

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

An explosion of gasoline occurred in the drug house of Bailey Brothers & Co., in Zanesville, Ohio, on the morning of the 16th, followed by fire. Morton Bailey was buried in the debris, and his body was not recovered.

A wagon containing Isaac Loeb, aged 65, and his grand-daughter, Virginia Weinhold, aged 16, both of Strickertown, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, was struck by a passenger train on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, at Robesonia, on the afternoon of the 16th.

A west bound express train on the Northern Pacific Railroad was stopped by a danger signal and robbed, between Big Horn and Myers station, Montana, on the evening of the 15th. The robbers, eight in number, compelled the engineer, Sargent, to go through the train, while they robbed the passengers.

Peter Murphy was fatally stabbed by Peter McCann, in Chicago, on the 17th. The fight was the result of an old feud.

On the morning of the 20th Mrs. Josephine Mack, living in a tenement house in Allegheny city, Penna., administered strychnine to her three children, aged 7, 4 and 3 years respectively, and then swallowed a large dose of the poison herself.

On the morning of the 19th a party of Hungarians who had got drunk at a christening at Wilkes-Barre, Penna., started out to mob the Irish inhabitants of Georgetown, a suburb of the city.

Four young men were laying a gas pipe in Thirty-second street, New York, on the afternoon of the 20th, when the banks of the excavation caved in and buried them.

The bulletin issued by General Sheridan's physicians on the evening of the 20th, says: "He is apparently progressing by steady, although imperceptible, degrees towards convalescence."

P. A. Huber, the express agent, was arraigned in Sunbury, Pa., on the 21st, but waived a hearing and was committed to prison in default of \$5000 bail.

An east-bound freight train on the 21st ran into the rear of another freight train standing in the yard alongside of the St. Charles furnace at Columbia, Penna., demolishing several coal oil tanks, which look fire and were consumed, together with several cars of lumber and a building adjoining.

A heavy thunder storm passed over the Wyoming Valley on the evening of the 21st. In Kingston the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western depot was struck by lightning and badly damaged. The gasometer at the Presbyterian church was struck and exploded, but the resulting fire was extinguished by the torrent of rain.

The loss caused by the fire at Dubois, Penna., on the 18, is estimated at \$1,000,000. Two thousand persons are homeless, and Governor Beaver has issued an appeal for funds for their relief.

An explosion of gas occurred on the afternoon of the 20th, in the Nelson shaft of the Red Ash Tunnel, at Shamokin, Penna. George Schmack was fatally injured and five others sustained dangerous burns.

John Garvey, who stabbed and killed his brother, William, at their home in New York, on the evening of the 18th, was on the 19th, held for trial without bail.

taken by counsel for the prisoner were all decided against him. This will be the third trial, the former trials resulting in verdicts of murder in the first degree.

The situation at Dubois, Penna., was unchanged on the 20th. Appeals for aid for the sufferers by the fire are meeting with generous responses, and provisions are being received in large quantities.

Captain Linden, of Pinkerton's force, has arrested Express Agent Huber, of Sunbury, Pa., for stealing \$20,000 from the Adams Express Company on August 20, 1886. The money was shipped from Philadelphia to Shamokin to pay the employees of the Mineral Mining Company.

The bulletins issued on the evening of the 21st by General Sheridan's physicians showed a decided improvement in their patient.

Another favorable bulletin was issued by General Sheridan's physicians on the evening of the 22d.

The steamer Bertha which has arrived at San Francisco from Kuruk, Alaska, had on board three sailors of the codfishing schooner Isabel, which encountered a gale on May 1st and was abandoned two days later.

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The jury in the Giblin murder case in New York on the afternoon of the 21st rendered a verdict of murder in the first degree. Michael Roach, of Staatsburg, New York, shot at his wife on the evening of the 20th. The bullet missed her and struck his daughter and broke her leg.

Thieves robbed the passengers on the Wabash fast train between Logansport and Peru, Indiana, on the 20th. Three traveling men had their watches and \$500 in cash stolen.

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Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, exploded at Keyser, Maryland, on the morning of the 22d, Joseph Bell, the engineer, was killed, and John McNabb, the conductor, and William Bayliss, the fireman, were fatally injured.

50th CONGRESS.—First Session.

In the United States Senate, on the 18th, the House bill for a representation of the Government Departments at the Centennial Exposition in Columbus, Ohio, was passed, with an amendment, in the nature of a substitute, appropriating \$40,000.

In the United States Senate, on the 19th, Senate bills were passed appropriating \$100,000 to provide pneumatic gun carriages for the War Department; appropriating \$500,000 for an additional fireproof building for the National Museum, and to regulate appointments in the Marine Hospital Service.

In the U. S. House of Representatives, on the 22d, a joint resolution was passed extending to the States of Florida and Louisiana the provision of acts of May 14th last, relating to disposals of public lands.

In the House, on the 18th, bills were passed appropriating \$50,000 for the erection of a public building at Brownsville, Texas, and \$50,000 for the completion of the public building at Wichita, Kansas.

In the House, on the 19th, vetoes were received from the President of bills pending Elijah Martin and Dolly Biazar. A bill was passed for the erection of a public building at Statesville, North Carolina, at a cost of \$75,000.

In the House, on the 20th, a veto of a private pension bill for the relief of Elizabeth Barr was received. The Sundry Civil bill was considered in Committee of the Whole.

In the House on the 21st, a conference was ordered on the Diplomatic Appropriation bill. The Sundry Civil bill was considered in Committee of the Whole.

How Tallgrass Lived.

"The sole depository of the entire tradition of the state," Tallgrass, even at the age of eighty, ate but one square meal in the day, his dinner, and every morning he required the menu of it from his chief.

Lucius F. Warren, a Deputy United States Marshal, was shot dead at Lake Megantic, Quebec, on the morning of the 22d, by Donald Morrison, whom he was trying to arrest on a charge of poisoning.

THE CANE AND UMBRELLA. People Should Learn How to Carry Them on the Street.

"I have a scheme," he said, as he buttonholed a TRIBUNE reporter and backed him into a corner. "There's a mint of money in it, too, and it won't require much capital. I have had schemes before, but none equal to this one."

"What is it?" asked the reporter. "What is it?" he exclaimed excitedly. "Why, sir, it's a school for the manipulation of the cane and the umbrella. But perhaps college would be the better term. Yes; I think that would draw fuller honors."

"What do you mean?" queried the reporter. "I mean what I say," said the schemer impressively. "I mean to establish a school to teach people how to carry canes and umbrellas on the streets of a city. Did you ever give the subject of carrying canes and umbrellas any thought?"

"Well, how many people should you say carried them properly?" "About one in a hundred," "Wrong, entirely wrong," said he of the gigantic brain. "I see you have not been much on the streets on rainy days. Sir, in this great City of Chicago about one man in a thousand knows how to carry an umbrella or a cane. Now, there goes a man with a nice little walking-stick. See him? Well, watch him. About every four or five steps he swings that stick around, doesn't he?"

"That's the way with them all. There's another demonstrating some subject to a friend. See him? The one who is emphasizing his remarks by bringing his cane down on the palm of his left hand? He has no thought for the passers-by; he is excited, and it is only a question of time—ah, I knew he'd do it! Pretty nearly knocked that man's hat off! Did you see it? Now, that man ought not to be allowed to carry a cane until he has learned how to handle it. You've had to dodge 'em yourself, haven't you?"

"The reporter admitted that he often had to make wide circuits to avoid the man with the cane or the man or woman with the umbrella. "Of course you do," exclaimed the schemer volubly. "We all have to. And there's one who is particularly dangerous. He grasps his stick by the handle so that it points up behind him at an angle of about 45 degrees. Then, when he gets under a full head of steam, he swings his arm rapidly. You've seen him, haven't you?"

"He generally catches you under the chin or in the eye when you're trying to pass him, doesn't he?" asked the reporter. "That's the man. I'm undecided about him." "Undecided?" "Yes, I'm not quite sure whether the jail or the lunatic asylum is the best place for him. But at any rate he and his cane should be separated. They make a dangerous combination. It should be suppressed."

"Any more? Well, I should say there were. There's a man across the street who ought to be confined in an asylum for feeble-minded umbrella-carriers. See with what criminal recklessness he carries his closed umbrella? He grasps it about the middle, holds it horizontally, and swings his arm. That fellow, and the schemer grew excited again, "I will warrant to hit four persons every block he traverses. Sometimes he'll hit the man ahead and sometimes the man behind. No one on the sidewalk is safe. And when he hits one he'll look daggers at him for being in the way; but he won't change the position of his umbrella. O, no! He'll carry it that same way even if he punches the President of the United States in the ribs."

"Another fellow much like him is the one who carries his umbrella under his arm with the point sticking out behind. You've seen him, lots of times. He stands in the middle of the sidewalk and discusses some business matter with a friend. Just as you pass by he gets excited and turns so sharply that the point of his umbrella describes an arc ending between your third and fourth ribs. Still another carries his umbrella over his shoulder. And, by the way, would you like to see some one who carries his umbrella or cane properly?"

"Certainly." "Well, just stand here and count. If you have pretty fair luck the thousandth man who passes will have the point of his umbrella toward the ground and neither so far ahead nor so far behind as to trouble any one who is passing him. But watch that it isn't too far ahead. You've probably seen the man who carries his cane or umbrella point down all right but some distance in front of him. You've probably got tripped up by it as you passed by before him."

ed. I won't be certain of that, though. There may be eleven. It's a great scheme. I expect to make lots of money out of it."

LORE OF THE HAIR. Some of the Superstitions Entertained in Various Countries.

The belief that the hair, like the nails, must be cut at certain times only, and that it is unlucky to trim hair or beard at other times, is very old. Petronius says it must not be done at sea, lest a storm ensue, and forty blows were necessary to overcome the evil effects of such a deed in a Roman vessel. Prosperus says the same; and Juvenal says the hair was only given us as a final offering to the gods, and should not be cut at other time. It was a bad omen even to dream of cutting the hair, as it portended shipwreck.

In Calabria, at the present day, the hair, like the nails, must not be cut on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. In England the old rhyme says: "A little."

Friday cut and Sunday shorn better never had been born. And in Devonshire, as in many places in our own country, it must not be cut during the waning moon, and Friday is an unlucky day in Iceland, where it is said the one who cuts his hair then will die soon, and in Oldenburg, where it is then cut, "for sorrow."

The sudden loss of the hair, or a considerable portion of it, is also regarded in many places as unfortunate. In England it is said that loss of children, health or property will ensue. The attachment of the Chinamen for his queue is well known. It is regarded as a disgrace to have it cut off, as well as entailing bad luck upon the owner. This is the more strange since it is a mark of conquest imposed upon the Chinese by their Manchu princes.

USE CAUTION WHEN COMBING.

Combing is an act that sometimes must be pursued with caution. In Scotland it was thought that combing by candlelight, or at night at all, would cause disaster to friends at sea. Many fear to throw away their hair when cut off or combed out. Ancient Greeks offered it to the gods, and Japanese present it as a thank offering for preservation at sea. Irish maidens of the last century hung their hair up before the shrine of St. Urbane, that it might be long and yellow. The Persian Vendad forbade the casting away of the hair or nails, as the devils would then gain increased power. The hair must be buried in a hole dug ten fingers deep, at a distance of ten paces from the faithful, twenty-five from fire, thirty from water and fifty from the sacred brooms, and then three circles drawn around it with a metal knife, and three, six or nine prayers said.

In parts of England it is thought imprudent to throw away cuttings and combings of the hair, or to leave it lying about. Some say if birds get it and build nests therewith, it will be fatal to the person from whose head the hair was cut. If the bird were a magpie, he would die in a year or a day. Others say it should not be burned, but buried, as the owner will return for it at the resurrection day. In Lancashire it is thrown into the fire, and if it burns up brightly it is a sign of longevity, the greater the higher the flame, but if it smoulders and burns slowly it is a sign of death. In Belgium it is thought that the witches will gain possession of hair carelessly thrown away, and thus acquire power over the former possessor of it. The Gauchos of South America fear to cast the hair to the winds, but put it carefully away in holes in a wall.

AS A REMEDY FOR DISEASE.

As a remedy for certain diseases, the hair is sometimes cut off, or the hair itself used medicinally. In Devonshire, England, if you have the ague, all you need to do is to cut off some of your hair and convey the disease to your next door neighbor by burying these locks under his door step. In Scotland, when a child was afflicted with boils, it was formerly a custom to cut off its hair and throw it in the fire, and thus compel witches to come and remove the disease. Irish peasants cut off the hair from the head of any one suffering from scarlet fever, and convey the disease to an ass by cramming the hair down its throat. In Hertfordshire, to cure the ague, peg a lock of your hair into a young oak tree, and wrench it from the head.

Mixed with nail parings and cinders, the hair was formerly used as a Scotch remedy for epilepsy, and, mixed with nail cuttings and hair from the eyebrows, it was a specific for convulsions. The Arabs believe that the smoke of burning hair taken from a Christian's head will cure any disease. The hair is also used as a charm in Ireland. Women's hair is cut off, and locks of it made into bracelets, rings, etc., to be used as charms. Perhaps the custom of obtaining a lock of hair from any one for whom you have a regard rose from such a superstition. Witches were said to desire a similar token for evil purposes.

Some instances of divination by the hair have been given. In Westphalia, when a man first sees the new moon, if he finds a hair in his shoe or under his foot it is thought to be an indication of a speedy marriage, and the color of his wife's hair will be the fame as that found. The poet Gay records similar notions in England. There was a singular custom in ancient Greece connected with the hair. A bride must have her hair combed with a spear that had belonged to some one slain in battle, or that had been dyed with the blood of some one thus slain. This would assure her bringing forth brave sons.

Some weeds provide pasturage when they are young and tender; hence a flock of sheep turned on a field infested with weeds will do good service in not only eradicating the weeds but in converting them into mutton. By preventing weeds from seeding they will soon become extinct unless they are of varieties that propagate from roots.

Professor Brooks puts the diameter of the group of spots on the sun's disk at 50,000 miles, and says they are visible to the naked eye. They exhibit violent cyclonic action, electrical storms and aurora