

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

-In Guadalupe county, Texas, four Mexicans were employed on the farm of W. C. Simmons to clear his land. On the evening of the 1st, while in camp, they were fired upon and two of them were killed. Another was mortally wounded, and the fourth man was shot seven times, but managed to crawl to a house some distance away. Before leaving the murderers poured kerosene oil over the body of one of the Mexicans and set fire to it, burning it to a crisp. The Mexican who is still alive said that "two of the men were negroes, and the third a mulatto or a white man."

In Amsterdam, New York, on the evening of the 4th, Charles Le Grand called his wife Jessie to the door of a hotel in which she was employed and stabbed her. Her recovery is doubtful. "Domestic trouble was the cause. Le Grand has another wife living, and the woman another husband." The body of a man from which the head had been severed, and which was otherwise mutilated, was found on the 5th behind a wall on the roadside in Lexington, Massachusetts. It is believed the remains are those of a well-to-do milkman named George M. Codman.

-The Signal Office at Washington announces that the entire country east of the Mississippi river, with the exception of the New England States, is covered with snow, the fall of which, however, has been rather light. During the past 24 hours the temperature in the districts east of the Mississippi has risen slowly, but has kept below freezing point except in Florida and Southern Texas.

-The family of Joseph Mauri, a druggist in Brooklyn, New York, consisting of himself, wife and seven children whose ages ranged from 4 to 21 years were all, except the mother, taken sick after eating, and two of the children have died. Another was reported dying on the 5th. The cause is not known.

-It is now believed that all the persons injured in the Boston and Albany Railway disaster at West Springfield, Massachusetts, will recover. There is no clue to the identity of the one passenger who was burned to death. A construction train on the Alabama Great Southern Railroad was wrecked near Chattanooga, on the evening of the 4th, by striking a cow. The engineer and fireman were killed. Two freight trains on the New York Central Railroad collided near Syracuse on the morning of the 5th, and several cars and the engines were wrecked.

-In Youngstown, Ohio, about three o'clock on the morning of the 6th, John Semple, watchman in the scarcely completed Andrew's Block, opened a window to secure ventilation when an explosion occurred, and Semple ran into the street with his clothes on fire and rolled in the snow. The fire spread rapidly through the building, a brick and stone structure, and it was soon destroyed. It contained a meat market and a wholesale dry goods store on the lower floor, and a hall and council rooms on the upper. A lively stable, three dwellings and the First Baptist Church were also consumed, and two or three other buildings were damaged. The total loss on property is estimated at \$100,000; insurance \$75,000. A young man named Brannigan is missing and supposed to have perished. It is supposed the explosion was caused by the ignition of natural gas leaking from a main which runs past the building.

-Two unknown men placed a dynamite cartridge in the cable slot on the Larkin street branch of the Sutter Street Railway, in San Francisco, on the evening of the 5th, and exploded it. The basalt rocks on either side of the slot were found to be loosened, and the masonry work badly shattered. The pulleys upon which the cable runs were also broken and the foundation of the tunnel cracked. Window panes in the vicinity were rattled violently at the time of the explosion, and in many cases shattered. In a saloon two blocks away a lighted lamp was thrown to the floor and nearly caused a conflagration. The iron plates on the manholes of the track were found two hundred feet away, to which distance they were hurled. A lady living in the neighborhood saw the men place the cartridge in the trap, after lighting one end of it with a match, and then go away. Then came the explosion.

-Charles Johnson shot and slightly wounded his wife, and then, supposing he had killed her, committed suicide in Chicago, on the 6th. Jealousy was the cause. During a prayer meeting near Eldorado Springs, Missouri, on the night of the 4th, a man named Oakes made a disturbance. Being told to desist by a farmer, named Clark, he drew a knife and cut the latter's throat. In Brockton, Massachusetts, on the 6th, John Edwin Grace shot his wife and then attempted suicide. Neither is expected to recover. The cause was jealousy.

-Joseph Tasso, a noted violinist, and composer of the quaint melody of the "Arkansas Traveller," died on the 6th in Covington, Kentucky, aged 85 years.

-Three men were arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the murder of G. A. Codman, whose mutilated body was found at Lexington, Massachusetts, on the morning of the 5th. Two were discharged, the third, James E. Mowlin, a youth of 17 years, confessing himself the murderer. He killed Codman in the latter's stable, the object being robbery, and then cut up the body, and starting for the country, scattered the remains where they were found.

-The inaugural address of Governor Ames, of Massachusetts, delivered on the 6th, recommends the enactment of a law securing municipal suffrage to women; also "that the whole body of Sunday laws be carefully revised and amended so as to make them accord with the spirit of the age, and thus render it possible to enforce them."

-Two passenger trains collided at a street crossing in Chicago on the evening of the 6th, and a smoker and baggage car were wrecked. Strangely enough no person was killed, and the few who were injured are not badly hurt.

-About twenty persons broke through the ice on Quividi Lake, near St. John's, Newfoundland, on the evening of the 6th, and two men were drowned.

-An explosion took place on the afternoon of the 7th, at the North Chicago Gas Works, in Chicago, caused by the ignition of gas in a sewer which carries off refuse from the oil cupolas. A great sheet of flame rushed into the middle of the building, and another stream of fire went through the sewer and covered the surface of the river for a distance of 200 yards and ignited coke sheds on the bank. Ten or twelve men in the Gas Works were injured, four of them dangerously. A new flour mill at Carbury, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, one hundred miles west of Winnipeg, was demolished on the 7th, by an explosion of ignited flour dust. Loss, \$35,000.

-Eight years ago Henry Morris and others organized the "New York Textile Filtering Company," with a factory at Woodbridge, N. J., where the Morris family resided. In connection with this patent coffee pots and a patent condensed coffee were manufactured, and two coffee houses were established in New York city. Henry Morris, Jr., had sole charge of the business, and the other members of the firm knew nothing of its financial standing. Two years ago he began to speculate in coffee in New York. A week ago he disappeared and an investigation was begun. The safe was burst open, but not a thing was found, not even books, every trace of the company's business transactions having been destroyed. Protested checks and dishonored notes began to come in. These now amount to \$70,000.

-Alexander Searies, colored, aged about 45 years, was arrested in Jersey City on the evening of the 6th for violation of the postal laws. He used to go to New York hotels, search the files of Western newspapers for advertisements for wives, and then write to the advertiser a letter, imitating a woman's handwriting. "The letter would contain a picture of a beautiful girl purporting to be the author of the missive. He invariably told the man wanting a wife that he had saved \$25 and if the balance necessary to take him to his destination was remitted, he would start at once." The police have two cases of positive evidence against him. One is a man in Oregon who forwarded \$68, and the other a man living in Nevada, who forwarded \$16.

-A fire in Delaware City, Delaware, on the morning of the 7th, destroyed the Robinson House and ten stores, causing a loss estimated at \$35,000. Delaware City is about twelve miles from Wilmington. The machine shops of the Rhode Island Horsehoe Works, at Valley Falls, near Providence, were burned on the 7th. The loss is estimated at about \$100,000; covered by insurance. Ernest Brothers' brewery, in Chicago, was partially burned on the 7th. The loss is about \$55,000. The boiler, machine and blacksmith shops of the Northern Pacific Railway at Fargo, Dakota, were burned on the 7th. The loss is estimated at over \$150,000.

-The temperature in Chicago at four o'clock on the morning of the 7th, was 14 degrees below zero. At six o'clock it had risen to 10 below, and was expected by the Signal Service men to remain at that point for about 24 hours. At Davenport, Iowa, the temperature was 20 below zero, and at St. Paul, Minnesota, 32 below. At Marshalltown, Iowa, on the 6th, it was 35 below. At Lafayette, Indiana, on the 7th, 33 below zero was reached. Reports from Michigan indicate temperatures ranging from 14 to 24 below zero at different points.

-Scott Pickler, aged 12 years, shot and killed Chester Dodd, aged 10, in Jackson, Tennessee, on the evening of the 6th. They had quarrelled about some trifle.

-The German ship Elizabeth, from Hamburg to Baltimore, was wrecked on the Virginia coast, near the Little Island Lifesaving Station, fourteen miles south of Cape Henry, before daylight on the morning of the 8th. Two life boats were sent out to the vessel and took the crew on board. On the return to the shore both boats were capsized and all the occupants were drowned, except two of the life savers. One of these is not expected to recover. The latest estimate of the number of lives lost is 27.

-A fire in Hartford, Connecticut, on the 9th, destroyed a block of stores occupied by G. O. Sawyer & Co., Jacob & Forbes and Isaac Kassham. The building was owned by Averill & Tate. A building owned by the estate of C. Fox was badly damaged. The total loss is estimated at more than \$125,000. The fire gained headway because the hydrants were frozen. The dead body of Thomas R. Laughton, clerk of the Fire Board, and one of the editors of the Times, was found in the rear of Sawyer's store. He had been suffocated while trying to get out. A fire in Ashland, Penna., on the morning of the 9th destroyed James Wythe's bakery and barn and the barns of L. J. Steinbilber and Alfred Bancroft, on the opposite side of the street. Wythe was dangerously injured while trying to save his stock in the barn. A fire at Lawrence, Kansas, early on the morning of the 9th destroyed A. B. Kahnweiler & Brothers' double dry goods store, Foley's restaurant, Stafford's dry goods store and the Salvation Army Hall. The total loss is estimated at \$200,000; the insurance at less than \$50,000.

-An extra freight train on the Wilmington and Northern Railroad ran into the rear of another freight train near Wawasset Station, Penna., on the morning of the 9th. Henry Hubert, conductor, and William Martin, a passenger, who are said to have been sleeping in the caboose, were killed and their bodies were badly burned. The brakeman and fireman were injured. Two cars and the caboose were burned and one engine was damaged.

-Mrs. James Arden was burned to death in her house near Baltimore, on the evening of the 8th, by the explosion of a coal oil lamp while she was sitting

at a table reading. Her husband had both hands badly burned while trying to save her.

-By the burning of a millstone at Fowlerville, Michigan, on the 7th, a twelve-year-old boy was killed and two men were severely injured. Taylor D. West, aged 30 years, a salesman, broke his neck by falling down stairs in D. H. Kent & Co.'s store, at Wilmington Delaware, on the 8th.

-A large concrete magazine in the redoubt at Fort Monroe, containing powder and pyrotechnic materials exploded on the afternoon of the 9th, from spontaneous combustion. No person was injured, but glass in the officer's quarters and the hotel was smashed.

-The temperature in the West on the 8th, ranged from 12 below zero in Kansas to 30 below in Dakota. The coldest place reported by the Signal Service was on the 7th, at Bismarck, Dakota, where it was 43 below zero. A telegram from Fort Keogh, Montana, says the spirit thermometers there on the night of the 7th, registered 50 below zero. As they do not register below that point, it is thought the temperature was really much lower. In Canada on the 8th, temperatures were reported ranging from zero to 40 below.

46th CONGRESS-2d SESSION

SENATE. In the U. S. Senate on the 6th, Mr. Edmunds, from the Foreign Relations Committee, reported a bill to incorporate the Marine Canal Company of Nicaragua. The bill giving a pension of \$2000 a year to the widow of General John A. Logan was passed, after some discussion, without a division. Mr. Vest then introduced a bill increasing the pension of Mrs. Apollina Blair from \$50 a month to \$2000 a year, and, at his request, the bill was immediately considered and passed. On motion of Mr. Edmunds the bill to carry into effect the treaty with China for the suppression of the opium traffic was taken up and passed without division. The Inter-State Commerce bill was discussed. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 7th, bills were passed "to settle and adjust the claims of any State for expenses incurred by it in defence of the United States," and to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to make final adjustment of claims of certain foreign steamship companies arising from the illegal exaction of tonnage duties. Bill providing for a school of instruction for cavalry and light artillery at Fort Riley, Kansas, and for the completion and construction of quarters for the army at certain posts, was amended by appropriating \$30,000 for Fort D. A. Russell, and \$55,000 for Fort Robinson, Nebraska, and was passed. Mr. McPherson presented an amendment to the Inter-State Commerce bill, which was ordered printed. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE. In the House on the 6th, the Erie and Oswego Canals bill was considered. The Invalid Pension Appropriation bill, appropriating \$76,247,500, was passed. The Naval Re-organization bill was considered, pending which the House adjourned.

In the House on the 7th, the entire session was devoted to private bills, and an evening session was held for the consideration of pension bills.

In the U. S. House of Representatives on the 8th, the Senate bill repealing the Tenure of Office act was reported and placed on the calendar. The Naval Bureau Consolidation bill was considered. The River and Harbor bill was reported, ordered printed and recommitted. It appropriates \$7,366,250. Adjourned.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate, before adjournment, the report of the Commission to examine and ascertain what laws passed prior to 1791 had, through inadvertence, never been printed or published, was received from the Governor, was a draft of a bill proposed by the Commission to continue their work. Both Houses adopted a concurrent resolution providing for the counting of the vote for Governor and Lieutenant Governor at noon on the 13th instant. Adjourned until the 12th.

THE MARKETS.

Table with columns for PROVISIONS, FLOUR, GRAIN, FISHERY, SUGAR, HAY AND STRAW, and WOOL. Lists various commodities and their prices.

DREAMS.

Nay! Let them dream their dream of perfect love: It is the sweetest feeling, the most fair, This flower-like joy that blooms in the soft air Of Youth's bright heart, with Hope's blue heaven above, Breathe nought of disenchantment; do not bring Misgiving to the bliss of blended souls, The while Life's brimming river golden rolls Through primrose-lighted uplands of the Spring. The blossoms of Eternity lie furled In the dim kindling buds of dreams that keep A fluttering pulse within Time's broken sleep; Dreams are not idle; dreams have saved the world. And therefore to the many heights afar - Our lowland eyes that yearn and dream we lift, And to the lake-like mists that round them drift, And to the moon and to the morning star,

LOVE IN THE DARK.

We were seated in luxurious armchairs before the cheerful open grate in Jack's snug smoking-room, enjoying his excellent Havanas, when my host broke the silence which had lasted for several minutes with the surprising question: "Did I ever tell you where and how I proposed to my wife?" I nodded a negative reply, well aware as I did so that he knew he had not told me, but had prefaced his tale with an interrogation, according to his usual custom. "It's quite a long story," said Jack, in a warning tone, remembering my aversion to lengthy yarns as told by any one but myself. "Ah! but such a subject," I answered, settling myself more comfortably in my chair and drawing the box of Havanas conveniently near. "I shall be delighted to hear about it, but what will Mrs. Taylor say to your telling me?" I added, knowing how the partner of my lot would feel on the subject. She has positively forbidden me ever to speak of it," said he, laughing, "and I have obeyed her until now, with one or two exceptions, but it's too good to keep."

My curiosity was now fully aroused, and as Jack would tell the story of course I was obliged to listen, and if you think that in repeating it I am acting unfairly I'll stop at once. "It was during my second year at Harvard," began Jack, knocking the ashes from his cigar. "How long ago it seems. But let me see, it's only eight years. Yes, it was during my Sophomore year that I accepted Frank Wilson's invitation to spend the holidays with him. He was awfully good company, and I knew that I would be sure to put in a jolly week at his place. Besides, there was another very strong inducement.

"I was in love at that time with his cousin, Helen Wilson, whom I had ascertained would be of the party. I believe we used to write to each other. I know I used to spend the greater part of my time composing verses about her, many of which, however, I had not the courage to send. "When I heard that she was to be at X—I was delighted. I determined to go to New York and see if we could not arrange to travel up together.

"When I arrived in that city I went directly to her house; but at the door I learned that she had just left for Y—, having decided to go a day sooner than she expected. "I inquired how long she had been gone, and the servant said about fifteen minutes. Hoping to overtake her I rushed up to the Grand Central depot. There was not an instant to lose. Hastily buying a ticket, I tore frantically after the already slowly moving train, and owing to my length of limb succeeded in boarding the last car. "Panting, perspiring, but exultant, I went through every car, in every seat expecting to find the object of my haste. "I had gone through all but one when we entered the tunnel, and I was beginning to fear that after all perhaps she might not have taken this train, when, as I was standing by the door, the rays of sunlight which came in through the occasional openings in the tunnel revealed her to me, seated alone, at no great distance ahead of me. "My heart gave a bound, and, scarcely realizing what I was doing, I rushed up to her, dropping into the vacant place beside her and grasping her hand, said: "Darling! I thought I had missed you!" "What do you mean?" she exclaimed, in a tone of mingled indignation and fright. "Let go my hand; you have made a mistake."

"I obeyed her, thinking that she was angry at my mode of address. "I beg your pardon," I said. "I should not have spoken to you as I did, but I was so rejoiced to find you that I did not remember where we are. But as I have begun I may as well finish. Darling, moving a little nearer, 'will you marry me? You must know that I love you; I have done so for ages, ever since my Freshman year."

"But the mention of that astonishing piece of constancy produced no result in my favor. She turned her back upon me, as if possible, more completely than she had done before. But I would not give up. "Can't you love me a little?" I inquired tenderly, trying to take her hand. But she snatched it away and declined either to turn her head in my direction or to answer my question. "As the train was making a tremendous noise I thought that perhaps, she couldn't understand me, so I repeated my words at the top of my lungs. She made some reply, but I didn't catch it. "What do you say, dear?" I bawled. "I don't even know you," she answered in what sounded like a shrill whisper, but the tone was in reality a shriek. "I thought I could not have heard aright, and to convince myself that it was my hearing that was at fault I planted my glasses more firmly on my nose and took a closer inspection of her. "I tell you I don't know you," she repeated, bringing her foot down on mine with much energy. "Leave me this moment, or I'll—"

"Here the train emerged from the tunnel, and you can picture my amazement, horror and mortification when I saw that the girl to whom I had been screaming out my love was an utter stranger to me. "Dazed and scarlet, I arose from my seat. "I beg your pardon," I said, removing my hat; "I have taken you for some one else." "Not observing how my apology was received, I retreated to the smoking-car, where I remained until we reached X—, too stunned even to think. "When I left the train, in looking about for some sort of conveyance to take me to the Wilson place, I found, to my increased embarrassment, that the girl to whom I had so recently offered myself was standing on the platform, apparently waiting for some one. "That she saw me I could tell from the expression of not seeing me which she immediately assumed. As she would not look at me, I had plenty of opportunity to observe her, and saw that she really did resemble Helen in many ways, notwithstanding that she was both fairer and smaller. "But my object was not to admire her, although I assure you that was my inclination; so finding that there was no hope of obtaining a vehicle, I started on foot, fortunately getting a lift over the greater part of the way. "Arrived at the house, I was welcomed with much cordiality by my host and his family, and introduced to the other guests. "Imagine my feelings when, in the course of the conversation, I learned that Frank's sister was expected home from boarding school that afternoon by the very train on which I had come. "It was then to her I had been making love instead of to her cousin. My disposition was to turn and run, but I knew I should have to stay and make the best of it, so I smothered my mortification, and when a few minutes later the carriage arrived, bringing Miss Wilson, and I was presented to her, I think that of the two she found the situation more awkward. "The next day the tardy Helen arrived, and explained how, returning to the house, for something, she had missed the train and her escort. "During the entire week I was impatiently waiting for an opportunity to offer myself to her, but before I could do so I learned that a large diamond ring which she had been wearing for several months was the pledge of her engagement to some other fellow; and, to my surprise, discovered at the same time that the knowledge did not trouble me very much, although for a while I did feel considerably broken up. "I suppose you think that I was half in love with the sister, but I assure you I was not. I considered her too young for me, although now I think her just right for me in every particular, and it was not until several years later, when I met her again as a charming young lady, that I realized that I had accidentally proposed to the woman whom of all others I would choose for my wife."

THE NEW PRECIOUS STONE.

A Slender Crystal Found in Connection with the Emerald.

A new precious stone has lately been brought to the notice of jewelers and the public in discoveries made by Mr. William Earl Hiddin, in Alexander county, North Carolina. The stone resembles in many respects the emerald, being of nearly the same color, but is denser and more brilliant. It was named the hiddente by the late Dr. J. Lawrence Smith, of Louisville, Ky., who was the first to recognize its true chemical nature. This new stone is found in close connection with the emerald, but does not, like the latter, belong to the beryl family. The story of its discovery, as told by Mr. Hiddin, is interesting. While carrying on a search for platinum through the Southern States, under the patronage of Thomas A. Edison, he once came across, in Alexander county, a few pieces of bronze, which, in their edges, showed a tinge of color which verged distinctly on that of the emerald. Being an expert mineralogist he came to the conclusion that a region which could produce bronze having a slight tint of the true emerald color ought to furnish the emerald itself. A vein was subsequently found at a depth of eight feet below the surface, in which he not only found the true emerald, but with it many slender crystals having emerald color, but differing from that gem in nearly every other respect. It was to these slender crystals that the name hiddente was applied. It is to-day the rarest among the precious stones, and has not been discovered in any other place. The largest one found thus far was three inches long, weighing one-half ounce, and was cut up into gems valued at more than \$1,000. Besides the hiddente and the emerald these mines produce numerous specimens of aquamarines, yellow apodumens, citrine and smoky topaz, rutile garnets and peculiarly beautiful quartz crystals.

From the same mine next to the largest emerald in the world was quarried. The largest is owned by the Duke of Devonshire, and weighs but two pennyweights more than the one in question, which is hexagonal in form, is 3 inches long, 1 1/2 inch from face to face, and weighs 8 1/2 ounces. Its value in its present uncut state is about \$1,500.

DECORATIVE NEEDLEWORK.

The Esteem in Which it was Held by the Upper Classes of England.

In all times decorative needlework seems to have been esteemed as an employment for women of the upper classes. In very early days knightly families sent their daughters to the castle of the suzerain lords to learn to weave, spin, and embroider; and we find records that teachers of embroidery took very high salaries. During the time of the Wars of the Roses, ladies of high degree, reduced through the fortunes of war, earned their living by executing and teaching embroidery. Men, however, seem to have been as skillful with the needle as women in mediaeval times, and there are records of embroidery executed by monks as well as by nuns; while we know that the wonderful embroideries preserved in San Giovanni, in Florence, were the work of a man.

At the Court of Isabel la Católica regular trials of needlework were held, and Catherine of Aragon brought with her from her mother's Court all the skill in needlework for which she was famous there; and in the long years of her trouble and desertion she taught embroidery and lace making both to her women and the poor around her. The Spanish stitch introduced by her into needle work seems to have been that kind of "laid" work for which Spain has always been famous, frequently done in black silk on a white ground, with gold introduced. It is very possible that she also taught the stuffed gold work known as basket stitch, which also seems to have been largely practiced in Spain, and is, in fact, still executed in that country. Fresh varieties were introduced again by the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots, learned in France and practiced in the time of her imprisonment. Probably by her was begun that curious and elaborate work consisting wholly or chiefly of point-lace stitches. Some of the embroideries of this period are extremely beautiful, and are treasures of stitches for the instruction of modern workers. No trouble was spared in perfecting the most minute details. In some cases we find pea-pods, in which, while the closed pod itself is worked in the finest point-lace stitch, the peas which it contains, although never destined to be seen, are quite as carefully and elaborately worked. About the same time, or a little later, and lasting on with it through the Stuart to Queen Anne's time, came in the heavily-embroidered bed furniture, worked with worsted upon twilled cotton, in which the fillings were so often also point-lace stitches.

Berlin Marriages.

Among the 13,314 couples who got married in Berlin last year were 361 widows, 229 divorced women, and one man who had the courage to marry a woman who had been divorced three times. There were 95 marriages of cousins, 4 of uncle and niece, 2 of nephew and aunt. One man of 25 married a woman nearly 60, and one man of 75 married a girl of 25. In 53 cases the man was 15 to 20 years younger than the bride; in 9 cases, 20 to 25 years younger; in one case about 30 years younger. March, April, May, September, October, and November, were the months in which the greatest number of marriages took place.

Ask the man who has the most holiness what he thinks of himself, and he will be the first to lament that he has not yet reached the point which he desires. We are like those old fashioned wine-glasses which had no foot to them, so that they could not stand upon the table, but must be held in the hand. When Jesus has us in his hand we can be filled with the water of life, but out of his hand we cannot hold a drop, nor can stand.

"Do you think Lucre will succeed in winning Algernon?" asked the high school girl. "No, indeed," replied Amy; "she hasn't a ghost of a show."

"My dear," protested the high school girl; "you don't use such horrid slang as 'ghost of a show.' Say 'apparition of an exhibition.'"