An Apple Memory.

The white hot dusty road,
The field so green and still,
The twittering of a bird,
The tinkling of a rill,
And spreading grandly, wide and free,
The shadow of an apple-tree.

"Come rest," it seemed to say,
"Out of the dust and heat;
The grasses round my roots
Are long and cool and sweet."
So free, so gracious was the tree,
I took the offer thankfully.

Upon the grass I lay,
Green whispering leaves o'erhead;
I ate the juicy fruit,
Pale gold, flecked through with red,
Then lay in slumber deep and sweet,
Till full of rest from head to feet.

Until the sun sank low,
And shades of evening fell;
Then, rested and refreshed,
"My host," I said, "farewell!
Farewell and thanks, oh gracious tree!
Thy guest will long remember thee."

I thought the rustling leaves
A pleasant "farewell" sent;
I thought the loaded boughs
Unto my greeting bent,
Oh, apple-tree, so kind and free,
May sun and rain long nourish thee!

—*Harper's Weekly.*

Polly Gordon's Premium Farmer.

Polly Gordon was an old maid living in Kansas; she was not born there, for the State has not been long enough settled, and I will not mention the place of her nativity, but lest the excusable State pride of Ohio people be hurt, I will say it was not Ohio; and yet she had energy enough at any hard work that offered itself to entitle her to the presidency, if woman were eligible to that position. She was able-bodied, and in her way strong-minded, even to obstinacy. Though she "didn't b'lieve in them wimmin's rights wimmin she had heerd tell of," she always voted in school-meeting—the Kansas law gives that privilege to women, "because if they mean to waste the people's money on too much schoolin' and high edicatin', I'm a goin' to do all I kin to pervent it," was her reason for voting.

She wore her dress made in the style that prevailed when she first put on long dresses, and her scanty hair from one year's end to another was twisted in a little round knot and pinned on top of the back of her head. The tashions kin come round to me when they want to, I've no time, and ain't goin' to run round after 'em," was her invariable reply when some friend dared to suggest an improving change. Her highest ambition was to have the finest-colored striped rag-carpets, the nicest drawn-in rugs of impossible roses and improbable cats; the whitest clothes and lightest bread of any housekeeper. She carried on a little farm, and among farmers it was her boast and pride that her calves were biggest and pigs fattest; that her corn yielded most to the acre, and she never lost a chicken or turkey by pip or cholera. She could scarcely read or write, despised "booklarnin' as no 'count toward gittin' along," and took no interest in the world outside beyond the prices of her crops and the groceries she had to buy.

Mrs. Prudence Volney, for the last four years Polly's nearest neighbor, also living on a farm—I may fearlessly add that she was from Ohio—was a refined, intelligent woman, very fond of reading, and Polly was always lecturing her on her expensive tastes. "I do think its so foolish in you to waste your money that way, an' spend your time too. You pay out enough hard cash every year for such trash as would buy two or three fat calves; if you'd 'a done that way, countin' the nateral increase you'd 'a had a herd o' cattle by this time, instid o' all this litter of books an' papers; an' you might 'o drawn in a dozen rugs just like mine!"

Mrs. Volney took this advice from Polly in good part, for the maiden lady was really kind-hearted and well-disposed, and too ignorant of etiquette and propriety, or the most common things belonging to cultured, and I might add civilized life, to be aware of the impertinence of her suggestions.

So great was her prejudice against newspapers and books, as wholly useless, that, while to the lightning-rod, sewing-machine and patent pump man she would give a not altogether impatient hearing and examination of his wares, the mild-mannered book or newspaper agent, with chromo attachments, was sure to receive a severe, "No, sir, you need not trouble yourself to take a step inside! I've no time to look at such trash, an' no money to throw away on it; an' if you want a piece of my mind I'll tell you you'd better pitch into hard work than to go round in such low business!" and she always gave a call to the dog, who stood by grinning with white teeth that added to the effect of Polly's remarks, the agent mildly said, "Good morning," and retired, crab-wise, with meek side glances in the dog's direction, and never came again.

But Polly was human and a woman, and in a State where men do so much more abroad than the other sex, and she had secretly wondered why, with so many substantial attractions of farm stock, full cribs and fat turkeys, her strong, bony hand had not been sought in matrimony. As she grew older and accumulated more, she often felt the disadvantage of not being around so as to know the price of things, but she was entirely ignorant of the value or use of a newspaper in giving her the information wanted. Besides, she wearied of tending her stock and holding the plow; and it vexed her still more to pay her hard-earned cash to some indifferent hired man, when she feared or knew slighted his work, or in some way cheated her.

Ond day while chaffing about a plow, she noticed on the premium list of the coming county fair, "Best loaf of wheat bread, five dollars, and *Kansas Farmer* for one year."

The last clause very much puzzled her, but she concluded that even for a year the farmer was well worth trying for, and he might be so well suited he would be willing to stay a life-time. Mrs. Volney came in a day or two after. "Have you heerd tell of the premiums yit for the fair?"

"Yes, I have a list."

"Will they truly give five dollars and a Kansas farmer for the best loaf of light bread?"

"I presume so, and I am half inclined to send in a loaf."

"I should think you'd most be ashamed to say so and let folks know it."

Mrs. Volney never dreamed of Polly's mistaken notion in regard to the "farmer," and thought she meant she took so many papers she ought not to be so extravagant as to want another; and she was greatly astonished at the blush that crawled up over Polly's freckled face and lost itself in the roots of her scanty, tightly-drawn hair, as she hesitatingly went on. "Well, to tell the truth I'd like both mighty well myself; money's always handy, and the farmer'd be convenient in the house and out of doors too. There's some things about farming I don't know, and being just alone by myself, I can't look after everything, and go around too and find out about things, and so I get taken in. Do you s'pose I could have the farmer longer if it suited all round?" she asked, anxiously.

"Of course, the publisher would be glad for you to have it all the rest of your life, if you wanted it."

"Publishers!" was an unmeaning word to Polly, but she had a dim recollection of hearing in her early youth about something called "publishing the bans" that was connected with matrimony; and that Mrs. Volney spoke of the "Farmer" as "it" soothed her maidenly modesty, for, as said "farmer" was only a supposable case, she could not yet bring herself to the familiarity of the "he" and "him" which the assured wife of several years gives to the husband of her youth, if there were but one masculine in the world. Mrs. Volney was delighted that after all her invectives and declarations Polly had become reconciled to the idea of even having a paper in her house, and in trying to steer clear of any discussion she led poor Polly further astray by saying, "Oh, yes, the *Farmer* would be so much help to you about giving the prevailing prices all over the State; in that way you know when corn, butter, stock and poultry are advancing, and the best time to sell. Otherwise we women, tied to the house, not able to get out and learn about things as men do, are at the mercy of speculators who come round, and taking advantage of our ignorance, buy our things and take all the profits themselves."

"That's so," said Polly, sadly. "I sold some of my corn last week five cents on a bushel too low."

"If you had had the *Farmer* you would have known that corn was fast advancing and held on. I knew it and so was saved."

"Do you s'pose if I get the premium I'll have the farmer in time for fall plowing?"

Mrs. Volney did not see the connection, and was greatly puzzled to understand Polly's agitation, but attributed it to her embarrassment for this sudden conversion and confession of faith in newspapers, and answered: "Oh yes, you will get the money and *Farmer* as soon as the fair is over."

There were only two weeks till the fair, and they were very busy ones to Polly, who cleaned house from garret to cellar, and made many changes to suit the tastes of the possible coming farmer; her old loves were forgotten in the fervor of this new hope, and so many times was her pet cat driven off the newly-covered cushion in the big rocking chair that she grew anxious, gray and thin. She also bought fifteen yards of green alpaca at a bargain, and going over to Mrs. Volney's, with unwonted bashfulness, asked for polonaise and overskirt patterns.

"I shall want one suit just right after I git the farmer!" she explained to the uncomprehending Mrs. Volney, "and I thought I'd go the whole figger for this onct."

"The very idea of having a newspaper is an educator; this premium offered may be the entering wedge that shall break up Polly's ignorance and let a flood of light on her soul," Mrs. Volney said to her daughter, after Polly had gone with the patterns and full instructions how to use them, to which she had listened as attentively as any devotee of fashion.

She "set" four "sponges" for her prize loaf, and made two loaves from each "settin," and at the appointed day, arrayed in her most extraordinary dress, polonaise, overskirt and trimmed skirt, with three carefully selected loaves, she hastened to the fair. While ticketing them she anxiously asked the polite official, "Will I git the farmer and five dollars to onct if I draw the first premium?"

"Without the slightest doubt, madame; I have all the premiums here on hand to be given as soon as called for." Polly gazed earnestly at the men who were in the office, feeling that if her "farmer" was as anxious as to his fate as she was in regard to him his looks would betray him. But she might as well have studied the Sphinx as their faces, so she followed her loaves, and when once in place hovered around them as a hen near her brood, listening to every word that was said, as if from the general public opinion she might get a clew to her fate. She passed a sleepless night and next day, with carefully curried horse, newly-washed buggy and herself in her best array, she drove in. At noon the committee came, smelled, tasted and discussed, while she suffered agonies as if running the gauntlet, but at last the blue ribbon was put on one of her loaves and the red on another.

Regardless of the latter she seized the blue ribbon loaf, and hurrying to the office she accosted the same suave official, who wondered at her breathless excitement as she held the loaf up and said, "Are both your prizes here?"

"Yes, madame."

"Do you see that blue ribbon. I want my five dollars and my farmer."

"Here they are," and he extended the bill and a copy of the *Farmer*. "When would you like to begin with the *Farmer*, madame?"

"I'm all ready, for I come prepared to take him home. Which one is it?" and she looked inquiringly at a group of gentlemen who, noticing her excited manner as she came in, had stopped their conversation and were observing her.

"This is it," said the superintendent, putting it in her hand, "date of September 6, 18—"

"Why this is a newspaper—I want my farmer."

"Well, see, *The Kansas Farmer*," and he displayed the title-page.

"Was that what you meant by the farmer you was goin' to give for the best loaf o' yeast light bread?"

"Yes, madame. Oh, not one copy, certainly, but a year's subscription," he added hastily, thinking he had discovered the cause of her trouble.

"That paper!" she answered with the utmost scorn as she sniffed with her upturned, freckled nose. "Is this the underhand way you take to deceive a lone woman like myself? I wish I had words to speak out my mind to you and tell just what I think about it."

"What did you expect? It was so announced on the premium list."

"Why a farmer—a man, of course!"

The unfortunate official tried to explain, and the other gentlemen assisted him, each assuring her that doubtless somebody might be found to fill the bill, but as no one offered himself for the vacancy, Polly, not at all appeased, went off leaving her *Farmer* and loaf of bread, but she did not forget the crisp five dollar bill! In that dark hour of disappointment it was a source of comfort to her, and kept her from utter despair as she unhitched her horse and drove home single and alone.

At first she thought she would hunt up Mrs. Volney and speak her mind to her, but the ride home, and the soothing purr of the old cat who lay in the no longer tabooed arm-chair, calmed Polly, and sober second thought prevailed.

She did her own fall plowing; it kept her at home three weeks, and when next she met Mrs. Volney, who had heard of her disappointment through the superintendent, neither of them made any reference to the *Kansas Farmer*.

But as the *Farmer* came to her regularly, she gradually learned to look for it and felt a new importance to have some mail for her at the postoffice. From reading current prices, weather notes and prospects of crops, she began to care for other things; so that by the next fair she presented herself at the office with another loaf, and to the smiling superintendent's "Miss Gordon, if you get the blue ribbon, remember it is only the *Weekly Kansas Farmer* for one year from date we can give you," she was able to reply with a return smile: "I don't want any a other. This is the best kind for me."

However, in Mrs. Volney's house, the inquiry is made weekly: "Has 'Polly's educator' come yet?" and it always creates a ripple of laughter among the young folks.—*Springfield (Mass.) Republican.*

FEMALE FARM HANDS.

Astonishing Evidence Elicited at a Parliamentary Inquiry.

Americans visiting some parts of Europe are apt to be shocked by the labor imposed upon women, who work in the fields, load carts and sometimes harnessed with a dog help to draw their produce to market. But very often "things are not what they seem" in this matter more than any other. A remarkable illustration of the attraction that field labor has was afforded some years ago in England. A contractor for various kinds of agricultural work formed a gang of young women whom he took from place to place in the eastern countries to perform hedging, ditching and draining for farmers. This went on for several years, until at length the rumors of the evils from it assumed so serious a character as to result in a parliamentary inquiry. The evidence was remarkable. It all went to show that the women positively delighted in this free, active and nomadic life, and one of its chief charms was the astonishing health and strength they attained. Their limbs became muscular, they had the digestion of ostriches, and aches and pains were unknown to them. They, in fact, enjoyed the most exquisite of all human sensations—perfect health. How many American ladies enjoy that for even five years of their lives after fifteen? The other side to the matter was that the moral well-being of these agricultural amazons was by no means on a par with the physical. They bore children whom they regarded as an intolerable incumbrance, inasmuch as they kept their mothers from work, and, consequently, it was ascertained, by a volume of evidence, put these children out to nurse. The nurse with whom most children died was the prime favorite, and a significant feature in the evidence was that of druggists, who testified to the enormous consumption in the district of those soothing syrups which so effectually succeeded in soothing infants out of their existence. It was in view of the dreadful infant mortality that parliament interfered and suppressed the gang system. But the case of the German, Flemish or Dutch women who help husband or father in his fields is not open to this objection. If the labor be not excessive it is desirable. It produces the strong, hardy women who rear a stalwart race. Half the fine ladies who now find a few turns on a piazza almost too much for them would be all the better for a graduated scale of garden work. Beginning with a quarter of an hour a day, they would find at the close of a month that they could easily do their two hours, and that they ate and slept as they had never done before, while they forgot that such evils as blue devils and nerves had any existence.—*New Yord Times.*

Longevity.

Can man reach and pass the age of 100 years? is a question concerning which physiologists have different opinions. Buffon was the first one in France to raise the question of the extreme limit of human life. In his opinion man, becoming adult at sixteen, ought to live six times that age, or to ninety-six years. Having been called upon to account for the phenomenal ages attributed by the Bible to the patriarchs, he risked the following as an explanation: "Before the flood the earth was less solid, less compact than it is now. The law of gravitation had acted for only a little time; the productions of the globe had less consistency, and the body of man, being more supple, was more susceptible of extension. Being able to grow for a longer time, it should, in consequence, live for a longer time than now." The German Heusler has suggested on the same point that the ancients did not divide time as we do. Previous to the age of Abraham, the year, among some people of the East, was only three months, or a season; so that they had a year of spring, one of summer, one of fall and one of winter. The year was extended so as to consist of eight months after Abraham and of twelve months after Joseph. Voltaire rejected the longevity assigned to the patriarchs of the Bible, but accepted without question the stories of the great ages attained by some men in India, where, he says, "It is not rare to see old men of 120 years." The eminent French physiologist, Flourens, fixing the complete development of man at twenty years, teaches that he should live five times as long as it takes him to become an adult. According to this author the moment of a completed development may be recognized by the fact of the junction of their bones with their apopyses. This junction takes place in horses at five years; and the horse does not live beyond twenty-five years; with the ox at four years, and it does not live over twenty years, with the cat at eighteen months, and that animal rarely lives over ten years. When it is effected at twenty years he only exceptionally lives beyond 100 years. The same physiologist admits, however, that human life may be exceptionally prolonged under certain conditions of comfort, sobriety, freedom from care, regularity of habits and observance of the rules of hygiene; and he terminates his uninteresting study of the last point with the aphorism: "Man kills himself rather than dies."—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Poisonous Leaves.

Some of our most admired flowers which we would least willing banish from cultivation, are associated with green leaves of a very poisonous character. The narrow long leaves of the daffodil act as an irritant poison; the delicate compound leaves of laburnum have a narcotic and acrid juice which causes purging, vomiting, and has not unfrequently led to death. The narrow leaves of the meadow saffron, or autumn crocus, give rise to the utmost irritation of the throat, thirst, dilated pupils, with vomiting and purging. The dangerous character of aconite, or monkshood leaves, is doubtless well known, but each generation of children requires instruction to avoid above all things those large, palm-shaped leaves, dark green on the upper surface. Leaves of coarse weeds provide an abundant quota of danger, but frequently their strong scent and bitter or nauseous taste give timely warning against their being consumed. Of all our British orders of plants perhaps the umbelliferous order contributes the rankest and most widespread elements of danger. The water dropwort, too, a flourishing ditch plant; the water hemlock, fool's parsley, must be ranked among our most dangerous poisonous plants, belonging to the umbelliferous order. The fool's parsley leaves are sometimes mistaken for genuine parsley, but their nauseous odor and darker leaves should prevent this. The nightshade order is another, with dangerous and often extremely poisonous leaves. Indeed, no nightshade can be regarded as safe; while the deadly nightshade, with its oval, uncut leaves, soft, smooth and stalked, are in the highest degree to be avoided. Henbane and thornapple again, with their large and much indented leaves, are conspicuous members of the "dangerous class." Holly leaves contain a juice which is both narcotic and acrid, causing vomiting, pain and purging. Even elder leaves and privet leaves may produce active and injurious irritation when eaten.—*Land and Water.*

Does the chimney-sweep play th ue-it?

THE NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

A FIRE at Swampscott, Mass., destroyed the Ocean House, a large hotel. The guests all escaped with their effects.

THE second annual exhibition fair of the New England Manufacturers and Mechanics' institute was formally opened at the Exhibition building, Boston, in the presence of a large audience, embracing Governor Long, prominent members of the clergy, State and city officials, army and navy officers, etc.

A VILLAGE omnibus at Ilion, N. Y., was crossing a railroad track when it was struck by a passing train. Albert P. Redway, a dry goods merchant, was killed and seven other persons were injured.

AT Newport, R. I., a boy seven years old died after a brief illness, and three physicians pronounced it a case of Asiatic cholera.

SMALLPOX made such inroads at Paterson, N. J., that the churches, schools and halls were ordered to be closed, the mills refused admittance to all who were not vaccinated, and all public gatherings were prohibited.

BURGLARS blew open the safe in James Callery's tannery at Alleghany, Pa., and carried off $50,000 in mining stocks and other securities.

THE books of the Washington (Pa.) Savings bank have been examined by N. R. Baker, appointed for that purpose. He reports a defalcation of $120,000. The defaulting cashier says he took but $60,000 of it. The remainder he knows nothing of.

MRS. ELIZABETH GUCKERT, a widow residing near Reading, Pa., died in great agony from the effects of a dog's bite, received ten weeks previous. She died in spasms, whining and barking like a dog. The attending doctors pronounced it a genuine case of hydrophobia.

AT Creedmoor, L. I., it was found that the gun belonging to Captain Mellish, of the British team, had been tampered with, and it is thought that it was the work of gamblers to affect the betting.

ANOTHER attempt has been made by incendiaries to burn the Sprague property at Cranston, R. I. Four barns, a grist mill and a planing mill belonging to the estate have already been destroyed.

THE New York police have closed all the gambling houses and are making extra efforts to keep them closed.

THE Maine State election resulted in a Republican victory by a plurality of about 9,000 votes, according to first advices. Robie's plurality for governor over Plaisted, the Fusionist candidate, is about 9,000. All the Republican candidates for Congress are elected, and the Republicans gained in both branches of the legislature.

A FIRE at Clarion, Pa., destroyed the courthouse, causing a loss of over $50,000.

THE New Hampshire Republicans at their State Convention in Concord nominated Samuel W. Hale for governor.

A PORTLAND (Me.) dispatch says the complexion of the next Maine legislature will be about as follows: Senate—Republicans, 28; Fusion, 3; total, 31. House—Republicans, 87; Fusion, 64; total, 151.

ANOTHER ship load of Mormon emigrants has arrived in New York from Liverpool. The party numbered 646, and they were under the supervision of a Mormon elder, who said that they were composed of 300 British, 222 Scandinavian and fifty-four Swiss and German converts. There were also in the party sixteen returning Mormon missionaries.

South and West.

INFORMATION from Fort Concho, Texas, says that the region along the valley of the Concho river visited by the recent great flood has been thoroughly searched over, and fifty-three white bodies recovered and recognized, and that a larger number than that, mostly Mexican herders whose names are unknown, were also recovered. The losses at the towns of San Angeles, Beneficklin and Concho foot up $312,000. The loss of stock and property in the surrounding country will aggregate much more.

THE Colorado Greenbackers have nominated a full State ticket headed by George W. Way for governor.

SO many cases of highway robbery and assault are occurring at Des Moines, Ia., that the people talk of organizing vigilance committees. The latest case is that of Henry Scribner, an old man, who was assaulted and fatally injured by ruffians.

YELLOW fever has been declared epidemic in Pensacola, Fla. Numerous new cases of the dread disease continue to be reported from Brownsville and Matamoras, Texas. For the week ending on the 9th there was reported a total of 1,539 cases and eighty-eight deaths at Brownsville.

JOHN H. JOHNSTON, mayor of Danville, Va., shot John E. Hatcher, chief of police, inflicting what was believed to be a mortal wound. The parties met casually and Hatcher demanded an apology for a statement of Johnston's, that Hatcher had not accounted for fines he had collected. An apology was refused and a scuffle ensued, during which Johnston shot Hatcher. Johnston surrendered himself and was admitted to bail in $5,000.

GREAT damage to property has been done by storms and floods in the south of Spain.

SAMUEL CLAYE, railway carriage maker, of Long Eaton, England, has failed for $1,000,000.

IT is asserted that the Turkish government is purposely preparing a collision with Greece in order to divert Turkish public opinion from Egypt.

FRANCIS HYNES was hanged at Limerick, Ireland, for the murder of John Doloughty, a herder, near Ennis. Doloughty had continued in the employment from which Hynes had been evicted. The trial was the first under the crimes act before a special jury. Hynes met his death calmly. A large crowd was present outside the jail. A military guard was held in readiness, and 700 extra policemen from northern counties were drafted to Limerick, in view of the possibility of a disturbance. Prayers were offered for Hynes in many of the Catholic churches in counties Limerick and Clare. In many towns business places were closed on account of the hanging.

A STORM in Florida has caused loss of lif and great destruction of property. The cotton crop was much damaged in some places, one-half the crop being ruined. At Quincy many outhouses, fences, trees, etc., were prostrated, and five persons, all colored, were killed. In Madison much damage was done to property, trees, etc. At Darbyville, twenty-five miles west of Jacksonville, the section house of the Florida Central and Western railroad was blown to pieces, the section master and his family escaping with a few bruises. The adjoining house, containing a number of colored laborers, was blown to atoms. Samuel White was blown two or three hundred yards through the air, fearfully mangled, and instantly killed. Five others were more or less injured by the wind and flying timber. At Tallahassee Gallie's hall, the new hotel and other buildings were unroofed, and the new Episcopal church was badly damaged. The cyclone was the severest in twenty years.

A FIRE at Denver, Col., destroyed the Crescent mills and elevator, entailing an estimated loss of $225,000.

THE chiefs of the several fire departments of the United States and Canada have held a three days' convention at Cincinnati.

THE Richmond (Va.) Banking and Insurance company suspended payments. The amount of deposits was stated to be about $600,000, which includes $300,000 belonging to the State of Virginia, the bank being the State depository. The liabilities were put down at $607,000.

From Washington

IN the star route trial, after Attorney-General Brewster had closed his argument for the prosecution, the jury were about to leave the box when they were stopped by Judge Wylie, the presiding justice, who stated that he wished to devote a moment to a matter foreign to the trial proper. Judge Wylie stated that he had been informed by several of the jurymen that they had been approached improperly, and that, upon learning that within the last twenty-four hours "these wolves have become fiercer, more determined," he felt so much indignation that he was almost ready to advise the jurymen to shoot the men on the spot. Judge Wylie used very strong words of warning. Counsel on both sides demanded an investigation and one was ordered. The announcement by the court caused much excitement, and many rumors resulted from it.

NUMEROUS new national banks in various parts of the country have recently been authorized by the comptroller of the currency to begin business.

A call has been issued for a meeting of representatives of the American Public Health association, the National Board of Health, and the various State Boards of Health, to be held at Indianapolis, Ind., on October 18, to consider the question of holding a national medical and sanitary exhibition in the year 1883.

THE September crop reports of the agricultural department show an improvement since August 1 in the condition of the cotton crops in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and Texas, and some deterioration in South Carolina, Georgia and States of the Gulf coast to Louisiana, inclusive. The corn crop in all the region south of Pennsylvania and of the Ohio river is in high condition in every State except West Virginia, being represented by 100 or higher figures. In many districts of the South the crop is reported the best in twenty years. In the New England States there has been a very sharp decline, except in Vermont. A decline, owing to drought, is indicated in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In early frosts do not injure the corn crop the product will be materially larger than last year, but the heavy production of 1879 and 1880 cannot be approached under the most favorable circumstances. The oats crop when harvested was in unusually high condition, yielding heavily in threshing. The general average is 100, very few States falling below that figure, among them New Jersey, Pensylvania, Maryland and Virginia. The rye crop is also above average in nearly all the States and was harvested in good condition. The general average for tobacco is eighty-nine—in Pennsylvania, eighty-six; Maryland, ninety-two; Virginia, ninety-three; Kentucky, ninety-one; Ohio, sixty-five; Missouri, ninety-three.

Foreign News.

FEARFUL accounts of the ravages of cholera in Manila continue to be received. In one day 253 natives and four foreigners, including the American consul, died. In eighteen villages in the province of Manila there were 368 deaths.

THE ten persons arrested for complicity in the murder of the Joyce family, near Cong, Ireland, recently, have been committed for trial before a special commission court.

PANAMA has experienced one of the severest earthquakes ever known on the isthmus. Many buildings were damaged, but no lives were lost.

COREA has paid Japan an indemnity of $2,500,000, and the same amount to the relatives of the Japanese subjects murdered during the recent difficulty.

WHILE grand cavalry maneuvers were being conducted by the German crown prince, in Berlin, two French officers of high rank were arrested in the act of making sketches of the ground.

THE British bark Canoma, from Sunderland for Java, foundered at sea. Her crew, numbering twenty, were drowned.

CHINESE troops have invaded Corea and reinstated the recently deposed king.

A VOLCANO named Sheramino, in the center of Japan, which had been silent for seventy years, has again broken out in eruption.

A HEAVY rain and wind storm visited portions of Georgia and Virginia, doing considerable damage to property, besides injuring the cotton crop to some extent. In Virginia the James river overflowed the lowlands, damaging crops and destroying property.

GEORGE NESBITT, a ranchman living in Tula Rosa Canon, N. M., started for Las Cruces in a wagon, accompanied by his wife, Miss Woods and a stranger. The bodies of the last three were found soon after. It is thought that Nesbitt, who had been drinking, murdered his companions and then drove off.

IT is estimated that the war in Egypt will cost the Egyptians $350,000,000.

THE Russian emperor's coronation at Moscow has been postponed until next year.

Verdict of the Star Route Trial Jury.

After deliberating from Saturday until Monday afternoon the jury in the star route cases at Washington came into court for the eighth time and said that they stood then as at the beginning—decided as to four of the defendants and not able to agree as to the others. Judge Wylie then said that he had come to the conclusion to accept the jury's verdict, which was then rendered by the foreman, as follows: "I am instructed by the jury upon this indictment to make the following return: As to John M. Peck and William H. Turner, not guilty. As to John R. Miner and Montford C. Rerdell, guilty. As to J. W. Dorsey, as to S. W. Dorsey, as to Harvey M. Waite, and as to Thomas J. Brady, the jury are unable to agree." The foreman explained that they thought it necessary to vote upon Peck, as he appeared in the indictment, though they were aware of his subsequent death. Mr. Merrick objected that as Peck had not been arraigned he could not be indicted. The court concurred in this objection and directed the jury to render their verdict, which was done, John M. Peck's name being omitted therefrom. Motions for a new trial were at once made on behalf of Miner and Rerdell, who were then taken to jail.

A Washington dispatch thus summarizes the result of the jury's deliberations: "The twelve men chosen to decide the question of the guilt or innocence of these parties arrived at the conclusion which furnished this unparalleled result after three days of deliberation and twelve ballots. The first was upon the question of the conviction of all the defendants except Turner. It resulted eight yeas to four nays. On the next ballot the jury took the position which they afterward held throughout the three days' deliberation. It was as follows: W. H. Turner, not guilty; John R. Miner and Montfort C. Rerdell, guilty; J. W. Dorsey, ten for conviction, two for acquittal; Thomas J. Brady, ten for conviction, two for acquittal; S. W. Dorsey, nine for conviction and three for acquittal, and H. M. Vaile, eleven for conviction, one for acquittal. Three jurors alone opposed the judgment upon the question of the guilt of the last four. They were Dickson, the foreman, and Brown and Holmead, the two colored men upon the jury. Holmead alone saved Vaile, the wealthy Missouri banker, from sharing with Miner and Rerdell the carriage which bore them to the jail. Brown, Holmead and Dickson refused to concur in the desire of the other nine members to send ex-United States Senator Dorsey to the care of Warden Crocker. Brown and Dickson united to stay the hands of the other ten from ex-Assistant Postmaster General Brady, and the same men disagreed with the majority upon the subject of J. Dorsey's guilt."

After the verdict Mr. Dickson, foreman of the jury, made a statement as to the attempts made to bribe the jury. He said that he had been approached with an offer of $25,000 by an officer connected with the department of justice, who produced letters of appointment as a special agent of that department, and stated that he was authorized to act in the matter, if he would vote for the conviction of Brady and Stephen W. Dorsey. That statement would be corroborated by witnesses and by circumstantial evidence. There were others of the jury who had been approached from different directions, but the sums offered were small—from $200 to $300. The man who approached him told him that he represented the attorney-general, but he (Dickson) did not believe thas. He concluded that the man took him for a fool or a knave, and that his only protection was to notify Judge Wylie of the matter. He suggested to Judge Wylie that he should coax the man on. But Judge Wylie remarked that that was too much like police duty, and had advised him to do nothing about the matter, but to keep clear of the man. The following day the man sent in a card asking for an interview and appointing the time and place. He made no reply, and had not seen the man or his companion (who was also an officer of the department of justice) from that day to this. He made inquiries a few days later and learned that the man had left the city upon the following day. He did not believe that the man had twenty-five dollars in his possession, much less $25,000, and it was his opinion that the man had been employed to get the unwary to commit themselves. He would not allow the matter to drop, but would see the thing through.

In an alleyway behind a store in New Orleans a cat planned to catch a pigeon picking up grain. As Puss wriggled up within distance to spring, the bird flew ten feet away and resumed his meal. The cat repeated the attempt with the same result several times, until the end of the alleyway was reached. She now approached her intended victim with even more than usual caution. But the seemingly careless bird knew his business and picked away as though nothing was the matter. This time Puss succeeded in making her spring, and landed just where she intended to. But the pigeon wasn't there. He went into the air at exactly the right moment, and, flying over the cat's head, alighted on the very spot from which she had just sprung. The cat, with a dejected look, disappeared through a broken cellar window, leaving Mr. Pigeon to finish his dinner.

The Trouble in Egypt.

Arabi Pasha's cavalry advanced near Kassasin lock and exchanged fire with the British. The enemy, who showed increasing boldness, were driven back.

An English train of nearly 300 mules was attacked near Ramses by Bedouins. The escort of the train repulsed the Bedouins.

Arabs have thrown carcasses of horses and other foul matter into the Ismailia canal, and it is feared the water will become unfit for drinking.

It is thought that the Egyptian ministry will try to settle the claims for damages growing out of incendiarism and pillage in Alexandria by a commission appointed by the powers.

The proclamation of the sultan of Turkey against Arabi Pasha declares that the maintenance of the authority and prestige of the khedive is indispensably necessary, and that the designs of Arabi Pasha justify his being described as a rebel.

An artillery duel between the British and Egyptians was fought at Kassasin. The British had the enemy's range very accurately, and their shells burst over Arabi's ranks. Shells from the Egyptian side fell steadily into the British camp. Arabi's men were repulsed. General Wolseley telegraphed to the British war office that he had captured four guns and many prisoners, and that his loss was trifling. It is reported that the British lost in killed and wounded about eighty men. Twenty of Arabi's men were killed in one spot. Following are details of the fight, telegraphed to the London News: "After 6 o'clock this morning Bengal Lancers and scouts came in with news that the enemy was approaching in great force on the north side of the railway. Our army was at once put in motion, and by half-past 8 our artillery duel began. Arabi's troops of all arms are spread over the entire ridge and a mile and a half up the line a train heavily armed has appeared. Close to the spot where I stand our forty-pounder and Krupp guns are placed, shelling the enemy's right. There is also a twenty-five pounder a few hundred yards off playing on the same position. We have the enemy's range exactly. One of our shells burst right over the enemy's ranks. The Egyptian artillery have got our distance very well and their shells are dropping steadily into our camp." Another account, published on the day after the fight, says: "In the engagement yesterday, besides the Egyptians who advanced from Tel-el-Kebir, a force of 1,500 men crossed the desert from Salihiyeh and operated on the right flank of the British. These troops continued the engagement after the Tel-el-Kebir force had retired. They had a Krupp battery, which they handled well. The British heavy cavalry pushed them hard, and finally captured one Krupp gun, with the team and equipment, and a green standard, which was taken from the hands of a dead standard bearer belonging to one of Arabi Pasha's crack regiments. The Salihiyeh contingent were routed, but the others reached Tel-el-Kebir in fairly good order. The British loss was comaratively small, perhaps eighty in all killed and wounded. Arabi's plan was well devised, but required better troops to carry it out, although the Egyptians fought better than they have heretofore."

Four of Arabi Pasha's officers surrendered to the British picket at Ramleh. They said that fully 300 of Arabi's men would do likewise did they not fear that the British would fire on them. They said that there were only 5,000 troops at El-Kafr-el-Dwar, that most of them were worn out and many were desirous of surrendering, but were forcibly prevented from so doing.

A Great River's Rise.

The following is an interesting extract from an address delivered by Sir Richard Temple before the British Association for the Advancement of Science: While the prevailing characteristics of our plateau (the plateau of mid-Asia) are wildness, ruggedness or desolation, yet within it are the sources of several great rivers which sustain the most teeming peoples on the face of the earth. The monarch, as it were, of all these noble waters is the Yang-tse-kiang. Though its head streams have been but imperfectly explored, yet its true source is known to be in the Kuenlun mountains already mentioned. After quitting our plateau and passing out of its prison house in the mountains through natural gates of the utmost magnificence, it permeates the most thickly peopled provinces of China—provinces inhabited by about 120,000,000 of souls. It sustains the life of this enormous population by supplying the necessary moisture, and by affording the means of irrigation and of water traffic. No river has ever in ancient or modern times played so important a part in the increase of the human race as the Yang-tse-kiang. Its supply of water is immense and unfailing, and this most essential characteristic is caused by its connection with the snow-clad and ice-bound regions of our plateau, within which it has a course of 700 miles before entering China proper. Amid the same Kuen-lun range the Hoang-ho rises from unexplored springs, which the Chinese figure to themselves as "the starry sea." After bursting through several watersheds, making wondrous bends from its main direction near the base of our plateau, and changing its course more than once to the confusion of comparative geography, it traverses Northern China and confers agricultural prosperity on some 70,000,000 of souls. It also has a course of some 400 miles within our plateau, in consequence of which its water supply is perennially snow-fed. Again, the Irrawaddy and the Mekhong, the former watering Burmah and the latter watering Cambodia, rise in the off-shoots of the Kuen-lun.

Poison as a Wholesale Instrument of Death.

The arrest of over one hundred women in a little district of Hungary, charged with poisoning their husbands and the conviction of one-third of their number, is startling, but not without a parallel in history. In the seventeenth century, an old fortune teller in Italy carried on the business of selling poisons to such an extent that the attention of the authorities was attracted to the place, and it was discovered that the poisons were supplied to young married women who were desirous of getting rid of their husbands. The courts in those days were little better than Judge Lynch's tribunals, so that it is impossible to say whether the judgments were well founded, but a dozen or more women were hanged, and scores of others were whipped through the streets. About the same time there was a similar outbreak of poisoning in France which was not controlled until over one hundred prisoners, chiefly women, had been sent to the stake or gallows. Early in the eighteenth century a woman in Naples carried on a large trade in poisons, and is supposed to have been concerned in bringing about the deaths of over six hundred persons. She was tortured to confession, and then strangled. In every instance of wholesale poisoning, such as that reported from Hungary, there has been found some seller of poisons responsible alike for supplying means and the suggestion of murder. The poisons used were always slow acting, frequently administered and so gradually undermined the health of the victims that their deaths excited no suspicion until the aggregate grew so large as to cause investigation.—*London Lancet.*

Money Value of Crops.

Perhaps it may give readers some idea of the influence a great crop has upon the national prosperity to show the difference in money value between a large and a moderate crop. The figures are taken from an official publication of the United States government.

Article.	*Value of Crop.* 1878.	1880.
Corn	$441,153,405	$679,714,499
Wheat	336,346,424	474,301,830
Hay	285,543,752	371,811,084
Oats	101,945,830	150,243,565
Potatoes	73,059,125	81,062,214
Tobacco	34,336,000	50,600,000
Total	$1,262,384,536	$1,807,633,212

The difference on these crops between the two years amounts to nearly five hundred and fifty million dollars. Add cotton, fruit, vegetables and small crops, and the difference would be between eight hundred and one thousand million dollars.—*Youth's Companion.*

It takes 800 full blown roses to make a single teaspoonful of the famous perfume, and you can get enough perfume out of an onion to drive a dog on the gallop out of the slaughter house. And yet we admire the rose more than we do the onion.

Sand for Fine Glassware.

The sand from which the finest glassware, crown-glass, French plate and the like, is made, is seldom found in large deposits, in accessible places and in strata free from impurities. Quartz in California, which yields five dollars of gold to the ton, is called in miners' language "pay-rock," and yet the sand itself, out of which French plate-glass is made, is worth $5 a ton delivered in the city market. A vein of sand-glass was discovered over ten years ago near McVeytown, Mifflin county, Pa., and is now being extensively worked. The sand-rock occurs, for the most part, in irregular formation, with an occasional approach toward a stratified condition. The rock is hard and dry, yielding with difficulty to the drill, except where water penetrates it, forming crevices. These soft veins, made by the water, are much dreaded by the miners. A mass of this soft rock may fall at any moment and crush or bury the hapless workman. An old miner said to the *Tribune* correspondent: "We hain't had no accidents since I've been yer. That is, there hain't nobody been killed. One fella sot down a little nearder a bl