

ELECTRIC STORMS.

WIND, RAIN, HAIL, THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.

MUCH DAMAGE DONE IN THIS AND NEIGHBORING STATES.

NORRISTOWN, June 12.—During the terrific storm last night, while lightning flashes kept the heavens illuminated, the barn of Ivins Walker, at Port Indian, was ignited by an electric bolt and was totally consumed, together with the contents, except the horses, seven in number, which were rescued while the flames were raging. The loss is between \$5000 and \$6000, and is partially covered by an insurance of \$4500 in the Montgomery Mutual Company of Norristown. A barn on the same site was struck by lightning several years ago and burned down.

The wind that accompanied the thunder, lightning and rain broke a wire of the Conshohocken Electric Light and Power Company on Hector street, Conshohocken. Joseph Cochran, a rolling mill hand, who was working with the wire, got in contact with the ground, and was instantly killed by the electric current. When picked up the wire was coiled about his body and the four fingers of his left hand burned almost off and the right arm was severely scorched. John McDermody, who was with Cochran, had his hand severely burned by the wire. Deceased was a single man, 21 years old, and came from Ireland several years ago.

LOTSTOWN, Pa., June 12.—A heavy storm passed over the town this evening at six o'clock. It became very dark, then a furious blast of wind, accompanied by a sighing sound, swept down the valley. George S. Krause's planing mill, on Fourth street, was partially unroofed and seriously damaged; Irwin Sassaman's house had the slate hurled from the roof, portions of Pottstown Cemetery fence were prostrated, trees blown down and other injury done to property, the lightning was vivid and the thunder tremendous.

READING, Pa., June 12.—The electric storm which passed over this section late last night, lasting until this morning, was in many respects phenomenal. Thousands of small toads fell in this city. They were about half an inch in length, and covered the street car tracks for half a square. Lightning struck the Lutheran and Reformed church at Pennsburg. Beyond tearing off a part of the roof and the chimney there was no damage.

Hall fell in various sections of Lancaster county, and lightning stunned many people.

Ivins Walker's new stone barn near Jeffersonville, Montgomery county, was struck by lightning and burned. Loss, \$6000. Insured for \$4500 in the Montgomery Mutual. A barn on the same spot was burned down six years ago.

Early this evening Reading was visited by another rain storm, which, for the large rainfall in a small space of time, has rarely been equalled.

Reading is practically without any sewers, and in many of the streets the gutter to gutter, even encroaching upon the houses, and hundreds of cellars were flooded. The floor of the Reading Iron Works forge was three feet under water. Hail, the size of hickory nuts, fell north of Reading, and cornfields, which had only been replanted after the storm of two weeks ago, will again have to be replanted, being entirely washed bare. The storm was accompanied by vivid flashes of lightning and heavy thunder.

DOYLESTOWN, June 12.—The damage done by the hail storm in Doylestown last night will amount to several thousand dollars. The principal losers are the owners of green houses. J. Y. Smith's damage is placed at \$3000; J. Y. Anders, \$200; Mrs. S. A. Walton, \$800; E. D. Darlington, \$500; Clemens & Palmer, \$250. The corn and grain fields surrounding the town are almost completely ruined, and many of the truck patches presented a desolate appearance this morning. So far as could be learned to-day only two barns were struck by lightning and destroyed. The barn of Amos Krewson, at Richborough, was destroyed, with all its contents, and the barn of Edwin Reizer, at Trumbowersville, was struck and consumed. One horse was burned.

CABELLE, Pa., June 12.—During the storm this afternoon the barn of Mr. Wilson, near Kingston, was struck by lightning and entirely destroyed. The grain and part of the farming implements were also consumed. The loss is estimated at \$5000 with a slight insurance.

CABELLE, Pa., June 12.—During the heavy thunder storm this afternoon lightning struck the large barn of John Lantz, in Silver Spring township, near this city, destroying the barn, farming implements, crops, outbuildings, &c. The loss will probably reach \$4000 to \$5000. Insured. It is reported here that several head of cattle perished in the flames.

HARRISBURG, Pa., June 12.—A severe thunder storm, accompanied by vivid flashes of lightning, swept over this city this afternoon. The rainfall was very heavy. The cable box on a ninety-foot pile in front of the Western Union Telegraph Office, was fired by the superfluous electricity, and before the firemen could extinguish the blaze, considerable damage was done.

LAMBERTVILLE, N. J., June 12.—This section was visited between 5 and 7 this evening by one of the severest storms known for years. Lightning was very severe, striking the Union Paper Mills, in New Hope, stunning four men. Two, Ed. McCue and Charles Mitton, were severely shocked. Damage to mills small.

AUBURN, N. Y., June 12.—The worst rain storm of the season in this vicinity set in about 3 P. M. to-day. Cellars in all parts of the city were flooded, and the city sewers' pipes were burst in many places.

The loss is estimated at \$200,000. The New York Central Railroad track is washed out for a distance of 400 feet two miles west of Auburn. No trains are running and it will be some

time before passengers can be transferred.

HARRISBURG, Va., June 12.—A fearful storm of wind, hail and rain passed over the eastern portion of this county last night. Fences were blown down, trees uprooted and the crops cut by the hail.

A CYCLONE IN ILLINOIS.

A SCHOOL HOUSE DESTROYED AND FIVE CHILDREN INJURED.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., June 11.—Specials to the *Pantagraph* give particulars of a cyclone which swept DeWitt county between 11 o'clock and noon to-day. A school house was demolished near Birkbeck while school was in session. Five children were injured, of whom it is feared two will die.

At Wapella, the Illinois Central Depot and the Methodist Church were wrecked. A man named House, living near that town, was fatally hurt. Trees and telegraph poles were smashed in all directions. The barn on Mrs. Abbott's farm, near Wapella, was demolished and three horses killed. Considerable damage was done at Waynesville and Clinton. The storm moved northwest to southeast in a pathway about half a mile wide.

A TRESTLE GIVES WAY.

SEVEN MEN INJURED, ONE PERIAPS MORTALLY.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., June 10.—A serious accident occurred this afternoon on the Trenton branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Corson's Station, where that road parallels the Plymouth Branch road. Complete particulars are inaccessible from this point. One statement is to the effect that many men were hurt.

The accident was the result of a trestle giving away. The trestle is 24 feet high. Dirt taken from a deep cut that is being excavated near this point is dumped from the trestle, a temporary structure, into the ravine below, which will eventually be filled up to the level of the road. While a train of cars was on the structure this afternoon it suddenly collapsed, and the cars and the men on them were precipitated into the ravine, together with one or two carpenters who were at work on the trestle. All of the men were seriously hurt, but none were killed. Dr. L. W. Read who was telegraphed for has just returned from the scene. He reports that seven men are injured. A man named Hortustine, residing at Hickorytown, sustained more severe injuries than did any of the others, and may die. The injured are being cared for by friends in the neighborhood.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—Miss Belle Mitchell and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Edward V. Mitchell, were thrown from a carriage by a runaway accident in Oswego, New York, on the morning of the 10th. Miss Mitchell's skull was fractured and she was not expected to live until morning. Mrs. Mitchell's injury is severe, but not fatal.

—Harry McBride and Frank Larue, waiters in San Francisco, quarreled about a girl on the 9th, and agreed to go to the Golden Gate Club and fight with three ounce gloves. A referee and seconds were selected, and 12 rounds were fought. At the end of the twelfth, while Larue had not a mark, McBride was unconscious, and blood was pouring from his ears, nose and mouth, and his face and body were terribly bruised and mangled. A physician was called, who said a blood vessel was broken in McBride's head. On the morning of the 10th McBride died. Larue is under arrest.

—An engine, with a crew of trackmen, ran into a wrecked freight train, which they had been sent out to assist, near Plymouth, Wisconsin, on the 9th. Two men were injured. Thomas Rasperson, fatally. Two freight trains on the Burlington road collided at Naperville, Illinois, on the evening of the 9th, owing to an open switch. Emil Huen, a brakeman, was fatally injured. A construction train collided with a freight train on the St. Louis, Keokuk, and Northwestern road near Hannibal, Missouri, on the 9th. Fireman Arthur Taylor and Berry Nelson were scalded to death. Several other train hands were badly hurt. The train dispatcher made an error, said to be his first in 12 years. He at once resigned.

—Maggie Baker, aged 10 years, Lola, Alfred and Charles Lebb, aged respectively 9, 7 and 5 years, were drowned at Rapids City, Illinois, on the 8th. Their boat was capsized. Three French boys, aged 6, 8 and 16 years, were drowned at Bliddeford, Maine, on the 10th. Four boys were out in a boat, and the youngest, while reaching out to grasp a floating stick, fell overboard. His brother, the oldest boy in the company, jumped in after him, and in so doing knocked the other boy into the water. All three went to the bottom. The remaining boy paddled the boat ashore.

—R. H. Caldwell, a prominent railroad contractor, was found dead in front of the Ingersoll Hotel, in Phenix City, Alabama, on the morning of the 11th, and it is thought he met with foul play. Will Duffie, who was drinking with Caldwell, and with whom he had a dispute about his money, was arrested the same evening charged with the robbery. Caldwell had accused Duffie of stealing his money, and Duffie was heard to reply angrily that he would kill any man who charged him with stealing.

—A young girl by the name of Clemmons, while fishing in the Little Miami river, at South Lebanon, Ohio, on the 11th fell into the water. Her mother plunged in and succeeded in bringing her daughter to the shore. The sudden excitement and despair grief was too much for the mother, and she, too, died shortly afterward.

—By an explosion of natural gas in a dwelling in Allegheny City, Pa., on the 11th, Mrs. Klipp, aged 70 years, and her granddaughter, Lizzie, aged 13, were fatally burned. The gas was leaky and the explosion was caused by the women going into the cellar with a lighted lamp.

—Burglars broke into W. D. Norton's jewelry store in Groversville, New York, on the evening of the 10th, and stole about \$20,000 worth of jewelry. Among the articles taken were several hundred gold and silver watches, chains, finger rings and many pieces of solid gold. Twenty diamond rings were also taken. The safe was blown open. One of the participants in the robbery of the Northern Pacific train at New Salem, on the 8th, has been caught and lodged in jail at Dickinson, North Dakota. The prisoner says there were five men in the band, and that they separated immediately after the robbery. Reny Casswell, a young man, was shot and seriously wounded by Lany Post, a broker, in Mill City, Penna., on the evening of the 10th. Jealousy was the cause.

—While 2,000 people were listening to a concert in a tent near Jackson, Va., on the 11th, the tent was blown down by a gust of wind. A number of persons were injured, the most seriously being Mrs. W. H. Musgrave, wife of the Pastor of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, hurt about the spine, and Miss Alderson, of Chapin, skull fractured.

—Morgan Lewis was killed and four persons were injured by lightning near Olyphant, Penna., on the afternoon of the 11th.

—A severe hail and wind storm passed over the Cumberland Valley on the evening of the 11th, doing considerable damage to the growing crops.

—During a heavy storm at Corry, Penna., on the afternoon of the 11th, Mrs. Albert Corrick, while running a sewing machine near an open door, was so badly shocked by lightning that her body turned purple. Benjamin Wright's house was struck and his six-year-old daughter fatally injured.

C. M. Chidester, operator at the Pittsburg and Erie freight office, was thrown to the floor and the instrument in his office burned. Amos Heath's house was struck, badly damaging it. Many telegraph and telephone wires were completely melted. During a funeral near Darksville, Missouri, on the afternoon of the 11th, a severe storm came up. A large number of saddle horses were tied to a rack which joined a barbed wire fence. Lightning struck the fence and ran along by the horses, 20 being knocked flat and four killed outright. Mrs. Robert Derigue, who was sitting in the church at the time, was severely burned.

51st CONGRESS.—First Session

SENATE.

In the U. S. Senate on the 11th, the House Silver bill was referred to the Committee on Finance. The Senate Silver bill was taken up, and it was agreed that after 3 o'clock on Friday next debate on the question shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Sherman, Reagan, Teller and Call. A conference report on the bill to secure a site for the city post-office of Washington was agreed to. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the United States Senate, on the 11th, adverse reports were made on the Stanford Land Loan bill and the bill to abolish metal money, and they were indefinitely postponed. Mr. Everts, by request, introduced a bill authorizing the New York and New Jersey Bridge Company to build a bridge from New York to Jersey City. Mr. Morrill, from the Finance Committee, reported back, with amendments, the House Silver bill, and gave notice that he would offer it as a substitute for the Senate bill. The Senate bill to prohibit monopoly in foreign countries; the Senate joint resolution looking to negotiations with Great Britain for the removal of certain regulations against American cattle, and the Senate bill for the inspection of cattle and beef intended for export, were passed. A further conference was asked for on the Pension Appropriation bill. After passing 75 individual pension bills on the calendar and holding an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 12th, Mr. Edmunds offered a resolution, which went over, appointing Edward K. Yalentine to be Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate from July 31. Two Senate bills to amend the anti-polygamy laws, the Legislative Appropriation bill, and the Senate bill to indemnify Pennsylvania for expenditures for the militia called into service in 1864, were reported and placed on the calendar. The conference report on the Dependent Pension bill was presented by Mr. Davis, and after discussion went over, and was ordered printed with the bill as agreed to by the conferees. Messrs. Everts and Morgan spoke upon the silver question. Before Mr. Morgan had concluded he yielded to a motion to adjourn.

HOUSE.

In the House on the 11th, the Conference report on the Washington post-office site was agreed to. Senate bills were passed allowing beer to be carried direct from the va's to the bottling department, and permitting the exportation of beer and fermented liquors in bond the same as distilled spirits. The Post-office Appropriation bill was passed. Adjourned.

In the House the conference report on the Senate Dependent Pension bill was presented and agreed to—yeas 145, nays 56. A conference report on the Senate Anti-Tribal bill was presented and discussed, and went over. Adjourned.

In the House, on the 12th, a vote on the conference report on the Anti-Tribal bill showed that no quorum was present. The speaker being unable to count a quorum, a call of the House was ordered and a quorum secured. A further conference was then ordered on the bill. The conference report on the Military Academy Appropriation bill. An Urgent Deficiency bill was passed, appropriating \$3,708,000 for pensions, and \$3,075,000 for expenses of the census. A further conference was ordered on the Pension Appropriation bill. The Agricultural Appropriation bill was passed. Adjourned.

'The Lost Chord Found.'

We stood alone in the choir loft,
By the organ tall and grim,
While over the keys her fingers
Followed her own sweet whim;
I spoke of the coming parting,
And pleaded one farewell kiss,
But her modest wish forbade me
Lest the sexton old might list.
Then I struck on the organ a strong, full chord
And ere its echoes died,
In the twilight dim of the old, gray church
I kissed my promised bride.

We stood again at the organ,
When many years had fled;
But she thought me grown cold and heartless,
And I thought her old love dead.
I spoke of our last fond parting,
Of the chord and its tender tide;
And how, like the sound of that music,
Our love had thrived and died,
Then my heart leaped up with a great, glad bound
And forgot its recent pain.
For she brushed and dropping her lashes, said:
"Could you find me that chord again?"
—New York Mercury.

MISS DWIGHT.

'Cash! Cash!'
I had purchased a small pitcher in the chinaware department of a large city store, and the young woman clerk who had waited upon me rapped sharply on the counter with a pencil, and again called out harshly, 'Cash! Cash!'

No one came at once, and still rapping with her pencil, while her voice grew shriller and harsher, she called again, 'Cash! Cash—here you, Miss Dwight, I'll tell the floor-walker on you, if you don't step along faster! Why don't you come along when I call you, miss?'

The girl, who at last responded to the clerk's strident calls, and who received in silence the rebuke given for her tardiness, was about ten years of age, although the clerk had addressed her as 'Miss Dwight.' She was a pale and thin little creature, with an old and worn look in her face, such as one does not like to see in the faces of children. She wore an old brown velvet basque, evidently originally made for one twice the size of its present wearer. With the basque she wore a thin and faded calico skirt, both garments much out of repair. Her shoes did not seem to be mates; her hair was unkempt, and she was about as forlorn and bedraggled a specimen of her class as I had ever seen.

'Now, don't you be all day getting back here with that change,' said the clerk sternly, as Miss Dwight took the book and hurried away.

The pitcher I had bought cost seventy-five cents, and I had given the clerk a dollar bill.

Miss Dwight came running back, laid the clerk's book down on the counter, and was hurrying away in response to a call from another clerk, when the clerk of whom I had made my purchase, said: 'Wait! Where's the change?'

'It's in the book.'
'No, it isn't,' replied the clerk, holding the book wide open by the covers, and shaking its leaves. 'Where is that change, miss?'

'I put it in the book like I always do.'

'Then why isn't it there, now? You've either dropped it or—'
'Perhaps it is here on the floor,' I interrupted, quickly, not waiting the clerk to say what I think she intended saying.

Then began a search in front of the counter, and while we were thus engaged, that formidable gentleman, so terrifying to cash girls and clerks, the floor-walker came to us. 'What's the matter here, Miss Barnes?' he asked of the clerk.

Miss Barnes pointed her finger toward the trembling Miss Dwight and said: 'I sent her to the desk with a dollar bill, and she ought to have brought back a quarter, but she didn't bring back anything.'

'Where's that quarter, girl?' asked the floor-walker coldly.

'I—I—s—pos—'

'Oh, you do? Don't you know so, then?'

'I—I—no, sir.'
'Well, you'd better find out mighty soon. Didn't you hear it drop any place?'

'No—no—sir.'

'That's queer; you come with me to the clerk. This matter must be looked into. Please wait a few minutes, madam, you shall have your change, and if the quarter isn't found it'll come out of this girl's wages on Saturday.'

'Oh, no,' I said quickly. 'Don't make her lose it. I would rather lose it myself. I will come in again in a day or two and see if the money has been found, as I am sure it will be.'

I hurried out, distressed by the sight of the sorrowful look on the cash girl's pale face and by the tears rolling down her thin cheeks.

A dull, cold rain was falling when I reached the street, and as night came on snow began to fall, while the wind came up from the north.

It was just the kind of a night to enjoy sitting before an open grate fire with the last magazine or doing nothing but delighting in the warmth and glow of one's own fireside, as the flames rose higher and higher and the winds whistled without.

I sat thus before my own fire, with no light in the room but that sent out by the flames of my fireplace. The magazine I had brought home that afternoon lay with uncut pages in my lap, and I sat idly toying with my ivory paper-cutter, instead of using it on the magazine.

I could not dimly see the care-worn

face of Miss Dwight from my thoughts. I wondered what kind of a home she was in that night. Poor enough I felt sure. I hoped they would find the missing money. I wondered—the heavy portieres hanging in the doorway of my room parted suddenly, and there stood little Miss Dwight herself.

'She would come up, ma'am, though I told her she'd best stay down in the hall until she was bid to see you, ma'am,' said Jane, my housemaid, thrusting her head in over Miss Dwight's, on which there was a little red woolen hood, while an old plaid shawl was around her shoulders.

She did not offer to come forward, but stood between the curtains timid and trembling, as I could see even by the firelight.

'If you please, ma'am,' she said, suddenly and rapidly. 'I—I—got your address from the bundle girl who came up with the pitcher to be sent, and I came around to say, ma'am, that I—I—did take the money, and I—I—told a lie about it, but I never told one before, ma'am. I've made the floor-walker think I really lost the money, and somebody picked it up, mebbe, or it rolled through a crack in the floor, but I'm going to his house to tell him I stole it, and I hope you'll forgive me, ma'am. I've brought you the money, and—and—'

'—good-night, ma'am.'

She turned to go, but I called out: 'No, no; don't go yet, I do forgive you, Come here and sit down. You are a good girl, and I—'

'I'm a dreadful wicked girl, ma'am,' she said, 'and I don't feel fit to sit down in our house.'

'Now, tell me all about it,' I said, when I had made her sit down on a hassock by the fireside. 'What made you take the money?'

'We needed it so much at home,' she said in reply. 'There wasn't even a loaf of bread to eat in the house when I came away this morning, and mother and the baby both sick, and father out of work for a month; and I knew I'd be kept out of my wages Saturday if I took the money, and so it didn't seem like stealing, and I never thought about how I'd have to tell a lie, too.'

'But I see it was stealing, the minute I'd took it, and I was too 'fraid to own up, and so I told a story, too. But I'm sorry ever since, and I've walked from the store clear out here, and I'm going to Mr. Falkner's house and tell him how it was, and I s'pose I'll be discharged, but I don't know what else to do—oh, dear! oh, dear!'

She covered her face with her hands and cried aloud. 'There is nothing else to do but what you are doing,' I said as gently as I could. 'You are a brave and good little girl, and you are doing right. Where does this Mr. Falkner, the floor-walker, live?'

'Oh, only a block from here, on this street. I'm glad of that, but it'll be lots harder to tell him than it's been to tell you. He's dreadful cross.'

'But I think you ought to tell him just the same,' I said, 'and I will go with you if you would like to have me.'

Perhaps it was because we found the stately and severe Mr. Falkner with his own little girl of ten years sitting on his own knee, and two little boys playing around him, that he was not 'dreadful cross.'

He did not look nor act in the least like Mr. Falkner I had seen in the store that afternoon. His face took on a thoughtful but kindly look as he listened to poor Nellie Dwight's story, told with tears and sobs. He stroked the shining hair of his own wondering little girl as he listened, and his voice did not seem quite steady as he said, when Nellie's words died away into tearful silence: 'There, there, child; don't cry any more about it. It's all right now. You'll not lose your place as you have done had I found out in any other way what you have told me. You are a good girl, and I know I can trust you hereafter. Marjorie, you go and speak to the little girl. Her name is Nellie Dwight, and she is an honest little girl.'

The child on Mr. Falkner's knee slipped down and went up to Nellie with an outstretched hand, while Mr. Falkner assured me in an undertone that Nellie would be the object of his special care and interest in the future.

She came away with a basket of good things for her sick mother and the baby, and I was glad to add several things to the basket, and to send her home on a horse car with a heart made happy and light because its load of sin had been taken from it.

Washing Men and Children by Machinery.

One of the latest inventions in sanitation is machinery for personal washing. A French colonel, according to Mr. Edwin Chadwick, ascertained that he could wash his men with tepid water for a centime, or one-tenth of a penny a head, soap included. The man undresses, steps into a tray of water, and soaps himself, when a jet of tepid water is played upon him. He then dries and dresses himself in five minutes, against twenty minutes in the bath, and with five gallons of water against seventy in the usual bath. In Germany, they have an arrangement under which half a million of soldiers are regularly washed. By an adaptation of apparatus to the use of schools, a child may be completely washed in three minutes.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

—The government telegraph service of Great Britain transmits, it is said, on the average 1,538,270 words a day to newspapers alone.

—The artistic arrangement of natural flowers is part of every Japanese lady's education—a much more satisfactory accomplishment than the manufacture of floral monstrosities in wax.

—The city of Philadelphia makes a profit of more than \$1,000,000 a year by supplying gas to the consumers, besides having the entire city lighted free of cost.

—About seventy-two million cans of tomatoes are put up each year to satisfy the demand for this vegetable, which only fifty years ago was raised for ornament, and thought not fit to eat.

—Oil and gas have been discovered in Johnston, Fulton county, N. Y., and the most flattering prospects for these industries have dawned upon this quiet locality.

—It is said that in London luncheon is to take the place of late dinner as a social function, the fashionable people recurring to the habits of their forefathers, will take their heartiest meal in the middle of the day.

—Trials of the latest express compound locomotive in England, with a special train of eighteen carriages, developed the unparalleled speed of about ninety miles an hour. The highest speed, as measured by a stop watch, was just over ten seconds per quarter mile run.

—Stanley says his one aim now is to get away from the crowds; not because he does not wish to see them, but because they prevent him from doing any work. He told an artist at Cannes: "If you were to offer me a thousand pounds I could not sit down and let you sketch me; I am too busy."

—Mrs. Wanamaker, it is stated, has introduced a new fad in Washington, and has a class of young ladies meet at her residence twice a week, where a professor of physical grace from abroad teaches them how to walk, to go up and down stairs, to bow, to smile, to make eyes and to dispose of the hands.

—There is said to be a plant in Arabia with flowers of bright yellow and with seeds which are like black beans and these dried and powdered and taken in small doses cause a person to dance about and behave like a lunatic till he becomes exhausted and falls asleep.

—A wealthy citizen of Osaka, Japan, who is the owner of a rich copper mine, has celebrated in a rather peculiar manner the two hundred and sixtieth anniversary of the mine coming into the possession of his family. On that occasion each of his 390 or more employes received as a memento of the occasion a swallow-tail coat.

—The Eighth Hussars of the British Army have a gazelle for "child of the regiment." It accompanies the regiment everywhere, and is an especially conspicuous figure on the Sunday church parade, when it accompanies the band, leading the line with a stately tread, apparently imitated from that of the drum major.

—There comes from over the sea the important announcement that of the eight women who agreed to appear on horseback riding astride, at London's next coaching meet, four have backed out. The other four intend to appear in costumes of "blue redingote, with skirts falling to the knees, tight buckskin breeches, long patent-leather boots and a silk hat."

—A French statistician has been studying the military and other records with a view of determining the height of men at different periods. The recorded facts extend over nearly three centuries. It is found that in 1610 the average height of man in Europe was 1.75 meters, or say 5 feet 9 inches. In 1790 it was 5 feet 6 inches. In 1820 it was 5 feet 5 inches and a fraction. At the present time it is 5 feet 3 1/2 inches.

—What would appear to be a form of telegraph system is at present being considered as a means of transporting mail matter between Buenos Ayres and Montevideo, in South America. Postal communication between the two cities is now maintained by way of the Platte river, but the service is necessarily slow and full of delays. The new proposal is to erect a small overhead electric railway, on which will run cars capable of carrying postal matter and other light freight. The distance between the two cities is about 180 miles.

—The biggest flower in the world was recently discovered by Dr. Alexander Schadenberg. It was found on Mount Parang, which is situated on the southeastern Philippine Islands. The native who accompanied Dr. Schadenberg called the flower "bolo."

The bolo in bloom is a fine petaled flower, nearly a yard in diameter, as large as a carriage wheel. A single flower weighed over twenty-two pounds. The five petals of the immense flower are oval and creamy white, and grow around a center filled with countless long-tued stamens.

—A new "fad" has struck the social circle at some places. It is called "spider web party," and is becoming quite popular. It consists of running as many threads as there are guests all over the house, twisting them about the pictures, over the doors, windows, etc. At the end of each thread is a number, and each guest is furnished with a corresponding number to follow by the threads through all their devious windings and snarls to the end, where a prize awaits him. The pursuit leads to all kinds of complications, and is very amusing to him.

—At present English is practically an unknown tongue at the Vatican. The Pope can neither speak it nor read it. Cardinal Rampolla, the secretary of state, is in the same plight. So is Monsignor Mocenni, the under-secretary. Cardinal Simoni, chief of the Propaganda, who has charge of all the English-speaking countries, cannot speak a word of our language. Monsignor Jacobini is learning it. Of the Italian Cardinals only one, Cardinal Mazella, can talk English, and he, it is worth noting, is a Jesuit. The general of the Jesuits, Father Anderledy, also speaks English.