FACTS AND COMMENTS.

The mayor of Quincy, Illinois, is very fond of fifteen-ball pool; and his sister is trying to wean him from the game. She went to the billiard saloon when he was engaged in it, the other day, and gave him her opinion of him, of the game and of the company in which she found him, and, this proving ineffectual, she dropped upon her knees in prayer for her sinful brother, whereupon the mayor fled through the back door. Even mayors are mortal.

An ingenious farmer, sticking a few nails into a clothesline to keep his neighbor's cattle out of his pasture, went about his other business thinking no more of the matter. A sharp fellow came along, saw the rope and began to think about it. He evolved the "barbed wire" fence, and the very farmer from whom the fellow got the idea has to pay him a tribute for an article which he himself originally designed. And the income of the monopoly is estimated at $100,000 per month.

The movement in the industrial world now seems to be toward obtaining substitutes for wood. The disappearance of our forests is feared to be an event of the near future, so that any substance that can take the place of wood is welcome. It is proposed to replace wooden sleepers with steel; slate already has largely usurped the place of shingles; cotton refuse is compressed into building blocks; gum is made into a substance resembling black walnut; sawdust is pressed into a form which only experts could distinguish from the original lumber.

Dr. James, of Harvard college, brother of the novelist, Henry James, Jr., is lecturing to the medical students on the use of alcoholic drinks. He thinks the evidence, on the whole, is in favor of total abstinence. Alcohol takes the place of food by temporarily reducing the normal demand for it, but "this effect is not desirable" or consistent with perfect health. The disappearance of alcohol on the circulation is to create an illusionary feeling of warmth, while as a matter of fact the thermometer shows a decline of the bodily heat. Any task requiring more than half an hour can not be done as well with alcohol as without it. As an assistance to digestion its real value, he says, is that of a flavor which may be equally well secured by the use of fruits.

An excellent charity has just been established in London. An organization has been formed of benevolent women to provide homes in the various districts of the British metropolis for girls and young women who are earnestly striving to gain an honest living, but who are homeless; at the same time to afford them profitable recreation, and above all to surround them with healthful influences and friendly guidance at the most critical period of their lives. The rent of a bedroom comprising the use of dining and reading-rooms, supplied with books, magazines and newspapers, is from sixty-two cents to $1 a week. Board, consisting of breakfast, dinner and tea (Sundays included), is charged at the rate of $1.12 a week, while separate meals are provided for those who do not require the full weekly accommodation.

A Canadian paper, whose editor probably believes that Friday is an unlucky day, prints the following paragraph: "Are not such facts as these enough to make one ask, 'What's in a name?' The small excursion steamer that carried nine persons to their doom at Galt three years ago was named the Empress of India. The excursion boat that went down in the river Thames, at London, England, in the fall of 1878, with about 600 souls on her board, was known as the Princess Alice. The ship which foundered off Spithead in 1872, and swept 600 passengers into the other world, was called the Royal George; and last, but not least, the steamer Victoria, that parted to carry desolation into thousands of Canadian homes and drape our land in mourning, bore the name of our beloved queen, upon whose birthday the boat gave up the ghost, in sight, we should also say, of the sister boat, the Princess Louise. Strange fatality! Strange enough certainly to put serious thoughts into one's head."

A couple of boys in a New York town learning that the odor and noise of several pigs were disagreeable to the owner's neighbors offered for a small sum to abate the nuisance. Whether their offer was accepted or not does not appear. At any rate they proceeded to business by buying two papers. With these they properly prepared the apples, potatoes and other garbage which was fed to the animal with most successful results. The swine went into a rapid decline and had to be slaughtered. The parents of the boys were obliged to settle with the owner, but the neighbors felt relieved. Of course the reader will be curious to know what two papers are useful in killing hogs. For if one known there are stray curs and midnight cats enough to insure them a large circulation. To know also where they are published, and whether they are daily or weekly. Perhaps without giving names it will be sufficient to say that one was a paper of pins, the other of tacks.

A Quiet Boarding House.

"I have come in answer to your advertisement for board," said a nervous old lady to a pert miss of thirteen, as the latter showed her into a parlor of all the comforts of a home establishment on Henry street. "And I won't come here unless your house is perfectly quiet, now remember that."

"Quiet! well, you may smile," replied Miss. "That noise you hear now is the dentist in the basement, pulling out a tooth, but he'll get it out, if it takes him a month. How much can you afford to pay?"

"I think I hear some one upstairs shouting," said the old lady.

"That's only a young lawyer practicing a case. You'll get used to him. Nobody liked it at first but we've all got used to it and don't mind it now. Got any children? We don't take children, because our babies fight 'em so."

"No, I haven't. Who's that yelling in the next room?"

"That's the landlord trying to collect the rent. You know pa is very deaf, and you've got to howl at him. You'll have to pay in advance if you come here."

"Good gracious! What's that?" ejaculated the old lady, as a furious din swept through the lower regions.

"I guess the cook is driving grandma out of the kitchen with the clothespole. She often does that. Have you got much baggage?"

"Sakes alive! Somebody is being murdered upstairs! Who is it?"

"Oh! that's a literary fellow on the top floor. Whenever he writes anything he squeals like a pig. But he generally writes at night, and you needn't pay any attention to him."

"What are your terms?—good heaven, the roof has fallen in!"

"No, it hasn't; that's a college professor, and that's the way he goes up and down stairs. If you listen you may hear him break his neck! Can you give any references? Anybody know you?"

"Certainly; if I—was that a gun?"

"I guess so. My cousin has got a prairie down cellar where he hunts Indians and buffaloes and things. Sometimes he's a road agent, and then he robs us on the stairs. We always allow for it in the board, so it evens up. Got any money of your own?"

"Never mind whether I have or not; I don't think I want a room here, anyway. Let me out, please."

"Couldn't let you have one, anyhow," retorted miss, preparing to slide down the balustrade. "There's only one empty one, and that's too high-priced for you; besides, you don't wear very good clothes, and we prefer not to have you around." And down the slide she went with a whiz-z, while the old lady pattered off after another home-like house.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Expelling Bots.

If I remember right, Dr. Horne somewhere stated that there is no way of expelling bots from a horse. I have been in the habit of giving horses a strong decoction of sage, well sweetened, which had the effect of expelling the bots. It was supposed, when I was a boy, that sage tea acted as a cathartic, and that the bots were fond of sweet, and would let go to take a sip of tea, and while sipping tea, would be carried along the intestinal canals and the horse would be relieved. A few ashes help them along. I write from experience; no guess-work about it.

Spare the Calves.

As spring is now here we would again caution farmers against the indiscriminate slaughter of these innocents. The considerations advanced by some farmers in favor of this practice are purely of a mercenary character, and if generally adopted would soon put an end to one of the most important branches of rural husbandry, and could be likened to the fable of the foolish man who killed the goose that lay the golden egg.

It requires but very little trouble to raise a spring calf, and what little trouble there is is confined to the first few weeks of its life. The better way is to put the calf in some convenient grass lot separate from the cow, and allow it to suck its mother every morning and evening, gradually diminishing its allowance as the grass makes its appearance and which it will soon learn to eat. At the end of five or six weeks it can be easily taught to drink out of a bucket, when skimmed milk, mixed with a little corn and oats ground together, and a little flaxseed boiled to a jelly, can be substituted for its usual diet of new milk. Calves fed in this way seldom get the "scours," but should a case of the kind occur it can easily be stopped by giving the calf a little boiled fresh milk, and mixing therewith a tablespoonful or so of powdered chalk. When the calf is some three months old and the grass well up, it may be turned out to some good pasture where there is plenty of water, but not within reach or hearing of the cow. The trouble is then all over, as the calf will shift for itself.

Carbolic Acid for Insects.

The time has almost come again when "the little busy bugs" will open up their summer campaign and dispute with the "lords of creation" for possession of the "fruits of the earth." Allow me thus early to call attention to an article, the merits of which everybody knows, but which many dare not use—I refer to carbolic acid. Prepared as indicated it cannot, I think, hurt the most delicate house plants, and it is sure to kill insect life. My plan of preparing is as follows: I obtain crude carbolic acid; I use it in this form because it is stronger and betterfor the purpose and costs but very little (about twenty-five cents per gallon, I think.) I pour a quantity of this dark crude acid into a quantity of good strong domestic soft soap; stir well together and allow to stand for a few hours. I then test the compound by mixing a little of it with soft water. If too much acid has been added, oily particles of carbolic acid will be observed floating on the surface. This shows that more acid has been put in than the soap will incorporate or "cut," and more soap should be added to balance the excess of acid. No more definite rule can be given, as so much depends on the strength of the soap. Two or three tablespoonfuls of the acid to a quart of soap may be first tried. I prefer to make as strong with acid as the soap will perfectly cut. A very little practice will enable one to compound it correctly. The refined acid may be used when the crude is not at hand. When prepared as above make a moderately strong suds and apply with syringe or sponge. In using on very delicate plants, should any fear be felt for the plants, they can be rinsed off after a few minutes. My first and eminently successful use of this compound was some years since on a block of young cherry trees some fifty thousand in number. The black aphis "came down like the wolf on the fold," only "they came not as single spies, but in whole battalions." It soon became an interesting question as to who was the proprietor of this particular block of trees—myself or the "bug Ethiopian." A disinterested observer of judicial turn of mind, judging from the general appearance of things and the very "at home" air assumed by the bugs, would have said they had the best case. He would, at least have been compelled to admit they had "nine points of the law" (possession) in their favor. I never saw the like before. The trees were alive with aphis. The only scarce things on the premises were the trees being hardly enough to afford "standing room" for all the dusky guests. However, not being a convert to the doctrine of "squatter sovereignty," I declared war, and failing to decrease the number by ordinary means I compounded soft soap and carbolic acid, and with a single application exterminated the enemy.—*T. T. S., in Gardener's Monthly.*

Recipes.

EGGLESS COOKIES.—Two cups sugar, one cup sweet milk, one cup butter, one-half teaspoonful soda. Flour enough to roll. Use vanilla, lemon or nutmeg for seasoning. They are very nice.

EGGLESS CAKE.—One and one-half cups sugar, one cup sour milk, three level cups flour, one-half cup butter, one teaspoonful soda, one-half teaspoonful cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful grated nutmeg, teacup of chopped raisins.

TILDEN CAKE.—One heaping coffee cup sugar; one-half teacup butter, one and one-half teacups sour milk; one teaspoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg; one cup fruit; one teaspoonful soda. Stir in flour until it will just drop from the spoon.

SALT RISING BREAD.—The earlier in the morning it is set the better. A most convenient hour is 6 o'clock. Take one pint of water, one-half teaspoonful of salt and one teaspoonful of sugar; stir to the thickness of pancake batter. The water used should be as warm as the hand can bear. Place the vessel containing this batter into water of the temperature of that first used, and let it stand for three hours. In that time a water will arise to the surface; then thicken with flour until the batter is as thick as it was in the commencement. Let it stand three hours longer when it will again rise, making a total standing of six hours. Then get what flour you need for your baking, scald about one pint of it, and after it is cool mix the rising together with warm water and mix to a stiffness to knead on a warm board. A great deal of kneading is required. Place the dough in your baking pan, set aside until it rises to twice its original size and then bake in a quick oven. If you are successful, and a careful following of these directions will make you so, you have the most delicious bread that has ever entered mortal's mouth. If you have a large baking the ingredients are to be proportionately increased.

The Poetry of Farming.

It is in strict accordance with the nature of things that Will Carleton, who has written such sweet ballads of farms, farm life and families, never owned a farm, never lived on one, and never had any wife or family. No man who ever lived and worked on a farm could extract poetry from breaking your back with a scythe, wearing out your running gear behind a plow, breaking unruly steers, milking dirty cows with the mercury below zero, picking dead sheep in winter, and sleeping in the barn in summer to get rid of the mosquitos. There is no poetry about it. I'll leave that to any farmer. The only people who can get poetry out of farm life are those who never saw it, and the imagination of such would extract an epic from the life of a car driver.

Mrs. Bayard Taylor is to publish her husband's biography.

SUNDAY READING.

A Comparison.

The *Religious Herald* quotes a lady as saying that when she was a schoolgirl she heard an old minister, who was fond of making homely practical illustrations, say that reading the Bible was like eating fish. When he came to a hard place he left it and called it a bone. When he read the Bible in that way he found plenty of good, nourishing meat, and never had occasion to choke over the bones; that the older he grew the fewer bones he found, until, when he came to be an old man with silvery hair, the Book that he used to find as full of bones as a Connecticut river shad was like a halibut with only the one big bone in it of God's incomprehensibility, and that was in such plain sight that no one could stumble over it, and grandly serve its purpose as strong frame work to keep the sweet, white, nutritious meat in its place.

Religious News and Notes.

There are forty-two Baptist churches in the District of Columbia. Of these ten are white and thirty-two colored.

An Episcopal church at Pawtucket, R. I., has elected three vestry women, a case without precedent in this country.

The salary of the bishops of the United Brethren in Christ is only $1,000 a year, with traveling expenses and house rent.

The supreme court of the State of Maine decides that a church is not a corporation with authority to create debt in erecting a house of worship.

The Methodist church of Canada held its conference at Napanee a short time ago. The primitive Methodist conference was in session at Kingston at the same time.

A Young Men's Christian Association has been organized at Tokio, Japan. Most of the prominent young men in the mission chapels of that city are connected with it.

The Oregon Presbyterians want to establish a college for the education of missionaries and ministers. They cannot get enough of them from the East, and therefore intend to educate them "on the ground."

Rev. Dr. Gage, of Hartford, Conn., in speaking of marriage and divorce recently, said that during his ministry of twenty-five years he had known of but one instance of separation where both parties were professing Christians.

Bishop Littlejohn says that the separation of Church and State in England is further off than it was ten years ago. While he regards the religious condition of the continent of Europe as anything but prosperous, he sees a large gain to vital godliness in the condition of the Church of England.

During the last year the Baptists increased 163,524; the Methodists, 52,620; the Lutherans, 10,223; the Episcopalians, 20,846; the Presbyterians, 16,248. The Baptist gain, therefore, was nearly double that of the other four denominations combined. The Methodists, North and South, however, outnumber the Baptists.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

Milk turns sour in thunder-storms because during their continuance ozone is generated in the atmosphere. Ozone is oxygen in a state of great intensity, and oxygen is the great acidifier throughout nature. The excess of oxygen in the air imparts acidity to the milk by the formation of lactic acid.

Sugar does not injure sound teeth, but, on the contrary, improves them by assisting the solution of food which supplies lime for their nourishment. Sugar sometimes causes pain in decayed teeth. As creosote relieves an aching tooth by coagulating a film of albumen over the nerve, so sugar may cause a tooth to ache by dissolving the albumen by which the nerve may be protected. Negroes, who eat large quantities of sugar, have beautiful teeth.

The magic mirrors which have been a good deal discussed of late are all of metal. M. Laurent has succeeded in making them of glass, which is sufficiently elastic for the purpose. At first he used pressed glass, polishing the surface opposite to the projections; then he tried the thin glass of commerce, engraving a hollow design. The two methods may be combined. When at rest the mirror is plain and gives good images. By a blowing or sucking action the characteristic features are brought out. Both sides of the mirror are silvered.

An ingenious illustration of the inconceivable distance of the stars from the earth was recently given by Professor Ball, of Dublin. "If you suppose," said he, "a railway from the earth to the nearest fixed star, which is supposed to be twenty billions of miles from us; and if you suppose the price of the fare to be one penny for every hundred miles—not, mind, a penny per mile—then, if you take a mass of gold to the ticket office equal to the national debt, it would not be sufficient to pay for a ticket to the nearest fixed star."

There are certain difficulties in the way of safely lighting fiery mines even with the incandescent electric light, but these are by no means insuperable. The Swan system is about to be introduced into the Watson colliery at Earnoch, England, and the world will soon have the benefit of the experiment. The dynamo-electric machines will be set up in an engine house at the colliery, and the electric cables will pass down from the nearest pit-shaft to the lamps in the workings. It will be some time yet before a crucial test is made. The engineer in charge says that the preliminary operations will take up two months.

A Lover of the Period.

It was night in a Walnut street parlor. Out of doors the wind moaned and the sleet rattled, but within all was warmth and cozy comfort. The crimson upholstery glowed tranquilly under the soft light of the argand, and the flickering rays from the ruddy grate shaped many an elfin shadow on the carpet and in the corners.

Two parties, male and female, were sitting on one sofa.

The sofa was designed for that number, but to-night there were, accidentally, on one end of it nine volumes of an encyclopedia.

Consequently the volumes were somewhat pressed for sitting room.

The occupants of the other end of the sofa were Paul Flump and Miss More McMinnywink.

Paul was saying: "Miss More, pardon my boldness, but I must speak. Long ago you must have guessed the great feelings which—which I feel for you. Oh! cannot you return them—some of them, at least? I—I love you, I do!"

"Paul," she answered, softly, but firmly; "Paul, you must not talk so! Forget it, I pray you. We are both poor, and should have no fine house nor pretty furniture, nor sweet carriage, nor lovely dresses, and—and all that. Forgive me, Paul, but I must have all these when I marry, and you cannot furnish them."

"Yes, I forgive you, I do! Fact was, I—I was under a false impression: I—er—thought you could supply us all them ere things! I forgive you!"

Raising the Wind.

The men of Hilliard, a small Wyoming mining town on the Union Pacific railroad, were spoiling for a spree, but lacked the money to pay for it. At this juncture the passengers on a train were horrified at the sight of a rough-looking man bound fast to a telegraph pole, while a party of miners were suspending a noose from a branch of a tree. The prisoner begged the travelers to rescue him, but the miners said that he was a thief, and had justly been condemned to death. It was intimated, however, that the payment of $100, the amount he had stolen, would secure his liberation. The money was hastily contributed, and the train went on, carrying the rescued man along; but he jumped off at the next station, and got back to Hilliard in time to take part in the revelry.

THE WEEPING WILLOW.

How a Product of the Garden of Eden Emigrated to this Country.

You have seen and admired the weeping willow tree—the Salix Babylonica—upon which the captive Hebrews hung their harps when they sat down by the rivers of Babylon and "wept when they remembered Zion." It is a native of the Garden of Eden and not of America, and I will tell you how it emigrated to this country.

More than 150 years ago a merchant lost his fortune. He went to Smyrna, a seaside city in Asia Minor, to recover it. Alexander Pope, one of the great poets of England, was the merchant's warm friend, and sympathized with him in his misfortunes.

Soon after the merchant arrived in Smyrna he sent to Pope, as a present, a box of dried figs. At that time the poet had built a beautiful villa at Twickenham, on the bank of the river Thames, and was adorning it with trees, shrubbery and flowering plants.

On opening the box of figs Pope discovered in it a small twig of the tree. It was a stranger to him. As it came from the East he planted the twig in the ground near the edge of the river, close by his villa. The spot accidently chosen for the planting was favorable to its growth, for the twig was from the weeping willow tree, possibly from the bank of one of "the rivers of Babylon," —which flourishes best along the borders of water courses.

This little twig grew vigorously, and in a few years it became a large tree, spreading wide its branches and drooping, graceful sprays, and winning the inspiration of the poet's friends as well as strangers. It became the ancestor of all the weeping willows in England.

There was a rebellion in the English-American colonies in 1775. British troops were sent to Boston to put down the insurrection. Their leaders expected to end it in a few weeks after their arrival. Some young officers brought fishing tackle with them to enable them to enjoy sport after the brief war. Others came to settle on the confiscated land of the "rebels."

Among the latter was a young officer on the staff of General Howe. He brought with him, wrapped in oil silk, a twig from Pope's weeping willow at Twickenham, which he intended to plant on some stream watering his American estate.

Washington commanded an army before Boston, which kept the British imprisoned in that city a long time against their will. On his staff was his stepson, John Parke Curtis, who frequently went to the British headquarters, under the protection of a flag, with dispatches for General Howe. He became acquainted with the young officer who had the willow twig, and they became friends.

Instead of "crushing the rebellion in six weeks," the British army at Boston, at the end of an imprisonment of nine months, was glad to fly by sea, for life and liberty, to Halifax. Long before that flight the British subaltern, satisfied that he should never have an estate in America to adorn, gave his carefully preserved willow twig to young Curtis, who planted it in Abingdon, his estate in Virginia, where it grew and flourished, and became a parent of all the weeping willows in the United States.

Some time after the war General Horatio Gates, of the Revolution, settled on the Rose Hill farm, on New York island, and at the entrance to a lane which led from a country road to his house he planted a twig from the vigorous willow at Abingdon, which he had brought with him. That country road is now Third avenue, and the lane is Twenty-second street. Gates' mansion, built of wood, and two stories in height, stood near the corner of Twenty-seventh street and Second avenue, where I saw it consumed by fire in 1815. The tree, which grew from the twig planted at the entrance to Gates' lane, remained until comparatively a few years ago. It stood on the northeast corner of Third avenue and Twenty-second street. It was a direct descendant, in the third generation, of Pope's willow, planted at Twickenham about 1722.—*Benson J. Lossing, in Harper's Young People.*

Jefferson Davis' Account of His Capture.

Jefferson Davis, in his book, "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government," gives the following account of his capture by the Federals:

My horse and those of my party proper were saddled preparatory to a start, when one of my staff, who had ridden into a neighboring village, returned and told me that he had heard that a marauding party intended to attack the camp that night. This decided me to wait long enough to see whether there was any truth in the rumor, which I supposed would be ascertained in a few hours. My horse remained saddled and my pistols in the holsters, and I lay down, fully dressed, to rest. Nothing occured to rouse me until just before dawn, when my coachman, a free colored man, who faithfully clung to our fortunes, came and told me there was firing over the branch, just behind our encampment. I stepped out of my wife's tent and saw some horsemen, whom I immediately recognized as cavalry, deploying around the encampment. I turned back and told my wife these were not the expected marauders, but regular troopers. She implored me to leave her at once. I hesitated from unwillingness to do so, and lost a few precious moments before yielding to her importunity. My horse and arms were near the road which I expected to leave, and down which the cavalry approached. It was therefore impracticable to reach them. I was compelled to start in an opposite direction.

As it was quite dark in the tent, I picked up what I supposed to be my "raglan"—a waterproof light overcoat without sleeves. It was subsequently found to be my wife's, so very like my own as to be mistaken for it. As I started, my wife thoughtfully threw over my head and shoulders a shawl. I had gone perhaps fifteen or twenty yards when a trooper galloped up and ordered me to halt and surrender, to which I gave a defiant answer, and dropping the shawl and raglan from my shoulders advanced toward him. He leveled his carbine at me, but I expected if he fired he would miss me, and my intention was in that event to put my hand under his foot and tumble him off on the other side, spring into his saddle, and attempt to escape. My wife, who had been watching, when she saw the soldier aim his carbine at me, ran forward and threw her arms around me. Success depended upon instantaneous action, and recognizing that the opportunity had been lost I turned back, and the morning being damp and chilly, passed on to a fire beyond the tent.

Benefit of Quick Work.

The rapid worker has not time to get disgusted with his work—it is out of his hands long before it grows wearisome. Disgust is the product of dawdling effort. If the work be somewhat varied, the pleasure in connection with its completion is varied too. Hence, perhaps, the reason why the total and sudden giving up of work is often attended with evil results. The transition from a life full of activity and rich in the enjoyment of successful labor, to a life of utter idleness, with no such vivid enjoyment, has often proved fatal. There is too little activity in the new life, and too little of the pleasure of activity. Idleness without the excitement and pleasure of work, becomes depressing. The vital forces droop and decay. On the other hand, to the busy worker rest and recreation have a double relish. No holiday is so refreshing as that in which he runs away from his labors, and enjoys himself in quite a different sense. If his life were a succession of holidays, it would soon grow burdensome.

A naturalist has satisfied himself beyond a doubt that the average cat travels a distance of eighty miles every night, when there is no earthly reason for her moving a rod.

NEWS EPITOME.

East and Middle.

A BOY eleven years old died in New York the other day of hydrophobia, having been bitten by a rabid dog last April.

THE annual reunion of the officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac took place at Hartford, Conn., many visiting organizations taking part in the parade and the streets being thronged with people and gay with decorations. Among the prominent persons present were Generals Sherman, Burnside and Sickles, the governors of Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Maine, Secretary of War Lincoln, etc. At the business meeting General Charles Devens, of Lowell, Mass., was chosen president. The meeting of the society next year will be held at Detroit, Mich.

THE graduating class at West Point was addressed by Generals Sherman and Augur and Secretary Lincoln.

AN explosion of a boiler at Atkins & Brothers' rolling mill, Pottsville, Pa., resulted in injuries to twelve men, of whom three were not expected to live.

HEAVY and continuous rains have caused great damage to railroad and other property in and about Pittsburg, Pa. There was an unprecedented rise in the Ohio river, and 8,000,000 feet of lumber, valued at $200,000, were swept away.

AN agent of the secret service division of the treasury department telegraphs Chief Brooks from New Brighton, Pa., an account of the arrest of A. C. and Josephine Robb, for passing counterfeit five-cent pieces. A large quantity of stolen goods belonging to the Beaver Falls cutlery works was found in their house when they were arrested.

NUMEROUS fatalities from lightning strokes are reported. Andrew D. Robeson, a young farmer, nephew of ex-Secretary Robeson, of New Jersey, was instantly killed by a lightning stroke near Hunnewell, Kansas, and at Henrietta, Texas, Miss Lizzie Hutchinson and Miss Cox were instantly killed by lightning and Mrs. Hutchinson was fatally injured.

West and South.

A GANG of roughs attached to a circus made a descent upon a crowd of people assembled at a dance in the village of Chesaning, Mich., and attacked them with clubs. A policeman was killed, and about twelve of the villagers were injured more or less severely. Five of the ruffians were arrested, and the people were with difficulty prevented from lynching them.

REV. W. P. R. Newberry, a Kentucky clergyman, with four other men, started in pursuit of his eloping daughter and J. J. Oaks, her lover. Surrounding the house in which the two, who had been married, had taken refuge, they approached with drawn revolvers. Oaks met Newberry at the door and shot him dead.

A COTTON manufacturing company has just been formed in Atlanta, Ga., with a capital of $1,000,000.

A DISPATCH from Chattanooga, Tenn., says that an organization of ex-Confederate soldiers has been formed there to offer a reception to the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, which is to have a reunion at Chattanooga in September. It is said that every ex-Confederate soldier in the neighborhood of Chattanooga has joined the organization, and that the most prominent of the living generals and several thousand soldiers of the late Southern army are expected to be present.

THE Ohio Republicans, at their State convention in Cleveland, renominated Governor Foster by acclamation and adopted a platform which indorses Garfield's administration, favors protection to American labor, and asserts that the question of amendments to the State constitution relative to the manufacture and sale of liquor should be submitted to the people.

COTTON crop reports from Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia, Florida and Louisiana show that an increased acreage has been planted, and that the crop is in good condition, but late.

SAMUEL DIBBLE, the Democratic candidate, was elected without opposition to succeed the late Mr. O'Connor as member of Congress from the second district of South Carolina.

DIPHTHERIA is epidemic at Ludington, Mich., and 120 children out of a total population of 4,000 have died recently.

THE millers of the country have had their annual convention at Chicago and the turners theirs at St. Louis.

KANSAS has been visited by a terrific cyclone alike destructive to life and property. At Solomon City nearly all the glass was broken from the north windows and a number of houses destroyed. Four miles northwest Dennis Morgan and his sister were instantly killed and their house totally destroyed. At Bennington, twelve miles northwest of Solomon City, a farmer named Frothingham, his wife and hired hand were killed and the house completely demolished. In the same vicinity three stone farmhouses were blown down, but the inmates were in the cellars and escaped without serious injuries. Many houses and barns along the valley between Solomon City and Minneapolis, a distance of twenty miles or more, were blown down. Hailstones came down very thickly; some of them were larger than walnuts and contained in the center small pebbles. The cyclone proper was funnel-shaped, with the small end downward, and at times as it moved onward the heavy top would careen over toward the east and large jets would shoot out in various directions. The display lasted about twenty minutes, and the duration of the storm was about one hour. The damage to houses and crops is heavy.

MYRIADS of locusts have appeared in sections of Illinois, Kentucky, Arkansas, Alabama and other States. The locusts are not generally destructive, but they frequently injure young orchards and occasionally sting a human being sometimes fatally.

HAYES WHITE, a colored man, was hanged at Marion, Ark., for the murder of a sheriff last April. The sheriff was trying to arrest White, who was charged with burglary, and was shot down as he entered White's cabin.

A DISPATCH from San Antonio, Texas, reports ten men were killed in the Southwest in a fight between rangers and a band of cow thieves.

A SUIT has been brought in the Third District court of Salt Lake City, Utah, to prove that Mr. Cannon, a member of the House of Representatives, is not a citizen.

JOHN GRISCOM, of Chicago, who set out to fast forty-five days, at the end of the fifteenth day had lost twenty-three pounds in weight.

THE town of Emporia, Kansas, was almost entirely destroyed by the recent tornado, every building in it being more or less damaged.

ONE Bonner, alias "Billy, the Kid," a well-known desperado, rode up to four cowboys in Lincoln county, New Mexico, and inquired if they worked for John S. Chisum, a large cattle owner. Upon receiving an affirmative reply Bonner opened fire, killing three of the cowboys, and had covered the fourth with his unerring rifle, but called out to him that he might live to tell Chisum that he was squaring his account with him, and would kill him before he died.

From Washington.

THE appropriation for the census bureau, it has been discovered, will fall far short of the sum needed to complete the work, and the clerical force has been dismissed, with the privilege of doing volunteer work.

THE internal revenue authorities have received information from Hartford, Conn., which has been confirmed, that school children have been detected in stealing beer stamps from kegs and selling them to school-teachers, who have resold them to brewers and devoted the proceeds to building a school.

THE $75,000 awarded the sufferers by the Fortune Bay (N. F.) outrage is ready for distribution. The money goes entirely to owners of Gloucester (Mass.) vessels, of which twenty-two were in the fleet.

Foreign News

A CABLE dispatch says that "the number of outrages in Ireland is increasing. The figures stand as follows: January, 439; February, 170; March, 146; April, 296; May, 327, and for the first week in June, ninety-nine. These include attacks on property, attempted murder, cattle-hooghing, incendiarism and all other offenses directly traceable to agrarianism." West Cork is in a state of anarchy, and large drafts of constabulary are being dispatched there. The police throughout Ireland are greatly dissatisfied. Eleven of them have been killed and 400 disabled since the rioting began, and their orders forbid them from punishing their assailants. Large numbers of them are resigning, while others remain on simply to become entitled to the retiring allowance.

A SPECIAL dispatch from Quebec to the New York *Herald* says: One of those destructive fires to which Quebec is so subject broke out at 11 P. M., in the midst of St. John's suburbs, midway between St. Roch's and Upper Town. The fire originated in a small wooden house in Oliver street and immediately spread to the adjoining buildings. The fire brigade became demoralized and lost all control of themselves and the fire. At 2 o'clock this morning St. John's Church (Roman Catholic), the largest in the city, worth $100,000, is burning, and 600 houses are destroyed, some of them brick and stone, but the majority poor and small, and of wood. There are certainly 1,000 families homeless. The principal streets destroyed are Richmond, Latourelle, Olivier, Richelieu and Daguillon, running east to west parallel with the river. Also St. John street, St. Marie, Deligny, St. Claire and Sutherland running north and south.

A PROCESS server has been fatally beaten in the county Sligo, Ireland. Severe rioting has been going on in the county Cork. A party of marines were roughly handled by the enraged people and compelled to retreat under protection of the priests.

THIRTY-FOUR villages in Armenia are reported to have been devastated by an earthquake.

THE Henley regatta stewards reversed their former decision and decided to allow the crew from Cornell University (Ithaca, N. Y.) to participate in the races.

AN encounter has taken place between Turkish troops and Bulgarian bands in Macedonia, in which eight Turks and thirteen Bulgarians were killed.

Two men named McKevett and Roberts have been arrested in Liverpool on the charge of attempting to blow up the town hall.

TEN days after the winning of the English Derby by an American horse, the race at Paris for the "Grand Prize of Paris"—the great French racing event of the year—was also captured by an American horse, Mr. J. R. Keene's bay colt Foxhall. The distance run is about one mile and seven furlongs and the amount won $20,000 in specie, given half by the city of Paris and half by the five great French railway companies, added to a sweepstake of $200 each. An immense crowd, including President Grevy and other notables, was present, and the American flag was conspicuous all over the course.

AN Italian exploring party which started from Assab bay, Abyssinia, consisting of a subaltern officer, ten sailors and four soldiers, has been massacred in the interior.

AN attempt was made by over 300 men to rescue the two men confined in the Liverpool prison for trying to blow up the town hall; but the timely arrival of a policeman brought out all the wardens armed for resistance, and the would-be rescuers dispersed.

The Great Fire in Quebec.

The following particulars are published of the fire in Quebec, which destroyed 637 houses and rendered 1,500 families homeless:

A fire which started in the Faubourg of St. John was not gotten under control until 6 o'clock the next morning, after it had burned over a large area and made homeless many hundreds of people.

The first alarm was given at ten minutes before 11 o'clock. When the fire brigade arrived they found four wooden buildings ablaze, but no water could be obtained within two minutes later, and by that time the spread of the flames among the combustible wooden buildings could not be restrained. St. Olivier, Latourelle, St. Marie and Richelieu streets were quickly a mass of fire for some hundred feet of each in extent, the flames from the other sides of the streets overlapping in the middle, and completely closing them to all traffic.

The scene near the conflagration was one of utter confusion. Parents, partly clothed, hurried along in every direction, with infants wrapped in bedclothing in their arms. Cows and horses, let loose from burning stables, rushed through the crowd or stood dazed by the uproar. Even the police and firemen were, to a great extent, demoralized. Daring robbery was carried on freely in full sight of everybody. Liquor stores and private dwellings attacked by the flames were ransacked by the crowd. Sparks, which everywhere blew from the burning wooden buildings, were a terrible source of danger. It was no uncommon sight to see men's coats and hats ablaze from the burning pieces of shingle which lighted upon them.

At 1 o'clock the clanging of the bells of St. John's church in rapid tones told of danger to that property, and summoned assistance from all who had time to long for death as a relief. The fire brigade were immediately bent on saving the building, but to no avail. Nothing was saved but the sacred vessels and some of the most valuable of the plate and furniture of the sacristy. It was a grand but terrible sight to see the flames climbing the steeples of the church, and to see their fall a few minutes later. The more northerly of the two was the first to go. It came down bodily and full on the roof of the structure. The other steeple gradually sunk and telescoped.

Next after the church came the Friars' school, opposite. The people in the neighborhood, confident the church would not be burned, had carried their household goods to the front of the building and there piled them up. Everything was consumed. The church was worth at least $100,000.

Street after street was swept by the fire until vacant Lots in some directions and the exertions of the firemen in others stayed it.

A battery of artillery was called out and rendered efficient aid in saving property and in keeping order. Several restaurants in Palmerville were caused by the fire. In some cases men were lifted off the ground by the force of the wind. The fire extended even to the lower field, where most of the homeless people had camped, with no death. Realizing the great benefit which a knowledge of this truth would give to the world I began, in a modest way, to treat those afflicted and in every case I found the same

HAPPY RESULTS

which I had experienced. Not only this but many, who were not conscious of any physical trouble but who, at my suggestion, began the use of the remedy which had saved my life, found their health steadily improving and their strength continually increasing. So universal, where used, was this true, that I determined the entire world should share in its results, and I therefore placed the formula for its preparation in the hands of Mr. H. H. Warner, of Rochester, N. Y., a gentleman whom I had cured of a severe kidney disease, and who, by reason of his personal worth, high standing and liberality in endowing the Astronomical Observatory and other public enterprises, has become known and popular to the entire country. This gentleman at once began the manufacture of the remedy on a most extensive scale, and to-day, Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure, the pure remedy that saved my life, is known and used in all parts of the continent.

"I am aware a prejudice exists toward proprietary medicines, and that such prejudice is too often well-founded, but the value of a pure remedy is no less because it is a proprietary medicine. A justifiable prejudice exists toward quack doctors, but is it right that this prejudice should extend toward all the doctors who are earnestly and intelligently trying to do their duty? Because Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure saved my life before it became a proprietary medicine, is it reasonable to suppose that it will not cure others and keep still more from sickness now that it is sold with a government stamp on the wrapper? Such a theory would be childish."

The doctor then paid some high compliments to American science, and closed his lecture as follows:

"How to restore the health when broken, and how to keep the body perfect and free from disease must ever be man's highest study. That one of the greatest revelations of the present day has been made in ascertaining the true seat of health to be in the kidneys and liver, all scientists now admit, and I can but feel that the discovery which I have been permitted to make, and which I have described to you, is destined to prove the greatest, best and most reliable friend to those who suffer and long for happiness, as well as to those who desire to keep the joys they now possess."

Gloomy Weather.

Why force them to do that which they dislike? It is seldom that any good is gained by such a course. Why should your little boy be made to eat the fat of his meat if he loathes it, or anything, no matter what, that is repulsive to him? Or why make a child miserable by forcing it to wear articles of clothing which its taste does not approve or at which other children laugh? I think that little girls suffer more from this than from any one thing. Almost all of us have some such memory. I know a lady whose childish life was made wretched for a year by an obsolete old bag in which she was forced to carry her books to school, and another whose mother forced her to wear some old lace, which, though costly, was laughed at by the ignorant children who made her world, and declared that she actually wished herself dead until that lace was banished from her wardrobe. If you can manage it, be wise, and counsult your children's tastes in these unimportant matters.

Factory Facts.

Close confinement, careful attention to all factory work, gives the operatives pallid faces, poor appetite, languid, miserable feelings, poor blood, inactive liver, kidneys and urinary troubles, and all the physicians and medicine in the world cannot help them unless they get out doors or use HOP BITTERS, made of the purest and best remedies, and especially for such cases, having abundance of health, sunshine and rosy cheeks in them. None need suffer if they will use them freely. They cost but a trifle. See another column.

Tellers of exaggerated stories are known in business circles as yarn merchants.

A GREAT REVELATION.

Some Valuable Thoughts Concerning Human Happiness and Timely Suggestions About Securing It.

SYNOPSIS OF A LECTURE DELIVERED BY DR. CHAS. CRAIG BEFORE THE METROPOLITAN SCIENTI