

NEWS OF THE WEEK

The boiler of a threshing machine on a farm near Mascoutah, Illinois, exploded on the morning of the 1st, killing John Plob, the engineer, and dangerously injuring three other men. The public debt statement for June shows a reduction of \$16,852,725. Total cash in the treasury, \$482,433,917. During the fiscal year which ended on June 30th, the principal of the bonded debt of the United States decreased \$127,911,030. The coinage of the United States Mints during June amounted in value to \$4,337,502, including 2,516,090 standard dollars. A passenger train on the Cincinnati and Muskingum Valley Railroad was wrecked near Zanesville, Ohio, on the afternoon of the 30th ult. The baggage car and a combination car were thrown down an embankment. Baggage-master Lane was severely injured. At Chatham, near Morristown, New Jersey, John Wilson, who had gone home drunk the night before, became infuriated at his little daughter and fired at her with an old shot gun, but missed his aim. His wife remonstrating, he shot her dead and then committed suicide. The couple leave eight children, three of them under six years of age. Henry Hamilton, a wealthy planter, was lynched in Bradley county, Arkansas, on the evening of the 30th ult. He and a man named Deberry recently murdered two brothers named Harris. Deberry escaped and Hamilton was released on bail. Charles Scipio and Lizzie Train were fatally injured by a locomotive while trying to cross the Long Island Railroad track in a wagon on the 2d. Michael Donohoe, aged 22 years, and a seven-year-old boy named Brown, were drowned while bathing at Bath, Maine, on the evening of the 1st. Five fatalities were reported in Brazil, Indiana, on the 1st. Burt Claburn, a miner, was killed by falling slate, and "Ned" Armstrong, a miner, was killed by lightning. George Heacock, a miner, had his back broken by a cage in a mine, and Robert Stewart and Henry Nolan lost limbs under the cars, sustaining fatal injuries. At Springfield, Massachusetts, on the morning of the 2d, Halsey Gains, aged 15 years, had his scalp partially torn off and one arm deeply lacerated by a leopard in one of Barnum's cages. The lad climbed up to the leopard's cage, and was peering inside when the animal tried to drink him in. He was only saved by the efforts of one of the trainers. W. H. Cornish, a young merchant of French Camp, Mississippi, was murdered on the evening of the 30th ult., and his body was burned in his store. George Bryan, Samuel Garrett and Monroe Boyd, who were in the store at a late hour, have been arrested charged with the crime. Near Selma, Alabama on the 2d two negro children, 6 and 8 years old, were killed. One was shot; the other's neck was broken. Suspicion rests on two negro boys, 13 and 17 years old. Richard Lane and his wife were drowned by the capsizing of a boat on the Ohio river, at Pittsburg on the evening of the 3d. Three other persons were in the boat, and Lane, who was rowing, pulled into the swells from a passing tug boat to frighten the others. Jerome Bittonie and wife were drowned by the upsetting of a boat at Randolph, Missouri. John Shaw, a private banker, of Wardsville, Ontario, is reported to have absconded, leaving \$10,000 in debts. In Conshohocken, Penna., on the morning of the 4th, about 1 o'clock, the fronts of four houses on Elm street were suddenly blown out by an explosion. Mrs. Harrold, an occupant of one of the houses, was standing in her doorway and saw two men on the opposite side of the street strike two matches, one after the other. One of the men was then heard to say "it is time for us to get away." The next instant the explosion occurred. Mrs. Harrold was knocked senseless, but soon recovered. The police say that dynamite was used, with malicious intent. John D. Sheahan shot and killed Rufus L. Bishop, at Laurens, South Carolina, on the 2d. Bishop, in a quarrel, on the 2d, called Sheahan a thief, accused him of "hiring a negro to burn the town of Waterloo," and threatened to "shoot his heart out." At Caperton, West Virginia, on the 3d, Lolly Robinson, colored, shot and killed Charles Williams, also colored, who had been too intimate with Robinson's wife. Robinson was taken from the officers by a mob of blacks and whites and lynched. The lynchers also sought Robinson's wife, but she escaped to the mountains. Three brothers, named Moffat, aged respectively 13, 15 and 17 years, were drowned on the 4th, while bathing at Fenelon Falls, Ontario. A freight train of twenty-three refrigerator cars containing dressed beef ran off the track near St. Thomas, Ontario, on the 4th. Fifteen of the cars were completely wrecked, and two tramps stealing a ride were killed. Two hundred and fifty-six deaths were reported in New York on the 3d—the largest number in any one day since 1876. At Calarendon, Penna., seven miles east of Warren, on the Philadelphia and Erie railroad, a fire started in an old planing mill at half-past nine o'clock on the evening of the 4th. Shortly afterwards flames issued from the Weaver Hotel, owned by John Mahoney. The fire swept through the frame structures of the little town until twenty acres were burned over, and the only building of any consequence saved was the railroad depot. About 1100 people were made homeless. The charred body of a man, supposed to be a hack driver named Sullivan, was found in the ruins of the Weaver Hotel. Mahoney was arrested on the 5th, in the woods, six miles from Calarendon, and lodged in the jail at Warren to answer the charge of incendiarism. "Public rumor at Calarendon says that two weeks ago when liquor licenses were refused to all applicants

Terrific thunder storms prevailed on the 6th, along the Lower Hudson Valley. Trees and houses were struck by lightning, basements and cellars were flooded and washouts were reported on the West Shore and Hudson River Railroads. The temperature fell 23 degrees at Poughkeepsie in three hours. The heaviest storms prevailed between that point and Poughkeepsie; north of Poughkeepsie they were light. Several buildings in Queens and Suffolk counties, New York, were, on the 6th, damaged by lightning. William Dennis, aged 17 years, was killed by lightning while working on an ore bank at Plymouth, Penna., on the 6th. A telegram from Paducah, Ky., reports that in 1873, while J. Hamp Swift was Sheriff of Calloway county, Kentucky, his accounts were found to be \$5,000 short. He thought a deputy had robbed him. In making good the deficiency he was bankrupted, and has since supported his family as a day laborer. Recently, his wife was sent to an insane asylum, and in her ravings told of money hidden in a smoke house. Investigation revealed \$3250 in greenbacks. It is thought she concealed the money in one of her attacks. "The discovery not only set the ex-Sheriff on his feet, but cleared his reputation of suspicion." On the evening of the 6th lightning struck the wire connected with the dynamite cartridges placed in the holes drilled for blasting at Shaft 6 on the new aqueduct, New York, causing their premature explosion in both the north and south headings of the tunnel, and killing a laborer named Straker. The men in the tunnel had just been called away when the explosion took place, otherwise the loss of life would have been large. The wire was disconnected with the battery at the top of the shaft when the lightning struck it. During a storm on the evening of the 6th, lightning fired the dry timber on the Blue Mountains, near Reading, Penna., and more than 500 acres were burned over. At Kutztown, Peter Kline's barn, with its contents, was destroyed by lightning. Loss \$5000. At Welshburgh, Lehigh county, Zaegle's church was struck by lightning and consumed. Loss \$8000. Hundreds of acres of corn were washed out by the heavy rains. A severe wind storm visited Carlisle and Jacksonville, Arkansas, on the afternoon of the 6th. At Carlisle the Baptist Church and several other buildings were demolished. No loss of life is reported. An explosion occurred in the Cellulose Manufacturing Works at Arlington, New Jersey, on the morning of the 7th, by which Miss Ariana Muchmore and a man named August were killed. The works, consisting of three brick buildings, were destroyed, and the loss is estimated at \$50,000. A number of buildings in the village were damaged, and people in houses were thrown down by the shock. About fifty persons of both sexes were employed in the factory, and all were injured, six seriously. One, a man named Fay, of Newark, is in a critical condition. The loss by damage to property in the town is estimated at several thousand dollars. The factory was owned by Philadelphia capitalists. Fifty acres of land in East Atchison, Missouri, have been washed away by a flood in the river within the last forty-eight hours. The school house, which a month ago stood a quarter of a mile from the river bank, was moved east, and the ground on which it stood is now in the river. The bank at that point is perpendicular, and thirty feet high. All the residents of that portion of the town have been forced to hastily remove their houses or abandon them to the mercy of the river. The current has washed out a bed of quicksand, which underlies a stratum of clay, and the undermined sections of clay have tumbled into the river. The crops in Southern Minnesota are reported to be in bad condition, owing to drought and chinch bugs. In the central and northern sections of the State and in Dakota the crops are doing well. The country around Perham, Minnesota, is suffering from a plague of locusts. Everything is covered with them, and they have utterly devoured thousands of acres of vegetation. Matthew Kennedy, the principal in the fur robbery at Cleveland, Ohio, is said to be in custody in Lansing, Michigan. Near Wilmington, North Carolina, on the morning of the 7th, Alfred Soyke, a farm hand, shot and killed a man named Mills, superintendent of the farm, who had discharged him the day before. Clel. McElroy and Alexander Renick, horse trainers of Lebanon, Kentucky, having quarreled, each resolved to kill the other on sight. They met on the 6th, and McElroy, who was armed with a double-barrelled shot gun, killed his antagonist. Summer cholera is more prevalent in Montreal this season than for many years, and the mortality among children is alarming. William Bowman and his sister-in-law, Miss Eunice McKinney, were killed by lightning while standing under a tree during a thunder storm at Palestine, Texas, on the evening of the 7th. Lynn Cooper, 16 years of age, was accidentally killed in Broome county, New York, on the evening of the 7th, by the discharge of a pistol he was handling. John D. Van Gordon, 69 years of age, was stung by a bee on the wrist at Dingman's Ferry, Penna., on the morning of the 6th, and died shortly after. Jennie Dunham, aged 19, and her nephew, aged 11 years, were drowned on the 8th at Rockland, Massachusetts, by the upsetting of a boat. John Short and James Huelkiski were fatally injured on the afternoon of the 8th by the explosion of a boiler in the Excelsior mine at Oskaloosa, Iowa. A telegraph pole at a street corner in New York, which was eaten away at the base, fell on the 8th, killing John McGarry, aged 15 years. Oscar M. Kelly, a wife murderer, was taken from the jail at Dallas, Oregon, on the morning of the 7th and lynched. Dr. E. N. North, shot at Penn. Indiana, on the morning of the

6th, by James Christanson, died on the 8th. Christanson was taken from the jail on the evening of the 6th by a mob and lynched. Lewis Walker, a colored miner, was shot and killed by Stella Williams at McDonald's Penna., on the evening of the 7th. He had been living with the woman and threatened to leave her. Benjamin Craig and John Hill were killed by the latter's elder brother, Green B. Hill, in a quarrel near Tucker, Texas, on the 7th. The health officers of St. Louis on the 7th reported that the proprietor of a dairy who keeps 60 cows and supplies a large section with milk, has been serving milk from animals sick of pleuro-pneumonia. Fifteen cows died during the last week and the others are sick. The inspector destroyed fifty gallons of diseased milk from the premises. One other dairy in the neighborhood is infected. It is supposed the disease was communicated by some Texas cattle driven through a pasture where the dairy cows were feeding. The reports of the murders of Chinese miners on Snake river, in Idaho, are discredited in Portland, Oregon. It is believed there that the bodies found in the water were those of Chinamen accidentally drowned. "The Chinese work bars in Snake river which pay 60 to 75 cents per day, and no white man wants to work for that sum." Eight Italian miners were imprisoned in the Sturgeon River Mine at Metropolitan, Michigan, on the evening of the 7th, by a rush of water, which prevented their escape. All are given up for drowned. FOOD FOR THOUGHT. Never was a mewling cat a good mouse. There is no worse thief than a bad book. What the eye sees not the heart rues not. Lip courtesy pleases much and costs little. Everything may be borne except good fortune. No one ever became poor through giving alms. In accomplishing a desire even haste appears delay. The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinions. Cherish thy friend and temperately admonish thine enemy. Be cautious of believing ill, but more cautious of reporting it. The wise corrects his faults by observing the faults of others. An exile who has a home nowhere is like a dead man without a grave. No woman is educated who is not equal to the successful management of a family. The great road of human welfare lies along the old highway of steadfast well-doing. When will talkers refrain from evil speaking? When listeners refrain from evil hearing. Man must work. He may work grudgingly or gratefully. He may work as a man or a machine. When the forenoons of life are wasted there is not much hope of a peaceful and fruitful evening. Nothing sits so gracefully upon children as habitual respect and dutiful deportment toward their parents. It is a sign of wisdom to be willing to receive instruction; the most intelligent sometimes stand in need of it. It is of the bounty of nature that we live, but of the philosophy that we live well which is in truth, a greater benefit than life itself. I could never think well of man's intellectual or moral character if he was habitually unfaithful to his appointments. It is a vast hindrance to the enrichment of our understanding if we spend too much of our time among infinities and unreasonables. The main token of a strong character is not to make known every change and phase in thought and feeling, but to give the world the finished results. Aristotle affirms that the true nature of riches consists in the contented use and employment of the things we have, rather than in the possession of them. Everybody, no matter how crabbed and morose, must succumb to the witching charm of a laughing child. Even the heathen cannibal loves little babies. If the grain were separated from the chaff which fills the works of our national poets, what is truly valuable would be to what is useless in the proportion of a mole-hill to a mountain. The schoolmaster is abroad! And I trust more to him, armed with his primer, than I do to the soldier in full military array, for upholding and extending the liberties of his country!

THE SHAH'S REVENUE How the Funds for the Support of Persia's Government are Obtained. Persia is relatively rich, for she owes nothing to bankers or bondholders either at home or abroad. She has no debt and Shah covers a snug sum annually into the treasury as a reserve. It has been sneeringly said by the Russians, who wish to belittle in order to weaken her, that Persia has no national debt because she has no credit. The truth of this assertion can only be proved when the Shah attempts to raise a loan, which has never yet been done by the Persian Government. Of course, if more were spent for internal improvement of if there were less speculation, there might be less reserve or a larger revenue. But the fact remains that while something is done to promote material progress, something is still annually saved. The revenues of the Shah come from many sources. The land, live stock, customs, excise and mines and fisheries furnish the chief sources of revenue. The collection of some of the taxes is attended with considerable risk, and results in not infrequent riots and bloodshed. Regarding some of his revenues the Shah very wisely continues to follow a method common in Europe in former ages, that is, farming. By farming the pearl fisheries, for example, the Shah may receive less than if the tax on them could be justly collected and turned over to his Government. But as that is practically impossible, the Shah makes sure of a given sum on which he can depend, and leaves it to the agent who farms them to make his profit from whatever surplus may accrue. But while the Shah is advantaged by the system of farming, the people are much more heavily oppressed, as they are in the hands of the officer who farms that revenue. Nominally he may keep to the letter of the law in collecting only such ratio on the products as the law prescribes. But in reality great abuses grow out of the greed of the farmer. The turquoise mines are farmed. They are less productive than formerly, while the manufacture of excellent spurious turquoises in Europe has tended somewhat to lower the demand for the genuine article. The difficulty of getting the stone is also excessive, as the mines are growing deeper all the time and the shafts are very dangerous. Many are killed in the Persian turquoise mines, which are found in the province of Kerman in the South, but the best ones are mined in Khorassan in the North. The fisheries of Persia are farmed. They are chiefly in the Caspian Sea and in the mouth of the rivers emptying into it, and consist chiefly of salmon and sturgeon. The boxwood in the forests adjoining the sea is also farmed. This has been a considerable article of commerce, but the supply is now falling off. The customs are farmed and form a very important source of revenue notwithstanding that by the treaty of Turkomantehal with Russia, all goods entered from nations enjoying its privileges under the "most favored nation" clause pay a maximum duty of five per centum. Turkey has an entirely different treaty with Persia which allows the two countries to claim a ten per cent duty. Abuses doubtless exist in the collection of customs, especially in the matter of peculation. But the wonder to me is that under existing circumstances the abuses are not greater. Land tax also forms a most important source of revenue. The nomads of Persia, who number nearly a million, are taxed by a monthly levy on their flocks, which is moderate and collected with regularity. This tax or part of it is farmed. Generally it is raised without difficulty except among the warlike tribes of the Southwest. Among them the tax-gatherer only ventures attended by a strong guard of soldiers. The Shah adds still further and very materially to his revenues by the presents he receives in coin from the high dignitaries he visits from time to time, and from the sale of important offices to the highest bidder. Not that he awards an office to any one who overbids others, but to the one who, of several having ability, adds to talents for the post the largest pecuniary consideration. What these sums are can be only surmised from general report; but that large amounts annually go into the coffers of the Shah in this way is a fact well assured; indeed it is a practice that has existed in Persia for ages. The Advantages of Secrecy. Mrs. Charles Thompson had got tired of living in the country and about the time that Montreal houses break out into a harmless erysipelas of bills having the legends, "To Let," and "For Sale," she said to her husband: "Don't you think, dear, it would be well enough for us to return to the city?" "Yes, I do," said Mr. Thompson. Miss Julia Robertson, Mrs. Thompson's pretty 18-year-old sister, clapped her hands. "Good good!" cried she. "Now I shall have some sort of chance at matinees and the opera again." House hunting commenced in good earnest; but it flagged after the first edge of enthusiastic enterprise was worn off. None of the houses suited exactly. Mrs. Teomson declared that it was of no use wearing out one's shoe leather and temper looking for what couldn't be found. Mr. Thompson said it was a pity they hadn't found that out before. Mrs. Thompson said that as far as she was concerned, she would just as soon stay where they were. Mr. Thompson retorted that anything was better than an indolent woman. Mrs. Thompson burst into tears. Mr. Thompson went out of the room banging the door behind him. Miss Robertson declared that all men were brutes, and that she for one never intended to be married. "I don't care," sobbed Mrs. Thompson. "It was all Charles' fault, our taking this horrid, damp hole." "Oh, Bee, how can you say so?" said Miss Robertson. (Mrs. Thompson's baptismal appellation was Beatrix.) "You were as wild after it as he was." "And," added Bee, ignoring the in-

terruption, "if we have to live on the grass under an umbrella I shall make no further efforts." Mr. Thompson said the same thing, and Miss Robertson was just making up her mind to another season in the country, when Bee came exultingly back from the city one evening. "Oh, Julia," cried she, "I've seen the sweetest little gem of a house!" "Seen house-hunting, eh?" enquired Miss Robertson. "Well—no, not exactly house-hunting, you know. I wouldn't do that after Charles' shameful behavior. But I saw the bill and I went in. Double parlors and frescoed dining-room in the rear; hot and cold water, gas, range, baths—everything, in short, and the hall floor laid in those delightful mosaic patterns of tessellated marble. The neighborhood delightful, the mountain park handy—" "And the rent?" eagerly demanded Miss Robertson, with her eyes like blue moons. "Only four hundred a year." "Oh," said Julia, "but isn't that a great deal?" "Not when you consider the prices of houses in general. I'll go back to-morrow and secure it; but mind, it's a secret. I don't want Charles to know that I have taken any trouble, after his hateful words." "I don't quite believe in secrets between husbands and wives," said Julia Robertson. "But of course I'll keep your secret." Mrs. Thompson had retired to bed when her husband came home. Miss Robertson, however, was up to pour his tea. "Well, Julia," said Mr. Thompson, triumphantly, "I have found the very house we want." Julia looked up with an almost scared expression on her face. "You haven't taken it, Charles?" "No; but I shall to-morrow." "I wouldn't do anything without consulting Bee," pleaded Julia. "I shall give her a pleasant surprise," said Mr. Thompson, buttering a muffin. "Remember, Ju, this is between you and me." "Oh, of course," said Julia, beginning to feel a little embarrassed by the amount of confidence reposed in her. Early next morning, Mr. Thompson went to the city, and Bee followed in the next train, while Miss Robertson breathlessly awaited the crisis. "We shall have to live in two houses, as sure as the world," said she to herself. "What idiots these young people are!" Mrs. Thompson returned home rather earlier than her sister had expected her, with a bright, flushed face. "Well?" said Julia, breathlessly. "I've agreed to pay five hundred a year for it," said Mrs. Thompson. "Five hundred!" echoed Miss Robertson. "I thought it was only four hundred!" "Well, so it was, but there's another party, it seems, very anxious to secure the house, and—" "Oh, nonsense!" exclaimed Julia, "that's only the professional landlady's ruse." "Oh, but it's true," persisted Bee. "I saw his hat on the sideboard and I caught a glimpse of his legs walking about in the upper story to see if the paint was in good order on the second floor. So I said I'd give her five hundred." "But, I really think, Bee darling, you'd better speak to Charles." "So I will," said Bee, "this evening. He will see that his wife is something more than a dead letter in the family. But I want you to go and see the house this afternoon, Julia." "This afternoon!" cried Miss Robertson. "We've no time." "Yes, we have," said Beatrix; "just exactly time enough, if we hurry down to the cars, and return in the last train." The level rays of the soft April sunset were shining into the pretty little double drawing-rooms of the house on Shuter Street, as Bee led her sister exultingly into it. "Just look at those marble mantles," said she, "and the pattern of the cornices. And the pier glasses and the gas fixtures go with the house, and—" "Oh; I beg pardon, ma'am, I'm sure," said an elderly lady, who advanced, "I'm sorry to disappoint you, but—" Beatrix Thompson looked aghast. "You have not let the house?" "Yes, ma'am, I have. A poor lone woman like me has her own interests to look to; and the gentleman offered six hundred a year if I'd sign the papers at once, which, with a reflective look at her handkerchief, "I did." "I told you so," said Julia, sotto voce. Mrs. Thompson rose in great indignation, her voice rising accordingly. "I really think," said she, "I should be justified in placing this matter in the hands of the lawyers, and—" "Why, Bee, my darling!" "Charles!" "The folding doors slid back and Mrs. Thompson found herself vis-a-vis with her husband. "Here's the gent himself," said the ancient female, who smiled as if she had stepped out of a dye tub. "Which he can explain." "You never have taken this house, Charles?" almost shrieked Mrs. Thompson. "Yes; I have, my dear." "But I have offered five hundred for it!" "And I have signed a three years' lease at six hundred," said the husband, somewhat sheepishly. Miss Robertson burst out laughing. "So," said she, "your profound secrecy has cost you just two hundred dollars per annum." Mrs. Thompson began to cry; the elderly female looked as if she thought the lease might be vitiated by this matrimonial misunderstanding, Julia's eyes twinkled roguishly. "Never mind, Bee," said Mr. Thompson, soothingly. "It's a gem of a house, anyway, and we'll be as happy as the day is long in it. I only wish I had confided in you about it." "And I wish I hadn't been so obstinate and hateful," whimpered Bee. "Come," said Miss Robertson, "let's make haste, or we shall lose the last train."

THE MARKETS. MOVISONS— Beef city lam bl... 5 50 60 50 Ham... 11 50 12 50 Pork Mess... 16 00 17 00 Prime Mess, new... 15 50 16 50 Sides smoked... 9 00 9 50 Shoulders smoked... 6 50 7 00 do in salt... 6 00 6 50 Smoked Beef... 15 00 16 00 Lard Western bl... 6 15 6 30 Lard loose... 6 25 6 30 FLOUR— West. and Pa. sup... 2 50 3 00 Pa. Family... 3 75 4 00 Minn. Clear... 4 00 4 25 Pat. Wt. Whl... 4 60 4 85 Rye Flour... 2 60 2 75 GRAIN— Wheat No. 1 red... 80 82 No. 2... 75 77 No. 3... 70 72 Oat, No. 1 White... 35 37 No. 2... 32 34 No. 3 Mixed... 30 32 FISH— Haddock, Large lb... 23 25 No. 2 Shore... 16 18 Herring, Lab... 5 50 6 00 SUGAR— Powdered... 6 50 Granulated... 5 50-10 50-10 50 Coffee... 5 16-6 HAY AND STRAW— Timothy, choicest... 13 00 14 00 Mixed... 12 00 13 00 Cut Hay... 13 00 14 00 Rye Straw... 12 00 13 00 Wheat Straw... 8 00 9 00 WOOL— Ohio, Penna., and W. Va. Fleeces XX and above... 24 25-26 Common... 20 22 Unwashed medium... 15 20