FOR THE LADIES.

The Russian Priest's Wife.

There is only one happy woman in Russia; it is the priest's wife; and it is a common mode of expression to say, "as happy as a priest's wife." The reason why she is happy is because her husband's position depends upon her. If she dies he is deposed, and becomes a mere layman; his property is taken away from him, and distributed, half to his children and half to the government. This dreadful contingency makes the Russian priest careful to get a healthy wife, if he can, and makes him take extraordinary good care of her after he has got her. He waits upon her in the most abject way. She must never get her feet wet, and she is petted and put in hot blankets if she has so much as a cold in her head. It is the greatest possible good fortune for a girl to marry a priest, infinitely better than to be the wife of a noble.

Women of Many Husbands.

It is asserted that a lady in Calhoun county, Ill., although seventy years old, has recently married her sixth husband. Her last deceased husband was named Race, and the man she has just married is named Farris. A romantic feature of her last matrimonial venture is the fact that Mr. Farris was her first love, but cruel fate intervened and prevented their union. All her dead husbands are buried in the family graveyard upon the farm on which she resides, and her present husband, as he counts the green mounds, will have ample opportunity to reflect on the uncertainty of married life. Of another woman, living in Georgia, it is related that she has had five husbands. She married four widowers in succession. The first widower lived one and a half miles from the lady, when she was a widow; the second, third and fourth lived about the same distance from one another, so that she had in turn charge of each of the residences, and she is now living happily with her fifth husband within seven miles of her original home.

Fashions in Round Hats.

The most picturesque round hats for dressy wear at summer watering-places are of the open lace straws, with wide brim rolled up on the right side, or else just above the forehead. They have the trimming massed inside the brim, and consisting of shirred or plaited surah, either pale blue or cream, and some short nodding plumes falling over the brim at the top, and a longer plume curling down the left side, or else a wreath of crushed flowers without leaves takes the place of feathers. Outside, the hat is almost without trimming, having perhaps a single long-looped bow of satin ribbon low down on the left of the crown, or a butterfly that looks as fine as a jeweled brooch; or perhaps a long pin with an Egyptian head is thrust through the right side, or, it may be, the ribbon that forms strings crosses below the crown, and is fastened each side by a dragon-fly pierced by a pin; or, stranger still, the strings are held by gray or silver heads of wire terriers with tinted glass eyes. Very large ox-eyed daisies form charms or wreaths for the front of such hats.

For more general use are rough straw round hats with higher conical crowns and wide flat brims, trimmed with pompons and cords outside, or else a folded bayadere-striped handkerchief, or some short ostrich tips, eight of which surround the crown, spreading out on the brim. Sometimes eight or ten pompons of red, or black or cream white silk are around the crown; on others there are but two pompons, with a cord of steel or of gilt laid around in two or three rows. The flat brim is faced with velvet of becoming color, and may be studded with jet or steel balls near the edge, or else a row of steel or gold lace finishes it. Another becoming fashion easily copied is that of turning the wide brim back on top and making it flare slightly on the sides, then covering it with a wreath of soft crushed roses, which is in its turn covered by a wide scarf of black Spanish lace, and letting the lace fall over on the crown sufficiently for trimming, and then form strings that drape the sides with the effect of the Spanish mantilla. The coronet round hat has steel lace sewed at the top of the coronet so that its pointed edges fall toward the face. The flaring hats are worn very far back on the head, while the coronet hat is placed further forward, and gives a very broad effect. The poke bonnets are sometimes so shaped that they may poke downward toward the nose and thus afford protection from the sun, and save the eyes, as the excellent English walking hats formerly did.

Round hats for little girls have shapes similar to those just described with the wide brim turned back on the top, and are of either rough straws or fine Tuscans. Pompons of white silk and bows of long loops of white satin ribbon are the trimmings; the dark velvet linings for brims frame childish faces becomingly, and the daisy clusters at the top remain the most popular flowers for them. Dark rough straw hats with dark pompons and cords are for general wear, while large conical poke shapes are shown in Tuscan braids for dressy occasions; the latter have white plumes and white satin ribbons, and there are also little pokes of white plaited lace, with flowers for trimming. Larger girls and misses in their teens will wear the poke shapes that are so becoming to youthful faces.—*Bazar.*

Fashion Notes.

A decided change in grenadines will be made the coming season.

The rage for Japanese figured stuffs for dresses is on the increase.

All new collars, whether of linen, batiste, mull or lace, are large.

Drop ball trimmings are used for trimming satin foulard dresses.

Loose light curls at the back of the head are much worn by young girls.

Low-necked linings are used in the lace dresses made for this summer.

The lace straw bonnets are open-worked and require a colored lining.

Tunic jackets with wide cascades of lace are much worn in the morning.

Strong contrasts of color are observable in most of the new satin costumes.

Some of the new polonaises are made with full, panier-like draperies over the hips.

The favorite designs for steel lace are similar to those for point and Torchon lace.

The real novelty in ribbons is the double-woven ribbon without selvage or seam.

Steel is used to trim rather simple jackets as well as those of rich material.

Steel is much used in decorating laces, passementeries, guages and trimmings.

Normandy bonnets of the most primitive shape are among the summer millinery.

Velvet collars, cuffs, bow for the waist and bands for the hair now come in sets.

Lace and flounces alternate with muslin plaitings on the summer dresses.

Shirred effects in skirt draperies appear on the most fashionable imported dresses.

Ombre satins de Lyon grow more and more popular for both dresses and bonnets.

Gingham and momie cloth parasols, to match suits, will be much used this summer.

The shirring on the front and sides of skirts is to be in horizontal rows half an inch apart.

A dash of yellow, blue or red is deemed essential to the finish of all dark toilets.

Fine velveteen is combined with the black and white checked silks used for summer costumes.

Little soft loose rings of hair falling over the forehead are taking the place of the long-favored bangs.

High neck ruches of black lace and white lace plaited together are very fashionable and exceedingly becoming.

A novelty in English straw bonnets is in poke or coal-scuttle shape, with a brim in caleche style, formed by turned up braids of the straw.

Some of the black open straws in bonnets are so fine that they look like thread lace. Other designs are in imitation of Torchon lace.

Albatross cloth robes in full shades of color, cream and pure white, are tastefully embroidered in Oriental colors and designs with floss silks.

A new sort of trimming is made by shirring satin, doubling the material where the thread is run so as to produce the effect of alternate tucks and puffs.

The favorite shape for tea gowns of ceremony is the loose dolman, visite, like sack with elbow sleeves, worn over a richly-trimmed demi-trained skirt.

The gowns are made of the most costly brocades and gauzes enriched with silver, gold and steel threads, and trimmed with laces, fringes and tassels to match.

The Wolf and the Hares--A Fable.

Once upon a time there was a certain colony of Hares, with plenty to eat, lots of time for recreation, and perfect harmony between them. No colony could have been better situated, but one day a Wolf stalked in among them, and began:

"What do I see here? You seem happy, but you are not. You appear prosperous, but you are really in a starving condition. You look sleek, but that is all outward appearance. I tell you, you are in a bad way, and if something is not speedily done you will be no better off than caitiffs and slaves."

The Hares were dumb with astonishment, and it was some time before the leader could ask for an explanation.

"Why," replied the Wolf, "the owner of this land has gone and fenced you out of at least half your former territory.

"But he owns it all and has a right to do with his own as pleases him best," said the Hare.

"No he hasn't! When his rights conflict with yours he must be put down."

"But he allows us plenty of room as it is; and having been our friend in our days of weakness, we should not turn upon him in our strength."

The Wolf argued and the Hare protested, but the Wolf finally made a part of the colony believe that they were terribly oppressed and badly stepped upon, and he set them up to demand more territory. When the old Hare saw them about to depart he said:

"You had better let well enough alone. In seeking to grasp too much you may lose all. We have lived here in peace and plenty for years, even when it was hard for the owner to pay taxes and keep this land out of market. Be satisfied that we have had all we earned."

His words fell upon the air. The Wolf, too lazy to work, and too unprincipled to get credit, had thoroughly excited the Hares, and away they went.

"What!" exclaimed the owner after they had stated their grievance—"are you not satisfied with free rent for half my land?"

"But we are oppressed!" shouted a Hare.

"How? Have you not shared my prosperity?"

"Yes."

"Haven't you been well fed?"

"Yes, but we want our rights."

"What are they?"

"We want more room."

"But I can't spare it. Even now I am giving you more than I can well spare."

"Well, we must either have more room or else we shall leave. We will not be oppressed and enslaved."

The Farmer could grant no more room, and the Hares at once withdrew from the lands. In a week, after enduring cold and hunger and discomforts they returned to the colony.

"You are not wanted here," said the old Hare, as he met them. "You are too conceited, too selfish to respect the rights of others, and we could not live in harmony."

The Hares then went to the Farmer, and he replied: "You were not satisfied with half, and so you shall have none; go where you will."

The Hares wandered over the country, hungry and dejected, and one day met the Wolf and upbraided him for their condition.

"You go to grass!" was his sturdy reply. "You knew me for a lazy, seditious Wolf, and if you were fools enough to obey my advice you must take the consequences. By setting you against the Farmer I set you against each other, and now why you recriminate I will indulge in rabbit pie!"

MORAL:

Rabbit pie is good—when you aren't the rabbit.—*Detroit Free Press.*

HEALTH HINTS.

Every one should know that a prompt shock of electricity will restore a person to conciousness who is dying from the effects of chloroform.

Sick headache can often be greatly relieved and sometimes entirely cured, by the application of a mustard-plaster at the base of the neck.

A medical journal of Munich says that diphtheria caught by kissing is likely to assume a much severer form than if the disease were contracted or the contagion imparted in any other way.

Smallpox is cured by Mexican doctors in three days, and no marks left, by treating the patients to cold drinks of cream tartar and water. The cream tartar is first dissolved in boiling water. The Mexican method is worth looking into.

As every particle of food must be acted upon by the gastric juice, or some of it will be troublesome, afterward, it stands to reason that the finer food is cut, chewed, masticated, the more easily and perfectly will it dissolve or be digested. Meats, vegetables, any food masticated as fine as small shot, will certainly be digested far more easily and very much sooner than if it goes down in lumps as large as buckshot, or chestnuts, or walnuts. Masticate the food fine in the mouth, and wix it well there with saliva.

All heat or warmth in the body comes from food oxidized, slowly burned in the body, just as much and in about the same way that heat in the stove or furnace comes from fuel oxidized or burned there. Warmth is always escaping from the body, unless it is in an atmosphere nearly up to 100° of heat. Warm clothing, warm houses, stalls, sheds, that prevent the rapid escape of heat save the necessity of taxing the stomach to digest an excessive amount of food (fuel) to keep up the heat of the body, human or brute.

Sunflowers for Fuel.

Says the Nelsonville (Minn.) *Mountaineer:* The Emerson *International* publishes an article headed "Corn for Fuel," and gives an extract from the Jackson *Republican* showing that for heating purposes corn is much cheaper than wood. We have always been of the opinion that a much more economical fuel than wood can be grown by prairie farmers, but doubt if corn can be made a success in this country. We recollect seeing an article some time ago recommending the growth of the common garden sunflower for purposes of fuel, and at the time were much impressed with the arguments advanced. We believe that some such rapidly growing and bulky vegetable as the sunflower is the true solution of the fuel question in this country. The seed of sunflower abounds in oil of a very combustible nature, and the stalks burn freely. An immense quantity can be grown to the acre, and the plant is thoroughly adapted to our soil and climate. Mr. William Cowan, of this place, had a patch a few years ago that exactly resembled a grove of young forest trees. The stalks were stout and straight as young poplars, and shot up to a height of from twelve to fifteen feet.

The man who digs ditches gets spade will for his work.—*Salem Sunbeam.*

FACTS AND COMMENTS.

During and including the past four years the United States has produced in the aggregate 20,131,471 bales of cotton, 914,500,000 pounds of wool, 1,713,922,899 bushels of wheat, 5,816,214,440 bushels corn, and has exported $46,806,331 in live stock and $1,427,317,292 in other food.

In the cabooses attached to freight trains on the Erie railroad there is placed an automatic contrivance called the "tell-tale," which registers all the stoppages and the rate of speed over every foot of the road. Freight trains are not allowed to run more than fifteen miles an hour, and if this speed is exceeded the fact is at once disclosed on inspection of the apparatus.

The wife of a clergyman in Des Moines, Ia., has a Sunday-school which is not attended by children, as might have been supposed, but by "business men, professional men and thinkers." The class has become so large that it has been found necessary to take it into the body of the church, where it forms a small congregation of itself. This looks very much like the wife's running an opposition to her husband.

Carelessness, says James Harrison, secretary of the New York underwriters' bureau of survey, is the great cause of fires. In seven years, 1874 to 1880, inclusive, New York city had 6,188 fires. Two out of five, 2,579, were due to hot ashes, pipes, cigars, matches and candles; nearly another fifth, 938, sprang from foul chimneys, 477 from defective flues, and 578 from kerosene lamps. Extra-hazardous inflammable materials lead to comparatively few fires.

The alarming statement is now made, on the authority of a New York physician of more than forty years' practice, that for the first time in the history of that city true spotted typhus fever, which only originates where great filth abounds, has made its appearance without being traced to importation in the shape of ship fever. This is an announcement which is well calculated to intensify the excitement regarding the terrible filth of the streets of the metropolis.

Since the assassination of the czar extraordinary precautionary measures have been taken to secure the safety of Queen Victoria while traveling by railway. During a recent journey to London a train of empty carriages was run about a quarter of an hour in advance of the queen's special train, which it piloted throughout the trip from Windsor to Paddington, while the entire distance between the Windsor terminus and the metropolis was guarded by platelayers stationed at regular intervals along the route, and well within sight of each other.

An interesting paper has been recently read by Dr. Phene, at Edinburg, on the benefits to be derived from planting trees in cities. Among the beneficial results to be attained are, he stated, the relief to the optic nerve, through the eye resting on objects of a green color. Just that which is effected by the use of green or blue glasses in strengthening and sustaining the power of sight is attained, or at any rate much aided, by the presence of green in nature; and in streets the only method to procure this result is by planting trees. It was pointed out by the author that wherever opportunity exists nature provides green and blue (the latter being the same color minus the presence of yellow), and that as the absence of color produces snow blindness, and in tropical calms, where the ocean presents only a white reflected light from a uniform glassy surface, reduced optical power soon follows a long continuance of the absence of blue color, which becomes immediately apparent on motion of the waves.

They have in Vienna an organization for the preservation of the public health which watches closely the articles sold for food, and from time to time has samples chemically analyzed. Investigations of this character were conducted on an extensive scale during the past year. Of milk, 950 specimens were analyzed. Most of it had been skimmed and diluted with water; some had come from diseased cows, and some was thickened with borax, soda and soap. Butter was analyzed to the extent of 310 samples. All of it contained an excessive proportion of water, and much of it was adulterated with fat, lard or stearine. Lard coming from America and Hungary had borax and lime. Of 1,190 specimens of Hungarian and Austrian wine fifty-two were artificial concoction. Artificial coloring matter and excessive proportions of water were found in many. Pilsner beer contained soda and Vienna beer glycerine. Of liquors, seventy-two had traces of arsenic or copper, besides injurious flavoring and perfuming ingredients. Ground coffee was mainly roasted grain, acorns and chicory. Even bread was badly adulterated.

The Jeannette search expedition to the Arctic ocean is expected to sail from San Francisco soon. It will be remembered that when the Jeannette sailed, her commander arranged with the navy department to leave records of his cruise at certain points. One of the chosen places is the southeast corner of Wrangel island, and the first stop on the search will probably be made there about the first of August. If no message should be found at that point, the expedition vessel will proceed to Herald island in the hope of finding there some trace of the missing steamer. The search along the coast of those two islands will probably take two months, when the Arctic winter will begin. The searching party will then find a secure harbor at Wrangle island, and, if this is not possible, cross over to Siberia and go into winter quarters there. During the winter sledge parties will be organized and sent out in search of news of the Jeannette. Captain Berry, who will command the Helen and Mary, will be governed entirely by the information he may receive after reaching the Arctic regions. His orders are not to stay north more than one winter, but to prosecute the search after spring opens in 1882, and remain until the winter sets in again, and then return to San Francisco.

It is proposed to hold in London during the first week of next August an international medical congress, and the arrangements are already sufficiently advanced to warrant the belief that it will be the largest and most important gathering of the kind ever held. Four thousand invitations have been sent out to medical men in all parts of the world, and the responses indicate that at least half this number will attend. Some of the most eminent men in the profession in England are taking an active interest in the proposed congress, which will be presided over by Sir James Paget, and of which the queen and Prince of Wales have consented to be patrons. Four general addresses will be given by as many men of distinguished international reputation, representing France, Germany, America and England. Professor Huxley, who is a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, as well as a man of science, has accepted the responsibility of delivering the English address. In the vast range of topics which the discussion and papers will embrace, perhaps none will excite a livelier interest than military surgery and medicine. The chief subjects under this head will be the hygiene of armies and fleets, the health of soldiers at home and abroad, and the best means of extending to field and other temporary hospitals the recent improvement in the treatment of wounds and injuries by what is called the antiseptic method.

The *American Garden* says practical experience has proven that flowers cut when wet from dew or rain do not keep as well as when gathered dry. Flowers picked at any hour before the sun reaches the meridian wither quickly and need care in their after-treatment, but cut in the afternoon even delicate ferns will bear quite severe treatment, and all flowers keep their freshness longer.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

East and Middle.

The failures in the United States and Canada for the first quarter of 1881 are given by Bradstreet's New York mercantile agency as follows:

	No. of Failures.	Actual Assets.	General Liabilities.
New England.....	307	$1,351,230	$2,905,340
Middle States.....	420	3,256,660	7,986,700
Southern States...	310	3,364,410	5,933,100
Western States...	482	2,918,220	4,848,870
Pacifice States....	239	911,320	2,138,050
Territories.....	28	181,950	295,670
United States.....	1,986	$11,983,790	$24,167,730
New York city....	100	1,073,170	3,498,400
Canada.....	174	1,674,259	2,754,850

In June, 1877, Samuel Archer, eight years old, of Lackawaxen, Pa., was drowned accidentally, it was supposed, while boating on the Delaware river with Charles Springsted, a playmate thirteen years old. Springsted, now in jail at Passaic, N. J., for robbery, has confessed that he threw him into the water and held him under until he was drowned, because he hated young Archer's father.

Ex-United States Attorney-General Devens has been appointed to a seat on the Massachusetts supreme court bench to succeed Judge Soule, resigned.

At the west shore tunnel at West Point, N. Y., a glycerine cartridge exploded prematurely in a blast hole, killing David Downey, a blaster, and Michael Broderick, a driller. John Murray, a laborer, was struck by a flying stone and badly hurt.

Colonel Thomas A. Scott resigned as president of the Texas Pacific railroad at a meeting of the directors at Philadelphia, and Jay Gould was elected his successor.

There has been a heavy failure of brewers in New York, the firm of J. & L. F. Kuntz going under with total liabilities of about $315,000 and assets valued at from $70,000 to $80,000. The firm is said to have lost considerable money in organizing concerts and pedestrian matches.

At a mass meeting of the New York medical profession resolutions were passed declaring that the city was in danger of a pestilence on account of the dirty conditions of the streets.

In the Rhode Island house of representatives the bill for a prohibitory law has been postponed to the next session by a vote of 33 to 31.

Herbert Foster, a theological student at Phillip's academy, North Andover, Mass., was shot and killed while attempting to rob a house in company with his twin brother. The brother gave himself up and confessed that he and Arthur had robbed the same place six months ago, securing $1,000 in money and gold watches.

The trial at Newburg, N. Y., of Beaumont B. Buck, the cadet at West Point from Texas, charged with shooting John G. Thompson, Jr., of Ohio, resulted in an acquittal. The young men were at a school near West Point, preparing for entrance to the military academy, when the shooting occurred.

A Philadelphia dispatch says that a possible clew to the long-lost Charley Ross has been furnished to Colonel John W. Forney, from a reliable source in London. A gentleman there writes to Colonel Forney that his children went to school at Loughton, England, with a boy living with a woman who passed him off as her son George, but that the boy frequently stated his name was Charley Ross, that the woman was not his mother and that he had been brought from America in a big ship. "He has frequently told my children," writes the gentleman, "that his mother was a lady. I have often seen him with this questionable person, and have of late lost sight of her, though I have been told where she is now to be found."

A young medical student named Parez, who was to have graduated from a college in New York this year, cut his throat from ear to ear a few days ago while suffering from sickness.

William C. Towne, one of the most promising of American tenors, died at the Massachusetts hospital in Boston, after a painful illness, at the age of forty. He had been engaged for the coming May musical festival in New York.

Schaefer and Slosson, the billiard experts, have been playing a five-night match at the "champions' game" in the New York Academy of Music, 800 points being played each night. The score at the close of play stood: Schaefer, 4,000; Slosson, 2,780.

Edison, the inventor, has just given the first public exhibition of his electric light in New York.

A Hungarian emigrant who had been in a trance in the Lehigh county (Pa.) poorhouse since February 13 regained consciousness on the sixty-fifth day. The case has excited great attention among the medical fraternity all over the country.

The schooner J. G. Huntington, of Providence, R. I., was wrecked off the Massachusetts coast, and all hands on board, consisting of the captain, mate, cook and three seamen, were lost.

While at work repairing a bridge on the Montreal railroad at East Concord, N. H., forty men were swept from the bridge by the swinging around of a large piece of timber and fell fifteen feet to the track beneath. Four of the men were seriously injured.

West and South.

Miss Hattie Dezell died at Iowa City, Ia., after completing a fast of forty-seven days, during which she took nothing but water. Miss Denell was a maiden lady, fifty-two years of age, and had been an invalid for many years. Neuralgia and nervous troubles had made her life one of almost ceaseless pain, to obtain deliverance from which she adopted the resolution of starving herself to death. She is said to have been a woman of remarkable will-power, as the history of her self-imposed fast shows. A very strange feature in her case is the statement that from November, 1879, until a few weeks before her death no one heard her utter a word, although her organs of speech were in no way affected. All communications with her relatives and friends she made by means of a slate.

A Texan named Baker, with two companions, entered a railroad camp in New Mexico and robbed the proprietors of each store and saloon of all their money and valuables. At the last store, kept by a Frenchman, the roughs collected every man in the place, numbering forty, marshaled them in a line and compelled them all to take a drink at the owner's expense, Baker doing the honors. Finally he made them all sit on the floor, and started away, threatening to shoot any one who moved. As he turned the Frenchman sprang upon him, took away his revolvers and shot him dead. The other men then rose and fired a volley at the other roughs, wounding one, but both escaped.

Sergeant Bates, who achieved notoriety by marching through the Southern States and through a portion of Europe bearing the American flag, is reported to be dying in abject poverty in Saybrook, Ill. He has a wife and six children.

The Citizens' bank of Atlanta, Ga., has failed, with liabilities of $200,000.

An epidemic of smallpox is reported at Glover's Gap, W. Va., and vicinity. The doctors were all sick, and there was no one to bury the dead. The governor was telegraphed to send help to bury the dead, but replied that the county authorities should attend to the matter. The trains passed through the town without stopping.

A Scotch company has bought 133,000 acres of land in Barry county, Mo., and a large number of colonists from Scotland are expected to settle on it.

James Goodloe, a prominent merchant, and and George Wallace, a telegraph operator, were turkey hunting near Newport, Ark., and separated to meet at a given point. Wallace arrived first, and mistaken Goodloe, who wore a red necktie and who was making his way through the underbrush, for a turkey, fired upon him, the ball entering his throat and resulting fatally.

Five men—three Americans and two Mexicans—were killed and a third Mexican was badly wounded in a dispute at El Paso, Texas, over some land claims.

A Chicago dispatch says the wheat crop throughout the West promises well, although in a backward condition.

Hugh G. Guenthie, of Barter Rock, Va., a wealthy and influential citizen, died a few days ago in his eighty-sixth year. He had been an extensive cattle dealer for sixty years. He was the oldest Presbyterian in the county, and had been an elder in the church for more than fifty years. He had educated several young men for the ministry, was a liberal patron of Hampden-Sidney college, and left a part of his large estate to the foreign missions of the Presbyterian church.

At Camden, Ark., Mrs. Nutt, while in a fit of insanity, killed five of her children by throwing them into a well. The oldest was twelve years, and the youngest eleven months.

From Washington.

At a cabinet meeting it was decided to authorize the issuing of army rations for two weeks, and clothing and supplies, for the people made destitute by the floods in Dakota.

Secretary Windom has called in all the outstanding six per cent. bonds of 1861 and 1863, amounting to $195,690,400, which mature in July next, and has offered to holders the option of taking three and a half per cent. bonds. The six per cent. bonds known as the Oregon war debt have also been called.

According to a census return just issued there were 1,005 blast furnaces and rolling mills in the United States on May 31, 1880, as against 808 in 1879, the daily capacity of the former being 19,218 tons as against 8,357 tons in 1879. The amount of capital invested in iron and steel industries last year was $230,971,000, as against $121,772,000 in 1879. The production was 7,265,000 tons in 1880, as against 3,653,000 tons in 1879. Pennsylvania is credited with forty-nine per cent. of the total production.

The reports received at the department of agriculture show an increase of nearly four per cent. in the area sown in winter wheat. Kansas and Missouri show the largest increase, Ohio and Illinois but slight, and New York and Pennsylvania remain the same as last year. Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia each report some decrease. Owing to the prevalence of snow the condition of the crops was not given in large portions of the principal wheat-growing States, but wherever mentioned it was stated as below the average of last year. The live stock of the country, notwithstanding the scarcity of food caused by the long and severe winter, has come out in fair health, though low in flesh. No malignant or prevailing disease is reported over any large extent of country. Disorders of lungs and stomachs are often mentioned. Great losses from cold and exposure are reported from the plains of the far West.

Emancipation day was celebrated at the national capital by a parade of colored societies.

Foreign News.

Mr. Parnell, in an address at Glasgow said the Irish land bill would not provide the slightest protection for small tenants.

War in the East has probably been averted by Greece's acceptance of Turkey's proposals touching the frontier.

A report just published shows the Indian population of Canada to be 105,690.

James Daly, proprietor of the Connaught *Telegraph* and a prominent Irish agitator, has been arrested.

It is stated that the Irish authorities have made arrangements to seize in future copies of the New York *Irish World* in transit between New York and Queenstown as a treasonable publication.

The steamer Andalusia, from Grangemouth, bound to Calais, has put into Leith, Scotland, in a damaged condition, having been in collision with the steamer James Harris. The latter steamer was sunk and fourteen persons were drowned.

Rev. Wm. Morley Punshon, D. D., the distinguished Wesleyan minister, died at Brixton, England, a few days ago, aged fifty-seven years.

Paul Boyton, the celebrated American swimmer, is a prisoner of war in the hands of the Chilians, and efforts are being made to effect his release on the score of his being an American citizen.

All the Nihilists, except the woman Hessy Helfmann, (who has been temporarily reprieved because she is *enciente*), condemned to death for connection with the czar's assassination—namely, Russakoff, Michailoff, Kibaltschitsch, Jeliaboff and Sophie Perofsky—were hanged in St. Petersburg at 10 o'clock in the morning. Michailoff's rope broke twice. Order was not disturbed. There was an immense concourse of spectators. The condemned Nihilists were escorted from the fortress to the place of execution by Cossacks and infantry, with drums and fifes. Detachments of all the regiments of the guards stationed in St. Petersburg surrounded the scaffold. All the prisoners received the ministrations of the priests and kissed the cross and each other. They were very firm, except Russakoff, who fainted at the last moment. The appeals for mercy of the Nihilists Russakoff and Michailoff were submitted to the czar, but he replied that the sentence of the court must be carried out. The executioner was a reprieved convict. The prisoners were conveyed from the fortress in two carts, with their backs toward the horses and their hands tied to boards on their breasts bearing the word "Regicide" in large letters. When the prisoners mounted the scaffold the head of each was covered with a sack. They were then placed upon stools, which were drawn away, and they were left to strangle. After hanging twenty minutes the bodies were cut down and taken to a cemetery outside of the city.

The King of Abyssinia is dead, and has been succeeded by his son Michael.

Lewis Auldjo, cashier of Hudson Bay company, at Montreal, has become a defaulter to the extent of $15,000 or $20,000, and has absconded to the States. His embezzlements have been going on for seven years and were covered up by the falsification of the books. The money was spent on lavish outlay upon his family and in "keeping up appearances."

Advices from Bagdad state that the ravages of the plague are terrible, though not extending beyond the sanitary cordon. Four thousand inhabitants have quitted Nedjed and encamped in salubrious localities. The towns of Nedjed and Djuhara have been burned.

A new Italian cabinet has been formed.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Senate Special Session.

After remarks by Mr. Davis, of West Virginia, and Mr. Dawes, tending to show that each side of the chamber was determined in its course of action, Mr. Call took the floor in continuance of his speech of the previous Thursday, and was followed by Messrs. Dawes, Hoar, Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Camden, Beck and Vest.

On motion of Mr. Vance, of North Carolina, a resolution was adopted calling on the secretary of the navy for information as to what alterations have been made in the relative ranks of the graduates of the naval academy as originally established....On motion of Mr. Burnside, of Rhode Island, a resolution was adopted requesting the President to communicate to the Senate any information in the possession of the government touching the alleged arrest and imprisonment of Michael Boyton, who claims to be a citizen of the United States, by the government of Great Britain....Messrs. Beck, Pugh and Saunders discussed the resolution for the election of Senate officers.

By unanimous consent Mr. Johnson was permitted to offer a resolution, which was adopted, calling on the attorney-general for certain papers in relation to the report of C. C. Lancaster, special agent of the treasury, touching the Western judicial district of Virginia.... Messrs. Beck, Saulsbury, Hampton, Brown an Harris (Democrats), and Messrs. Senators Dawes, Burnside and Logan (Republicans), took the chief parts in a lively debate on the question of Senate officers.

Hanging the Czar's Murderers.

The New York *Telegram* has the following particulars of the Nihilist executions in St. Petersburg: On Thursday Russakoff asked for three was tapers, such as are carried to church, a copy of the New Testament and one of the small consecrated loaves made and sold by the monks. When not praying he smoked cigarettes. In the course of the day he offered his services to the government as a spy. Naturally enough he met with a refusal, for he belonged only to the outside circle and could be of little use. Jeliadoff spent his time in dictating page after page about the trial, and committing to paper what he would not be allowed to utter in speech. Sophie Perofsky wrote to her mother to waste no time or trouble in assuaging the wrath of her father for what had been done. He would never forgive. Kibaltschitsch, the maker of the bombs and in some respects the most remarkable figure among the condemned, devoted his last hours to drawing up a memoir on the subject of his pacific discoveries, which he addressed to the high court of justice. In the document he avowed his desire that his name should be immortalized, and he made a gift of his invention to the state, on the condition that all the profit should go to the amelioration of the lot of the children of political criminals.

The execution took place at 9 o'clock on Friday morning on Simonofsky Plain, the same spot on which Molodetsky was executed. The scaffold was a rough wooden structure, painted black, consisting of a high platform, upon which were three posts, each with a chain and manicles, and one long horizontal beam, with iron rings for ropes, supported by two perpendicular posts. In front was a low platform for the officials. The large plain around was covered with snow and ice, which was melting in the warm sunshine. By 8 o'clock many thousands of people had collected around the plain and swarmed in the various streets leading to it. Ten thousand troops kept them back and formed two squares around the gallows. First were the Cossacks with couched lances and then detachments of the guard. The infantry was massed in deep columns, leaving one side of the inner square open for the passage of the condemned prisoners and escort. The cortege entered the eastern side of the plain a few minutes before 9 o'clock, having passed through some of the principal streets on the way from the fortress.

The condemned criminals were seated high in the center of two-wheeled platforms, tightly strapped to iron rods, with their backs toward the horses, and having on their breast large cards with the word "Ikarcoubiest" (murderer of the czar) in black and white. Surrounding them was a strong escort of Cossacks and infantry, with drums and fifes playing a lively tune and preceded by mounted gendarmes. The condemned persons were dressed in black and wore a sort of black hood, covering their heads and shoulders. On the first tumbril sat Russakoff and Jeliadoff, both of whose features were nearly concealed by heavy hoods. Jeliadoff's dark, piercing eyes seemed to shine with even intensified brilliancy and defiance as he looked on the scene around him. On the second tumbril were seated Kibaltschitsch, Sophie Perofsky and Michailoff, the woman occupying the middle seat. Of these three the features of Sophie Perofsky were alone distinctly visible, her extraordinary high and broad forehead being unshrouded by the hood. Her slightly flushed face betokened great mental excitement, but there was no sign either of fear or remorse. General Becanoff, with the executioner and his four assistants, was waiting under the scaffold.

The condemned were unbound and led up the steps. With the exception of Russakoff, who seemed very feeble, all showed remarkable firmness and resignation. Sophie Perofsky appeared the calmest of all the five prisoners. They were then placed in front of the three posts, with their heads bare, the woman being in the middle. While the clerk of the senate read the sentences the civilians uncovered and officers saluted. During this formality five priests in purple caps mounted the scaffold and presented the cross, which all the condemned reverently kissed. The prisoners were then allowed to kiss each other, and a word or two passed between them, but the beating of the drums, which now began and lasted until the execution was finished, drowned every other sound. The prisoners were then placed under the beam. Each prisoner's head was covered with a white hood attached to a kind of sack which one, beginning with Russakoff, was led to the top of a small shed with steps.

The rope was drawn tight around one of the supporting beams and the culprit was left to strangle by the stool being withdrawn from under. All remained firm and imperturbable until the last moment. Russakoff alone appeared to faint before the stool was taken away. The formalities and the execution lasted altogether about twenty-five minutes. The bodies remained hanging twenty minutes, and were then let down into five rough sleds filled with shavings, and were examined by the doctors. They were then placed in two carts and taken away under the escort of Cossacks to be ignominiously buried in a remote part of the suburbs of the city. With the exception of an accident to one of the appearance hooks, which broke twice, the proceedings passed off quietly and without difficulty. They were watched in silence by fully one hundred thousand of the civil and military population of the capital.

Lord Beaconsfield.

Lord Beaconsfield, the eminent English statesman, is dead. He had been sick in London for some weeks, and although his death was expected it came upon the world almost like a sudden shock. Benjamin Disraeli was born in London, of Jewish parents, on the twenty-first of December, 1805. His father was Isaac Disraeli, known as the author of several literary works, among them the famous "Curiosities of Literature." He received his first education from his father and private tutors. Then he studied for the bar in the office of a solicitor, who took such a fancy to him that he proposed to make him heir to his practice. But notwithstanding his bright prospects he tired of the legal profession and devoted himself to literature. At the age of nineteen he visited Germany, where he remained until 1826, when he returned to England and published his first novel, "Vivian Grey," which created a sensation and was translated into the principal languages of Europe. His great ambition was to obtain a seat in parliament, but it was not gratified until his thirty-second year, when he was chosen as a representative of the borough of Maidstone to the first parliament of the reign of Victoria, which had been just ushered. Up to this time he had published a number of novels and other works. His first speech in parliament was a failure and was shouted down by the members. But it was not long before he was heard, for in 1839 already he made a speech which was listened to with profound attention. Soon afterward he published a five-act Spanish tragedy, the "Count Aarcos." The same year he married the widow of Wyndham Lewis, to whose sweet and noble character he testified by dedicating one of his novels to his "perfect wife." He was now looked upon as the leader of the half literary, half political party then gaining prominence in England. And his savage attacks on Sir Robert Peel for his free trade policy now caused Disraeli to be looked upon as one of the chief members of Parliament, and in 1849 he became the leader of the conservative party. In March, 1852, when Lord Derby was at the head of the administration, Disraeli was made chancellor of the exchequer and a member of the privy council. The same year he went out of office with Lord Derby, in December. After Lord Palmerston's downfall, in February, 1858, he again became chancellor of the exchequer under Lord Derby, who was succeeded in June of the same year by the Palmerston-Russell cabinet. Disraeli was reinstated in office as during the following Russell-Gladstone ministry, he led the opposition in the Commons. He again became chancellor of the exchequer under Lord Derby, in 1866. The Earl of Derby resigned in February, 1858. Disraeli then became prime minister, which post he retained until December, 1868, when he was succeeded by Gladstone. In 1870 he published "Lothair," which reached a sale of 80,000 copies within this country. The peerage offered him in 1868 he declined for himself, but he accepted it for his wife, who became Viscountess Beaconsfield. He became prime minister again in February, 1874, when he was again succeeded in the twenty-eighth of April, 1880. Soon afterward he was created Earl of Beaconsfield. His wife died December 23, 1872. His last work, "Endymion," a novel, was published last year.

Nature's Barometers.

Every one has noticed the ingenious and delicate workmanship of the spider; they have noticed too the way in which he spins his thread; but every one may not have remarked the interesting fact, that whenever we are to have wind or rain the spider shortens very much the last threads to which his web is suspended, and he leaves it in that condition as long as the weather continues variable. If he lengthens the threads fair weather may be predicted, and the continuation of fair weather may be inferred from the length of the thread. If the spider remains inert it is a sign of rain; if, however, he commences to work during the rain, you may be certain that the rain will not last long, and that it will be followed by steady, fair weather. The spider changes his web every twenty-four hours; if the change is made in the evening, a little before sunset, the night will be fair and clear.

The swallow, this beautiful bird, the harbinger of spring, is also an unfailing barometer. When the swallow flies low, on a level with the earth, and gives a light and plaintive cry, it is a sign of approaching rain. If he rises to a great height in the air flying either to the right or to the left, steady, fair weather may be expected. When a storm is coming, the swallow also rises to a great height in the clouds, then he moves slowly, majestically; he floats, but does not fly.

In the spring, when a single magpie leaves its nest, it will rain; if the father and mother leave at the same time, it is a sign of fair weather.

The peacock, at the approach of rain, emits frequent cries.

The woodpecker coos.

The parrot chatters.

The goose shows the greatest unrest. It flaps its wings and cries, throws itself into the water, comes and goes, and makes short flights.

The singing of the cricket indicates fair weather.

A Japanese Laborer's Cottage.

Half a mile up the valley, writes a correspondent from Japan, I passed a cottage standing near the pathway. The little garden in front was a mass of flowers, among which there was a large plant of the oleander in full bloom and a perfect hedge of the big jessamine, which scented the whole atmosphere. Cucumbers were growing