

FEW BUFFALOES LEFT.

ONCE THEY ROAMED THE WESTERN PLAINS IN COUNTLESS NUMBERS.

Riding for Fifty Miles Through a Herd of 4,000,000 Animals—How They Were Ruthlessly Slaughtered.

Few people are now aware of the former wonderful extent of the buffalo, writes Frank G. Carpenter in the Washington "Star." No animal has ever existed in such large numbers nor covered so much territory. Buffaloes formerly roamed over the country as far east as Washington city, and there are records of herds of thousands being seen in Pennsylvania not long before the Revolution. A hundred years ago they came in great droves to drink at the Blue Lick springs of Kentucky. Daniel Boone speaks of them, and it is now only a few years since they existed by the millions on the great plains of the West. In 1871, now only twenty-five years ago, Colonel R. I. Dodge rode for fifty miles through a herd of buffaloes which he estimated as being twenty-five miles wide. This was along the Arkansas river.

At one point he was able to get upon a hill, and he says he could see this vast herd of buffaloes stretching out from six to ten miles in every direction. The herd was moving, and it took five days to pass a given point. Professor Hornaday says that at the lowest estimate there were 4,000,000 buffaloes in this one herd, and this, as I have said, was only twenty-five years ago. In 1863 a traveler along the Kansas Pacific Railroad states that the train at one time passed through one hundred and twenty miles of solid buffalo. The plains were blackened with them, and more than once the cars were stopped by them. The best authority of the National Museum as to the early buffalo is George Catlin, who spent the greater part of his life in the West studying the Indian, and who made many pictures of the buffalo as they existed before the great destruction began. He tells of herds of millions, and says that their roaring sounded like thunder, and tells how the Indians killed them by the hundreds of thousands for the skins, for which they received only a pint of whisky apiece.

You would not think that such immense herds could be wiped out. The buffalo, however, are very dull beasts in many ways. They are a mixture of stupidity and intelligence which it is hard to understand. These mighty herds were made up of companies, or clumps, of buffaloes of from twenty to one hundred each, each clump being led and taken care of by one strong bull. In going for water one of the old cows of the clump would start ahead and nose along the track of a dry stream for miles until it found a water-hole, the others of that company following in single file. The herd would then drink, and would lie down to rest before eating. This would seem to mean a high degree of intelligence. But such evidence is not shown in their attempting to escape from man. A hunter might lie with a repeating rifle near such a herd, and pick off one after the other without apparently frightening or scaring the rest. If they ran it was usually against the wind, and they were cowards except when brought to bay. At first the skins brought but little and the temptation to kill was not so great. Still, thousands were killed for the pure fun of killing them. The southern herd, which contained about four million, existed as late as 1870, up to which time only about half a million buffaloes a year were killed from it. As soon as the railroads came in, hunters came by the scores, and with breech-loading rifles, killed the animals by thousands. Captain Jack Bridges killed by contract 1142 buffaloes of this herd in six weeks. Buffalo Bill earned his title by the numbers of buffalo he killed in a short time, and Mr. Hornaday tells of one hunter who told him that he had killed sixty-three buffaloes in less than an hour. In some places the buffaloes were driven over precipices, breaking their necks by the fall, and being skinned afterward.

With some of these hunter murderers the ordinary process of skinning was not fast enough, and they invented a way of skinning the buffalo by means of horses. They would cut the skin at the neck and down the belly and around the legs at the knees. A stout iron bar, like a hitching post, was then driven down through the skull about eighteen inches into the earth. Then a rope was tied to the thick skin of the neck. The other end of the rope was hitched to the whiffle tree of a pair of horses, or to the rear axle of a wagon. The horses were whipped up, and the skin was either torn in two or torn from the buffalo, with about fifty pounds of flesh sticking to it. This method, however, was not a success, and was soon given up. About fifty thousand buffaloes have been killed for their tongues, no account having been made for their skins. For a long time every skin sent to the market represented about five buffaloes, the others having been destroyed. Thousands of buffaloes were killed by firelight and moonlight, the fires in such cases being made for the purpose. During the year 1873 the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad alone carried a quarter of a million buffalo robes, and more than a million and a half pounds of buffalo meat, and during the three years following 1872 more than three million buffaloes were slaughtered by the white men, and of these 1,800,000 were wasted. The great southern herd had been annihilated by 1875. At this time the market had been overstocked with robes, and the hunters got from 65 cents to \$1.15 for them.

There was then left only the great

herd of the northern part of the United States. Its destruction began in 1880, at which time about 100,000 buffaloes were shipped out of the country every year. The Indians of the northwestern territory marketed about 75,000 buffaloes a year. As soon as the railroads came in to the country the hunters came in, and in 1882 there were 5900 hunters and skinners at work. They killed the buffaloes by the thousands for their robes, getting from \$1.50 to \$2.50 apiece for them, and within about four years this other vast herd was wiped out. In 1876 it was estimated that there were half a million buffaloes within a radius of 150 miles of Miles City. In 1884 the last carload of buffalo robes ever shipped to the East was sent over the railroad.

The hunting of the buffaloes was immensely profitable. According to the figures of Mr. Hornaday, hundreds of thousands of dollars were made out of the slaughter long before 1840. From 1835 to 1840 there were five expeditions, which killed buffaloes worth more than a million dollars, and the buffaloes killed up to that time within twenty years realized a sum of more than \$3,000,000. There are records of single fur firms who handled hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of hides. Joseph Ullman, of New York and St. Paul, in 1881 bought about \$90,000 worth of buffalo robes, in 1882 an equal amount, and about \$120,000 worth of buffalo hides. This firm within four years paid more than \$310,000 for buffalo robes and hides, and, in connection with one other firm, they sold enough skins to bring in about \$2,000,000. There were a number of other fur dealers who made money out of the business, to say nothing of those who got rich off buffalo meat and buffalo bones. In a trip which I took over the Canadian Pacific road a few years ago, I saw mountains of buffalo bones at many of the stations. The railroads shipped them East by the millions of pounds. In 1872 more than 1,000,000 pounds were shipped over the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe road, and this road in 1874 handled nearly 7,000,000 pounds. The bones were sold by the ton, to be ground up for fertilizer. In some cases they were crushed before shipment, and crushed bones were worth \$18 a ton, while the uncrushed sold for \$12 per ton. The meat of most of these buffaloes went to waste. It seldom brought more than two or three cents a pound, and it was chiefly of value when dried or jerked. Jerked meat sometimes brought as high as ten cents per pound, the tongues being worth much more.

Several Strange Customs.

Among other customs enforced by Persian etiquette is the rule that where a superior dines with an inferior, the latter brings in the first dish himself. It must be held at arm's length, carried perfectly horizontal and deposited precisely in the right place at once.

In Ashantee many families are forbidden the use of certain meats. In like manner others are forbidden to wear clothes of a certain color.

Every house must be decked with flowers on New Year's day in Japan, and to supply the demand, the shops are always filled with dwarf peach trees at that time of the year.

If a carriage upsets or injures another carriage in the streets of St. Petersburg, or if a person is knocked down, the horses of the offending vehicle are seized and confiscated to the use of the Fire Brigade.

The City Council of the Japanese capital has passed an ordinance directing that all children be labeled with their parents' names and addresses.

Clapping the hands in various ways is the polite method in Central Africa of saying, "Allow me," "I beg pardon," "Permit me to pass," and "Thanks." It is resorted to in respectful introduction and leave-taking, and is also equivalent to "Hear! hear!" When inferiors are called, they respond by two brisk claps of the hands, signifying, "I am coming."

It is the practice of the Ashantees and Fantees to bury one-third of the property of a dead man, converted into gold dust, under his head, and rifling the grave of an enemy is considered the proper action for a warrior.

Crows Hunt a Fox.

Ira Stone of Taylorville, Va., recently witnessed a most curious combat. While crossing a field he saw a number of crows fighting furiously with something. As he neared the scene of conflict he saw that the object of attack was a large gray fox. The fox would rush open-mouthed upon his antagonists, but they would dodge and peck viciously at his back. Once, when the fox sought a solid wall before him, the birds formed a solid wall before him.

Reynard immediately changed his tactics. He threw himself on the ground and began to roll quickly over in the direction of his foes. This ruse proved ineffective, for the crows simply widened the circle he had drawn around him, and as he came tumbling toward them attacked him with redoubled energy. The fox would in all probability have been vanquished, had not sight of Mr. Stone put all the combatants to flight. Evidently, from the many tufts of fur found on the ground, the fox suffered considerably.—New York Press.

The Highest Price for a Book.

M. Quaritch, the London dealer, asks \$28,000 for a psalter printed for the use of the Benedictine monastery of St. James at Mentz. It is said to be the highest price ever asked for a book. The volume is printed on vellum, and is the third book ever printed, the second printed with a date. It was published in 1459.

The Spirit of a Will Prevails.

Surrogate Fitzgerald has written an opinion of much value and interest in deciding to admit to probate the will of Mary A. Buchan. The will was written on two sides of a sheet of notepaper, and the lack of punctuation and some confusion as to capitals show that the woman was not possessed of great education, or was writing under some unusual difficulties. It is possible, however, to make out the main design of the testator. Surrogate Fitzgerald carefully reviewed the evidence. One of the witnesses who was interested in sustaining the will swore that the legal requirements were fulfilled in the signing and publication of the will, but the other witnesses, who seemed to have a leaning toward the other side, gave testimony showing that it was not properly executed. Surrogate Fitzgerald says: "The statute in reference to wills was enacted to effectuate, not to defeat, the wishes of competent testators who act without constraint in respect to the disposition of their estates." He shows by many citations from the reports that when the circumstances indicate a purpose to make a will in a certain way the courts favor such an interpretation of the evidence as will not lead to a miscarriage of justice. In some cases the execution of a will has been proved, even where the subscribing witnesses, for some corrupt purpose, deny that it was properly executed. The New York State courts have permitted the publication of a will to be shown from circumstances where there was no direct or positive evidence by the witnesses. The decision is another indication of the unwillingness of the courts to disturb the will of any person because of the lack of overwhelming technical proof of all the facts required to be shown. Surrogate Fitzgerald's review of the cases on the subject will be of great value to those who practice probate law.—New York Tribune.

The Quinine Trade.

Quinine extracting has undergone a vast change within the past thirty years. The extraordinary demand for the drug incident to the war raised its price for a while up to over \$3 an ounce. Two great Philadelphia firms at that time had a monopoly of its manufacture.

Three firms, with New York as their central sales places, are now engaged in the manufacture of sulphate of quinine and its cognate salts. The duty has been removed, and foreign quinine competes in this market. Despite the fact that foreign manufacturers can get the need bark at their own doors, and that American manufacturers are compelled to buy their bark in London or Amsterdam and pay freight to this country, the product of the latter has still preference among American physicians.

Still vast amounts of foreign quinine find a market here. Three years ago foreign manufacturers found themselves overloaded with the drug, and sought an outlet for their surplus here. Over 3,000,000 ounces were entered at this port, which was an increase of three-quarters of a million ounces beyond the importations of any previous year. It wrought much disturbance, and the price was hammered down until twenty-seven cents per ounce was touched. That was low-water mark. It has taken nearly two years to absorb that surplus, and trade is on a natural basis again, and prices have risen to thirty cents per ounce, the highest for years. The value of the total product made and marketed throughout this city amounts to about \$1,000,000.—New York Mail and Express.

10,000,000 Tons of Coal.

A prominent New York coal merchant, while showing a Pittsburgh friend about New York on the occasion of the latter's first visit to the metropolis, took him to the top of one of the very highest buildings in town and pointed out to him the different objects of interest that could be seen. The Western man took in the beautiful view of the bay, and then looked northward over miles and miles of roofs and chimneys, over the vast expanse of street and park, business buildings and dwellings, and then turned to his friend with the remark that the most astonishing thing to him was that it was so clear. Not a blot of smoke marred the landscape. Clear and brilliant in the sun of a brilliant winter day, New York was clean and neat, and the greatest possible contrast to the dingy and grimy cities of the West, where the use of coal is not restricted to certain kinds.

New Yorkers have made a study of the combustion of coal, and have learned how to get the most out of it with the least dirt and smoke. The enormous amount of 10,000,000 tons of anthracite coal is now burned every year in New York, and this is not at all remarkable when it is considered to what an extent the use of coal enters into the everyday life of the people.

The coal dealers of New York are legion, and the business has grown to immense proportions. The ease with which coal can be shipped to New York and unloaded in order to get it to the market with the least possible handling has contributed, to a great extent, to the success which New York coal merchants have attained.—New York Mail and Express.

Has a Peculiar Mania.

A lawyer of Biddeford, Me., is afflicted with a peculiar mania for collecting lamps of all sorts. His house is filled with every kind of lantern he has been able to buy, including a full line of bicycle lamps. He visits Boston frequently and always brings back with him a new lot of lamps. His craze costs him a good deal of money, and he declares that he is aware of the folly of it, but entirely unable to resist it.—New York Sun.

A Phenomenal Mathematician.

The New York Central Railroad office has secured a phenomenal mathematician in its service, in the person of Alfred Blum, a sixteen-year-old newsboy. The boy applied for a position and expressed a willingness to submit to an immediate examination, and stake the fate of his application on the result.

The boy made his way into the presence of Controller Carstensen and asked for a position. He had a letter of recommendation, wherein the statement was made that he was a master of mathematics and a lightning calculator. After briefly questioning him concerning his antecedents, age and experience, the controller of the big railroad became interested. He gave the boy the most difficult problems in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Then he called in sixty clerks to witness the remarkable performances of the young fellow with the scrambled hair and buttonhole boutonnet.

Young Blum is described as a most remarkable hand at figures. Since the age of four he has shown an aptitude for mathematics that has proved to be a rare talent. Up to this time he has sold papers in Albany and supported the family. His father has been an invalid, and he was the bread-winner for several small children. His devotion to his duty made everybody his friend, and those who knew how hard he worked for others and what sacrifices he made were quick to give him an opportunity to make money by his wonderful gift. He gave exhibitions of computation that were paid for by those who took an interest in his welfare.

A Forest of Freak Trees.

There is no spot in the entire State of New Jersey that is as prolific of curiously shaped tree-growths as Millworth, the Five Mile Branch seaside resort. Students who delight in studying odd tree formations find here a rich field for observation.

The forest growth embraces holly, cedar, oak, wild cherry and a dozen other varieties. The holly trees are the ones that have assumed the most fantastic shapes. There are several dozen odd growths, which, in their outlines, are nearly perfect.

One large holly has grown for years into the shape of an elephant's trunk. Another, standing close by, is a perfect imitation of a harp. An old and gnarled wild cherry tree, standing in this forest of wonder, has formed itself into an arch. It is called the "rainbow tree," and was made famous among its companions by ex-President Harrison and Baby McKee, who stood under it to have their photographs taken. Then there is a holly whose trunk has broken in two about eight feet from the ground and, after growing apart a distance of four feet, rounds off and comes together, forming a perfect letter O. A grizzled old cedar, that no doubt has stood for ages, has a limb growing into a beautiful and perfect pair of antlers, that, were they bone, would do service for the proudest buck that ever roamed the forest. There is a holly branch that has shaped itself into a fairly good imitation of a sword and hilt. Over a little summer house near the beach are the words: "Wildwood," "Welcome," in letters of holly in natural growth.

The Finest Turquoises.

The finest turquoises, and richest in color, have been found for centuries in small veins in a clay slate near Nishapur, near Meshed, Persia, but these mines, long so prolific, have been rudely worked, and are now almost exhausted. Many turquoises reach the market from Egypt; they are really obtained from Mount Sinai. This variety, though generally dark blue when found, often changes in a short time to milky green. Very lately, also, turquoises, have been announced in New South Wales, Australia, but the yield thus far has been trifling and of a very inferior quality. New Mexico is the principal source of supply, near Santa Fe, and also in the Buno Mountains, in Grant County; the rocks here are yellow and gray quartzite sandstone, with porphyry dykes; the sandstones are, probably, of carboniferous age, but so uplifted and metamorphosed that their sedimentary character is obscured.

Companies are now working mines near Los Cerrillos, and the Buno Mountain, New Mexico, and elsewhere in that region. Much of the product is pale in color; but a great quantity of turquoise of robin's-egg blue, equal to the finest Persian stones, are obtained, and a single piece sold for \$4,000 is reported. Many of these gems have gone to Europe, where their excellence is acknowledged, and the total American sales from 1890 to the beginning of 1894 were not less than \$500,000. This has proved the most profitable gem mining in the United States.—Washington Star.

Vault Built For Endless Ages.

When the Bank of the United States was established in Washington nearly 100 years ago, steel vaults were unknown, so the vault was built of brick. The old building is now occupied by Riggs & Co. as a bank. Recently it was decided to put in a steel vault, and last week a force of men were set at work on the old vault with crowbars and blasting powder. After five days' work and the removal of many tons of brick, the vault is apparently as impregnable as ever. It was built in two parts. The inner shell was square, with an arched ceiling. Outside of this brick were laid in cement to a thickness of nearly four feet, making the interior in the shape of a cube. At the corners of the arch the brick wall was allowed almost double its thickness elsewhere. The brick were as hard as stone, and the cement by long standing had become practically indestructible. The old vault has protected almost countless millions of wealth in its time, and even now, after the present work, it is still in a condition to furnish absolute security.—Chicago Times-Herald.

SMUGGLERS' TRICKS.

The Amount of Contraband Diamonds Startles Revenue Officers.

Diamonds are being smuggled into this country at such a rate as to startle the Treasury officials. What to do the Treasury does not exactly know, inasmuch as this particular sort of fraud on the Government is almost safe from detection.

Diamonds may be hidden in many ways so as to escape suspicion by the most vigilant customs inspector. Women conceal them in their hair sometimes. They have been discovered in hollow bootsoles, in cakes of soap, in rifle cartridges, and even between a porous plaster and the skin of the wearer. They have been known to have been fed to a dog before landing, the animal being subsequently killed and cut open. One passenger swallowed a diamond worth \$1,000, and detective, having administered an emetic, was obliged to sit down and wait.

The whole customs business may be likened to a financial institution that is constantly under siege by people anxious to rob it. Few people have any scruples against cheating the Treasury. No woman and scarcely any man hesitates to beat the tariff if he or she thinks he or she can do so without being suspected. Inspectors are led to many discoveries by the nervousness of amateur smugglers. Women engaged in such enterprises, large or small, very commonly "give themselves away" to the stewards or stewardesses on board ships. These employees, now matter how heavily fed, are always on the watch for smugglers. Their interest in passengers relates only to the money they can get out of them, and they are sure of a substantial reward in cash for every smuggler detected through information given by them.

One of the customs officials, now stationed in Washington, tells a story of a lame man whom he met while he was on his way from Nova Scotia to Boston in a steamer. He chanced to occupy a stateroom with the lame man. The latter took off his cork leg when he went to bed, and the other joked him about the advantage of being able to take off one's legs on retiring. The lame man replied that there was another advantage, and thereupon exhibited the leg, which was hollow and contained \$2,000 or \$3,000 worth of jewelry. He explained that he was in the jewelry business. On arriving at Boston he went ashore with a ragged hand satchel and behaved quite insolently to the customs officials, throwing down the satchel and saying that they might look it over if they wanted to. The officers were disgusted, but they permitted the fellow to limp away without interference.

The same official tells another story about a wink that cost an ingenious individual \$10,000. The smuggler had arrived at New York, and his trunk had been examined and marked as O. K. He walked up the pier after them, and was perfectly safe from detection, seemingly. But an officer at the gate through which he passed saw him wink his left eye. This wink, as a matter of fact, was addressed to a partner who was standing in some six feet of mind on the further side of the gate. It was enough for the officer, who said immediately: "Stop, sir! I want to look at your trunk again!" He did so, and found that one of them had a false bottom, beneath which \$10,000 worth of contraband goods were hidden. They were confiscated.

On one occasion the inspectors at New York had news of a brig that was going to fetch a large quantity of smuggled cigars. When the vessel arrived they went aboard of her and made a thorough search, but without finding anything contraband. The laugh was on them, and they had a drink with the skipper before leaving. But as one of them was going up about a half an inch of ribbon sticking out from between two planks. This seemed odd, and deserving of investigation. One of the planks was removed, and 50,000 fine cigars were discovered carefully hidden away between the planking and the outer skin of the ship.—New York Journal.

His Own Executioner.

At St. Pierre-le-Palud, in the Canton of Alesce, near Lyons, lived, says a Paris correspondent, a handy man, half carpenter, half mason, and 42 years old. His wife died seven years ago, and he had lived alone ever since. Some time ago he said an idea he was going to work out would astonish the whole country. His idea, it now appears, was to construct unaided a guillotine and to be his own executioner.

He had got two vertical beams nine feet high. The knife was a hatchet carefully sharpened, and a mason's sledge-hammer, weighing a stone, was adapted to it. Nothing could be nearer than the grooves, pulleys and adjustments. A semi-circular groove was arranged to keep the head well under the hatchet. Debarcieux lay on his back with his neck in the semi-circular cutting in a cross plank. He set a heap of straw on the place where he calculated the small of his back would be, and placed his feet against a wall. This done, he let go the knife by means of a cord that he held. In the fall it severed his head clean from his body. The strange suicide was not discovered for some days after it was committed. Neighbors began to wonder what had happened to Debarcieux. As his dog howled fearfully, they determined to enter the house. Going from one room to another they discovered nothing unusual, but when the dog was liberated from the kitchen it rushed down to the cellar and again began to howl. The neighbors following, found there the guillotine and the guillotined.

She—I've seen just sixteen winters. He—Ah, I see, you've spent the rest of them in Florida.—Yonkers Statesman.

A VINEYARD ROMANCE.

A Note in a Basket of Grapes Got a Husband.

When the marriage of Miss Agnes Fields, of Sheridan, and Albert A. Pierpont, of Orange Grove, Fla., took place recently at Dunkirk, N. Y., it was the happy ending of a romantic correspondence. The merry grape harvest throughout Chautauque County is famous all over the country. In the season everybody goes into the vineyards.

Miss Fields is a pretty brunette, the daughter of Myron W. Fields, a well-to-do grape raiser of Sheridan. At the opening of last fall's harvest she had been graduated from college and returned home in time to join the merry grape pickers. With several girl companions she was working in her father's packing house when it was suggested that each of the girls place a note in the last basket packed before the noon hour. The contents of the note placed in Miss Fields' was as follows:

"To Whom It May Concern: This basket of clustered fruit was packed by Miss Agnes Fields, of Sheridan, N. Y., upon her graduation from college. Should it fall in the hands of a gentleman, and should he take time to carefully sample the delicious flavor and sweetness of the fruit, he can form some idea of the sweet qualities of the fair maiden who so carefully placed the ciphers in this basket."

"This particular basket fell not upon stony ground, but into the hands of Mr. Pierpont, who is a wealthy orange-grower of Orange Grove, Fla. He was in Chicago when he bought the basket, and he liked the fruit so well that he thanked Miss Fields by letter. He also probably wrote that he was young, unmarried and also a college graduate; that he had large possessions in his Florida home, and, incidentally, that he would like to become better acquainted with the fair Agnes."

His letter was answered by Miss Fields, and in a month or so a lively correspondence was in progress. It resulted in Mr. Pierpont visiting Miss Fields' home last Christmas. The marriage was the result of the visit.

Miss Fields is quite well-known in Dunkirk and Fredonia, having attended both the academy and normal school, where she was regarded with esteem and favor. After a tour including New York, Boston and Washington, Mr. Pierpont will take his bride to his Southern home.

Killing By Wholesale.

A homicide occurs every two hours in Italy. This is one of the many startling statements made by Baron Garofalo, a distinguished Italian criminologist, in a lecture delivered on "Criminology in Relation to the Education of the People," in the Roman College. His audience included Queen Margherita.

In Italy the annual loss of life by homicide (usually by lethal weapons) numbers about 4,000 souls. Compared with France, for instance, she has 10 homicides a year for France's one, and 35 for Denmark's one. The Latin populations, indeed, in both hemispheres have a bad pre-eminence over the Teutonic in crimes of violence, if not in crime generally, and of these Latin populations the Italian is the worst.

Baron Garofalo proceeded to give the reasons why. In the first place, vendetta, which in Greece was a laudable custom, has lingered longer in Italy than in any other country; duelling, also, is more frequent in Italy than elsewhere. To the religious instructions given in Great Britain and the United States of America, he attributed the fact that these countries have in forty years diminished by one-half the annual proportion of their delinquents and mendicants, while in Italy the want of similar instruction has resulted in the positive increase of delinquency and mendicancy since 1862. When to these considerations we add the increased hardness of living in the young kingdom, the strain put upon the moral resisting power by crushing poverty, the squalid dwellings, the defective alimentation, by which the brain is starved, when it is not actually poisoned, by the stimulants in which relief from misery is sought, and the deprivation of life as it exists under such conditions, we arrive at an ensemble of causes which quite accounts for these sad statistics.—New York Journal.

A New Submarine Boat.

A new submarine boat is about the shape of a whale, twenty-six feet long and between five and six feet in diameter through the middle. It consists of three sections of high-grade metal securely bolted together. The boat is propelled by a screw, and has a speed of about seven or eight knots an hour. The motive power is an electric battery.

Romance of an Alderman.

Twenty-two years ago Huddell, a Horness, an alderman of Danville, Ill., left his home in Jeffersonville, Ind., to "see the world." He has achieved prominence and wealth, but he never communicated with his home until the other day, when he went to look up his aged parents, who have thought him dead.

New Motive Power for Ships.

George W. Price, an old sailor, who is living at Providence, R. I., has made an invention whereby the pitching and tossing of a ship by means of a swinging cargo may be utilized to store up energy in the shape of compressed air which is to be used to propel the ship.

There are in Russia 36 mortgage banks, which are established for the sole purpose of issuing 1 ans upon real estate.