TIMELY TOPICS.

The consumption of cigarettes, as shown by tax returns, rose in the United States from 14,000,000 in 1870 to 408,000,000 in 1880. The medical faculty is pretty well agreed that cigarettes are more injurious to health than cigars.

The population of Canada by emigration to the United States has diminished three per cent. in one year, a percentage of loss much greater than ever sustained by the United States, even in the darkest days of the war.

Ex-Governor Emery, of Utah, was interrogated in New York concerning the future of polygamy, and he answered: "I have no idea that the system will wear away of itself," and he gave as a reason for his opinion that people who regard it as of divine origin, and have had children and grandchildren born under it, will not willingly abandon it.

Every year has its peculiar fashion in the way of agricultural pests. We have had the weevil, the potato bug, the grasshopper, and last year the army worm. This year it is to be the seventeen-year locust, assisted by the thirteen-year locust. The former will attend to the Western States, while the latter looks after the agricultural interests of the South.

Children are comforts and not causes of worry, as the statistics recently collected by London *Truth* shows: "This was the matrimonial status of a given number of persons who committed suicide throughout Europe in 1880: Married men with children, 203; without children, 470. Widowers with children, 526; without children, 1,004. Married women with children, 45; without children, 158. Widows with children, 104; without children, 238."

A correspondent of the *Scientific American* says: Let any one who has an attack of lockjaw take a small quantity of turpentine, warm it and pour it on the wound, no matter where the wound is, and relief will follow in less than a minute. Nothing better can be applied to a severe cut or bruise than cold turpentine; it will give certain relief almost instantly. Turpentine is also a sovereign remedy for croup. Saturate a piece of flannel with it and place the flannel on the throat and chest, and in every case three or four drops on a lump of sugar may be taken inwardly.

"Ought a baby to be fat?" is a question which is freely been thrust upon public attention. The *Scientific American*, however, remarkable and somewhat exciting article, strongly urges the rather novel proposition that babies should not be permitted to become fat. The theory of the *Scientific American* is that adipose tissue is not a sign of health, but of disease; that food ought to make muscle and bone sinew, and not fat; and that a fat baby, therefore, is not really a healthy baby, but a baby which does not properly assimilate its food.

The New York *Herald* thinks that "a President of the United States really has a very cheap living. The salary is supposed to be used, not for the purpose of saving something from it, but as a fairly liberal fund for making the social doings of the White House respectable in the eyes of our own people and in those of foreign representatives. Porterhouse steaks are furnished at the rate at which the whole animal is sold on the hoof to the army. Vegetables, flowers and a hundred other articles of family use are given to a President of the United States so that he may devote his salary to rather liberal purposes."

Commissioner Le Duc, of the United States agricultural department, is urging the home manufacture of sugar with enthusiasm and a fair degree of success throughout the country. It is said of him that he has firmly made up his mind that the sugar problem is the largest question now demanding solution in this country; he knows that if we can make our own sugar and syrup we will save from $90,000,000 to $120,000,000 annually, which we now pay to foreign countries for those commodities; he believes that sorghum solves the problem, and with the sublime faith in himself, which seems necessary in any one who would become a great benefactor of his fellow-men, he proposes to convince the country that he is right and his critics are wrong on the sorghum question.

Intemperance is doing its deadly work most effectually in the Sandwich Islands. King Kalakaua acknowledges the very early extinction of the race from which he sprang, and is now upon his way to Asiatic nations to form plans for the emigration of desirable classes of Chinese or Japanese to take the place of his ancestors. The recent history of Hawaii is a lamentable one. With the visits of the early navigators and whalemen of the Pacific, intoxicating liquors entered her islands, and since then the race of Kanakas has been slowly but surely dying out. The old King Kamehameha was a beastly drunkard, and his people have faithfully followed in the path marked out by royalty. The present king is a gentleman of refinement and culture, who looks for the continuance of his nation in the emigration of a much better class than that of which he is of blood though not of principle. Christian communities will bid him God speed.

Ettinger, Erb and Meyer, who have been sentenced to death for murder at Snyder, Pa., owe their conviction to their own indiscreet talk about the crime. They killed Mr. and Mrs. Kinzler, an old couple, who kept several thousand dollars in their house. They were first tried on a charge of murdering the husband. The only important witness against them was a girl, who actually saw the deed; but she was so notorious a liar that the jury did not believe her, and rendered a verdict of acquittal. The district attorney could still prosecute them in the case of the wife, but he had them discharged from custody, and allowed them to suppose that they would not again be molested. Secretly, he employed a clever detective, who in the course of a few months gained their confidence, induced them to talk loosely about the murder, and at length collected evidence enough to warrant their rearrest. The second trial resulted in conviction.

Music Produced by Flame.

Considerable interest has been aroused in German musical circles by Friedrich Kastner's pyrophon, now being exhibited in a large room adjoining the Conversations-Saal, of Baden-Baden. The instrument resembles an organ in construction and appearance, as far as its keyboard and pipes are concerned, but the latter are made of glass instead of metal or wood, and the tones they give forth in obedience to the pressure of the player's fingers on the keys are produced by the action of flame upon their atmospheric contents. Jets of lighted gas, divided into a certain number of small flames, are forced into these glass cylinders, the length and diameter of which are regulated in accordance with the depth or height of the note desired to be produced, and the result is a regular and perfect series of sustained musical sounds, peculiar in quality, but bearing some affinity to those elicited from an ordinary blast organ under the influence of the sectional or Gamba stop. The pyrophon at present on view at Baden-Baden has a compass of only two octaves and a half, and considerable force is requisite to manipulate the keyboard, owing to the weight of the gas pipes set in motion by each pressure necessary to the production of a note. Some of its glass pipes are eight feet long, and the maximum length of the sound-generating flame admitted to them is sixteen inches. The effect of a performance upon this curious instrument, which fills the room in which it is set up with light as well as sound of a strange and unearthly character, is described in German musical journals as extremely impressive.—*Musical World.*

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Farm and Garden Notes.

Pure milk condensed to one-third will remain sweet from five to ten days in warm weather.

Temper in animals is hereditary as well as in man; it is not desirable to breed from a vicious sire.

Good milk requires good, sound food, and a large yield of milk requires a large supply of good, sound food.

Harness oil made of one gallon of neatsfoot oil, with four ounces of lampblack, well mixed, is simple and effective.

The man whose watering-trough is not dry, and whose stock can drink their fill under cover, has much to be thankful for.

Spent tan bark has been plowed into a compact clay soil with the best results, as it rendered the soil mellow and increased its warmth.

Pastures that have been fed a few seasons will generally produce more milk, or make more fat, than those which have been newly seeded down.

Charred corn is one of the best things which can be fed to hens to make them lay. It must not be fed as a regular diet, but in limited quantities each day.

To heavily feed a cow of some milking capacity is very poor economy. Rich food will produce good results when fed to cows that give large quantities of rich milk.

A teaspoonful of powdered charcoal a quart of bran, and refuse from the table, mixed and moistened with warm water, are the ingredients of a capital egg-producing food for hens.

Soils are improved by mixing. The physical properties of the soil have an important influence upon its average fertility. The admixture of pure sand with clay soil produces an alteration which is often beneficial, and which is almost wholly physical. The sand opens the pores of the clay and makes it more permeable to the air.

Flak is a crop which would follow a clean cultivated crop of sugar beets or mangels. It can only be grown to advantage on well fertilized lands.

Mr. W. W. Higbee, Charlotte, Vt., writes to the *American Cultivator* that the dry summer of 1880 demonstrated in his neighborhood that animals had better go short of food, with plenty of pure water, than run in grass knee-deep with half enough to drink. "In many instances in pastures where there was lack of water, young stock and beeves actually grew poor, and did not command as much in the fall as they would have brought in the spring."

Household Hints.

In icing cakes, the knife should be frequently dipped into cold water.

Cool rainwater and soda will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

Parsley eaten with vinegar will remove the unpleasant effects of eating onions.

If your coal fire is low, a tablespoonful of salt thrown on it will help it very much.

Oil-cloth should be cleaned with milk and water; a brush and soap will ruin it.

A teaspoonful of turpentine boiled with your white clothes will aid the whitening process.

Cakes, puddings, etc., are improved by making the currants, sugar and flour hot before using.

A spoonful of stewed tomatoes in the gravy of either roasted or fried meat is an improvement.

In boiling meat for soup cold water should be used to extract the juices. If the meat is wanted for itself alone, plunge in boiling water at once.

Water standing for a night in a close or crowded room absorbs the impure air, and becomes very unwholesome and positively injurious to health. Be careful not to use water that has stood in a lead pipe.

All sorts of vessels and utensils may be purified from long retained smells of every kind, in the easiest and most perfect manner, by rinsing them out well with charcoal powder, after the grosser impurities have been scoured off with sand and water.

In washing oil-cloths, as we have before advised, never use any soap or a scrub brush. It will destroy an oil-cloth, that should last for years, in a short time. Use instead warm water and a soft cloth or flannel, and wipe off with water and skim-milk.

Tea drinkers nowadays will do well to apply the following simple tests to the tea purchased of their grocers. Turn out the infused leaves, and if they are found a good brown color, with fair substance, the tea will be wholesome; but if the leaves are black and of a rotten texture, with an oily appearance, the tea will not be fit to drink. The purer the tea the more the distinctively brown color of the leaf strikes the attention. The mixing that is frequently adopted to reduce prices results in the two kinds of leaves being supplied together. It is important to see that the leaves have the serrated or saw-like edges, without which no tea is genuine.

Esquimaux Women.

Among Esquimaux women, punishment for wrong-doing, says a recent writer, is almost unheard of, and as for striking a male child, all would recoil from such a thought with horror. The male child, and especially the heir, is a prince in his own family circle. Everything is deferred to his wishes, unless he can be persuaded to surrender it. With female children it is different. They must submit to every act of tyranny on the part of their brothers at once, or feel the weight of a parent's hand. Nothing would seem more abhorrent to an Esquimaux mind than the thought of striking a man or boy, but to strike a woman or girl is, on the contrary, quite proper, and indeed laudable. They say it is a proper thing to whip women; "it makes them good." I have often talked with them about it, and tried to explain that it was regarded by white people as cowardly to strike a defenseless creature, but this was utterly beyond their comprehension. They could understand that it would be wrong to strike a male, but a female—that was an entirely different thing.

The Esquimaux are polygamists, no distinction whatever being placed upon the number of wives a man shall have. I have never, however, known of any instance of one having more than two at a time. This is very common, however, especially among the Iwilliks and Kinnepatoos, where there is a surplus of women. At least half of their married men have two wives. Every woman is married as soon as she arrives at a marriageable age, and whenever a man dies his wife is taken by some one else, so that with them old maids and widows are unknown. Instances of polygamy are not so common among the Netchillik nation for the reason, it is said that they have a custom that prevents the accumulation of women. Their neighbors say that they kill their female babes as soon as born. The first is usually allowed to live, and one other may stand some chance, but that ends the matter. Squeesik, one of our hunters on the sledge journey, who is himself a Netchillik, denies this charge of female heroidism. He told me that it used to be the custom with his people, or some of them at any rate, but that they do not do so any more. I know that he has two daughters, one of whom was born within a few days' march of Depot island, on our return trip, and has no son.

Mr. Winans, the son of the late Baltimore millionaire, lives in great splendor in England, having one of the most magnificent places in London, and, with one exception, the finest deer park in Scotland, which is kept up in royal style. He has a morbid dread of the sea, and says nothing would tempt him to cross it again, and neither of his two ons has ever been in America. His income is nearly $1,000,000 a year, with a prospect of trebling it in ten years. He spends his money lavishly, but himself cares for nothing but engineering.

ROASTED ALIVE.

The Ghastly Show Viewed by a Mob on Tyburn Hill—How Katherine Hayes Perished—A Murder Which a Bungling Hangman More than Punished—A Queer Subject for a Comic Song.

There are few records in the annals of crime which exhibit so striking a chain of horrible circumstances, overtaken by "God's revenge against murder," as the case of Katherine Hayes, who was executed for the murder of her husband in the year 1726.

Hayes, who was possessed of some little property, lived with his wife Katherine in Tyburn, now Oxford road. Mrs. Hayes prevailed upon two men, named Billings (who lodged in the house) and Wood, a friend of Hayes, to assist her in murdering her husband. To facilitate that object, Hayes was induced to drink the enormous quantity of seven bottles (at that time full quarts) of mountain wine, beside other intoxicating drinks.

After finishing the second bottle he fell on the floor, but soon after arose and threw himself on a bed. There, while in a state of stupefaction, he was dispatched by Billings and Wood striking him on the head with a hatchet.

The murderers then held a council as to the best mode of concealing their crime, and it was determined that they should mutilate and dispose of the body. They cut off the head, Mrs. Hayes holding the pail to catch the blood, and she proposed that the head should be boiled till the flesh came from the skull. The advice was rejected on account of the time which the process would occupy, and Billings and Wood carried the head in the pail (it was at night) to the Horse-ferry at Westminster, and there cast it into the Thames. On the following day the murderers separated the limbs from the body, and wrapping them together with the trunk, in two blankets, carried them to Marylebone fields, and placed them in a pond.

Hayes' head, not having been carried away by the tide, as the murderers expected it would have been, was found floating at the Horse-ferry in the morning. The attention of the authorities was drawn to the circumstance, and the magistrates being of opinion that a murder had been committed, caused the head to be washed and the hair combed out, and then had it placed on a pole and exposed to public view in St. Martin's churchyard, in the hope that it might lead to the discovery of the suspected crime. Great crowds of persons of all ranks flocked to St. Martin's churchyard to see the head, and among the rest a young man named Bennett, who, perceiving the likeness to Hayes, whom he knew, immediately towards to Mrs. Hayes on the subject; but she assured him that her husband was alive and well, which satisfied him. A journeyman tailor named Patrick also went to see the head, and on his return told his fellow-workmen that it was Hayes'. These workmen, who had also known Hayes, then went to look at the head, and felt the same conviction.

It happened that Billings worked at the same shop in which these men were employed in Monmouth street, and when he came to work next morning they told him the circumstance. Billings, however, lulled their suspicions by declaring that he had left Mr. Hayes at home that morning. After the head had been exhibited for four days in the churchyard, the magistrates caused it to be placed in spirits, in a glass vessel, and in that state it continued to be exposed to public view. Two friends of Hayes, named Ashley and Longmore, who had seen the head, without imagining that it was his, some time after called on Mrs. Hayes, on separate occasions, to inquire for her husband, whose absence began to be noticed. Ashley and Longmore were mutual friends, and their suspicions being excited by the contradictory statements which Mrs. Hayes had given to them, they went to look again at the head; when a minute examination satisfied them that it had belonged to Hayes. The apprehension of the murderers was the result. On the day they were brought up for examination the trunk and limbs of the murdered man were found. Wood and Billings confessed and pleaded guilty. Katherine Hayes put herself on her country, was tried and convicted. Wood died in prison. Billings was hanged in Marylebone fields, near the pond in which Hayes' body had been concealed. Katherine Hayes was executed at Tyburn, under circumstances of great horror; for, in consequence of the fire reaching the executioner's hands, he left his hold of the rope with which he ought to have strangled the criminal, before he had executed that part of his duty, and the result was that Katherine Hayes was burned alive.

The wretched woman was seen, in the midst of flames, pushing the blazing faggots from her, while she yelled in agony. Fresh faggots were piled around her, but a considerable time elapsed before her torments ended. She suffered on the third of November, 1726.

This tragedy forms the subject of a comic ballad, which is attributed to Swift, and gave to Thackeray the plot for his burlesque novel, "Katerine."

True Beauty.

The *Sunday-School Times* says: One of the lessons we cannot fully learn, save by experience, is that no beauty of face or grace can be half so fair as the beauty which we may see in a careworn cheek or a wrinkled brow. Such a statement as this is as old as humanity, but its truth, after all, never really takes possession of the mind until it has been implanted there by experience itself. When we ourselves have come to note, in the countenance of some one we hold dear, marks of suffering and patience and helpfulness and inward victory—marks which have grown deeper, perhaps, for our own sake—then we see in them a beauty beside which the face of a Venus of Milo or a Murillo's Virgin seems deformity itself. One of our American poets has written a touching lyric on "The Bonnie Brown Hand," in which he celebrates the beauty of a hand worn with loving toi as fairer far than any other could possibly be to him. When this sense really comes to us, of the beautiful and the true in that which is no longer fresh and unwrinkled, but is marked with the glory-badge of trial and triumph, then we may know that our own lives have become the richer, because we are at length able to apprehend that beauty which time can but increase year by year.

The Work of the New Census.

A Washington correspondent writes: Few people who see the returns of the late census have an idea of the magnitude of the work of taking and publishing the same. The country was divided into 150 districts, over each of which was placed a supervisor to direct the work. The supervisors selected the enumerators, and there were of these 31,350. One hundred and fifty-seven persons were employed as interpreters. The preliminary work of getting the total count and the population of cities is finished and has been published. The census bureau, under General Francis A. Walker, is pushing the work of compiling the census, and the indications are that this year will see it finished. General Walker is more of a business man than the average government official. He will not nurse the job. Congress gave him discretionary power, and he showed his tact. Instead of having one high-priced politician, he hires two clerks, thus pushing the work to an early completion and saving money. On the first of February the commissions of over 300 clerks expired, and all were reappointed but eighteen, who were inefficient. The force in the census bureau, including all grades, now numbers 1,364, of which 610 are females. The average monthly outlay is $45,000.

At a sale of autograph letters and manuscript in Boston Edgar A. Poe brought $15 (a criticism of Irving); Hawthorne, $3.75; Burton, $1.05; E. L. Davenport, $2.25; Daniel Webster, $1.50; Franklin, $7; Jeff Davis, $1.05; Robert E. Lee, $1.75; General Robert Anderson, $2.80.

SPOOPENDYKE.

The Difficulties of a Witness.

"You must get around pretty early in the morning, my dear," said Mr. Spoopendyke, "I'm going to be a witness in court."

"Good gracious!" ejaculated Mrs. Spoopendyke, "what have you been doing?"

"What d'ye s'pose I've been doing? I've heard some things in a law case, and I've got to swear to them. You can't have a law case without witnesses, and I've got to be one to-morrow; so you hustle out in the morning and get my breakfast."

"They can't do anything to you, can they?" inquired Mrs. Spoopendyke, nervously.

"If I ain't there in time they can send me to jail," responded Mr. Spoopendyke, ominously, "and you'd better get me ready in time if you don't want to lose me," and Mr. Spoopendyke flopped into bed and went to sleep.

Mrs. Spoopendyke turned the clock ahead two hours, arranged her hair, and sat down to speculate on the chances of waking up at the proper moment. At first she concluded to stay up all night, but she began to get sleepy, and reflecting that if she fixed her mind on the hour she wanted to rise she'd be sure to wake up, she went to bed and to sleep simultaneously.

At half-past four she roused up with a terrible start.

"Wake up, my dear!" she exclaimed to her husband. "You've got to go a-witnessing in a case this morning. Hurry up or they'll put you in jail."

"Wah!" rejoined Mr. Spoopendyke. "What did the deed get mixed there with proof—ah!" and Mr. Spoopendyke was sound asleep again.

"You must get right up and go to court," said Mrs. Spoopendyke, firmly. "You know something about a law court, and you must get up right off."

"What's the matter?" propounded Mr. Spoopendyke, sitting up and glaring around him. "What day of the month is this? Who called Spoopendyke? I ain't slept a wink!" and Mr. Spoopendyke fell back on his pillow.

"You know you must go to the case," continued Mrs. Spoopendyke, "you've been appointed a witness and you must go and swear about it. Wake up or they'll arrest you."

"What case?" demanded Mr. Spoopendyke. "Who's arrested? Can't you let a man alone just as he is getting in a doze? What's the matter with you, anyway?"

"You wanted to get up early about that court. Come, get up now, or they'll send you to jail," and Mrs. Spoopendyke got up and lighted the gas and began dropping on her skirts.

"Who's going to court?" asked Mr. Spoopendyke, sitting up in bed. "Where is the court? Think any court wants me at five o'clock in the morning?"

"It's about a law case," said Mrs. Spoopendyke, cheerfully. "You know you are a witness. To think that I should live to be the wife of a witness!" and Mrs. Spoopendyke, firmly impressed that it was something in the nature of a foreign mission, gazed admiringly upon her husband.

"Dod gast the law case!" howled Mr. Spoopendyke, now thoroughly mad. "D'ye think a law case goes prowling around all night like a policeman? Got an idea that a judge is going to strap the court-house on his back and fetch it up at daylight to try a law case?"

"But you said you wanted to get up early," reasoned Mrs. Spoopendyke, "and it's pretty early now."

"D'ye suppose I wanted to get up at midnight to practice?" propounded Mr. Spoopendyke. "Think a law case is like a church sociable, the first man gets the best supper? Raps you were afraid if I didn't start early I wouldn't get a seat. The measly court don't meet till ten o'clock, dod gast it! and here you wake me up at four! What d'ye suppose a witness is, anyhow?" shouted Mr. Spoopendyke, getting madder. "Think he's a dark lantern, and goes around with his slide turned and the smoke coming out of the top? D'ye knowe what a court is?"

"Why, yes," said Mrs. Spoopendyke, "a court is where they hang people. Mrs. Mierhof—"

"That's it! You struck it first clip!" sputtered Mr. Spoopendyke. "With that information, all you want is a plug hat and an adjournment to be a lawyer. If I had your intelligence and a bald head I'd hire out for a judge at board wages. I tell ye a court is where they try cases about lands, and licking people, and contracts, and—and—divorce cases. Yes, indeed, they try divorce cases about women waking their husbands up in the dead of night."

"What kind of a law are you going o witness?"

"A daylight case! You understand that? At ten o'clock, and not five. Got that through your head? Think you can remember ten o'clock? If you can't, can you remember eleven, or noon?"

"Do they have cases every hour?" queried Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"Of course they do! They leave every fifteen minutes, like a ferryboat, and if I can't catch one case I'll witness in another. Got it now? Only they don't run as often from midnight to six. Begin to see into it?"

"I think I do," said Mrs. Spoopendyke, ruminating. "I was thinking that if one started about three o'clock I'd go and witness with you!"

"Oh! you'd make a witness!" proclaimed Mr. Spoopendyke. "With your capacity for observation and ability to recollect, you'd only want to appear twice to absorb the whole witness business," and with this reflection Mr. Spoopendyke went back to his slumbers.

At ten o'clock sharp his wife called him and notified him of the hour.

"How'm I going to get there in time? Why didn't you call me before? Want me sent to State prison for contempt? Want to get rid of me, don't you?" and Mr. Spoopendyke darted into his clothes.

"Don't you want some breakfast, my dear?" inquired Mrs. Spoopendyke, tenderly.

"No, I don't want any measly breakfast!" he shouted. "Didn't I tell ye I was a witness at ten, and now its half-past? Think a man is appointed a witness during good behavior? S'pose I hold the office till my successor is appointed?" and Mr. Spoopendyke plunged downstairs and out of the house.

"I only did what he told me," sighed Mrs. Spoopendyke, wetting a piece of court-plaster and patching up a hole in her silk dress. "Though I don't see any use of a man being a witness, if he can't be a witness when he wants to. If I were a man," she continued, as she flopped down on the floor to change her boots, I'd get appointed by the President, and then I could attend to business or not, as I liked." With which sage reflection Mrs. Spoopendyke pulled out her husband's socks and began to sew wens three inches in diameter on the heels.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

A Cunning Cat.

A gentleman who took a trip from Carson City, Nev., into the country, when on the plains, a mile from any house, noticed a cat, a huge one, almost as large as a fair-sized dog. It was lying upon the ground, its feet uppermost, in such a way that he had no doubt that it had fallen a victim to some vicious dog. Around it, feeding unsuspectingly, was a flock of young birds. The apparent lifeless cat was within range of the vision of the observer for some time, and just when he was thinking how much easier it would be for an animal to feign death and catch a bird by deceiving it than by slipping up to it, he was astonished to see the cat suddenly roll over and grab one of the feathered tribe that was very near. The other birds flew away a hundred yards or so and alighted. The cat only made one or two mouthfuls of the game, and then crept around to the windward of the birds, laid itself out again, and once more played successfully the dead dodge. The gentleman drove away without seeing how many birds it took to satisfy the feline.

NEWS EPITOME.

Eastern and Middle States.

F. A. McLain, twenty-three years old, of Beaver Falls, Pa., was driving in a sleigh containing 200 pounds of nitro-glycerine, when the horses became frightened and dashed the sleigh against a rock. The nitro-glycerine exploded, McLain was blown to atoms, the horses were killed, and not a vestige of the sleigh was left.

The bark Hazael, from Sierra Leone with hides for Boston, struck off Nantucket, Mass., and preparations were at once made by the crew to leave her, but having only one small boat the second mate, with six seamen, took to a raft. The captain, mate and two seamen reached shore in the boat with much difficulty, but the raft with all on board was lost.

Ice-boat racing is the great amusement of the day on the frozen Hudson. The ice-boats frequently attain the speed of an express train.

Dr. R. V. Pierce's mammoth hotel for invalids at Buffalo, N. Y., has been totally destroyed by fire. The flames broke out in the baggage-room in the sixth story, and as a fierce gale prevailed at the time the fire soon gained such proportions that all hopes of saving the building were abandoned. There were at the time only about eighty guests and boarders in the building, all of whom escaped. The total cost of the hotel, which was handsomely furnished throughout, was nearly $500,000.

The Adams (N. Y.) National bank has gone into liquidation, an examination of its affairs having disclosed a deficiency of $12,000.

While picking coal from the track Mrs. Joseph Mertz was killed and Mrs. Augustus Beers fatally injured by a gravel train near Allentown, Pa.

The Philadelphia municipal election this year was one of the most exciting ever held, the citizens' ticket being successful. Samuel G. King, Independent Democrat, indorsed by Independent Republicans, was elected mayor over Mr. Stokley, Republican, by 5,538 majority, and John Hunter, Independent Republican, indorsed by the Democrats, was elected receiver of taxes over George S. Pierie, Republican, by 26,000 majority.

Western and Southern States.

Hon. Fernando Wood, member of Congress from New York, died the other day at Hot Springs, Ark., aged sixty-nine years. Mr. Wood began business as a shipping merchant, and entered political life in 1840. He was elected to the Twenty-seventh Congress, was thrice mayor of New York, served in the Thirty-eighth and Fortieth Congresses, and sat continuously ever since. He was chairman of the ways and means committee of the Forty-fifth and Forty-sixth Congresses.

Dispatches received at the headquarters of the department of Dakota, from Poplar River and Buford, bring news of an extraordinary flood of water and ice. The Indian camps were flooded, and many Indians and several hundred ponies were drowned.

The loss in Toledo, Ohio, by the recent flood, aggregates the enormous sum of $2,000,000. Stores, warehouses and elevators were flooded, bridges broken and vessels cast adrift.

Smallpox has become epidemic at Cuba, Ill., and citizens are leaving that region.

A party of turpentine makers near Carthage, N. C., were asleep under a shed when a heavy wind-storm that had come up tore down the structure, precipitating the roof upon the sleeping men beneath. Five men were instantly killed and two were injured. To add to the horrors of the accident, a fire broke out among the ruins of the shed, and the two injured men received painful burns in addition to their other wounds, while the five corpses were burned to a crisp.

The recent heavy storms in the stock regions of the West have caused the death by cold or starvation of thousands of cattle. An observer in one case counted 590 dead cattle in sight of the railroad track for a distance of only nineteen miles.

In various sections of the West smallpox is spreading to an alarming extent. At Calliope, a small village in Illinois, there were sixteen cases; and when Rufus Stone, the editor of a local paper, died, the fear of the contagion was so great that none could be prevailed upon to bury him. Five dollars a day for nurses were offered in vain. At Chicago the disease is also spreading rapidly.

A bill has been introduced in the Ohio legislature to punish wife-beaters by whipping them.

The Valley Bank of Kansas City, Mo., has failed.

Another marriage by telegraph is reported, the bride and bridegroom being at different points in Dakota, while the clergyman stood at the wire in Bismarck and performed the ceremony. The questions and answers were written, telegraphed and responded to, and a blessing pronounced in the usual form.

Petitions with 200,000 signatures have been sent to the North Carolina legislature for a prohibitory liquor law.

Five colored men were on trial at Springfield, Tenn., for the murder of a Mr. Laprade. The judge had delivered his charge to the jury and the prisoners had been given to the sheriff, who was about to start to the jail with them, when a large number of men, as if by previous understanding, rushed upon the sheriff and seized the prisoners. With a yell they started out of the court-room, despite the obstacles put in their way by the posse employed to guard the prisoners. The mob ran over the officers as if they were so many jackstraws. By this time every corridor of the court-house was packed and jammed with people, while a regular fusillade of shots was fired upward as an intimidation to those who should dare to follow them and attempt to rescue the prisoners. The crowd in the court-room, which had been listening to the argument of counsel, jumped from the windows to the ground and rushed in every direction. The mob hurried to the second story of the court-house, put nooses already prepared for the purpose around their necks and swung them over. No one outside of those engaged in the lynching was permitted to come near where the negroes were hung until they were dead.

The city council of Denver, Col., has accepted a proposition for lighting the entire city with the Brush electric light for two years at $14,000 per annum. The light to be furnished is guaranteed to be four times greater in the aggregate than could be furnished by the same number of gas lamps.

From Washington.

The House committee on war claims agreed to report favorably to the House a bill appropriating $103,000 for the payment of claims reported allowed by the commissioners of claims under the act of Congress of March 3, 1871. It embraces ninety-three claims of persons residing in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The President has signed the pardons of Samuel S. Bisinger, George T. Bisinger and Herman E. Kickler, of Illinois, who were indicted for conspiracy to defraud the internal revenue. The pardons are conditional.

The President sent a message to the Senate withdrawing the nomination of George H. Forster as United States attorney for the southern district of New York.

The census office announces the following approximate distribution of the total population of the country among the several classes: Males, 25,520,582; females, 24,632,284; natives of the United States, 43,475,866; foreign born, 6,677,360; whites, 43,404,877; colored, 6,577,151; Indians and half-breeds not in tribal relations on reservations under the care of the government, 65,122; Chinese, 105,463; other Asiatics, 255. The number of colored persons to each 100,000 whites is 15,153, against 14,528 in 1870. The number of females to every 100,000 males is 96,519, against 97,801 in 1870. The number of foreign-born persons to every 100,000 natives is 15,859, against 16,875 in 1870.

The national board of health has submitted to the secretary of the treasury its annual report for 1880, embodying a special statement for the six months ending December 31, 1880, which shows that the aggregate expenditures for that period were $88,126. The total amount expended from the date of organization has been $364,035. An appropriation of $203,219 is required to meet the estimated expenses of the board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882. The report congratulates the country upon the general results of the labors of the board since it went into operation in April, 1879.

Foreign News

The postponed rowing match on the Thames between Hanlan, of Canada, and Laycock, of Australia, was won easily by the former, who was five lengths ahead at the finish.

A disturbance in Crete, Greece, between the populace and the gendarmerie resulted in the shooting of several persons.

The freedom of the city of London—an honor rarely bestowed—and a sword have been presented to General Roberts for his services as commander of the British troops in Afghanistan.

At a meeting of the Irish land league in Dublin a letter from Mr. Parnell was read advising the tenant farmers to remain firm, announcing his early return to parliament and the intention of the leaders to appeal to the laboring classes of England and Scotland.

Trouble of a serious kind has broken out between the Christians and Turks in Beyrout, Syria. A Turk murdered a Christian on a recent Sunday, and a number of Christians thereupon left town and went to their villages, where they were met by Turks, and ten persons were killed in a fight which ensued. Business in Beyrout was suspended, and the bazars were closed.

A Hungarian crime has just been committed near Cambrai, France. A little girl of thirteen years was walking along the country road when she was stopped by two ruffians, who, after robbing her of her purse, put her eyes out with a pair of scissors. The victim died soon after in horrible agony.

Edwin Booth, the American tragedian, is enthusiastically praised by the London press for his performance in "King Lear."

A dispatch from Edinburg gives the details of a great meeting of Highlanders to protest against the abolition of the "tartan." The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburg and all of the Scotch nobility have agreed to petition the queen to stop the change. The people throughout Scotland are intensely excited over the proposed change.

Ayoob Khan has taken up arms again against the ameer of Afghanistan.

General Skobeleff, commander of the Russian troops operating against the Turcomans in Central Asia, reports that the country is being rapidly pacified.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

The credentials of Senators re-elected, Messrs. Francis M. Cockrell, of Missouri, and Henry L. Dawes, of Massachusetts, were read and presented.... An extraordinary large number of petitions from temperance organizations of many States for a constitutional amendment to prohibit the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic beverages was presented. The petitions took the usual course, and were referred to the committee on finance.... Mr. Sanders, from the committee, reported favorably the bill establishing the Territory of Pembina from the northern part of Dakota.... The postal appropriation bill was passed with amendments.... A message from the House, announcing the death of Mr. Fernando Wood, was received, and as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased man the Senate adjourned.

Mr. Pendleton, from the select committee on civil service, reported a bill to regulate and improve the civil service of the United States. Placed on the calendar.... Mr. Eaton reported a resolution emphatically affirming that the consent of the United States is necessary to the building of any interoceanic canal across the Isthmus of Panama, and also as to the rules and regulations under which other nations shall participate in the use of such canal.

The amendment of the Senate committee to the funding bill, fixing the rate of interest at three and a half instead of three per cent. as fixed by the House, was rejected by a vote of 33 nays to 22 yeas. The House amendment that the bonds payable semi-annually was agreed to, as was the amendment to create a 5-20 instead of a 5-10 loan. Other amendments were voted upon, after which the bill was reported from committee of the whole to the Senate.... Mr. Voorhees offered a resolution, which was agreed to, instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the best method of protecting innocent purchasers from the impositions practiced by the fraudulent venders of patents and patent rights, and report by bill or otherwise.

After further amendments to the funding bill had been voted upon the bill was passed substantially as it came from the House, except that a 5-20 instead of a 5-10 bond is provided for. It provides for three per cent. bonds and treasury notes in the proportion of $100,000,000 of bonds and $300,000,000 of treasury notes. The bonds are to run twenty years, redeemable after five years. The commissions for the expense of placing the loan, etc., were increased from one-quarter to one-half of one per cent.

House.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Cox to admit free of duty articles intended for the international exhibition of 1883. Also, in relation to the international exhibition of 1883. [It authorizes the President, whenever he shall deem the preparations which have been made therefor adequate, to invite, in the name of the United States, all foreign governments to be represented at and to take part in the international exhibition to be held at New York in 1883; provided, that the United States shall not be liable, directly or indirectly, for any expenses attending such exhibition.— On motion of Mr. Goode the Senate amendments to the joint resolution authorizing the President to invite the government and people of France to join the government and people of the United States in celebrating the centennial anniversary of the surrender of Cornwallis were concurred in.... The speaker announced the death of Mr. Fernando Wood, of New York, and after appropriate resolutions had been offered and a committee appointed to superintend the funeral ceremonies, the House, as a mark of respect to the deceased, adjourned.

The Senate bill was passed for the remitting of duties on an object of art awarded by the Berlin international fishery commission to Professor S. F. Baird.... The postoffice appropriation bill, with Senate amendments, was referred to the committee on appropriations.... The House then sat far into the night on the river and harbor appropriation bill, which was taken up items.

Mr. Blount reported from the appropriations committee the sundry civil appropriation bill, which appropriates $19,921,000. Printed and recommitted.... The river and harbor appropriation bill, which appropriates about $10,000,000, was passed.... The speaker laid before the House a message from the President transmitting the report of the secretary of state in relation to the resolution of the House on the thirty-first of January last, on the subject of international action for the restoration of silver to its full use as money. The President says the prospect of an international conference on this subject, upon a satisfactory basis for the interests of this country, is such that he recommends to the immediate attention of Congress the propriety of an appropriation providing for the proper representation of the government at such conference. The message was referred.

Mr. Covert explained the provisions of the agricultural appropriation bill. The amount appropriated was $222,000, an increase of $35,000 over the appropriation for the present year. One of the items leading to this increase was the enlarged amount which had been appropriated for the continuance of the experiments in sorghum.... Mr. Hurd gave notice that he would offer an amendment providing for a statistician and statistical officers in the agricultural department, and requiring that officer to make a report as to the effect the customs and revenue laws would, if continued in force, have hereafter on the agricultural people of the country; whether or not, if such laws have been to increase or diminish the price of American agricultural products in foreign markets; what effect they have had on the price of clothing and of agricultural goods in this country; and whether or not the wages of farm-laborers and the profits of persons engaged in agriculture have been affected by such laws, and, if so, in what way and to what extent.

Bibliomania.

Bibliomania originated in the Netherlands at the close of the sixteenth century, whence it spread to England, raging violently there, and more recently appearing in France and this country. The Bible has attracted any number of collectors. The British museum has the largest lot of different editions, though the late James Lenox, founder of the Lenox library in New York, nearly equaled it. The highest price ever paid for a single volume was at the sale of the Duke of Roxburghe's library in London (1812), when the Marquis of Blandford, in a spirited competition with Lord Spencer, paid for a copy of the first edition of the "Decameron," published at Venice by Valdarfer in 1471, a sum nearly equal to $11,300 of our money. When the marquis' library was put up at auction, Lord Spencer tried again, and secured the precious tome for about $4,600, about $6,000 less than he had bidden seven years before. Nasser-ed-deen, Shah of Persia, has an edition of the "Arabian Nights" on which artists worked under his special direction for ten or twelve years, until it cost $100,000. Henri Boulard, literary executor of La Harpe, spent a fortune in buying editions of Racine. Soleinnes gathered all the dramatic pieces that had ever been presented, going so far as to purchase books in languages which he could not read. A well-known New Yorker gave, some years since, $2,500 for a copy of the Mazarin Bible, supposed to have been printed in 1455. The favorite books of bibliomaniacs have been Delphini and first editions of the classics, editions that appeared in the infancy of typography, (incunabula,) works of the Elzevirs, of Aldus; Comino, of Padua; Bodoni, Mattaire, Foulis, and Bardon. There is no end to the vagaries of book fanciers. The defects of volumes became as great an inducement to ownership as any beauties. Dibdin (Thomas F.,