

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

James R. Whiteley, a brother of W. N. Whiteley, the great reaper manufacturer, committed suicide in Springfield, Ohio, on the 31st ult., by shooting himself.

The total coinage of the U. S. Mints during October amounted in value to \$6,553,870, including 3,450,000 standard dollars.

A gasoline explosion, followed by fire, occurred early on the morning of the 1st in the cellar of the grocery store of Michael Newman, in St. Louis. The grocery, a two-story brick building, and those adjoining, were demolished, and thirteen persons, including the wife and five children of Newman, and two families living in the other houses, were buried in the ruins. When the flames were extinguished and all were rescued it was found that eight were dead and three seriously injured. Besides those injured in the building in which the explosion occurred many persons in the neighborhood were more or less cut and bruised by flying splinters and bricks. For several blocks on either side of the streets the concussion shattered the windows, and in the immediate vicinity, on the opposite side of the way, the fronts of buildings were demolished, and scarcely a door or window remains. Walls cracked, floors gave way and plaster fell in almost every house within a radius of a hundred yards.

A telegram from Albuquerque, New Mexico, says intelligence has just been received from San Pedro county of the murder of Jose Gutierrez, Major Domo of the Loaque Ranch, a sheep ranch, by a gang of cowboys. A party of ten armed Mexicans has started for the scene, and more trouble is expected. Mrs. Cediante, her brother, Joseph Parker, and her son, Frederick, aged 14 years, living in Cincinnati, were poisoned by arsenic in a cranberry pie on the 31st ult. Mrs. Parker, 60 years old, the mother of Mrs. Cediante, was arrested on the 1st, on the charge of having administered the poison. Mrs. Cediante's husband died of poisoning last Christmas. The family will be covered. Alfred Hahn went to Chicago, on the 1st, and identified the remains of the man found murdered in a carriage on a freight car as those of his brother, Frank Hahn. He left with the body on the evening of the 1st, for Rochester.

Nearly all the guests at a dance and supper in Delhi, La., on the evening of the 28th ult., were poisoned by something in the food. Seven have since died, and nearly thirty others, men, women and children, are dangerously sick. It is not known how the poison got in the food.

The public debt statement, issued on the 1st, shows a reduction of \$16,833,695 during October. The total cash in the Treasury is \$497,383,301. During October there was an increase of \$10,141,886 in the net gold in the Treasury, and an increase of \$2,224,264 in the circulation of the silver dollars.

The dead body of a girl was discovered in a box at the railroad depot at Des Moines, Iowa, on the 31st ult. She had been placed in a common box checked through as baggage. Investigation proved the corpse to be the body of Katie Dunn, 19 years of age, who died in St. Joseph, a few days ago. The coroner's inquest developed the fact that the box containing the body had been shipped from Chariton, by Dr. Gillespie, of Des Moines. He was placed under arrest. He says he received it from a man he did not know.

There were four new cases of yellow fever and two deaths at Tampa, Florida, on the 1st. A very slight frost is reported there. Father Swenburgh, a Catholic priest, who took the place of Father Peterman, who died last week, has also died.

Several of the night miners at the Chamberlain Colliery, at Shenandoah, Pa., were ascending in the elevator on the morning of the 1st, when some part of the machinery broke, dropping the car to the bottom. Moses Thornthorn was instantly killed, and another man badly injured. J. R. Gioninger, a prominent business man of Pittsburgh, was run over and killed by a railroad train on the morning of the 1st. He was 50 years of age. An engine exploded near Hack Berry, California, on the evening of the 31st, killing Engineer Schroeder, Fireman Long and brakeman Trapp. Willie Herbert, 8 years of age on the 1st shot and killed his seven-year-old sister, while playing with a shot gun, in Bordentown, Lackawanna county, Penna.

In South Wilkesbarre, on the 1st, the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, after years of labor and an expenditure of nearly \$100,000, struck the great "Baltimore vein" of coal nearly 1100 feet below the surface. This is the deepest shaft in Pennsylvania. The vein is from 15 to 20 feet in thickness, and it is said, will net the company fully \$3,000,000.

Mrs. James Hoar and child, while walking on the railroad track at Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on the afternoon of the 2d, were struck by an engine and killed. U. S. Naval Surgeon George Arthur fell from a train near Salem, Virginia, on the 2d, and was instantly killed. He was on the platform, and it is supposed a sudden lurch of the train caused his fall. No one saw him fall. John G. Beattie and Mrs. Hattie Turner were run over and killed by a train at Steubenville, Ohio, on the evening of the 2d.

On the morning of the 2d, according to a despatch from Palmyrine, Louisiana, a portion of the town at the head of Tinnis lake cave'd into the river. So far the levee is not in danger.

John Hodel, a silk weaver, living in Hebron, Connecticut, shot and killed his wife, on the evening of the 1st, and then set fire to the bed in which his two children were sleeping and they were burned to death. Hodel had half a dozen barrels of home made wine and cider in his cellar, and drinking of these made him crazy. Charles Overheiser was shot and fatally wounded by Herschel Adkins, aged

22 years, near Allegan, Michigan, on the evening of the 1st. They had quarrelled because the murderer had disgraced Overheiser's sister, who died last summer in her shame. Henry Pritchard was arrested in Dobbs Ferry, New York, on the evening of the 1st, for fracturing John Hughes' skull with a base ball bat. Hughes was a boarder in Pritchard's house, and jealousy was the cause of the assault. It is thought Hughes will die. William E. Tracy, of New Britain, Connecticut, who was found dead in his barn on the 31st ult., it has been discovered was murdered. At Kamloops, British Columbia, on the evening of the 29th ult., a half breed Indian named McLean, being drunk, fatally shot two Indians and wounded a third. He was soon afterwards shot dead by other Indians. William Sims and Harry Howard were arrested in Pittsburgh on the 2d on suspicion of being the murderers of Frank Hahn, whose body was found in a carriage on a freight car at Chicago last week. Scott Day, the third party suspected, is in prison at Rochester on the charge of disorderly conduct. It is stated that Ray and others assaulted a woman named Kennedy at Rochester on the evening of the 29th ult., and that the murdered man was an important witness.

Early on the morning of the 2d burglars entered the residence of Samuel McCreery in Flushing, New Jersey, and carried off \$1500 in cash and jewelry. Mr. and Mrs. Wangler, son-in-law and daughter of Mr. McCreery, were awakened, but one of the burglars told them to cover up their heads and keep still or he would shoot them. The frightened couple did so and the thieves completed their work. The people of Musquodoboit Harbor and Jessorre, in Nova Scotia, are terrorized by highway robbers and burglars. A few nights ago Dr. Stoddard, a well-known physician, had his wagon stopped by a highwayman, but escaped by applying the whip to his horse. The robber fired after him, but missed his aim. Four stores in Jessorre were plundered in one night recently. A gang of Mexican bandits entered the store of Magdalena Flores, in Hidalgo county, Texas, on the night of the 31st ult., tore out the building, unbinding the door and smashing the windows, and stole everything it contained. They said they "would clean out the entire community before many days." A despatch from Holbrook, Arizona Territory, says the north and south mails were robbed by one man about midnight on October 31st, between St. Johns and Navajo. The only passenger was robbed of eighty dollars.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court upon the petition for a writ of error in the case of the Chicago Anarchists was announced on the afternoon of the 2d. Chief Justice Waite read the opinion. The Court holds that the first ten amendments to the Constitution are limitation upon Federal and not upon State action; that the jury law of Illinois is upon its face valid and constitutional, and that it is similar in its provisions to the statute of Utah, which was sustained in this Court; that it does not appear in the record that upon the evidence the trial court should have declared the jury incompetent; that the objection to the admission of the Johann Most letter and the cross examination of Spies, which counsel for the prisoners maintained virtually compelled them to testify against themselves, was not presented in the trial court, and that, therefore, no foundation was laid for the exercise of this Court's jurisdiction, and that the questions raised by General Butler in the cases of Spies and Fielden, upon the basis of their foreign nationality, were neither raised nor decided in the State courts, and therefore cannot be considered here. The writ of error prayed for was denied.

The bodies of nineteen victims of the Vernon disaster were taken into Two Rivers, Wisconsin, on the 2d, by harbor tugs.

There is great excitement at Spencer, Ohio, over a supposed double murder on the 25th ult., at the house of A. D. Garrett, a farmer, which was found on fire. Neighbors extinguished the flames, and upon investigating, found the fire had started in the sleeping room of the two grown-up imbecile daughters of Garrett, who were found on the floor dead. The faces of both bore marks which led to the belief that they had been murdered. The floor was saturated with coal oil and covered with leaves and dry grass. The coroner is at work on the case.

Full returns of the election in Delaware, on the 1st, shows that 14,431 votes were cast in favor of a Constitutional Convention, and only 398 against it. "Though failing 1299 votes short of the strict letter of the act under which the election was held (which required that at least 15,640 votes be cast in favor of a convention), this vote shows that a clear majority of the qualified voters favor a convention, and is generally accepted as assuring the election of a Legislature pledged to call a convention."

While removing the debris on the 2d from the cellar of the Newman building in St. Louis, where the explosion occurred on the morning of the 1st, it was discovered that the explosion did not occur in the Newman building at all, but in the cellar adjoining, under the house occupied by the Devere family. The foundation wall separating the two buildings has two holes each about six feet wide and some twenty feet apart, knocked in it, and the heavy masonry of the wall was blown into Newman's cellar. This confirms the report that there were "two explosions, and further examination may reveal the nature of the agent used, and a clue may be obtained to the identity of the fiend who perpetrated the diabolical act."

The house of T. S. Oliver, in Faulkner county, Arkansas, was burned a few days ago, and his three little grandchildren perished in the flames.

John Haldenaker and Walter Klosterman were drowned on the 2d, at Kalamazoo, Michigan, by the capsizing of their boat while duck hunting.

The house of William Wade, at

Chester, New York, was burned on the morning of the 3d, during the temporary absence of Mr. Wade, and the remains of his wife were found in the ruins. The Chicago Club House, in Chicago, was damaged by fire on the morning of the 3d. A panic occurred among the guests in the Palmer House, opposite, and in the Clifton House, adjoining on the east, and many of them rushed into the street under the impression that the hotels were on fire. The employees of the club, who were asleep in the building, escaped to the roof of an adjoining building. The loss is estimated at about \$30,000, and is fully insured. The steam gin, together with one hundred bales of cotton on the plantation of James Henry, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, was severely damaged by fire on the 30th ult. Andrew White, colored, has been arrested on suspicion of having set fire to the gin. A number of dwellings and small buildings in Ramson, near Findlay, Ohio, were burned on the evening of the 2d, causing a loss of \$20,000 upon which there is \$14,000 insurance. Every business building but one in Trenton, a village near Helena, Arkansas, was burned on the evening of the 2d. The loss is placed at \$25,000. A fire at Oil City, Penna., on the evening of the 3d, destroyed Joseph Reid's machine shop and foundry, the Eagle Spoke and Hub Works, the army of Company D, and part of Trax & Kramer's wagon shops. Loss, \$50,000; partly insured.

Fourteen persons living in Soho, a district of Pittsburgh, were poisoned on the evening of the 2d by tainted milk. They were all out of danger on the 3d. The milk will be analyzed.

A train of passenger and flat cars conveying Robinson's circus, while entering the Union Depot at St. Louis, on the afternoon of the 31, was partially derailed, and some of the flat cars, derailed into a freight train on a siding. George Squires, a circusman, was killed and two other circus attaches, named Fuller and Isie, were severely injured. In the smash-up some of the animal cages on the flat cars were broken, and a tiger, two lions, a leopard, a jaguar, an ibex, and a vulture escaped. "The wildest kind of a commotion followed. Railroad officials and policemen ran frantically about, shouting warning, and there was a general and quick stampede from the yards to the streets beyond. The circus and depot men then made search for the animals. The leopard was found crouched under a freight car, but an attempt was made to lasso him, but it failed, and the animal rushed from cover, bit a man severely in the leg on his way out, bounded into the ticket office, and then jumped through a transom into the superintendent's office. He was beset by the circus men, and, after several attempts to capture him, and two or three shots being fired at him he was covered with a tarpaulin and secured. One by one the other animals were found, and after more or less trouble were captured and returned to their cages, but it was not until nearly dark that the work was over and the excitement allayed."

August Spies, Samuel Fielden and Nicholas Schwab signed a petition in the jail at Chicago on the 3d, "humbly begging the Governor to commute their sentences." They are the only ones of the condemned Anarchists who have not written to the Governor that they would not accept anything but a life or death. Carpenters were busy in Chicago on the 3d constructing the scaffolds upon which it is intended to hang the Anarchists. Chairman Oliver, of the Amnesty Association, made an unsuccessful search for a hall for a mass meeting on the 5th. It is claimed that nearly 200,000 signatures have been obtained to the petitions sent out. Two companies of policemen are now quartered in the jail, near the Anarchists' cells. Captain Black says he expects to go to Springfield with the petition of amnesty on the evening of the 7th.

Ex-Governor Warren, of Wyoming Territory, was in Chicago on the 3d, and said his people were greatly interested in the Anarchist cases on account of their Rockfalls riots two years ago, in which so many Chinamen were brutally butchered. The spirit of anarchy manifested there by certain hypotheses was still feared, in fact, the Government, which, under the treaty, had to protect the Chinamen, still kept two companies of regulars at Rockfalls. Their people hoped to see the sentence executed, swiftly and surely, as a warning to all such turbulent spirits.

A box containing what was supposed to be an infernal machine was sent by post to Chief Justice Waite, in Washington on the evening of the 3d. It was delivered by a special mail messenger. Inside the box was a siphon shaped glass tube, containing a dark colored liquid, and connected with a small quantity of giant powder. Two percussion caps were arranged approximately in such a manner as to cause an explosion upon the opening of the box. The wires which fastened the top of the box, however, had become loosened, and if any explosion was intended it did not take place. There is some difference of opinion as to whether it was an attempt of assassination or a hoax.

The engine of a freight train on the Fort Wayne Railroad struck a street car at a crossing in Allegheny City on the evening of the 3d, and two passengers—John M. Culp, teller of the Odd Fellows' Savings Bank, and Miss Harriet Weyman, who jumped from the car, were caught under the wheels of the engine and killed. The other passengers were not injured and the only damage done to the car was the tearing off of the rear platform, which was struck by the engine. The accident was caused by the raising of the safety gates too soon after the passage of a train, the keeper not noticing that another was approaching. The car had succeeded in nearly getting across the tracks before it was struck.

Early on the morning of the 3d several masked men stopped the east bound Salt Lake express on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, a few miles east of Grand Junction, Colorado, and compelled the engineer, fireman, mail and express messengers to leave the train, and while they were guarded by

one of the robbers, the others passed through the train, relieving the passengers of their money and valuables. The robbers then entered the express car, but failed to open the safe. Mail pouches were cut and registered packages and letters opened. The train was allowed to proceed, after being delayed over an hour. The robbers took to the mountains.

A despatch from Southwestern Indiana says the "White Caps" visited the house of John Amy, in Harrison county, and, in his presence, stripped his wife and administered forty lashes. It is said the county officials are thoroughly terrorized. "The case of Chas. Langford, of Mount Prospect, was presented to the Grand Jury with proofs of the identity of the men who outraged his family, but the jury refused to present a true bill. Langford tore the masks from the faces of two of his assailants and recognized his nearest neighbor and deadliest enemy in one."

An epidemic of typhoid fever prevails at Mount Carmel, Penna. There have been several deaths.

L. D. Loss, foreman of the mixing department of the Acme White Lead Works, in Detroit, Michigan, was caught in a belt on the 3d and killed. Erick Wickstrom was taken sick in the Barnum Iron Mine at Ichneping, Michigan, on the evening of the 2d and got into the orehoisting cage to reach the surface. When three hundred feet up he was seized with vertigo, and, falling to the bottom of the shaft, was killed.

Thomas Aken and Edward Daley, young men, were drowned near Coboes, N. Y., on the evening of the 3d by their boat going over a dam. Joseph Kemerer, a well-known citizen of Marietta, Pa., was accidentally drowned in the canal on the night of the 2d. He was 69 years old.

Marie Newnam, aged 19 years, died on the 3d in St. Louis, from injuries received by the explosion on Market street on the 1st. It is stated that the work of excavation has progressed so far that the Chiefs of Police and Fire Department agree that the catastrophe was caused by an explosion of gas, and that no crime was connected with it. So well satisfied are they that no further investigations on the criminal basis will be pursued. There have been no arrests, and there are none expected.

In Louisville, on the morning of the 4th, Charles B. Brownfield, about 37 years of age, murdered his wife, his five-year-old boy, and his brother-in-law, W. F. Bruner, by cutting their throats with a razor as they lay in their beds, and then committed suicide. Brownfield left a letter, dated 6.30 A. M., in which he said he killed his wife and baby because he was tired of life "and did not want them left penniless in the world and no one to care for them." He added: "My cause for being tired of life is gambling. Now let my brothers and friends take warning. I killed W. F. Bruner because I didn't think he was fit to live, and now I will make an attempt on my life, so good-bye, my father, brother and sister, and friends and relations. All take warning. Good-bye." Brownfield worked in the Louisville and Nashville Railroad shop, in Louisville. He was always known as a sober and industrious young man. Policeman Keegan was murdered in Chicago on the morning of the 4th. He was found in a lonely part of the city, lying on the pavement. He still clasped his revolver in his hand, but it had not been discharged. Alfred M. Bruner, an extra letter carrier, went home drunk on the evening of the 3d, and some noisy children prevented him from going to sleep. Becoming angered he seized Michael J. Beisler, an imbecile boy, beat him about the head, and then threw him down stairs. Beisler was put to bed, and died in a short time. Scott Ray and Charles Sims, suspected of having murdered Frank Hahn, whose body was shipped to Chicago in a carriage about ten days ago, were lodged in jail at Pittsburgh on the 4th, on information preferred by an uncle of the murdered man. Howard, another suspect, will be held as a witness. Early on the morning of the 4th the police in Baltimore arrested a man extra for being drunk. He is a Virginia, a few months ago. He was found under a bed over a concert hall, and on his person were found a revolver and a large dirk knife.

It is reported in Chicago that Captain Thorp, master of the lost propeller Vernon, was in the habit of getting drunk, and that he often left port while drunk. Axel Stone, the only survivor of the Vernon disaster, says the captain was drunk most of the time during his last voyage, and on the evening of the 28th ult., before the steamer sank, was very drunk, and "kept taking a drink every little while from a bottle that he carried in his coat pocket." The reports of Captain Thorp's drunkenness during his voyages came from various persons who had at different times made trips on the Vernon.

Patrolman James H. Place, 67 years old, committed suicide at his home, in New York, on the 4th, by shooting himself in the head.

Arthur B. Campbell, bookkeeper for the Armour Packing Company in Chicago, was on the 4th, sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment for the embezzlement of \$3900 from the company. He is 30 years of age and married. McQuin, alias McCann, convicted of pension frauds in Indianapolis on the 3d, was on the 4th, sentenced to four years' imprisonment.

The importation of silver ore from Mexico at El Paso, Texas, during October, was 5276 tons, valued at \$265,808. This gives an average of 175 tons per day and an average value of fifty dollars per ton. The ore was of a lower grade than usual. The importations of silver bullion for the same month were \$190,467; silver coin, \$729,169; gold bullion, \$9656; gold coin, \$100,522.

Major W. M. Way, Secretary for the Union and Empire Building and Loan Association, and agent for a number of insurance companies, in New Brunswick, New Jersey, has dis-

appeared, and it is stated that he is a defaulter to the extent of \$12,000 or \$15,000.

William Woolver, office boy for Bickhauds, Mather & Co., Cleveland, Ohio, was playing with a rifle, which had been placed in the office on the 4th, when it was discharged. The ball passed through a wooden partition and buried itself in the body of William J. Mason, the bookkeeper, who died in a few minutes. Rev. Mr. Tate, while boating on a small lake near Wolsenburg, on the 4th, was drowned by the capsizing of the boat in the presence of his wife and children. Charles Bertram, a well-known miner, was run over and killed at Hollenback, Penna., on the 4th. He was uncoupling cars, when the coupling broke, throwing him beneath the wheels. A crowd of men, women and children, assembled in Canal street, in Chicago, on the 4th, to watch a passing funeral, when the sidewalk broke down, precipitating a large number to the ground ten feet below. Mrs. Rose Schultz, 50 years old, was injured internally and others received bruises.

Mrs. Eva Binder, a helpless old woman, living with her sister in Brooklyn, New York, fell upon the stove on the 3d, during her sister's absence, and was burned to death.

The consolidated train used by John Robinson's circus and menagerie was again wrecked on the 4th, on the Van-alta line, near Cleveland, eight miles east of Brazil, Indiana. The wreck occurred at a sharp curve, the four middle coaches leaving the track and piling up in confusion. The wreck caught fire and was consumed; but the other coaches, including the animals were saved. No lives were lost. The show was en route to Cincinnati for winter quarters. The loss sustained by the accident on the 3d and 4th will aggregate \$100,000, covered by insurance.

Two policemen detailed to watch the ruins caused by the recent explosion in St. Louis, while waiting over the debris on the night of the 31, unearthed an iron hemisphere which they thought was the remains of a dynamite bomb, but it proved to be the bulb of a hanging lamp.

Indian Relics in Georgia.

The whole field for acres around the bridge over Little river, in Wilkes county, Georgia, is literally covered with flint arrow and spear heads, stone tomahawks, maces, battle axes, and almost every instrument of crude Indian warfare. Besides these are found many domestic articles, as mortars and pestles for mashing corn, pots hewn out of solid stone, and broken vases carved in rare and curious designs. These relics were washed down from a neighboring hill by the late freshet and scattered over the field. On the top of this hill, where the village is supposed to have been, was found a large pile of broken and defective arrow heads, which seemed to mark the spot where some old arrow maker had his shop, making arrows for his tribe, and receiving in return deer, bear, and other such game as the forest afforded.

Marie Antoinette.

Marie Antoinette was in no way a woman fitted for affairs of state. She was simply a woman. That was her charm and her misfortune. There was no trace in her of the genius of her mother, Maria Theresa. She was simply a young Viennese princess. Fond of pleasure, and sympathetic, she was too proud of her rank and birth and too disdainful of the opinions of the world to sacrifice to them even a trifling caprice. Frivolous, but little educated, and never reading, difficult to advise and impatient of schooling, which bored her, she judged of policies by persons, and of persons by the opinions of courtesies. With little judgment she had plenty of courage, but her valor was apt to dissipate itself in anger or tears. Her heart, nevertheless, was noble, and honor was with her a passion. When the dignity of the crown seemed compromised or lowered—when it was outraged amid provocation and insult, she hardened herself against attack, and one could then recognize in her the daughter of Maria Theresa.

THE MARKETS.

PROVISIONS:

Beef city lam bl.....	2 50	2 00
Lard.....	18 00	18 00
Pork mess.....	18 00	18 00
Prime mess, new.....	18 00	18 00
Shoulder smoked.....	10 00	10 00
Do in salt.....	7 00	7 00
Smoked beef.....	12 00	12 00
Lard western bid.....	6 80	6 75
Lard loose.....	6 00	6 75
FLOUR:		
West. and Pa. sup.....	3 25	3 25
Pa. Family.....	3 00	3 75
Wm. Gray.....	2 50	3 25
Pat. Wt. Wt.....	4 25	4 60
No. 1 Flour.....	3 50	4 00
GRAIN:		
Wheat No. 1 red.....	—	—
Do do white.....	—	—
Do do white, new.....	—	—
No. 2 do white, new.....	—	—
No. 2 do mixed, new.....	—	—
FISH:		
Mackerel, large is.....	40	—
No. 2 Shore.....	18	—
Herring, Lab.....	—	6 50
SUGAR:		
Forwarded.....	6 12-162	—
Contract No. 4 White.....	6 11-162	—
Contract No. 4 Brown.....	6 8-162	—
HAY AND STRAW:		
Mixed.....	15 30	15 00
Cut Hay.....	14 00	15 00
No. 1 Straw.....	16 30	15 00
Wheat straw.....	—	—
WOOL:		
Ohio, Penna. and W. Va. Fines XX	—	—
and above.....	23 21	23 25
Common.....	20 00	20 00
Unwashed medium.....	18 00	18 00

VALUABLE SHELLS.

Arrival of a Cargo of 3,000 POUNDS of Pearls.

A cargo of about 3,000 pounds of pearl from the Philippine Islands arrived recently, and it will no doubt soon be converted into artistic shapes for the adornment of fashionable mansions. One of the latest affections of the wealthy is the addition to their household gods of artistically executed sea and landscape paintings in oil upon mother of pearl shells. It is doubtful if any of the hundreds who purchase them or five out of the thousands who admire them in the show windows on Broadway or elsewhere, have the remotest idea that nature formed these shells for any other purpose than to be used in this style of adornment.

A large importer of shells and a manufacturer of pearl goods, in conversation with a reporter, expressed astonishment at the profound ignorance of so many persons in regard to the different localities from which pearl shells come, and the hundred and one purpose for which they are used.

"How many kinds are there used in your business?" asked the reporter.

THE VARIOUS KINDS.

"The shells which possess a commercial value are known to the trade as the Manila; Australian, Bombay, Japan, East India, Trocus, Chinese, small, black and red ear, and Panama. Several of these species are pearl bearing shells, and are only obtained by professional divers at the imminent risk of their lives. Many of these bivalves are very heavy, weighing sometimes eight or ten pounds. The moment the native gets ashore he forces it open and carefully removes the living inhabitants, carefully searches for any it may contain. Not only the shell, and about its lunge, but the meat or fish within is thoroughly examined, lest the pearl might be secreted, as is frequently the case, in the body. This examination over, the shells are laid aside to dry, having first been thoroughly cleaned. The finest shell for manufacturing purposes comes from the Philippine Islands and is called the Manila. It ranges in price from sixty to seventy-five cents a pound, and is used for making dress and shirt buttons, pistol stocks, cuff buttons, parasol and umbrella handles, pen handles, studs, and scores of other articles. A thin veneering is also made of it, which is worth \$12 a pound, and is used for inlaying the covers of albums and fancy cabinet work. These veneerings are fairly dazzling with rainbow hues, and when lightly polished are exceedingly beautiful. When we have got a little of the shell there is a very little of the shell remaining."

"Is there any difficulty or danger attending the gathering of these shells?"

"I should rather say there was. There is one species of shell shaped like an ear, called the silver and red ear, in the sides of which are small holes, and through these by means of long suckers the fish fastens himself to a rock. When the tide has pretty nearly run out the natives go down among the rocks and, watching their opportunity, catch hold of the upper shell which the shellfish keeps open. Unless he succeeds in the first instance in pulling from its resting place the animal will close its shell in a second, and the man's fingers will be held in a vise like grip. In that case the unfortunate pearl gatherer will have to stand up to his knees in water unless he cuts off his imprisoned fingers, for the shell cannot be pried open, nor can three men, with their united strength, pull it suckers from the rock. The shell is so hard that it is next impossible to smash it. There the poor fellow is held in agony until the tide rises, when, unless he frees himself by chopping off his finger ends and leaving them for the animal to dine on, he is sure to be drowned."

PEARL MANUFACTURING.

"After the shells have been thoroughly searched for pearls, they are cleaned and packed in cases of about two hundred pounds each, and shipped to England, France, or this country. Great ingenuity and long experience are required to become an expert in pearl shell working. When a manufacturer receives an order for a lot of cuff buttons he is sometimes obliged to overhaul dozens of cases in order to obtain those of the required thickness, and then not more than three or four buttons can be drilled out of the heaviest shell. But then nothing goes to waste, for small buttons and other articles are made from the thinner parts, and then, by means of a circular saw, the 'scrap' is cut for inlaying or veneering. Pistol stocks require the very heaviest shell. A pearl worker in New York, having some time ago received an order from an army officer for a pearl handled revolver, was obliged to overhaul nearly a whole ship load before he could find two shells of the required thickness. He received \$100 for that pistol stock."

"The business of pearl manufacturing is comparatively new in this country, and the profits are so large that there is a tendency to monopolize the industry. In consequence all sorts of devices are resorted to in order to obtain the advantage. Some time ago a large house in New York bought a cargo of pearl shells to arrive at 70 cents a pound. While the vessel was in transit the market fell about 40 cents. It was a lucky thing for the house that the vessel foundered off the Cape of Good Hope, for the concern would certainly have foundered had the ship come safely to port. Manufacturers here prefer waiting for lots of pearl shell to arrive at New York direct from the fisheries, instead of ordering from London, knowing that the shells are assorted there and the choicest picked out for the English and French markets. There are several large manufacturing of pearl work in Newark, Philadelphia, Germantown, and in this city, and since the establishment of this industry here the importation of pearl buttons from England has greatly fallen off."

At the late Medical Congress in Vienna all the doctors who spoke on the subject were in favor of cremation as a way of disposing of the dead.