

NEWS OF THE WEEK

The Commissioner of Agriculture recently sent a veterinarian to Massachusetts, to inquire into the existence of pleuro-pneumonia in that State.

The latest particulars of the burning of the steamer Gardner, on the Tombigbee river, in Alabama, show that the lost passengers nearly all perished by drowning.

A farmer's sled was struck by a Reading Railroad train at Pine Grove, Penna., on the 2d, and Charles Reynolds, aged 12 years, was killed.

Addis Emmett Carr, 25 years of age, died on the 2d in Baltimore from the effects of sulphuric acid, swallowed with suicidal intent.

Kahner's cigar factory, in East 100th street, New York, was robbed of 50,000 cigars, valued at \$15,000, on the evening of the 1st.

The President on the 3d signed the Fisheries Retaliation bill; the Indian Diplomatic and Agricultural Appropriation bills; the Agricultural Experiment Stations bill; the Pacific Railroad Inquiry bill; the bill to repeal the Tenure of Office act; and authorizing the employment of mail messengers in the postal service.

In Minneapolis on the morning of the 3d the flour storehouse "V," of Pillsbury & Co., tumbled down with a terrific crash. It was stored between 100,000 and 125,000 barrels of flour, in sacks and barrels.

The Superintendent of the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, in Minnesota, says that "between Mankato and Tracy the snow drifts are in many cases six feet above the telegraph poles, and the men have had to splice scantling to the tops of the poles to get the wires up where they could be used."

News has reached Montreal that, on the evening of the 3d, a large gang of men, with two engines and a snow plough, were caught in a snow slide at Selkirk. Six of the men were smothered before they could be got out.

A telegram from New York says that a scheme for consolidating all the gas companies in Chicago was completed on the 4th, "after several meetings of the parties interested" there and in Philadelphia.

The George K. Oyer Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, made an assignment on the 4th. Liabilities, \$70,000; assets, \$90,000.

The steamer Fleetwood burst her boiler on the morning of the 4th near Lawrenceburg, Indiana. Three roundabouts were fatally scalded, and the engineer was badly injured.

Two frame buildings on Eighth avenue, New York, were burned early on the morning of the 4th, and a colored woman, Sarah L. Johnston, aged 50 years, and her adopted daughter, aged 6, perished in the flames.

The boiler of a distillery at Morgan's Station, Kentucky, exploded on the 3d, scalding seven men, four fatally. Andrew Grumman, 50 years of age, was gored to death by a bull, at the Lakeside Farm, near Syracuse, New York, on the morning of the 4th.

A slight earthquake shock was felt at Charleston, South Carolina, at a quarter past 3 o'clock, on the morning of the 4th. The shock was also felt at Summerville, Oakley, Midway and other points in the lower section of the State.

The water supply at Cincinnati is reported "very scant" owing to the recent high water in the river. The apparent paradox is explained by the fact that the engines were damaged by the flood.

At East Cambridge, Massachusetts, on the 5th, Mrs. Sarah J. Robinson was arraigned on indictments alleging that on June 20, 1885, she administered poison to Prince Arthur Freeman and caused his death; that on the first of August, 1881, she caused the death of Oliver Sleeper by poison; that on July 11th, 1882, she caused the death of her husband, Moses Robinson,

by administering poison, and that on the first of July, 1886, she murdered by poison Thomas Arthur Freeman. The prisoner pleaded not guilty to all the indictments and was held for trial. In the same Court Annie Towns was arraigned for poisoning her husband, Edward, with arsenic. She also pleaded not guilty and was remanded. The dead bodies of Mrs. Isabella Ellsworth and John Nebert were found in a small frame dwelling at West Newton, Pa., on the morning of the 5th. It is supposed both committed suicide. The bodies bore pistol-shot wounds.

A snow plough on the Canadian Pacific Railroad was buried in a gorge by a snow slide in Selkirk Range, Manitoba, on the 31. Seven men were smothered to death.

A large crowd of boys exploded a flask of powder in the yard of a church at Pittsburg on the afternoon of the 5th, and ten of them were severely maimed and burned in the face and neck.

A heavy snow storm prevailed on the 6th and 7th in New England, Northern New York and Canada. The depth of snow at Boston is six to eight inches on a level; in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Northern New York it is 15 to 24 inches. The snow fell at Hanover, New Hampshire, this winter has aggregated 9 feet 8 inches.

The aggregate of the appropriations made by the regular appropriation bills passed by the Forty-ninth Congress is about \$250,000,000. This is exclusive of the sums appropriated by the River and Harbor and Deficiency appropriation bills, which failed of enactment. The appropriations for the current fiscal year aggregate \$264,000,000, which amount would have been equalled by the appropriations voted by the last Congress had the two bills mentioned become laws.

The Reid levee, in Madison Parish, Louisiana, broke during the night of the 4th. At last accounts the crevasse was three feet deep and fifty yards wide.

The State Department is informed that the cholera has been officially declared epidemic at Montevideo.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was in a dying condition at his home in Brooklyn on the night of the 6th, from the effects of an apoplectic stroke which prostrated him on the 4th. The first symptoms of his illness appeared on the 3d, but the attack was not developed until the next day, when all hope of his recovery was given up. Mr. Beecher remained in a comatose condition on the 6th, and his physician said in the evening that he might die at any moment or linger for several days.

A telegram from Reading reports an explosion of gas at the Sheridan furnaces on the 4th, which caused five men to be terribly burned by molten iron.

49th CONGRESS-2d SESSION SENATE.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 28th ult., the Naval Appropriation bill was received from the House and read the first time. Mr. Edmunds objected to its second reading, and complained of "the great and unwarranted delay of the House in sending to the Senate the great appropriation bills."

In the U. S. Senate on the 1st, a message was received from the President vetoing the bill for a public building at Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Hoar, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, reported back the credentials of Senators-elect Stockbridge, of Michigan, and Turple, of Indiana, (the latter with a protest from members of the Legislature), and they were placed on file. The Naval Appropriation bill was read a second time and referred. It was subsequently reported back and placed on the calendar. Conference reports on the Diplomatic Appropriation bill and on the River and Harbor bill were agreed to. In the evening session, the Deficiency bill, the Mexican Pension bill and the Legislative Appropriation bill were received from the House, read twice and referred. Adjourning.

In the U. S. Senate on the 2d, the Finance Committee was authorized to continue during the recess the investigation into the undervaluation of imported merchandise. The Naval Appropriation bill was considered. After a secret session, a recess was taken. The consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill was resumed in evening session. Various amendments were adopted and the bill, as amended, was passed and sent back to the House. A conference report on the Pacific Railroad Inquiry bill was agreed to, and the bill goes to the President. A bill was passed for the erection of a national memorial bridge over the Potomac, from Washington to Arlington, appropriate \$300,000 to commence the bridge, which is to be erected in honor of Lincoln and Grant. A conference report on the Agricultural Appropriation bill was agreed to. Adjourning.

In the U. S. Senate on the 3d, a conference was ordered on the Naval Appropriation bill. The Legislative Appropriation bill was considered and passed, with a few amendments. A conference report on the Sundry Civil bill was agreed to; also a conference report on the bill to provide for bringing suits against the United States. Bills providing for public buildings at Dayton, Ohio, Sioux City, Iowa, and Lynn, Massachusetts, were passed over the President's veto. A recess was taken. In the evening session another conference was ordered on the Post-office Appropriation bill. The Mexican Pension bill was passed as it came from the House. A conference

report on the bill to adjust heretofore unadjusted railroad land grants was agreed to. An "urgent deficiency" bill was received from the House, but Mr. Edmunds objected to its second reading. The Deficiency bill was considered. Adjourning.

The Forty-ninth Congress ceased to exist at noon on the 4th. All the regular appropriation bills were got through and received the President's signature except three. The three which failed were: The Deficiency bill, which could not be engrossed in time; the Fortifications bill, abandoned in conference; and the River and Harbor bill, killed by a "pocket veto." The President not having signed it. Such was the haste and confusion of the last hours of Congress that, according to an Associated Press despatch, "it is as yet impossible to state exactly what the appropriation bills which have become laws contain, and what has been eliminated." Among the other bills signed by the President on the 4th, were the act for the adjustment of railroad land grants and forfeiture of un-earned lands, and the act in reference to the organization of reserve national banks. The bill to prevent the employment of alien labor and the bill to provide for the settlement of controversies between inter-State railroad corporations failed to receive his signature.

Mr. Hale, in explaining to the Senate the conference report on the Naval Appropriation bill, said: "The appropriations in the bill now (in addition to the running expenses of the department) amounted to between eleven and twelve million dollars for what might be called the new establishment—the increase of the navy. It comprehended four new vessels and two millions for floating batteries and other structures for harbor defenses. It also comprehended \$2,500,000 for work on vessels already begun, a little more than two millions for work on the monitors and four millions for armor plate and gun steel or forgings." In consequence of the failure of the Deficiency bill the act extending the free delivery system to cities and towns having not less than 10,000 inhabitants or a postal revenue of not less than \$10,000, becomes inoperative until the beginning of the next fiscal year, when the regular appropriation act goes into effect.

In the House on the 28th ult., a message was received from the President, vetoing the bill for the erection of a public building at Portsmouth, Ohio. The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Appropriation bill. Several of the members sharply criticised various details of the bill, and also the delay in regard to the appropriation bills. Mr. Randall defended the Committee on Appropriations and said that, "compared with past Congresses, this House stood in a wonderfully favorable light in the matter of the transaction of business. It had placed upon the statute books more useful legislation than any previous House within his recollection. The Democratic side was to be commended by the people for its straightforward, its clean, its useful record in connection with legislation promoting the best interests of the American people."

In the House, on the 2d, the Fisheries Retaliation bill was passed as it originally came from the Senate, the House receding from its amendments, by a vote of 149 to 134, and then, by a vote of 142 to 132, laying a motion to reconsider on the table. This makes the action of the House final, and the bill goes to the President. A further conference was ordered on the Post-office Appropriation bill. The conference report on the Pacific Railroad Inquiry bill was agreed to. An evening session was held, in which conference reports on the Agricultural and Diplomatic and Sundry Civil Appropriation bills were agreed to. A conference was ordered on the Naval Appropriation bill. Adjourning.

In the House on the 3d, the vetoed Senate bill, granting arrears of pension to Thomas S. Hopkins was called up, but failed to pass over the veto. The conference report on the bill regulating the bringing of suits against the United States was agreed to. Mr. Henderson, of North Carolina, moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill removing all restrictions from the sale of leaf tobacco by farmers; abolishing the office of storekeeper at distilleries having a capacity not exceeding five bushels of grain a day, and repealing the special tax on the manufacture of stills. Lost—yes 138, nays 112—for want of two-thirds in the affirmative. Mr. Grover, of Ohio, called up the vetoed bill granting a pension to Sally Ann Bradley, but it failed to pass over the veto. In night session, Mr. Barnes, of Missouri, under instructions from the Committee on Appropriations, moved to suspend the rules and pass an urgent deficiency bill. The bill appropriates for deficiencies in the Post Office Department \$493,000; in the Treasury Department (for printing one and two dollar silver certificates and United States legal tender notes) \$27,000; in the Department of Justice, \$285,000; and for the payment of certified claims, \$934,255. The bill was passed. Mr. Henderson moved to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill giving a pension of \$2000 a year to the widow of General Logan. After debate the bill failed to pass for want of the necessary two-thirds vote, the yeas being 145, the nays 113. Adjourning.

release of convicts in the Pennsylvania Industrial Reformatory at Huntingdon. For the selection, summoning and challenging of special or struck juries in Common Pleas Courts. To regulate the collection of taxes on un-settled lands. Relating to the collection of debts due by boroughs. To abolish all taxes upon watches, household furniture and pleasure carriages. Adjourning.

In the Senate, on the 3d, bills reported favorably were as follows: To regulate the erection of wire fences. To punish false registrations of cattle, etc. To extend the minimum school term to six months. For the renewal and extension of charters of banks of discount. To prevent non-residents from hunting or killing game or game fish except by license. Revising and consolidating the road and bridge laws. For compulsory education. Mr. Rutan's bill regulating the sale of oleomargarine, and repealing the laws prohibiting its manufacture, etc., was reported negatively from the Committee on Agriculture.

In the House on the 4th the only legislation of general interest was a bill presented by Mr. Watres, for the payment of Recorders of Deeds and Probationaries of Common Pleas Courts for keeping a daily record during the years 1855 and 1886 of the mortgages, judgments, etc., as required by the Revenue act of June 30, 1885. Referred to Judiciary General. Adjourning.

In the House on the 1st, among the bills introduced were the following: By Mr. Russell, to amend the act establishing the Board of Education in Philadelphia, so as to provide that the directors of the sectional boards shall report to the Board of Education the names of all persons qualified as teachers, or as principals or assistant teachers. By Mr. Graham, a bill to prevent the spread of pleuro-pneumonia and other infectious diseases. By unanimous consent, the Brooks and High License bill, as amended by the sub-committee of the Ways and Means Committee, was favorably reported to the House and placed upon the calendar. Adjourning.

In the House on the 2d the following bills were introduced: By S. T. Davis, to establish county Boards of Health. By Mr. Burns, to protect certain branches of the mercantile business. The House passed a number of bills to third reading, among them the bill (H. R. 66) amending the act relating to the lien of mechanics and others upon buildings. This bill extends the provisions of the act of 1835 to all counties in the State, and provides that the act shall not render property liable to liens for repairs, alterations or additions, where the same has been altered by any lessee or tenant, without the written consent of the owner. Adjourning.

In the House on the 3d, the bill to prohibit the feeding of live animals to snakes was reported with a negative recommendation.

Among the bills introduced were the following: By Mr. Woodward, providing that if fraud or circumvention is used in obtaining a signature to a promissory note, such fraud may be pleaded in bar of suit to recover the amount involved. By Mr. Davis (S. T.), to repeal that portion of the act creating a State Board of Health which limits appropriations for the same, and increasing the salary of the Secretary to \$3600. By Mr. Maitten, to provide for the collection of debts incurred for groceries, food, clothing and other necessities of life from the wages or compensation of persons contracting the same. By Mr. Brown, of Beaver, to prevent gambling in stocks, bonds, petroleum, cotton, grain, provisions, or other products. Adjourning.

In the House on the 4th the bill authorizing the Adjutant General to supply the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic located within the State with such arms and ammunition as may be required for the equipment of the National Guard, was reported favorably. The bill to abolish the Board of Education was reported with an amendment, which strikes out all after the enacting clause and substitutes the King bill, to provide that the members of the Board shall be elected hereafter. Adjourning.

Ohvet, D. T., has a woman barber.

Serpent skin is coming into fashion as a covering for books.

Paris recently reached a record of 300 divorces in one day.

An unsteady man, like an unsteady light, is apt to go out nights.

The colleges of this country contain 18,000 female students.

A Spaniard has turned the whole Bible into poetry, 269,000 stanzas.

News-papers published in Dakota average one for every 1200 population.

California reports a production of nearly \$25,000,000 worth of candy last year.

The president of the Fat Men's association, of Jersey City, weighs 416 pounds.

A Greenwood, S. C., farmer claims to have struck a gold mine on his plantation.

Ten cents is the price set on the head of the crow found in the State of Maine.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Be not the fourth friend of him who had three before thee and lost them.

A tourist without money is a tramp. A tramp who has money is a tourist.

Some people are like a boy's rocking-horse; full of motion, but no progress.

Mock humility wears a gauze robe, covering but not concealing its deformity.

Vice stings us even in our pleasures, but virtue consoles us even in our pains.

The easiest thing in the world is to find fault. Even a blind man can find fault.

It is but for a moment, comparatively, that anything looks strange or startling.

Good qualities, though hidden, become unveiled and shine throughout the world.

An open mind, an open hand and an open heart, will everywhere find an open door.

There are some stupid men so inhospitable, that they have never entertained an idea.

The taste of beauty and the relish of what is decent, just and amiable, perfects the character of the gentleman.

The manner of a vulgar man has freedom without ease, and the manner of the gentleman has ease without freedom.

Life is rather a state of embryo, a preparation for life; a man is not completely born till he has passed through death.

Whoever is out of patience is out of possession of his soul. Men must not turn bees, and "kill themselves in stinging others."

Little joys refresh us constantly, like house-bread, and never bring disgust; and great ones, like sugar-bread, briefly, and then satiate.

The desire to be loved is ever restless and unsatisfied; but the love that flows out from others is a perpetual well-spring from on-high.

O, that I less could fear to lose this being, which like a snowball in my coward hand, the more it is grasped, the faster melts away!

"Excellence in any department," says Johnson, "can now be obtained by the labor of a life-time, but it is not to be purchased at a less price."

Often the grand meaning of faces as well as written words, may be chiefly the impressions of those who look upon them.

Our passions are like convulsive fits, which, though they make us stronger for the time, leave us the weaker ever after.

Charity likes to come in and supply the wants which would never have been felt had there been equity. An ounce of justice is sometimes worth a ton of charity.

They are not the best students who are most dependent upon books. What can be got of them is at best only material; a man must build his house for himself.

If you would be well with a great mind, leave him with a favorable impression of you; if with a little mind, leave him with a favorable opinion of himself.

What can be more foolish than to think that all this rare fabric of heaven and earth could come by chance, when all the skill of art is not able to make an oyster?

Love, whether newly born or aroused from a death-like slumber, must always create a sunshine; filling the heart so full of radiance that it overflows upon the outward world.

History can be formed by permanent monuments and records; but lives can only be written from personal knowledge, and in a short time is lost forever.

My experience goes to prove that the effect of wine taken as a preliminary to imaginative work, is to blind the writer to the quality of what he produces rather than to raise its quality.

Beauty too often sacrifices to fashion. The spirit of fashion is not the beautiful, but the willful, not the graceful, but the fantastic; not the superior in the abstract but the superior in the worst of all concretes—the vulgar.

Life is made up, not of great sacrifices and duties, but of little things, in which smiles and kindness, and small obligations, given habitually, are what win and preserve the heart, and secure comfort.

There are no little events in the heart. It magnifies everything; it places in the same scale the fall of an empire of fourteen years and the dropping of a woman's glove, and almost always the glove weighs more than the empire.

Carry the radiance of your soul in your face. Let the world have the benefit of it. Let your cheerfulness be felt for good wherever you are, and let your smiles be created like sunbeams, "on the just as well as the unjust."

Want of goods is easily repaired; poverty of soul is irreparable. Socrates, seeing a great quantity of riches, jewels and furniture of great value carried in pomp through the city: "How many things!" said he, "do I not desire?"

Such a liberal education as will fit the man in due time to grapple most effectually, with any speciality, consists more in training than in acquisition. The man that is thoroughly master of his own powers will master any sphere or theme to which he is called.

Truth is tough. It will not break like a bubble, at a touch; nay, you may kick it about all day like a foot ball, and it will be round and full at evening.

Did not Mr. Bryant say that truth gets well if she is run over by a locomotive, while error dies of lock-jaw, if she scratches her finger.

I consider there is no more respectable character on earth than an unmarried woman who makes her own way through life quietly, without support of husband or brother, and who retains in her possession a well-regulated mind, a disposition to enjoy simple pleasures, fortitude to support inevitable pains, and sympathy with the sufferings of others.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Unpleasant Revelations Suggested by the Proposed Restorations.

A letter from the vicar of Stratford-on-Avon recently appeared inviting fresh subscriptions for the repair of the church where the relics of Shakespeare lie interred. His reverence has already obtained nearly £4,000, but seems to be in need of more to carry out what is necessary. Of course nobody would be backward in doing honor to Shakespeare, but restorations are not always judicious, and at any rate all persons inclined to be generous will abstain, we hope, from reading a word of the dreadful things which are now being said and written with regard to various sacred spots connected with Shakespeare's mortal existence. Just at the moment of this demand upon public liberality it is deplorable to have doubts started as to whether the Shakespeare museum contains a single genuine relic; whether Anne Hathaway's cottage is not, after all, a simple fraud; and Mary Arden's farm a disreputably unhistorical building. Anne Hathaway's cottage is a place which every Shakespeare-loving visitor to his native town makes a point of inspecting. It has been good enough for all the myriad tourists of all nationalities that have flocked to see it; yet recently a dark rumor has been going about seriously affecting its bona fides as a genuine article. Mr. Halliwell-Phillips, the Shakespearean critic, we are told, is of the opinion that the probabilities are decidedly against the so-called cottage ever having contained the woman who, at the age of 27, married William Shakespeare when the latter was only 19.

Here is a pleasing illustration dissipated at once. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, and the colonials who lately visited the spot, can no longer, as they recall that lowly cot, nesting among its trees, and ascend again in fancy the creaking wooden staircase, picture to themselves the May mornings when the Bard of All Time must have gone the same round on a courting expedition, and probably sat under the eaves with his arm around his future bride. The sighing tourist will whisper, what next? Well, the next surprise in store for him is the disestablishment and disendowment of the old farmhouse still shown as that in which the poet's mother, Mary Arden, lived. Its history is now said to be altogether inconsistent with the theory that any of the ancestors of the Shakespeare stock ever resided there. In addition to the attack on the bard's wife, his mother, too, meets with this tragic fate. We are on the high road to having it proved that no such person as Mary Arden ever lived; that, in fact, Shakespeare was such a wonderful man that he never had a mother at all.

This about the cottage and farmhouse is distinctly bad news for those who some time ago spent their money on the "Shakespeare fund," which went to purchasing for the good of the nation all the spots considered to be traditionally connected with the life of the master-poet. It is also dreadfully bad news for the foreigners now in London, and for the party of modern pilgrims from Greater Britain who are looked to "do" their Stratford in the course of the month. Have they come to England only to find that Shakespeare's fame is Dead Sea fruit? They have probably heard all about the theory of the Baconian origin of the Shakespearean plays; and have laughed heartily at the newly-started notion imported from America that a signalling system exists in Shakespeare's works which reveals to the student of hieroglyphics all that can ever happen to himself, or to Bacon, or to both. But will they care to go to the shrine of the great poet if a cloud of doubt surrounds some of its most cherished monuments?

The Spider's Web.

All boys and girls are familiar with the spider's web, and must have at sometime or other watched with interest the industrious little insect weaving its home, and then patiently waiting for its prey. Spiders are wonderful little creatures, and many a lesson of industry and perseverance may be learned from them.

There are many kind of spiders, it is reckoned that there are seven hundred species found in Britain alone. They all have eight legs and nearly all eight eyes, with which they keepegger watch on all sides. They are extremely quarrelsome among themselves, and if many congregate together will fight till a large number are killed. It is said they resemble lobsters and crabs in having the power of causing a new leg to grow, if they are unfortunate enough to lose one in any way.

The manner in which they spin their web is most wonderful and beautiful. They are provided with four little bags, each containing the finest of thread or silk. Each of these bags has more than a thousand tiny holes, out of which the silken threads come, and these thousands of fine threads are spun into one as the spider runs busily along. This one stouter thread is that of which the web is made, and is both strong and elastic.

Such a liberal education as will fit the man in due time to grapple most effectually, with any speciality, consists more in training than in acquisition. The man that is thoroughly master of his own powers will master any sphere or theme to which he is called. Truth is tough. It will not break like a bubble, at a touch; nay, you may kick it about all day like a foot ball, and it will be round and full at evening. Did not Mr. Bryant say that truth gets well if she is run over by a locomotive, while error dies of lock-jaw, if she scratches her finger. I consider there is no more respectable character on earth than an unmarried woman who makes her own way through life quietly, without support of husband or brother, and who retains in her possession a well-regulated mind, a disposition to enjoy simple pleasures, fortitude to support inevitable pains, and sympathy with the sufferings of others.