

## OUR CORN ABROAD.

### THE SUCCESS OF THE AMERICAN MAIZE MISSIONARY.

#### Great Increase in the Exportation of Corn—"Murphy Brod" in Germany and France.

The department of agriculture has issued an exhibit which cannot but be of exceeding interest throughout the country, being not only a triumphant demonstration of the splendid success attained by the American corn missionary, Mr. Charles J. Murphy, in his work of popularizing maize as an article of food in Europe. A very practical evidence of what he has achieved is the report of Mr. Walter E. Gardner, American consul at Rotterdam, Netherlands, to the effect that while during the first three months of 1891 the total importation of American corn at that port was only 97,723 bushels, the quantity brought in during a corresponding period of the present year was 9,208,000 bushels, most of which was transhipped to Germany. But the most striking and significant bit of evidence sent out with the department's report is a red poster, one of those now employed for the decoration of Berlin and the information of the hungry masses of Deutschland. It is only two feet long by eighteen inches wide; but that is big in the old world, where the economy in use of paper is such that even theatrical show bills and circus posters are customarily of modest size. At its head the American eagle is depicted in the act of screaming. Then follows in large letters:

#### MURPHY BROD

(2-3 Roggen, 1-3 Mais)

5 Pfund 60 Pfennige.

Fruherer Preis fur 3 Pfund 50 Pf.

Successing are announcements of G. Muller's big bakery, with its four branches, in Berlin, at which the "Murphy brod" is obtainable. Putting into plain English the facts Herr Muller thus presents to his countrymen, he offers for sixty pfennigs (about fifteen cents) a quantity of bread, composed of two-thirds rye and one-third corn flour, for which, at the rate charged previously for rye bread, 8 1/2 pfennigs (nearly twenty cents), would have been demanded. A reduction of a little over a cent on each pound of bread he consumes means a great deal to the German workman, particularly when he learns, as he speedily will, that the new and cheaper bread is more palatable and nutritious than that to which he has been accustomed.

In Hamburg an American firm have gone into the business of supplying "Murphy brod" to the public, and their success has spread dismay among the conservative bakers who have antagonized the new flour. Wherever the indefatigable endeavor of Mr. Murphy have enabled the public to test and prove the virtues of Indian corn lively appreciation of its desirability as a food has been demonstrated, and it is no longer admissible of question that through his enthusiastic efforts—primarily, simply, as a private individual, "because he was that sort of a crank," and later as an accredited agent of our Government—a wonderful impetus has been given to the world's demand for one of our chief products. It is a fact not generally known that we devote an acreage to corn growing exceeding the aggregate area devoted to all other cereals and potatoes, double that cut for hay, and greater than all upon which wheat, oats and cotton are cultivated. Even in the eleven cotton growing states a larger area of cultivated land is devoted to corn and to cotton. The acreage now planted in corn annually, according to the statistics of the department of agriculture, "is greater than the total surface area of New England, New York and New Jersey combined; greater than the whole area of the United Kingdom or of Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Portugal and Greece combined. It more than equals in extent the total cultivated land in France or Germany or Austria-Hungary, and is three-fourths as large as the aggregate acreage sown to wheat in all the countries of Europe together."

About 96 per cent. of this enormous production is annually consumed in the country, more than 80 per cent. never crosses the lines of the country where it is grown, and not only is it a leading staple for the food of man and beast, but on the broad prairies of the West where wood is scarce vast quantities of it have been consumed as fuel. Our production of corn since 1868 has averaged 1,455,998,094 bushels per annum, and our average exportation has been only 28 per cent. up to the present year. Not only in quantity but in quality does our corn lead the world. Inferior maize of unpalatable sorts is grown in Italy, Spain and parts of France, and there is also Danubian corn, fit only for chicken feed, but the United States monopolizes the supply of this cereal fit for human consumption. Hungary, Russia, India and the Argentine Republic may compete with our wheat crop, but American corn has practically no rivals. Hence nothing can be of much greater importance in the line of developing the value of our resources than such work as Mr. Murphy has been doing. In the language of Secretary Rusk, "Could we secure an advance of even five cents a bushel on an average for corn during the ensuing decade, which might well be done and still enable us to supply the foreign demand at a price far below that of other cereal foods of equal value, the result would be to add \$1,000,000,000 to the value of this crop during that period."

#### Butcher Birds and Hawks.

Every one who knows a goose from a sandpiper knows the impaling trick of the butcher bird, and to relate what I have seen performed by them would be serving up a stale dish; but I never knew till recently that hawks were up to such wily tricks.

One of these worse than worthless rascals one day took it into his head to have a dove for his dinner. Like Johnny, I got my gun; but before I could get a shot at him he was off with the bird in his claws. Suspecting he had not gone far, I followed him up, and he sailed out

of a row of oleanders without his bird, and I stopped him. I then took a look at the dove, and hearing a faint flutter, I found it with its head very neatly fixed in the fork of an oleander, while just far enough below it for a comfortable seat and convenient picking was a horizontal limb. He had got things nicely fixed for a feast when he was interrupted and the dove was just at the last gasp from strangulation.

Now, this was evidently a premeditated arrangement on the part of the hawk. He could not have found it on the spur of the moment, for another place so exactly fitted for the purpose could not have been found in a day's hunt.

Familiarity with the bloody ways of the butcher bird have made his sworn enemy. A pair of them had a nest on one of my orange trees, and they remained there unmolested till I caught them at their rascally tricks, when I shot the old birds and tore down their nest, and the penalty for lighting on one of my trees since then is death. Seeing one of them dash down repeatedly and strike something on the ground, I had the curiosity to find out what he was at, and on going to him I found he was killing a chicken as large as himself. Again I saw a great commotion among the doves, and found a butcher bird had dragged one of the young doves from the nest and was slaughtering it on the ground. That settled it. I have set a mark upon them, that any one finding them may slay them. Selah!—[Forest and Stream.]

#### CONCERNING DYNAMITE.

##### Several Million Dollars Invested in Its Manufacture in the United States.

Very few people have a correct idea of what dynamite is, of what it is made, and the uses to which it is put. To the French belongs the honor of its discovery and its practical use.

Nitro-glycerine is the force of all high explosives. Dynamite is the name most usually given to these explosives, though other names are sometimes used.

Dynamite is simply nitro-glycerine mixed with various ingredients. Nitro-glycerine is made by mixing sulphuric and nitric acid with sweet glycerine, the same that is used by the ladies to prevent chapped hands. Mixing the acids and glycerine is where the great danger lies in the making of nitro-glycerine. The mixing tank, or agitator as it is called by dynamite makers, is a large steel tank, filled with many coils of lead pipe, through which, while the mixing is in progress, a constant flow of ice water is maintained. This flow of ice water is used to keep the temperature of the mix below 85 deg., as above that point it would explode, and a hole in the ground would mark where the factory had been. The nitro-glycerine is stored in large earthenware tanks, which are usually sunk in the ground to guard against blows or severe concussion.

The other ingredients for making dynamite are: Nitrate of soda, which is found only in Chili, carbonate of magnesia and wood pulp.

Dynamite is put in paper shells usually 1 1/2 inches in diameter and 8 inches in length and weigh about one-half pound to each shell or cartridge. It has largely taken the place of black powder for blasting, as it is many hundreds of times stronger, and consequently more economical. It is used chiefly in mining all kinds of ores, coal and rock, and submarine blasting and railroad building. Without its aid many railroads, especially those crossing the Rocky Mountains, could not have been constructed; without it Hell Gate, in New York Harbor, could not have been destroyed, and without it the miner, at prices now paid for mining ores, could not earn his bread.

Dynamite will not explode from any ordinary fall or jar; it will burn without explosion, and freezes at 42 degrees, 10 degrees above ordinary freezing point. The bomb of the Anarchist is made of metal or glass and filled with pure nitro-glycerine arranged so as to explode by severe contact with any hard object. These bombs are, of course, never made by a reputable dynamite factory.

Five or six millions of dollars are invested in the manufacture of dynamite in the United States, and its use is constantly on the increase. The fumes of nitro-glycerine produce intense headaches, which can be cured by taking a very small dose of it internally.

#### AROUND THE HOUSE.

Knives should not be put in hot water. It injures the steel and loosens the handles. Wipe them with a damp cloth and then rub them with a damp flannel rag which has been dipped in scouring or knife powder.

In cleaning polished steel never use emery paper. Powder bath brick very finely and make a paste with a little oil. Dip a piece of flannel into the mixture and rub the discolored spots with that. Then polish with a dry flannel cloth and some whiting. If the rust is not removed by this the first time try it again. It is better to remember that in the case of steel knives and the like an ounce of prevention of rust is worth a whole ton of emery powder and other cleansing agents.

For the benefit of those who are intending to have hair mattresses made over, a housekeeper makes the following reminder: Instead of having the mattresses in one piece, have two pieces, one being a square the width of the bed, and the other piece of sufficient size to fill the remaining space. By doing so the unsightly depression which is sure to come in a mattress of one piece is avoided, as the square can be turned around and the pieces changed end for end. It is much more convenient to handle when necessary to be aired, and will remain in shape for many years.

When furniture is slightly cracked the aperture can be filled with paint mixed as nearly as possible to match the tint of the wood. When the crack is a large one, however, paint is not sufficient, but putty answers equally well; this, too, should be tinted, and as it is mixed with oil, any color will amalgamate with it easily. A new bedroom floor is apt to separate at the seams in a very unsightly fashion after the first year. Putty here comes into play very well. The best way of putting it is to take a long strip of putty, lay it over the crack, and rub it backward and forward. This fills it quicker than to use a knife. If the putty is not colored it has a very ugly effect.

#### RELIABLE RECIPES.

**PICNIC SANDWICHES.**—Cut bread in thin, even slices with a sharp knife, butter lightly and spread with chopped ham, tongue, veal, chicken or lamb that has been mixed with a dressing. Cut in small, fancy shapes and wrap in a wet towel to prevent their drying. Many enjoy sweet sandwiches, which are made by spreading with raspberry, strawberry, currant or grape jelly or jam. Nut sandwiches are particularly nice and are extremely simple. Chop very fine any fresh nuts and add enough melted butter or sweet cream to make them spread easily over the buttered bread.

**KIDNEY STEW.**—The reason why many people do not relish kidney stew is that they do not know how to make it properly. As a rule the kidney is not cooked long enough. It should be cut into pieces of a suitable size, placed in a covered saucpan, with water enough to cover, and then allowed to simmer slowly for three hours. About twenty minutes before the kidney is done a sliced onion should be added, which has been fried to a delicate brown in a little butter. A glass of Madeira wine is a great improvement. When prepared in this way a beef kidney stew is a dish to set before the king.

**BLUEFISH.**—The very best way to cook bluefish is undoubtedly to bake it. Score the fish well, rub it with butter on the outside, but do not stuff it. Lay it in the bottom of a porcelain-lined baking dish, which should be kept for the purpose of baking fish. Lard the bluefish, if you wish, with a few lardoons of pork. Rub it inside and outside with salt and pepper. Throw two or three chopped mushrooms over it, if you have them. Bake the fish in well-heated oven till it is thoroughly crisp and brown. Serve it with Hollandaise or tomato sauce. French cooks always pour half a glass of white wine over their fish, when they put it in to bake; a chopped onion or a tomato, cut in bits may be sprinkled over this by way of variety. The sauce served with baked fish is usually poured around it on the platter instead of served in a boat.

#### The Rattlesnake's Tail

The structure from which the rattlesnake takes his name—the rattle—consists mainly of three or more solid, horny rings, placed around the end of the tail. These rings themselves are merely dense portions of the general outer skin of the body, but the rattle has also a solid foundation of bone. For the three last bones of the tail become united together in one solid hole or core, grooved where the bones join, while they increase in size toward the hinder end of the complex bone thus formed. This bony core is invested by skin also marked by grooves, which correspond with those at the junctions of the three bones, and this skin becomes much thickened and so forms an incipient, imperfect rattle of such young snakes as have not yet cast their skin. When it is cast the skin investing the tail close to its termination is not cast off, but is held fast by the enlarged end of the bony core before mentioned.

The price of skin thus retained becomes a loose ring in front of the incipient rattle, and thus forms a first joint or of the future perfect rattle. The same process is repeated at each molt, a fresh loose ring or additional joint to the perfect rattle being thus formed every time the skin is shed. Thus the perfect rattle comes ultimately to consist of a number of dry, hard, more or less loose, horny rings, and in this way a rattle may consist of many as twenty-one coexisting rattling rings. It is the shaking of these rings by a violent and rapid wagging of the end of the snake's tail which produces the celebrated rattling sound—a sound which may be compared to the rattling of a number of peas in a rapidly shaken paper bag.—[Quarterly Review.]

#### Height Kites Will Reach.

The actual height of kites above the earth is difficult to measure, because an object floating in the air looks farther away than it really is. When a kite is flying at a height of 1,800 feet, it has reached what is as high a point as is possible without the assistance of other kites. Such a kite will seem to have reached an altitude of half a mile, yet a careful measurement of the string and its steepness will show that the kite is not over one-third of a mile above the ground.

Ordinarily the kite will go no higher, even if more string is let out, because the wind presses against the great length of string with increasing force as the kite recedes and rises.

If more than one kite be used, remarkable heights are attainable.

The kites can be fastened along a single string, but this method requires quickness in attaching the right amount of tail to each kite, otherwise so much time may be wasted in preparing the successive kites for flight that the daylight will wane before the experiment can be concluded.

However, when one kite is up and the amount of tail for it is determined, it becomes possible, after long experience, to at once estimate the amount of tail necessary for each additional kite, according to its size.—[Pittsburg Dispatch.]

#### Ceylon's Queer Bugs.

Ceylon is a great place for bugs. Most beautiful of the numerous strange kinds of insects found there are the "golden beetles," the wing cases of which are used to enrich Indian embroideries, while the lustrous joints of the legs are strung on silken threads, forming necklaces and bracelets of singular brilliancy. Most remarkable in respect to form are the so-called "walking leaves," which exhibit the queerest of all nature's devices for the preservation of her creatures. These insects are found in the jungle in all varieties of hue, from the pale yellow of an opening bud to the rich green of the full-grown leaf and the withered tint of decay. So perfectly do they counterfeit leaves in structure that when at rest they are hardly to be distinguished from the foliage in their neighborhood. One of the most extraordinary things about them is that their eggs precisely resemble seeds.—[Washington Star.]

Milwaukee's grain trade has increased wonderfully.

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A JOINT committee of the two houses of the English parliament has reported electricity a suitable and efficient source of motive power, and recommended that electric railway construction be encouraged throughout England.

The pains and expense which Gunmaker Krupp will take to bring his best work to Chicago shows the value that he puts upon an exhibit at the World's Fair. He will probably spend a quarter of a million on his display, but he will secure an advertisement that will be worth far more than the outlay.

The newest great city of Europe is Budapest, the Capital and metropolis of Hungary. In Kosuth's day, less than half a century ago, the combined population of Buda and Pesth, lying on opposite sides of the Danube, was about one hundred thousand. The consolidated municipality now has a population of fully half a million.

A BILL is now before Congress to refund to settlers on lands adjacent to forfeited railroad land grants the \$1.25 extra per acre they had to pay because of their proximity to railroad lands the grants for which have since been withdrawn by the government. Such a demand is absolutely fair and should be promptly conceded to a deserving class of settlers.

The British Consul at Wenchow in China, in a report, a shocking insight into the extent of the opium trade in China. He says that of late years no proclamations have been issued, as was formerly the case, restricting the growth of the poppy, or the opening of opium dens. There are over six hundred opium dives in the city and suburbs, of various sizes, some possessing three to four lamps, others ten to twelve, so that about ten per cent. of the adult male population have opium craving.

MR. A. B. HART, a college professor, is writing in a "Political Science Quarterly" in favor of some method of depriving the American sovereign of the inalienable right of going fishing on election day. In Professor Hart's view, fishing on election day is a great evil, not to be tolerated. He thinks that everyone who does it should have a fine assessed against him on the poll books not to be allowed to vote thereafter until he has paid the fine or the series of fines incurred by the failure of his name to appear on the list marked "voted" at preceding elections.

THANKS to recent developments of apparatus depending on the use of the electric light, the physician may now almost literally look through his patient's body. The interior of the mouth, the pharynx, the stomach, the eye, and the ear, may be illuminated by the direct introduction of the source of light into the organs or by the reflection of the light. And not only are interior surfaces shown, but the translucency of thin layers of flesh makes certain morbid changes—such as those of gums and roots of the teeth—visible by the aid of the light shining through them. A tiny incandescent lamp is used for direct illumination. This is readily inserted into the mouth or pharynx, and when it is placed at the end of a tube, closed with a window in front of a mirror, the stomach itself may be lighted up and shown to the eye.

THE transportation fleet of the United States at the beginning of 1890, with the exception of canal-boats, numbered 25,540 vessels of all classes, of which 6,097 were steamers, 8,912 were sailing vessels, and 10,531 were barges or unrigged vessels, whose gross tonnage was 7,633,676 tons, and whose estimated value stood at \$215,069,309. Other totals show that during the preceding year the freight movement by the whole operating American mercantile fleet amounted to 172,110,423 tons of all commodities. Others show that the number of persons of all classes employed to make up the ordinary or complementary crews of all operating vessels of the United States, exclusive of pleasure craft on the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico, numbered 106,436, and that the total amount paid out in wages was no less than \$56,867,305.

A TRAVELER says: "It is commonly supposed that people live to a greater age in cold than in warm climates, but that, like many other generally received opinions, is an error. Population considered, semi-tropical Japan heads the list for centenarians. The southern states can show as many people, in proportion to population, who have passed the three-score-and-ten milestone as can those of New England. The oldest man I ever saw had lived all his life in southern Arizona. He was what is popularly known as a greater—one-third Spaniard, one-third Indian and the remainder coyote. He claimed to be one hundred and forty years old and could prove up one hundred and thirty-two by the missionary records. He was totally blind, bent up like a jack-knife and the color of leather. He was a pretty good fac-simile of the mummy of Rameses III. As I looked at him I thought of those unfortunate people described by Dean Swift as unable to die, and wondered if the flying island had not landed Gulliver in Arizona."

THE expense of a funeral in a large city has grown to such proportions that the average man commits more extravagance in the act of dying than he ever did during life. It has been suggested that a much less costly form of grave-stone than that usually erected would meet all the requirements of affectionate remembrance and respect, and the suggestion has been carried into effect in the patenting of a "grave-marker." This is simply a memorial leaf. It consists of two outer plates bent so as to form a holder for leaves or tablets, adapted to be suspended from a frame to receive and retain objects desired to be kept as mementos of the deceased. The tablets beneath the outer plates can be designed in any desired form, and as they have sides of mica or transparent material to protect the tokens, any object such as photographs, sketches, etc., can be inserted. For instance, a sketch of the life of the departed or a portrait or a lock of hair can be placed in the receptacle, where it is securely protected from the weather, and, as it is covered by mica, it will last for many years without bleaching or decaying.

RECENTLY published statistics collected from the true associations in all parts of the German Empire do not convey a very

favorable impression of the condition of the industrial classes in 1891. The statistics are based on reports from 906 towns and 924 associations, including altogether sixteen different branches of trade. In 259 of the towns mentioned the rates of wages were lowered during 1891, in 670 they remained unchanged, and only in seven cases there any rise recorded, although there was an increase in the prices of the ordinary necessities of life. The report of the founders and engine-makers shows that out of 306 centres connected with this industry in only two did the wages rise, while in seventy-two they fell, and in the rest remained stationary. The cost of living increased in every case. The depression manifested itself chiefly in the largest centres, such as Berlin, Breslau, Essen, Leipzig, etc., where in some cases work totally suspended, and in many others men never put on short time. Only one single instance is mentioned in which the discontinuance of work in this branch of industry was caused by disputes between employers and employed.

#### Some Dangerous Pets.

Lieutenant Becker of the Austrian Polar expedition, tells a story of a sailor who tried to tame two young white bears, not much bigger than lap dogs, and got so fond of them that he even took them to bed in cold weather, till one night his comrades were awakened by loud shrieks and the complaint that one of his pets had bitten two of his toes off. An Eskimo pilot, in commenting on the accident, remarked that the little brutes can never be trusted after they have grown stout enough to bite through a man's clothes.

But with that single exception, specimens of every kind of carnivorous mammals have been tamed sufficiently to recognize the authority of their master, and to be domesticated, if not handled with impunity. Seleucus Nicator, the King of Syria, used to drive a four-in-hand team of tame tigers, and the Nabob of Oude had a pet she tiger that often was taken along on his journeys and had been taught to mount an elephant without making use of her formidable claws.

Lions have frequently been tamed by showmen, and sometimes even for military purposes. During the reign of the Emperor Trajan, a Roman general, on an expedition against a revolted province on the north shore of the Adriatic, tried the plan of scaring the natives with a brigade of trained lions, but found that in warfare the ignorance of plucky barbarians is not always a disadvantage. "They mistook them for large dogs," says the historian, "and knocked their brains out."—[San Francisco Chronicle.]

#### How Horse Flesh Tastes.

"You never ate horse flesh, I suppose," said Lieutenant Russell of the Seventh United States Cavalry at the Southern. "I have seen the time when I ate it without genuine relish, and that, too, without any salt. It was in 1877, during General Miles' Nez Percés campaign. We had followed the renegades up the Missouri to its confluence with the Yellowstone, and the chase was so exciting that we didn't realize how low our rations were getting until far away from the base of supplies to replenish it. The game had all been driven out of the country ahead of us by the fleeing Indians, and when we finally caught up with the redskins, and forced them to fight, we had almost nothing to eat for several days. We captured about seven hundred ponies from the Indians, some of them so round and sleek and fat as to appear tough as the finest meat in the world. Our butchers killed the youngest and fattest of the ponies that night after the battle, and as soon as they were skinned and dressed, we had a feast that would have made Lucullus turn green with envy. We lived on this pony meat several days. It was cooked without salt, and roasted over a spit, like a barbecued beef. The meat had a peculiar sweet taste, not at all palatable, when I think of it now, and it was so fibrous that we could pull it apart in great strings. But it kept us from starving, and I, therefore, can heartily recommend pony meat to people in dire straits."—[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

#### Rapidly Taken Pictures.

Some noteworthy photographs of flying bullets were exhibited by C. V. Boys at the last Royal Society conversation. The pictures were produced by sparks from a Leyden jar, which was discharged by the closing of an electric circuit on the passage of each bullet. A wave of compressed air was photographed in front of the bullet, and another in the rear, with a wake still further behind. In some pictures were shown fragments of glass and paper torn from sheets perforated by the bullets, the glass particles flying off to the rear as though from an explosion. One picture showed an aluminum bullet which had been fired by smokeless powder from a magazine rifle at a speed of 3,000 feet per second; and another was of a bullet which had been pierced with a number of holes, through which the light was seen, demonstrating that the photograph had been taken in one two-hundred-thousandth of a second.—[Trenton (N. J.) American.]

#### Chestnut Bread and Coffee.

In some parts of France human ingenuity has contrived chestnut bread, but it has had to draw the line at chestnut coffee as a disastrous failure. The Spaniards make whole meals of chestnut, and cure and store it for winter consumption. Our prouder stomachs in this country have always rebelled against the delicacy. It was first put into the ground here in 1744, and then only because the fellow-servants of the gardener who planted it had refused to take into their systems. This honest fellow, one Thomas Davis, had bought a shilling's worth of sweet chestnuts in London as a treat for the servants' hall. But the hall would have none of them, and so he buried them in a forcing bed. In 1806 they had grown seven feet thick and more than fifty high. A hundred pounds of chestnuts may produce two gallons of pure alcohol.—[New York Sun.]

#### PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

##### EPITOME OF NEWS GLEANED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE STATE.

KARL KUHLMAYER, a Scranton Anarchist, attempted suicide by cutting his throat with a razor.

THE twenty-fourth annual meeting of the State Dental Society was held at Cresson Springs.

GEORGE DOWNS and Joseph McAtee, two miners of Hazleton City, were killed by an engine a short distance above Manor, on the Clatsop branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Pittsburgh.

ATTORNEY GENERAL HENSEL has brought suit in the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin county against James F. Mielck, late Register and Recorder of Berks county, and his securities, for defaulting in payment of tax on writ and collateral inheritance tax to the amount of \$10 6, collected by Mielck for the use of the Commonwealth.

APPEALS have been entered in the office of Prothonotary Melick at Harrisburg by the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company from the settlement of taxes on loans for 1891, amount to \$70,642.77, and by the Erie & Wyoming Valley Railroad Company for taxes on loans for 1890 and 1891, amounting respectively to \$8,935 and \$9,439.94.

THE State camp of the Patriotic Order of True Americans met in Lebanon and elected officers.

THE puddling department at the mills of the Crum Creek Iron & Steel Company, near Chester, resumed operations with non-union men, paying the new Amalgamated scale.

REV. MR. FERGUSON, a Lutheran preacher at Connelestown, was arrested at Uniontown on charges preferred by his wife. The couple have not lived together for some time.

THE second week of the Pennsylvania Chautauqua opened at Mt. Gretna with the usual devotional exercises. Dr. W. Clarke Robinson lectured on "The Nile Unseen," appropriate to the day which was Pennsylvania-German Day.

A LIGHT frost was experienced at Leesport, Berks County, and some Lehigh Valley passenger trains had steam heat in the cars.

THE railroad run by Chester was terminated by Judge Clayton issuing an injunction stopping the Reading Company from interfering with the Pennsylvania Railroad's new branch.

THE Haskell multiple-charge gun was again tested at Reading. The projectile penetrated through a steel plate of the least flange iron, measuring six inches.

THREE prisoners, all of who were confined in the county jail at Somerset, made their escape.

It is now generally admitted that Mrs. Clemens, whose body was found in the woods near York, committed suicide.

THE Reading Iron Company's two blast furnaces will go out of operation indefinitely. Near 150 men were employed.

DR. J. K. LIVINGSTON, a prominent physician of Enrichville, shot himself through the right temple and died instantly.

JACOB PETERS, an Allegheny lad, was caught by broken trolley wires, and Thomas McIntyre while trying to rescue him was badly burned. They may die.

P. P. MOHR, the postmaster and school-teacher of Fogelsville, who was charged with eloping has returned to that town. He denies the allegation and declares that he left because his life had become unbearable.

By an explosion of sewer gas in the house of P. W. Walters, in Carlisle, Mr. Walters and his 2-year-old daughter were severely injured.

DYNAMITE was found under the porch of the house of Peter Werz, of Catawugus. It was placed there, it is believed, for the purpose of blowing up a neighbor who lived next door.

THE Executive Committee of the Board of World's Fair Managers for Pennsylvania met in Harrisburg. A room in the State Building at Chicago will be provided for the Philadelphia Commission. There was much discussion over the work being done on the building. Architect Lansdale declaring that the contractor is irresponsible.

RANDALL LYNZ, aged 14, of Allentown, died from lockjaw caused by a wound received on the Fourth of July.

WHILE sitting in front of her father's home Miss Alice Breiner, of Reading, was struck by a red ball in the hip. She was painfully bruised. The rifle was fired by an unknown person.

THE Democratic County Committee of Westmoreland elected Captain John B. Keenan chairman and adopted resolutions sympathizing with the lock-out of Honesdale men. A. W. Bacon, a member of the committee, was killed by a train while attempting to board a car.

#### The Picnic Director.

On a little side street just off Union Square an office has been opened by a man who styles himself a picnic director. Despite the oddity of his calling he did a good business last year, having enough money to pay all his personal expenses and something over.

The picnic director is an actor during the season, but in summer time he is generally idle. Last spring he happened to think of his present business and carried it out with success.

"I take full charge of picnics and relieve the promoters of all responsibility," he says. "Most of my patrons are wealthy or well-to-do New Yorkers who want to take a day's outing. I give them a list of pleasant places in and around New York and secure the necessary carriages, boat or railroad tickets. At the grounds I look after the provisions, see that the servants attend to their business, give information as to where the prettiest views of the country can be seen, sing a song or two if necessary, and render myself generally agreeable. It is a pleasant way to spend a summer vacation, and it brings me in enough money to pay for my board and incidentals until the theatrical season opens again."—New York Commercial Advertiser.

#### More Like It.

Snaggs—It is claimed now that Deeming is a moral idiot.  
Shingriss—He's an immortal idiot, more like.—Exchange.