

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

John S. Thomas, a miner at the Empire Colliery, in Wilkesbarre, Penna., was fatally burned on the 23d by an explosion of gas.

John Bertinrow, superintendent, John Eisenberg, foreman, and Jacob Spielman and John Afer, workmen in Carl Seitz's hat factory, in Newark, New Jersey, were arrested on the 23d, for defrauding Seitz out of large sums of money by means of fraudulent pay rolls. Bertinrow and Eisenberg pleaded not guilty, and the other two pleaded guilty.

Three shocks of earthquakes occurred in the vicinity of Newburyport, Massachusetts, about midnight on the 23d. Houses four miles from town were violently shaken.

Willie J. Hoack, aged 13 years, while coasting on an embankment of the Codorus creek, in York, Penna., on the 23d, ran into an air hole in the creek and was drowned.

The report that Findley D. Brown, Board of Trade operator in Chicago, was thrown out or fell from a third-story window, on the evening of the 21st was incorrect. He descended a fire escape and dropped from a height of twelve or fifteen feet on a pile of stones and planks, breaking his ankle.

So much suffering and death has been reported among teachers and pupils in Nebraska in the late storm, that prominent people and papers have advocated public contributions to heroic teachers, and to aid those who have been crippled through losing limbs by freezing. To secure accurate data, the State Superintendent on the 24th issued a circular calling on all County Superintendents to forward at once names of teachers and pupils in their locality who perished in the storms, those who have since died from effects of exposure, and the names of teachers who performed heroic actions in saving and attempting to save the lives of their pupils.

A telegram from Neche, Dakota, says the mercury went down to 60 below and the wind reached a velocity of 40 miles an hour there on the evening of the 23d. It was still blowing on the 24th, and trains were ten hours late. The storm reached Brainerd on the morning of the 24th. Snow was falling and the wind was blowing a gale. The heaviest snow storm of the season began at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the evening of the 23d, and continued all of the 24th. The roads are almost impassable.

It is reported from Sun River, Montana, that "Nosey Smith" was hanged by vigilantes. It is said he went to Northwest Territory, two years ago, to escape hanging for shamefully abusing his two daughters, and going back to gain possession of them was caught and hanged. While Mrs. Lester, between 40 and 50 years of age, was on her way home from a neighbor's house, in New London, a village near Rome, New York, on the evening of the 23d, Eugene Guest threw her down and cut her throat. It is alleged that Guest and Mrs. Lester were intimate, and that he became jealous of her. A telegram from Belgrade, Montana, says a German laborer, who was ill, was placed by a farmer in a room without fire and willfully neglected. After an unusually cold night, the man was found frozen to death. His body was then removed to the woods, where it was partially devoured by hogs. It is asserted by neighbors that the farmer allowed the man to freeze to avoid paying him a large sum due as wages.

An explosion occurred on the morning of the 24th, in shaft No. 5 of the Wellington colliery at Victoria, British Columbia. The hoisting gear was displaced and ropes were used to hoist up the men, of whom there were 200 in the mine. By 1 o'clock 65 men had been hauled up, and it is believed, as there was no fire in the mine, that all were safe except perhaps a few in the immediate vicinity of the explosion.

Of the nine bodies taken from the ruins of Barnaby's boarding house, in Tower, Minnesota, three are still unidentified. The verdict of the coroner's jury censures Barnaby for not providing better protection against fire catching from the stove in the bar-room.

In the accident on the Delaware and Hudson Railroad at Baxterville, near Salem, New York, on the 23d, 18 persons were injured. Only one, David T. Owen, of Eagle Bridge, was dangerously hurt, and he may recover. The cause of the accident is not known.

The Brown's Valley branch of the Manitoba Railroad, which has been opened since December 29th, was blocked to Wheeler, on the 24th, and on the 25th, a train load of fuel reached Brown's Valley, Minnesota. The fuel supply in most towns along the road was exhausted some days ago, and the farmers have been burning hay, oats and seed wheat.

An explosion of natural gas occurred on a street in Pittsburg, on the afternoon of the 24th, tearing up thirty feet of sidewalk and fatally injuring two young men named Best and Bray.

The natural gas mains near Lima, Ohio, burst on the 24th, and the citizens were deprived of fire. The weather is very cold and there is little coal in the town. An immediate effort will be made to repair the break.

A broken rail on the Smith and Fryer Lumber Railroad caused a trolley to jump the track near Osego Lake, Mich., on the 24th, and John Reardon and James Morrissey were killed. Five others were severely injured. Two freight engines on the Santa Fe Road collided on the bridge over the Vermillion river, near Streator, Illinois, on the evening of the 24th. A fireman jumped off the engine and struck on the ice in the river and was killed. A despatch from New Castle, Penna., says a freight train on the Bessemer Branch Railroad ran into a caboose of another freight train near Lawrence Junction on the afternoon of the 24th. About a dozen brakemen were in the caboose, and seven of them were severely injured. The accident was caused by an open switch.

When the wife of A. J. Ellis, living in Kansas City, Missouri, woke up on the morning of the 25th she found her twin babies, one month old, dead by her side. They had been accidentally smothered during the night.

The residence of J. E. Taylor, in Chicago, was entered on the evening of the 24th by burglars, who carried away \$300 worth of jewelry. At the time of the robbery the family were down stairs at dinner. During the storm of the evening of the 23d, the postoffice at Annapolis, Nova Scotia, was entered by burglars, who took all the registered letters and money packages. It is thought they made a big haul. Post-office Inspector McDonald started to investigate the robbery, and is now snowed up at Windsor. Isaac N. Stanley, who, while paying-teller of the National Bank of Commerce, in Cleveland, Ohio, embezzled \$100,000 of the bank's funds in 1895, and lost the money in wheat speculations, was, on the 25th, sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the United States District Court. Sanford Tanner, a wealthy citizen of Freeborn county, Minnesota, has been swindled out of \$22,000 by a pretended detective. A few days ago the swindler appeared to Tanner disguised as a woman, and said he was looking for a person who robbed Tanner of \$1900 some months ago. He speedily gained Tanner's confidence, and under the pretext of wishing to buy a farm he got from his victim \$20,000 in securities and \$2000 in cash and disappeared.

It is now thought that ninety lives were lost in the Wellington Colliery explosion, which occurred at Victoria, British Columbia, on the 24th. The bodies of twenty-nine miners were taken out on the evening of the 24th, and about seventy more are still in the mine. About three-fourths of those still in the mine are Chinamen. All possible means are being used to recover the bodies, the greatest obstacle being the after damp.

A despatch from Pottsville says work was resumed on the 25th at Brookside, Suffolk, Locust Spring and Keystone collieries of the Reading company, and at the William Penn, an individual operation. The latter is working full handed, the others with a partial force. The Enterprise colliery at Shamokin was also started. It is said that the reply of the miner's committee to President Corbin's manifesto is constructed by many of the miners as releasing them from obligations to support the railroad's strike and many will gladly return to work.

A telegram from Brownwood, Texas, says City Marshal Butler and wife were kept up nearly all of the night of the 24th, by a sick child. About 3 A. M. both fell asleep with the baby lying between them. When they awoke the baby was gone. A search discovered it dead in a cistern. No servants were employed and the only theory held is that one of the parents drowned the child in a fit of somnambulism. Whoever did the terrible act carried the child through the house opened and closed two doors, and, after putting it in the cistern, replaced the cistern cover and set the water bucket on top of it. The parents are frantic.

The snow storm at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the night of the 24th, was the worst known there for years. Railway travel is again demoralized. The harbors of North Sydney, Digby, Yarmouth and Annapolis were frozen solid for the first time in years.

Reports from Reading to the effect that the storm which prevailed on the 26th, was the worst experienced in that section for several years. The snow drifted so badly as to make the country roads impassable. Trains on the Reading Railroad and branches were all late, the snow drifts in some places being 10 and 15 feet deep. Throughout the coal regions nearly all the mines were closed down because of the storm. Heavy snow also fell in New York, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and passenger trains on nearly all the railroads were delayed, and in some cases blocked. Many freight trains were abandoned. A despatch from St. Paul, Minnesota, says the prolonged blockade of the smaller roads of the Northwest threatens to result in a fuel and provision famine in several localities. At Flandreau, Dakota, no trains have arrived since the 21st, and there is no coal for sale. Many families are without fuel.

The foreman of the Carbon Limestone Company quarries, about ten miles from Youngstown, Ohio, on the 25th, placed twenty sticks of dynamite on a stove in a shanty in which five Italians were lounging. An explosion occurred, killing one man and injuring the others, two dangerously.

Frank Kostler, aged 36 years, brakeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, was crushed to death while coupling cars at Nanticoke, Penna., on the 26th.

An extensive and systematic stealing of coal has been discovered at Bainbridge, Ohio. A telegram from Springfield tells the story thus: "A car-load of coal would disappear in a single night, and the speculations became so extensive that the railroad company employed detectives to unearth the thieves. The result has been the arrest of fifteen prominent citizens of Bainbridge, including the Marshal, hotel proprietor and a preacher. Detectives say that half of the citizens of the town are implicated in the case. The speculations amount to many hundreds of dollars, and the extent of them may be imagined when it is known that, although coal is universally used in Bainbridge, not a single car has been billed to a resident of that place this winter."

Allen, cashier of the Central Bank of Toronto, "absconded to the United States," on the 26th.

Miss Maria Batsford, 60 years of age, who lived alone in Seymour, Connecticut, was found dead in her house on the 26th. It is thought she has been dead for two weeks, as it has been that long since she was seen on the street. She had considerable property but lived in a miserly way. A tramp, identified as George Peppers, who is said to have made a fortune in the early days of the Pennsylvania oil discoveries, and who then squandered

upward of \$500,000 in Wall street speculations, died on the 25th, at Sarcoxie, Missouri, from the effects of exposure.

A suit was begun in Jeffersonville, Indiana, on the 26th, by State Attorney General Miehner, against David M. Allen, former steward of the South Indiana Prison. The affidavit charges Allen with conspiracy with a number of manufacturers and business men in furnishing supplies to the prison and converting them to his own use. The amount that the State is said to have been defrauded out of is \$150,000.

Three masked men entered the hut of Henry Merritts, a woodsman, in Henrytown township, Huntingdon county, Penna., on the 26th, and demanded his money. He was bound and gagged, and falling to extort a confession his assailants held his bare feet to the fire and otherwise maltreated him. Finally Merritts became unconscious. Beneath the flooring the villains found a flour sack containing \$1500, and this they took. Merritts had about \$4000 altogether hidden about the building.

Officials of Pike county, Kentucky, have applied to the Governor for troops to defend the people against the Hatfield gang. Troops were refused, but the people were given permission to arm themselves. The Sheriff of Pike county has invaded West Virginia to capture the outlaws, but a West Virginia Sheriff is out with a posse to drive them back to Kentucky.

O. B. Hitchcock, a prominent farmer went to Santa Anna, California, on the 23d with his wife, and acknowledged a deed to his property to a Fritz Anshlag. They returned home, but not having been seen thereafter neighbors instituted a search. Their dead bodies were found on the 26th a long distance from the house. It was thought that Anshlag murdered them to regain the money he had paid them for the land. A party was organized, and Anshlag and his partner, Antoine Dyker, were lynched before the officers could interfere.

A train on the Connecticut River Railroad dashed into a gang of men who were shovelling snow from the tracks near Holyoke, Massachusetts, on the evening of the 26th, killing Martin Griffin, James Kennedy and John Shee, and fatally injuring Michael Connors. The snow was blowing about so that nothing could be seen a few feet distant. A passenger train which left Troy, New York, on the evening of the 26th, ran into the rear of a freight train, near Williamstown, Massachusetts, early on the morning of the 27th, and Conductor P. Cudmore and brakeman George Wheelock, of the freight were killed and three other brakemen severely injured. As a grip car, with its accompanying car filled with passengers, was coming down St. Anthony Hill in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 27th, the gripman lost control of the car and the grip slipped from the hill and were only stopped by running off the track. Twenty persons were injured, E. M. Sanders, fatally. Daniel Sullivan was killed and Edward Marvel and Daniel Cullerty were severely, if not fatally, injured by a collision between coal cars in Jersey City, on the 27th. An express train on the Pennsylvania Railroad was thrown from the track by a broken frog, near Mount Joy, Penna., early on the morning of the 27th. The engine and six cars left the track. Great excitement prevailed among the passengers, but nobody was hurt.

A despatch from Chihuahua says a force of American troops, who have been scouring the country southwest of Chihuahua in quest of the Acapulca train robbers, have come in with another robber, making three captured. The despatch states that in the robbers' possession were found four of the horses on which the bandits escaped and quite a sum of money, some in the original Wells Fargo packages. James Burrows, who was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, on the 23d, is said to be an organizer, as well as leader, in many of the train robberies which have occurred for several years past. His brother Reuben escaped arrest by killing his pursuer, and is now hiding in a swamp.

Miss Ettie Shattuck, a young school teacher, was so severely frozen in Holt county, Nebraska, during the late blizzard, that she had on the 27th both her legs amputated, and it is thought will live. On the night of the storm Miss Shattuck took refuge in a hay-stack, but was unable to burrow deep enough to prevent her legs from freezing.

An explosion of gas occurred on the 27th in the Nottingham Mine, at Plymouth, Penna., by which five men were burned and bruised. One of them, Daniel Reese, died on the evening of the 27th, and it was doubtful whether the others would survive.

60th CONGRESS.—First Session. SENATE. In the United States House of Representatives, on the 21st, Mr. Bacon from the Committee on Manufactures, reported a preamble and resolution reciting the allegation "that certain individuals and corporations engaged in manufacturing or mining, or dealing in some of the necessities of life, have contended for the purpose of controlling or curtailing the production or supply of the same, thereby increasing their price to the people, affecting injuriously commerce between the States and impairing the revenues of the Government," and directing the Committee on Manufactures "to inquire into the names, number and extent of such alleged combinations, and all other matters relating to the same which may call for legislation by Congress." Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, objected to the present consideration of the resolution, and it was placed on the calendar. Mr. Crisp called up the pending election contest of Thobe Carline, the pending question being on the majority resolution confirming Mr. Carline's right to his seat. Mr. Hogg, of West Virginia, entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the resolution for a

re-opening of the case was defeated on Friday. The vote on the majority resolution resulted: Yeas, 140; nays, 6. No quorum voted. Mr. Crisp then moved to adjourn. The Speaker pro tempore stated that he had made a mistake in entertaining the motion to consider the motion of Mr. Hogg. The motion could not be entertained until the previous question under which the House was now operating should have been disposed of. The motion to adjourn was agreed to—yeas, 139; nays, 23—a strict party vote.

In the U. S. Senate on the 23d, the Judiciary Committee reported a resolution, which was adopted, authorizing that committee to inquire into the alleged participation of Federal officers in the suppression of colored votes at Jackson, Mississippi. Bills were reported for the admission of the State of Dakota and the organization of the Territory of Lincoln; to authorize the sale to aliens of certain mineral lands and to forfeit certain railroad grant lands. The House joint resolution for the participation of the United States in the Melbourne exhibition was reported and passed. Mr. Fry spoke at length upon the tariff. The Blair Education bill was taken up, and Mr. Blair spoke on it for nearly an hour. After an executive session the Senate adjourned. While in secret session the Senate ratified a shipping treaty with Guatemala.

In the United States Senate on the 24th, Mr. Voorhees introduced bills for the organization and admission of Montana as a State. Mr. Hoar called up Mr. Gorman's motion, made some time ago, to reconsider the vote by which the Senate had ordered a special committee of five on Pacific Railroad matters. After debate the original resolution was modified by increasing the membership of the select committee to 7, and as thus amended it was adopted—54 to 15. Mr. Palmer spoke in support of his bill to restrict immigration, after which it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The Deficiency bill was considered, pending which the Senate adjourned.

In the United States Senate on the 25th, Mr. Chandler's resolutions, asking information of the Navy Department, were taken up. The first, relating to purchases of plans and specifications in foreign countries, was adopted. The second, in regard to the changes from the original plans in the construction of war vessels, was referred. The third, calling for copies of contracts made for ships and ordnance since March 4, 1865, was adopted, after being amended, on motion of Mr. Butler, so as to substitute 1880 for 1885. The Deficiency bill was passed, with amendments, and goes back to the House. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the United States Senate on the 26th, the House bill to provide for agricultural experiment stations was reported and placed on the calendar. The bill increasing the pension for deafness to \$30 per month was passed. The calendar was proceeded with and the Undersecretary bill reached, but its consideration was objected to. Mr. Allison then gave notice that he would ask its consideration at an early day. The bill giving the widow of General John A. Logan a pension of \$2000 a year was passed, after debate, by a vote of 55 to 7. A similar bill was then passed increasing to \$2000 a year the pension of the widow of General Frank P. Blair. The Educational bill was discussed, pending which the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. House of Representatives on the 27th, Mr. White, of New York, introduced a bill "for the protection and administration of the forests on the public lands." It was referred. The Senate amendments to the Little Deficiency bill were concurred in. Pending consideration of the private calendar the House adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE. In the House on the 23d, the Thobe Carline case was called up, and the majority resolution declaring Mr. Carline entitled to his seat was adopted—yeas, 164; nays, 7. A number of bills and resolutions were introduced under the call of States. A bill was reported amending the laws relating to navigation. Adjourned.

In the House on the 24th, a bill was reported making bills of lading conclusive evidence in certain cases. The bill conferring civil jurisdiction in the Indian Territory on United States Courts having criminal jurisdiction was passed. Mr. Wheeler, of Alabama, offered a resolution, which was referred, for the printing of 5000 extra copies of the report of the Board of Visitors to West Point. In doing so he paid a tribute to the beneficence and world-wide fame of Mr. George W. Childs, the President of the Board. Adjourned.

In the House on the 25th, Mr. Randall introduced a bill looking to the removal of Smith's and Windmill Islands from the Delaware river. Mr. Henderson, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to amend the penal sections of the internal revenue laws, and it was placed on the House calendar. Mr. Bacon, of New York, asked consent for the present consideration of the resolution for the investigation of trusts, pools and other combinations. No objection being made, the resolution was taken up and passed, after some debate. The House then adjourned.

In the House on the 26th, the bill to discontinue the coinage of three cent pieces was reported and placed on the calendar. Bills were passed amending the Shipping act of 1886, and regulating the practice in cases removed from the State to the Federal Courts. The Speaker pro tempore announced the regular order to be the consideration of a resolution setting apart February 21st, after the morning hour, and each day thereafter until further order, for the consideration of bills reported from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, not to interfere with revenue or general Appropriation bills. Mr. Randall moved to adjourn. Lost. Mr. Bland, of Missouri, then began to "filibuster," until finally the House adjourned.

THE BEAUTY DOCTOR. He Gives Valuable Prescriptions for Pretty Women.

An Arab poet tells us that a beautiful woman should have four things: Black—Hair, eyebrows, eyelashes and pupil.

White—Skin, teeth and globe of the eye. Red—Tongue, lips, gums, cheeks. Round—Head, neck, arms, ankles, waist. Long—Back, fingers, arms, limbs. Large—Forehead, eyes, lips. Narrow—Eyebrows, nose, lips. Fleeshy—Cheeks, limbs. Small—Ears, bust, hands, feet.

We will not discuss the taste of this Arab poet, but I may remark that all the white, red, round and fleshy attributes required to form his plea of beauty are purely and simply the reflection of physical health. Health alone can give youth, freshness and radiance to the complexion, and brilliancy to the eyes and an attractive expression to the whole face. Ill-health, on the contrary, dries and discolors the skin, produces wrinkles, makes the face yellow and spoils the color of the teeth, hair and nails. The celebrated Dr. von Feuchtersleben says that "health is nothing but beauty in the functions of life."

A French author (Balzac) once called ugliness "a grief which lasted a lifetime." He did not often know the all-powerful force of hygiene in the cultivation and preservation of physical beauty. What is, perhaps, the greatest attribute of beauty is a beautiful skin. The skin should be white, smooth, soft and fresh-colored. A beautiful skin alone is often sufficient to make a woman beautiful. And here again hygiene steps in, for without health a beautiful skin is impossible. Le Camus, the author of that curious old book, "Abdeker," says: "The most regular beauty could never charm me if freshness, purity and brilliancy of complexion did not enliven it by adding the radiance of youth and health." In fact the complexion is to beauty what springtime is to nature—what the bloom is to the peach—what the varied tints are to the wings of the butterfly. But as the smallest cloud can darken a spring morning, so the contact with another object can remove the bloom of the peach, and a touch can spoil the beauty of a butterfly's wing, so the slightest derangement, either of mind or body, darkens and troubles the complexion, and without constant care this freshness and purity which makes the power of beauty becomes like a faded flower. The preservation and cultivation of a beautiful skin is, therefore, one of the first duties of life.

Let me warn all ladies from wishing to appear different to what nature has made them; that is, let no lady who has beautiful dark hair attempt to dye it yellow, just because it is yellow hair, and dark-haired ladies are quite as much admired as fair ladies. Nay, shall I tell you a secret, ladies? Statisticians tell us that more dark-haired women marry than fair-haired women! Beauty is not molded in one form, it is varied as the leaves on a tree, and no two types are exactly alike.

How He Knew Him. Ben: Perley Poore is authority for the statement that Abraham Lincoln once told a good story about Henry Ward Beecher, who, dressed in very common clothes, was studying human nature as exhibited in the highways of New York. In the course of his philosophic peregrinations, he went into a mock auction shop. He stood awhile on entering, and reflected, doubtless, how any one could be so lost to all sense of truth and honesty as the auctioneer in question, endeavoring to palm off his worthless trash to the inexperienced in city ways as good and valuable, and finally the auctioneer called out: "Mr. Beecher, why don't you bid?" He was greatly astonished, as can be imagined, at finding himself known in this place, and, as he had supposed in his purposely careless dress. He immediately left, and started for the residence of one of the members of the church in the neighborhood, and requested him, as an act of kindness, to go down and inquire of that person who had sold himself to Satan for the love of gain how it was that he knew him in his disguise: The neighbor kindly consented, and on entering the "Peter Funk" shop he addressed the auctioneer:

"How is it that you know Henry Ward Beecher so well as to be able to recognize him in his disguise?" "How do I know him? Why, I have been a prominent member of his congregation for the last five years, and lease the fifth pew from the front!"

How Tuboatmen Sleep. The question has often been asked, "When do tuboatmen sleep?" In point of fact, so far as disrobing and lying down in bed, nothing of that kind ever occurs to their experience; but still they manage to obtain a full and, in fact, liberal allowance of slumber, because they have trained themselves to lie down at any time and in any shape, where the temperature is high enough, without any formality of divesting themselves of clothing, and at once dropping off to sleep for an hour or as much more as is possible. In this way, it may be confidently asserted, twelve out of each twenty-four hours of a tuboatman's life may be devoted to slumber if he so chooses, and is, indeed, generally spent in this manner.

Making Dimes From 3-Cent Pieces. A detective at Columbus, Ohio, recently came into possession of several 3-cent pieces which had been passed as 10-cent pieces. The modus operandi of making seven cents on each piece is to place a dime on each side of a 3-cent piece and by squeezing them in a vise, flatten the 3-cent piece and leave a dim outline of the dime on either side. The coin, after the defacement, very much resembles a 10-cent piece, which has seen considerable service.

MOTHER—"Has Mr. Goslow offered himself yet?" Harriet—"No, not yet; but I think he will soon. Last night he said he was looking around for a wife, and asked me very particularly if I thought I could earn enough to venture to marry on."

STORIES OF 'DEPRAVED APPE-TITE.

Beasts That Eat Odd Things—Stomach of the Elephant, Cow and Ostrich.

"It is truly astonishing what curious things are found in the stomachs of elephants," said Superintendent Conklin, of the Central Park menagerie, as he read the story from Bridgeport about the finding of an ivory tusk and other curiosities in the stomachs of elephants that were killed in the fire at Barnum's winter quarters. "I doubt very much about the tusk being found, but as to the knives, pieces of lead pipe and the coins, that is quite common."

"I had an elephant here, and when he died there was at least \$10 worth of coins found in his stomach. Some of the coins were English pennies, three penny pieces; some were German coins and others were the coins of various European countries, and Chinese coins were also found."

"Another elephant we had here was crazy for hats. The boys had great fun throwing each other's hats into the inclosure. The elephant would just put out his trunk and in a twinkling the hat was gone. One day a gentleman's silk hat blew off. The elephant picked it up and disposed of it as quickly as he did of the straw hats of the children."

"It seems that the elephant's stomach will take anything. Anything but metal seems to pass away without causing the animal any pain, but it appears that the gastric juices only tend to oxidize coins and the like, and they remain in the beast's stomach until death."

"Cows are the only other animals that have a fancy for disposing of foreign substance that may pass down the throat."

"I should judge the elephant's tasting powers are limited, because he gobbles up everything that is offered him."

"The ostrich is just about as careless of what he swallows as the elephant. He takes in anything he can catch, and more curious things have been found in the stomach of the biped than that of the quadruped."

Charles Reiche, the dealer in animals, not only corroborated Mr. Conklin's experiences, but related some of his own experiences in that line. "Once we had an elephant," he said, "that took part in the first Plaut-deutsche Volksfest ever held. Out at the park we had the animal on exhibition. A lady held out her pocketbook, and the elephant took it in his trunk, and before the woman could realize what a foolish thing she had done the purse was safely stowed under the ribs of the big brute. I had to give her twenty-five cents to go home with."

"If a man held out a loaded pistol that elephant would have swallowed it. Another time one of the keepers left his lunch for a second, and laid his open jack knife on the top. Lunch, cloth, jack knife and everything else at once disappeared down the elephant's throat, and he never seemed to suffer from it. Elephants must have armor-plated stomachs, for they take in everything from a lady's hairpin to a wooden image."

"Then you believe the sacred elephant swallowed the idol as reported?" "I certainly do. The sacred elephant would just as soon pick up a stray god as he would a luncheon or a grange."

Old Southern Homes. A great many of the plantations in different parts of the South, which were once well known for their size, the magnificence of the residences upon them, the hospitality of their owners or on account of the prominence of the families which possessed them, are now falling into ruins. The reason of this is, perhaps, that the land has been worked so long without being fertilized that it has become poor, or it may be that those into whose possession it has passed lack the energy and skill which are required to make it pay under the present system of labor. One of these famous old places, in Liberty County, was lately sold to a colored man for \$2,500, only a part of the purchase being required at once. It is known as Laurel View, and is within two miles of the historic town of Sunbury. It was the home of the gifted John Elliott, and a very beautiful home it was. John Elliott represented Georgia in the United States Senate from 1820 to 1826.

The plantation contains 2,800 acres. It was purchased during the war of secession by Lion Stephens, a brother of Alexander H. Stephens, and was sold to the present owner by his heirs.

The district in which the plantation is situated was noted from the first settlement of the State until the emancipation of the slaves, for the intelligence and wealth of its citizens. It is now, however, almost wholly abandoned to the colored people. Its great plantations have been divided into small farms, and the superb mansions, once the homes of men noted for wealth and culture, and of women famous for beauty and refinement, are falling into decay, and are being replaced by cabins and huts, whose chimneys of sticks and mud tell more plainly than words of the marvelous change for the worse which has taken place in the once rich and prosperous district.

The Zither. The zither, that pretty little flat harp which is now taught in our cities, and which so many young ladies are learning, originated in the Alpine countries, and was, toward the middle of our century, used by traveling Tyrolean singers as an accompaniment to their songs and yodels. Even to-day, when one sees the graceful young girl seated at the table, practicing her zither, and hears those wild chords, an Alpine scene rises before the eyes and transfers the modern aesthetic interior, in charms of dreamlike transformation, to rushing streams, pine forests, blue peaks and snowy mountains, that scenery of the Tyrol and Switzerland which is of all things most lovely.