in by eleven o'clock sharp. This doing unoengenial work, and doing it on the jump, with no long elaborate glowing periods and eloquent perorations, is a new experience, and five to one he makes a flat failure and is chagrined beyond measure by being told that he has no aptitude for journalism, and is advised to seek some other vocation. Journalism is drudgery—plodding, unostentatious drudgery. The individual work which makes up a complete newspaper attracts no attention from the public generally. Readers say this or that paper is a good one, without once caring who did this or that to make it such. And this alone would be cruel to the unfledged writer who hopes to wield a moral influence. If one of his articles appears he expects it to be the feature of the paper, and is disappointed if people do not talk about it and insist on knowing who wrote it.

The Natural Orator.

"The orator is born, not made," say certain critics. This assertion is contradicted by so many exceptions that it cannot be received as a general rule. It is, however, verified in the career of some great orators. The most notable case in the annals of American orators is that of Patrick Henry. The bees of Hymettus touched his lips, as they did those of Plato, while slumbering in his cradle. He lisped in eloquence, as Pope did in numbers.

Henry was a natural orator, but he was "only that and nothing more." Mr. Jefferson, who knew him well, and often list