

THE NEWS.

According to the present outlook the fate of Mrs. Botkin, who is being tried on the charge of murder, will not rest in the hands of the jury in San Francisco until next week.

The local office of the Wells-Fargo Express Company at San Antonio, Tex., was robbed of a package containing \$60,000.

A special committee of the American Economic Association, which closed its session at New Haven, presented a report on the question of currency reform.

A monument to John McDonogh, the millionaire philanthropist, was unveiled at New Orleans by educational gatherings in that city.

In anticipation that the Government will take favorable action on the plan to pay off the Cuban troops by giving them \$100 each, the Cuban authorities here have taken steps to secure detailed information as to the number of Cubans who bore arms and are entitled to this bounty if the government decides to pay it.

Among the passengers on the steamer China, which just arrived at San Francisco, from the Orient, were Grand Duke Cyril of Russia and his aides, Lieutenants Causeau and Gouse, the Grand Duke, who is a cousin of the Czar, is on his way to St. Petersburg, having nearly completed a tour of the world.

A blaze at Calloden, W. Va., entailing a loss of \$6,000, originated in a very peculiar way. Some young ladies tied a box of fire-crackers to a dog's tail, when the dog ran under the store building of S. B. Blackwell. The building ignited and was burned to the ground, together with the contents. Loss covered by insurance.

The seventh annual meeting of the American Jewish Historical Association was held in Philadelphia with the election of officers and the reading of papers.

The American National Bank, of Lima, Ohio, was mysteriously robbed of over \$15,000 in gold and currency.

At Alexandria, five miles from Rock Springs, Ala., James Mitchell and "Doc" MacLellan quarreled over a game of cards. Both drew pistols and fired. MacLellan shot Mitchell in the forehead, tearing off the top of the skull and killing him instantly. Mitchell's ball struck MacLellan directly over the heart, but flattened itself against a pocket knife, thereby saving his life. MacLellan struck Mitchell over the head with the barrel of his gun after killing him.

At Harrison, Ark., Frank Pace, ex-prosecuting attorney, and his brother, Henry, met M. L. Aderholt, a prominent stockman, on the street and a duel ensued, in which Elderholtz was mortally wounded. The trouble grew out of a difficulty a few days ago between Aderholtz and Captain Pace, father of the brothers, in which Captain Pace was dangerously shot and a bystander killed by a stray bullet.

A special from Hillsboro, Tex., says: Mrs. Isabel, her daughter, Mrs. Oasle Malone, and Mrs. Malone's infant child were burned to death in their home, near Houston, Tex. The women could be seen in the house, but it was impossible to rescue them, though every effort was made. The fire started by the use of kerosene to light a fire.

Herman Kiseo, 12 years old, and Arthur Leadbam, 9 years, were drowned while skating on this ice at Harris Pond, Woonsocket, R. I.

MANUFACTURING PLANT BURNED.

One of the Workmen Falls Into Flames and is Cremated.

Birmingham, Ala., (Special).—Between 1 and 2 o'clock Wednesday morning, the night watchman at the Semet-Solway Company's by-product plant at Emusley City, six miles from Birmingham, discovered fire raging in the oil house. An alarm was sounded, but the flames spread very rapidly, and soon the main building and chemical works of the plant were in flames, and burned down quickly. One hundred and twenty-five coke ovens escaped destruction, but the principal buildings of the plant were destroyed, causing a loss estimated at between \$150,000 and \$200,000, with no insurance.

Otto Aust, one of the workmen, who had gone on a high truss between the coke ovens and the main plant to connect a water hose, lost his life. The truss burned down behind him, and he fell into the flames. Clarence Rust, another employe, was badly burned. The plant cost half a million dollars, and began operations last summer. Its owners reside in Syracuse, N. Y. The cause of the fire is not known. It is understood that the burned buildings will be replaced at early date.

GEN. LAWTON'S NEW POST.

Assigned to Service in the Philippines as Second in Command.

Washington, D. C., (Special).—The War Department has issued orders assigning Major-General Lawton to service in the Philippines.

This assignment is considered one of exceptional importance, as General Lawton, who was one of the most conspicuous officers in the campaign against Santiago, will be second in command to General Otis, and, in the event of General Otis' appointment as Governor-General of the Philippines will assume military command of the forces in the Philippines. His new duties will require a combination of nerve and tact.

FIELD OF LABOR.

Canada exports apples. Ireland has 40,000 mud cabins. Cuba has 1,200 sugar plantations. Boston is the chief rice market. Louisiana leads in rice production. Ottawa has no Sunday street cars. Germany announces zinc wall paper. Boone, Iowa, hasn't a vacant house. Mexico City is to have an electric road. Florida's pineapple crop is worth \$50,000. Des Moines has a seventy-year-old blacksmith.

All Centralia (Wash.) stores are open on Sunday.

Gastonia, N. C., is to have another cotton mill.

The best hotel in San Juan, Porto Rico, charges \$2 a day.

The consumption of rice in Europe has more than doubled since 1875.

A new 5,000-spindle cotton mill may be established at Talladega, Ala.

Of the 25,000 officials in Berlin as many as 17,000 give their services free.

Mexican farm laborers get 25 cents a day. A Tacoma company will soon ship 800,000 feet or more of fire decking to Hamburg, Germany.

The W. C. T. U., of Alton, Ill., has succeeded in placing a prohibitive license on cigarettes.

A Cleveland Councilman has introduced an ordinance limiting the height of buildings to eight stories.

The best managed dairies in Minnesota have reduced the cost of manufacturing a pound of butter to 1.28 cents.

TAKEN BY INSURGENTS

Occupied Iloilo Before American Forces Arrived.

SERIOUS ISSUE NOW.

Gen. Otis Expected to Demand the Surrender of the Capital of Panay—Spaniards Retreated to a Stronghold in Mindanao—Gen. Otis Having Difficulty in Securing Release of Spanish Prisoners.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—There has been a good deal of anxiety in official circles over recent events at Iloilo, the capital of the Island of Panay, in the Philippines.

Two official dispatches were received by the State and War Department, but it was impossible to gather from them an accurate knowledge as to the condition there. It was not even possible to learn whether the insurgents or the American forces had captured the place. United States Consul Pratt, at Singapore, cabled the State Department:

"Iloilo taken 24th; Spanish fled to Borneo."

This threw the officials into deeper doubt than before. Another telegram stated that the Spaniards had retreated to a strongly fortified town on the Island of Mindanao. This did not agree with Consul Pratt's statement that they fled to Borneo, the north coast of which is a British possession, but it was believed that the Consul was in error on the point, which might easily be the case in view of the distance from his post to Iloilo.

The fact that the Spaniards had retreated at all was also construed as an indication that the town was abandoned to the insurgents, for it is believed that Colonel Blos, the Spanish commander, would have cheerfully surrendered to the American force, with a view of securing the safety of his men and their ultimate return to Spain by the American Government, according to the terms of the treaty.

Just before noon another dispatch came from General Otis that at once confirmed the fears of the officials of the War Department as to what had taken place at Iloilo. It appears that the American forces had arrived too late on the scene, and that the insurgents had added to the difficulty of the problems already presented by holding their flag over the city, which they have been besieging for months. The news was contained in the following message from General Otis:

"Manila, Dec. 27, 1898.—Adjutant-General, Washington: Sent Colonel Potter on fast vessel to Iloilo on 24th to communicate with Spanish General Blos; later evacuated on 24th, and Potter, 39 hours late; insurgents took possession of city on 26th, and Potter found Aguinaldo's flag flying. Cannot now report probable results; will not hear from there for four days, as no cable communications. Spanish forces have evacuated all stations in southern islands except Zamboanga, Mindanao, by orders, as they say, from Madrid. Orms."

May Raise the Issue at Once.

The evacuation by the Spaniards of all the Philippine ports, and, as reported by General Otis, although doubtless inspired by a desire to secure their safety by concentration, has undoubtedly done much to complicate the problem already presented by the War Department of extending the military jurisdiction of the United States over the islands.

It will now be necessary to greatly expedite the execution of the original plans, and it may fully be expected that within two or three days important events will have happened in the Philippines.

Official Instructions.

It is stated on authority that the President has instructed General Otis and Admiral Dewey that the authority of the United States is to be maintained at all hazards in the Philippines, although everything peaceably is to be done to induce the insurgents to recognize the supremacy of this country and lay down their arms. These instructions will cover the case of the insurgents who have captured Iloilo. Acting under the President's orders, it is believed by members of the Administration that the representatives of General Otis will have the American forces march into the city and take charge in the name of the United States. If the insurgents offer opposition they will be held to account without loss of time.

KILLED HER TWIN CHILDREN.

Young Ohio Girl Commits Murder, Her Mother and Sister Abetting.

Portsmouth, Ohio, (Special).—Two weeks ago two human bodies were found under an old stump in a hollow near this city. The remains were those of children, and the matter was kept secret. The coroner was informed, and found a verdict charging Miss Rachel Glenn, a girl of twenty, with the wilful murder of her twin children, and that her mother and sister Sarah aided and abetted in the crime.

The Glens are prominent farmers. The three women will be arrested at once. The murdered children were about six months old.

Stuck His Head In The Stove.

Chicago, Ill., (Special).—Louis Stack, of 1904 North Marshfield avenue, chose a horrible method to end his life. He lifted a lid from the stove and held his head against the glowing coils until he was burned so severely that he was rendered unconscious. A few minutes later he was found by his wife, and eight hours later he died without regaining consciousness.

A Practical Joke Frowned Fatal.

Riverhead, L. I., (Special).—The village blacksmith at this place is the victim of a fatal practical joke. Karl Kindler, the blacksmith, an old man, lived alone in rooms adjoining his shop, and on Friday evening someone stuffed the chimney hole full of rags so that the draught was completely cut off. Next morning Kindler was found unconscious and died soon after. The coroner has not yet found the joker.

Large Cargo of Opium.

San Francisco, Cal., (Special).—The steamer China, just arrived from the Orient, carried the largest consignment of opium ever entered at this port. There were 600 cases of the drug, valued at \$500,000. The total weight of the opium is 27,000 pounds, and the duty on it amounts to \$162,000 at \$6 a pound.

Prize Steamer Released.

Charleston, S. C., (Special).—Judge Bramley issued an order for the release of the Campaigner General Trans-Atlantic steamer Olinde Rodriguez, captured off San Juan July 17 last, by the cruiser New Orleans.

SENATOR MORRILL DEAD.

Succumbs to an Attack of Pneumonia—Service in Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Senator Justin Smith Morrill, of Vermont, died at 1.25 A. M. Tuesday from pneumonia, following an attack of grip. Mr. Morrill was in his eighty-ninth year, and preserved his mental vigor to the last.

In the death of Mr. Morrill the Senate lost its senior member in point of service and its oldest in age. He had served continuously in the Senate for more than thirty-one years, and he was eighty-eight years old on April 14 last. With the single exception of Hon. Galusha Groves, of the House of Representatives, he was the only man in Congress whose congressional career began prior to the beginning of the civil war, and he had the honor over Mr. Groves in that his congressional service had been continuous, covering in the Senate and House combined almost forty-four years.

Mr. Morrill was a native of Vermont and was first elected a member of the House from that State as a member of the Thirty-fourth Congress, taking his seat at the first assembling of that body after March 4, 1855. He was re-elected to the Thirty-fifth, Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh, Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth Congresses, and was in 1867 elected to the Senate to succeed Hon. Luke P. Poland. He had held his seat in the Senate since that date without interruption, having been elected six times successively.

Previous to entering Congress Mr. Morrill had been engaged in mercantile and agricultural pursuits, and much of his public life has been devoted to the uplifting of the masses dependent upon those lines of business. He had received in his youth an academic education and was from his early days a close student of public affairs.

At the beginning of the civil war Mr. Morrill's practical business training brought him forward as a man of national reputation. He was the author of the Morrill tariff act of 1861, which was the basis of all the tariff legislation of war times. In 1864 he became chairman of the committee on ways and means, the principal committee of the House, and that critical time of special importance.

After entering the Senate Mr. Morrill continued to give his attention largely to financial and commercial questions, and during the greater part of his term of service he was a member of the committee on finance, which committee deals especially with these subjects. He first became chairman of this committee in 1877, succeeding Senator Sherman when the latter entered the cabinet of President Hayes, and he held this position until his death. He was elected during the Forty-sixth and Fifty-third Congresses, when the democratic party controlled the Senate, and during those intervals he continued at the head of the republican representation on the committee.

In recent years he delegated the greater share of the details of the committee work to the younger members of the committee, but there had been few times when he was not a regular attendant upon the committee meetings, and many instances are related of his surprising activity in directing the affairs of the committee up to the last. He had at his command a wealth of information concerning the tariff and financial questions.

Mr. Morrill was the real father of the scheme for the construction of a building for the Congressional Library, and to him and Senator Voorhees, who early joined him in pressing this question upon Congress, is the splendid library building a monument. Very near to his heart also was the plan for the erection of a building for the United States Supreme Court. He had been pressing a measure looking to the construction of such a building for many years and had on three different occasions prevailed upon the Senate to pass his bill for this purpose.

His last appearance in the Senate was on the 19th instant, when he made a speech of half an hour's duration in advocacy of the Supreme Court building bill. He then prevailed upon the Senate to pass the bill in the face of some opposition.

Senator Morrill probably more than any one else was the present splendid endowment of most of the State agricultural colleges due. He was the author of the original bill giving aid to these colleges from the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and he had never refused them the encouragement of his assistance.

Senator Morrill opposed the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands to the last, and he was understood to be averse to the exercise of any sort of American sovereignty over the Philippines. He was an indefatigable worker, and, while not an orator, spoke gracefully and forcibly. His great age and high position caused him to be universally esteemed by the other members of the Senate.

CASHIER SHOT PRESIDENT.

Arrest Made in a Case that Has Puzzled Salt Lake People.

Salt Lake, Utah, (Special).—The mystery surrounding the shooting of ex-Banker J. M. Stout, two weeks ago, has been nearly cleared up. Cashier Johns, of the Utah National Bank, was arrested on the charge of doing the shooting and his hearing continued until Stout sufficiently recovers to appear in court.

At the instance of United States Commissioner Twomey, a warrant was sworn out to arrest Stout on the charge of having presented to the bank examiner certain false entries on the books, while President of the Utah National Bank, and for unlawfully misapplying the funds of the bank.

ENGINE BUILT IN A DAY.

Actual Time Consumed Was But Twenty-one Hours, Thirty Minutes.

Altoona, Pa. (Special).—All records for fast engine building was broken in the machine shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in this city by workmen under Foreman Amos Davis. At 1.30 o'clock Tuesday morning an engine was ordered, and at noon Thursday the engine was complete and ready to be taken into the roundhouse.

CABLE SPARKS.

It is reported near Devil's Island, where the prison of Captain Dreyfus is situated, that Dreyfus has been removed to Paris on a convict transport.

King Humbert, of Italy, has signed a decree reducing the punishment of rioters who took part in disturbances last spring.

Racial differences in the Transvaal have suddenly become more intense and there is serious talk of war with England.

Max Regis, mayor of Algiers, fought a duel with M. Leprie, of Puteaux, France. Neither was much injured.

Mme. Paulmier was sentenced in Paris to pay \$3,000 damages to M. Oliver, one of the editors of La Lanterne, for attacking him.

It is said that an international conference based upon the Czar's disarmament proposal, will meet at St. Petersburg next May.

The battleships Oregon and Iowa arrived at Callao, Peru.

The Toronto World openly announces a fear that the next move of the United States expansionists will be in the direction of Canada.

KILLED SIX PEOPLE.

James Dunham Slew Wife, Relatives, and Two Others.

BELIEVED TO BE CAUGHT

Reward of Eleven Thousand Dollars for His Capture—Known by a Number of Aliases—Strangled His Wife, Braised Her Mother and a Servant with an Ax; Shot Her Brother and Steppather.

Columbus, Ohio, (Special).—There is no under arrest in this city a man whom the police have strong reason to believe is James C. Dunham, for whom there is a reward of \$11,000 offered, dead or alive, at San Jose, Cal. He was picked up here by Detective Louis Wolf, of the local force, as a suspicious character, he having offered a lot of goods for sale at about 20 per cent. of the actual value.

He gave the name of Harry Wilson when arrested, but in court he said his right name was Harry Church, and that he was born in Sacramento, Cal., from which point he started out two years ago. At different places here before his arrest he gave the names of H. V. Morris, E. H. Ross, Harry Lewis, and Harry Howard. He has been in this city for about a month, all the time under surveillance.

Mrs. Church is here in the city, but she says she knows very little about her husband, having met him but about two years ago, and does not even know his business. They were married in Illinois.

The crime for which Dunham, whom Church is suspected of being, is wanted, was a most atrocious one. At a lonely farmhouse, between San Jose and Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, Cal., on the night of Tuesday, May 26, 1898, James C. Dunham slew all the occupants of the residence save one, his baby boy. His wife, her mother, her stepfather, her brother, a man and maid servant were sacrificed. They were all members of the family of R. P. McGilney.

Terrificly enraged, Dunham came to his wife in the night and gave her a chance to write a message to those whom she believed would be spared. Then his fingers fastened around her throat, and the woman was strangled. Next Minnie Schesler, a servant, was slain, her skull being cleft with an ax. Mrs. McGilney shared her fate.

The three murdered men were at Campbell when the women were killed. Col. McGilney came first. As he opened the door he was met by a bullet. He turned to seek safety in flight, and James K. Wells, his stepson, rushed to his assistance. Wells was shot through the heart and instantly killed. Jumping over his body, Dunham pursued the older man. He caught him at a near-by cabin and ended his misery.

Robert A. Brisco, who sheltered McGilney, was also shot to death. Dunham escaped, despite strenuous efforts to capture him. There is a difference of opinion among those who have seen Church, regarding his resemblance to Dunham, the California murderer. At first glance there is a strong likeness between Church and the photograph of Dunham in the possession of the police. This was first noticed by one of the detectives, whose curiosity had been aroused by the air of mystery that seemed to hang over the prisoner.

Church was shown the picture in the possession of the police, and at a first glance said: "Way that looks like Texas Jack." When questioned more closely about Texas Jack he was unable to give a very good account of him, but simply said he knew him as a circus hand. The smile which played about his mouth when looking at the picture was a peculiar one, and further excited the suspicions of the officers.

Chief of Police Kelly is of the opinion that the prisoner is not Dunham for the reason, chiefly, that the picture of Dunham shows him to have a square jaw, while that of Church is somewhat pointed. In the absence of a more minute description of Dunham he does not undertake to say, positively, however, that the prisoner is not the California murderer. A photograph of Church will be forwarded, with a description, to San Jose, Cal.

MISS MERCEDES GARCIA DEAD.

Remains to be Taken to Cuba With Those of Her Father.

Thomasville, Ga., (Special).—Miss Mercedes Garcia, daughter of Gen. Calisto Garcia, died at 5 o'clock Tuesday evening, at the Maury Hotel. The young lady, with the rest of the Garcia family, arrived here two weeks ago, and suffering from a severe lung trouble, has been confined to her room ever since, steadily growing worse, until the end came, not unexpectedly. So serious has been her condition ever since the arrival of the family that it was deemed best to withhold from her the news of her father's death, so she died in ignorance of this sorrowful event. Col. Carlos Garcia, her brother, arrived Monday from Washington.

The body is to be carried back to Havana at the same time that the General's remains leave this country, and it is probable they will go on the same warship, the use of which has been tendered by President McKinley. The body has been embalmed, and will be interred here until the final arrangements have been perfected. The stricken family are receiving sympathetic attentions from all of the guests of the hostelry.

CAPT. TOBIN COMMITS SUICIDE.

Fired a Bullet Into His Mouth, Penetrating Spinal Column.

Knoxville, Tenn., (Special).—Capt. John M. Tobin, until recently Quartermaster of the First Brigade of the Division at Camp Poland, committed suicide by firing a pistol ball into his mouth. The bullet passed through his spinal column killing him instantly. The deed was committed in Capt. Tobin's room in the Palace Hotel. He was missing and a search for him revealed his dead body, exposed on his bed. A blackened pistol in his hand told the story of the deed.

Capt. Tobin was formerly a Boston man, but he is believed to have come here from Washington. His relatives in Boston were advised of the suicide. He has been morbid for some time, presumably on account of his discharge from the volunteer army when it was being reorganized.

ALL FRANCHISES REVOKED.

Gen. Henry, However, Reconsiders His Order Because of Legal Questions.

San Juan, (By Cable).—Gen. Guy V. Henry, the American military commander here, has ordered the revocation of all the concessions and franchises heretofore granted by the Spanish authorities, supplementing the order of the War Department, prohibiting the granting of a new franchise.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The latest theory is that all death is suicide; that a man who takes care of his health can live as long as he desires.

There is in France a certain resentment of American agricultural competition, though this is by no means so extensive or so active as in Germany.

Airships seldom come to that point where they have wings, much less use them. This is due to the money invested in them generally taking wings first.

At present four-fifths of New York's inhabitants are of foreign birth or parentage and hardly a tenth are of the Revolutionary American stock. It is not surprising, therefore, that there is at this moment no typical New Yorker.

It is seriously proposed in a London newspaper that a man should take a wife on the same principle as he engages a house—for three, five or seven years, renewable at the husband's pleasure. This idea was once discussed in Parliament.

Bellamy Storer, counsel at Brussels, believes that the rate of progress in the Congo Free State is faster than that in any other part of the world. Its commerce has increased more than 300 per cent. in three years, and railways now under construction will give a much larger growth.

"It is not often," says The Springfield Republican, "that we have a chance to repay Greece for the debt we owe to Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides, but 'Charley's Aunt' has just been translated for the benefit of the Athenian public, which is getting a little tired of 'Prometheus Bound' and 'Antigone.'"

It was from France that England snatched Canada, India, Egypt, and the command of the sea. A new Clive of Africa is to-day building an empire which, many think, may rival India itself, while at Fashoda an expedition conceived to solace French pride has resulted in a fresh and incurable wound upon Gallic susceptibilities.

"New York," says The Baltimore American, "is the greatest money centre in the world. It controls more cash, directs more undertakings and amounts to more in the sum and activity of human progress than any other place in the entire world at any time of the world's history. Baltimore extends to her big neighbor the compliments of the season, and may her greatness continue to grow."

We find in Chambers' Encyclopedia the following brief and interesting biography: "Menes, the first king of the first Egyptian dynasty, who built Memphis, made foreign conquests, introduced luxury and was subsequently devalued by a hippopotamus." That is what man gets for setting a bad example. If Menes had never introduced luxury the hippopotamus might have been satisfied with simpler food.

Mr. Roebling, the engineer who finished the New York and Brooklyn Bridge in accordance with the plans of his father, its former designer, has given a solemn warning to the authorities that it is at present overloaded and overstrained. He says the cables themselves will never give way, but he intimates that they may be pulled out of the anchorage by excessive loads. That would mean fearful disaster of course.

A law has just been promulgated in St. Petersburg, Russia, for the establishment of a Hebrew agrarian colony on the estate of Baron Horace Gensburg, at Dshenan Abadin Bessarabia. The estate which covers an area of about 1,250 acres, has been parcelled out for the settlement of Jews engaged in agricultural pursuits, the settlers being exempted from the payment of taxes during the first four years of their residence.

In many parts of the Tonquin are colonies of natives who have been converted to Roman Catholicism. The missionaries are said to have taught them Latin, that they may be able to read their prayerbooks and follow the mass and other services. The consequences is that French functionaries who are unable to speak the native tongue, but are sufficiently acquainted with Latin, hold converse with the natives in the language of Cicero—a sufficiently curious spectacle.

In each of the last seven decades the average yield of wheat per acre in France has shown an increase over that of any former years, and it is now probably higher than in any other country. Such a fact indicates the secret of France's enormous wealth and prosperity, despite all the losses she has sustained and all the burdens imposed upon her in recent years. If the land of the United States were as carefully tilled as that of France, it would produce enough to feed the whole world, and to spare.

Official figures just to hand show that the population of every European country goes on increasing rapidly; and that during the past ten years this increase has been at the rate of nearly ten per cent. The means of maintaining the people are not increasing in like ratio. At the beginning of the present century the population of Europe was put by Levasseur at 155,000,000. In 1830 it was 220,000,000. In 1860 it was 290,000,000, and in 1890 it was 350,000,000. It is now 380,000,000 and the continuance of the present rate of increase will make it 435,000,000 in 1900, ten per cent. increase over what it was in 1890.

Cyprus has been twenty years under British rule, and has in that time enjoyed the only wholesome and rational administration it has known. There are only about a hundred English

officials all told, but they have re-created the political conditions of the island, which of old were abominable, and it is now peaceful, orderly and prosperous. Taxes have been lightened, and are collected by a rational and not at all oppressive system; every industry has been encouraged and improved, and a complete organization of public schools has been formed and put in operation. England has done there what she has done wherever her colonial authority has extended. That is, she has introduced good government in the place of bad, improving thus the manners, morals and material condition of the people, with injury to none and benefit to the world at large as well as to the communities under her rule and guardianship. She has cut out a handsome pattern for us to follow, and after a little practice we shall no doubt be able to equal our exemplar, says the New York Tribune.

When the British have pushed on from Fashoda to Albert Nyanza, as they are now doing and will completely do in a few weeks, there will be open a continuous line of communication from Alexandria to Cape Town, lengthwise of the African Continent. Open a strictly modern map of Africa and compare it with a map in the school geographies of forty years ago. Nearly a half of the continent was then a blank space with "Unknown Regions" printed across it. Then see what this generation has done. One may go by steamer and rail from Alexandria to Omdurman; thence by steamer to Albert Nyanza; by road to Victoria Nyanza; by steamer across the latter lake; by road to Lake Tanganyika; by steamer down that lake; by road to Lake Nyassa; by steamer down that lake and the Upper Shire River; by road around Murchison Falls to the Lower Shire River; by steamer down the Lower Shire and up the Zambesi to Sena; by road to Fort Salisbury; by post-coach to Bulawayo; and by railroad to Cape Town. The distance is about six thousand two hundred and fifty miles, and it can be traversed in eighty-five days. Thus the dream of a railroad from the Cape to the Delta makes progress toward realization.

In an interesting report just issued by the British Foreign Office, Mr. Powell, British Consul at Stettin, has a paper on commercial education in Germany, in which some original ideas are set forth. He says that it is quite true that the Germans are wide awake to the necessity of commercial education in competition with other trading nations and that the study of modern languages is being fostered and encouraged all over the country. In Great Britain it is believed that the great success of German industry since 1873, and especially in the last decade, is due to the superiority of commercial and technical education in Germany; but this, he says, is not the view of those best able to judge by close acquaintance with the facts on the spot. They attribute it to the high state of general education that Germany has enjoyed for many years rather than to the superiority of commercial education. Mr. Powell thinks that the commercial success of the Germans is the cause rather than the effect of the wonderful strides lately made by them in commercial education, for the growth of their trade has aroused imperial, municipal, and educational authorities to a sense of the value of this kind of training for a commercial people.

An increase of insanity and death in the penal institutions of Pennsylvania is the result, according to the Pittsburgh Dispatch, of less than a year's trial of the convict labor law, which forbids the employment of prisoners at anything which will compete with the product of outside labor, and prevents the use of machinery in the prison. It has not been possible to find work for all the prisoners under the restrictions of the law, and the physical and mental condition of those confined in their cells has rapidly deteriorated. In the Riverside penitentiary, the Dispatch says, "the hospital list has swelled to a greater number than ever known before, the death list was greater, there never was a meeting of the prison board without application being made for the transfer of some unfortunate to the insane asylum," and "in order to prevent suicides by the wholesale it was necessary to keep a large number of men who were not allowed to work under the closest surveillance constantly." As a partial remedy, the warden is using one of the abandoned workshops as a recreation room. Unemployed convicts in squads of thirty-two, are daily allowed two hours in this room, during which time they may walk or read. When first permitted in this room, after a long period of confinement, many of the convicts, although robust when they entered the prison, are unable, because of physical weakness, to make the circuit of the room more than twice, a distance of less than one-tenth of a mile.

Molding Marble.

Professors Adams and Nicholson of the McGill university, Montreal, Canada, have discovered that marble can be pressed into a desired form without crumbling or losing its solidity if sufficient pressure is used. Heavy wrought-iron tubes were used in making the experiments that resulted in the discovery. The marble was fitted tightly into the tubes and the ends carefully plugged with steel ingots. By means of machines that could continue the pressure for weeks at a time the plugs were gradually forced against the marble, causing it to bulge and distend in the center of the iron castings. When the castings were cut away the marble was found to have not crumbled and to retain the new form imparted to it.