

NEWS OF THE WEEK

An examination of the accounts of M. M. Small, deceased, bookkeeper of H. Groby & Co.'s bank at Miami...

The loss to Washington county, Penna., by the recent storm as footed up by the Commissioners, is \$150,000.

A train struck a carriage at Stevenson, Alabama, on the 26th, containing J. F. Moulton, wife and child...

Forest fires are burning on all sides of Ishpeming, Michigan. The fires extend on both sides of the railroad...

Joseph Elliott shot and killed Harry Spear, at Fort Worth, Texas, recently. They quarreled over the sale of a lot of cattle...

Four beams on the fifth floor of a new building in West Eighty-third street, New York, gave way on the 25th...

The steamship Bratsbud, with coal, from Sydney for Montreal, struck a rock at Cape Chetiv, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence...

A despatch from Marquette, Michigan, says forest fires are raging all along the railway lines of the peninsula...

Policeman William Tillman, while on duty in New York early on the morning of the 27th, was detected by Roundsman Bingham in the act of robbing a plumber's store...

A freight train of forty-two cars on the Pennsylvania Railroad became disconnected near Strassford Station on the morning of the 27th...

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H. S. Benjamin and F. A. Bates, members of the bankrupt mining stock firm of Moore, Benjamin & Co., in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, have been arrested on a charge of conspiracy...

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Canadian goods, has been permitted across the territory of the United States since July 1, 1885, when Article 23 of the Treaty of Washington...

In the U. S. Senate on the 31st ult., the House joint resolution to extend until September 15 the temporary provision for the expenses of the Government...

At New Lisbon, Ohio, Mrs. Thompson gave birth to a child several days ago, and her husband, then absent, was telegraphed for.

A telegram from Mount Washington, New Hampshire, says that on the evening of the 27th ult., there was a heavy thunder storm, accompanied by mercury halts.

W. J. Crocker, a brakeman on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, was knocked from a car and killed by a mail catcher at Clapper's Station, 26 miles from Washington, on the 29th ult.

Jacob G. Souders, of Philadelphia, operator of the Crystal Colliery, at New Castle, near Pottsville, Pa., was fatally injured on the 31st ult. while assisting in making up a train of coal.

The horse attached to a baronche containing the family of Captain J. J. Vandergrift ran away in Pittsburgh on the 31st ult.

THE SEVENTEEN YEAR LOCUST.

Habits of a Remarkable Insect Which Lives Seventeen Years in the Soil. Professor Riley has called attention to the facts that during the present year two broods of the periodical cicada...

In its winged state the seventeen year old locust is of a black color, with transparent wings and wing covers, the thick anterior edge and larger veins of which are orange red.

In its many years of underground life this insect does more or less damage by feeding upon the roots of plants, but its manifest injury is when in the perfect state the female deposits her eggs in the twigs of fruit and other trees, where punctured limbs, as a rule, languish and die soon after the eggs are hatched.

In the U. S. Senate on the 29th ult., Mr. Reagan introduced a bill, which was referred, to permit the introduction of jute bagging free of duty. A resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Plumb was agreed to, asking the Secretary of the Interior to ascertain and report next session the extent of the diversion of the waters of the Plateau and Arkansas rivers...

In the U. S. Senate on the 30th ult., Mr. Blair introduced a resolution, which was referred, instructing the Committee on Inter-State Commerce, with the aid of disinterested experts, to examine fully the system of mechanical telegraphy now on exhibition in the Capitol, and if found as represented, to secure it for the benefit of the people.

LEGENDS OF TREES.

What is Said of Them in Mythological Story.

The tree figures in the earliest cosmogonies. In the Garden of Eden stood the tree of life, whose fruit would have bestowed perpetual youth upon the first pair, and near it was the tree of knowledge, fatal to them and to the destiny of man.

In Norse cosmogony, the tree plays a still more important part. It is here the world tree—Yggdrasil—whose foliage is the clouds, the stars, its fruit and the sea its bed. At its foot bubbles the fountain of life, and from its branches fire was brought to man.

Like this is the famous soma tree, which stands on an island in the middle of a lake, guarded by fish. From it is distilled the soma or amita, the drink of immortality. Near it stands another tree, called the inviolate, bearing the seeds of all plants and flowers, in its branches are perched the eagles.

Like the Norse world tree, the intelligent oak of Dodona had its roots in deepest hell, and a fountain at its foot gave forth the oracular sayings of Jupiter. This evergreen oak spoke its thoughts, even when cut down, for it was the intelligent prow of the Argos.

The "tree of life" was not merely a figure of speech in ancient belief. Many Greek and Persian families claimed descent from trees. Cadmus sprang from a tree, the Achæmenidae claimed a similar descent, and even Mars, according to one legend, was the offspring of a tree.

Among savage tribes the tree is often a god. The Ojibways thought certain trees were deities, and made offerings to them. The Dakotas worshipped many trees, especially medicine wood. Carolina Indians venerated the youpon, or wild fig tree; the Mayas recognized a divinity in trees; the Tepanecs worshipped them, and Darwin saw a tribe which venerated a tree, the home of a deity called Walechui.

As the tree was the origin of life, it was also thought the home of souls after life was ended. Empedocles says souls of the highest virtue passed into trees. The old classical tale of Philæmon and Baucis assigned them a final home in trees as a reward for charity shown to Zeus.

The tree of knowledge also occurs in popular lore. In north Germany, when the master dies, some one must go into the garden and stand under a tree and say: "Master is dead," for, if the tree is not informed, there will be another death. An Ojibway tale represents a certain maiden who dedicates herself to it, dies, and is often seen wandering in the forest.

The centre of the early Greek as well as of the Teutonic dwelling was a tree, around which spread the house. Groves were the first temples, and the Gothic church is but a grove turned into stone. In old German dialects temple and grove are the same word. Tree worship was the foundation of Germanic and Celtic religion. Down to the introduction of Christianity in the north, the dieties were worshipped in sacred groves, and on the boughs of the tree hung the heads of sacrificed animals.

As late as the eleventh century trees were worshipped in many places. The Druids, as is well known, worshipped and sacrificed in groves, and the oak was a sacred tree to them.

SUMMER RESORT HOTEL MAN—I am very sorry, sir, but you won't do here and I must dispense with your services.

New Clerk—Eh! What's the matter? "You are too thin skinned."

"Oh, I mean no offence, none at all! It's your misfortune, not your fault. You see your skin is so thin that the blood shows through. You blush up easily and when the thermometer is over 150 in the shade your face gets so red and you look so uncomfortable that it drives away custom."