

INAUGURAL BALL.

Floral Designs and Bunting Draperies For the Event. Eleven Car Loads of Flowers and Exotics Needed.

The floral decorations which have been designed for the inaugural ball at Washington promise to be more plentiful and elaborate than those of any entertainment ever given in this country.

The ball will be given in the now entirely completed Pension Building in the patio or inner court, which is probably the most spacious in the world, being 1306 by 450 feet.

About the upper gallery are ranged terracotta vases, in which will be placed rare palms. The 300 columns supporting the gallery will be draped with garlands of laurels and carnations.

Over each panel will be the name of the department it symbolizes and a quill of flowers.

In the center of the tessellated pavement springs a fountain. It will be covered by a Japanese pagoda sixty feet high and two stories in height.

Mr. Neal, the New York florist, to whom has been awarded the contract for all these decorations, says they will cost about \$7000, and it will require at least eleven carloads of flowers to carry out his very elaborate designs.

THE LABOR WORLD.

TACK machines make 275 per minute. The coopers are to form a National Trade Union.

PHILADELPHIA'S working people are contented and prosperous. NEW YORK has a \$600,000 order from South America for locomotives.

THE Lehigh Valley Railroad has ceased almost entirely the use of soft coal. THIRTEEN cotton mills in and around Augusta, Ga., employ 4300 persons.

THE boot and shoe makers produce an average of five pairs daily per operator. ABOUT 150,000 carbons are burned daily in the electric lights used in the United States.

THE Order of Railway Telegraphers is exclusively beneficial, and imposes expulsion upon any member participating in a strike. AN iron factory in Buffalo, N. Y., which has been shut down for over twelve years, will soon start up with a force of two hundred men.

THE Chinese are getting lamp chimneys from the United States. A Pittsburgh firm recently shipped to China 1000 boxes of them, or 6000 dozen.

LATER NEWS.

THE oldest oak tree in America, said to be 2000 years old, at Woodbridge, Conn., is being cut up into chairs.

MAJOR-GENERAL CHARLES P. HERRING, a Union war veteran, died in Philadelphia, in the 60th year of his age.

EDWARD J. ANDERSON, an old New York lawyer of some prominence, blew his brains out at the Putnam House in New York city.

A MANUFACTURER of safes in Boston has received an order for a safe for a Philadelphia bank. It will cost \$100,000, and will be the largest and heaviest safe ever constructed.

SUPERVISOR WILLIAM HOWELLS and Assistant Supervisor Cox, of Division C, Pennsylvania Railroad, were arrested in New York city charged with stealing \$12,000 worth of property from the company.

ONE HUNDRED persons have been indicted by the Grand Jury at Parkersburg, W. Va., for illegal voting, bribery and intimidation during the recent election.

ADAM BERKELES, who was flogged by White Caps near Sardinia, Ohio, last November, has brought suit against sixteen citizens of Brown County, for \$10,000 damages.

GENERAL W. D. WASHBURN succeeds Senator Sabin to the United States Senate from Minnesota.

THEY have been enjoying a cold wave in the Northwest. At Neche, Dakota, the thermometer registered forty-two degrees below zero; at Morris, Minn., it was thirty degrees below.

A MEMORIAL to the President and Congress of the United States has been adopted by the New Mexico Legislative Assembly by a unanimous vote, praying for the admission of the Territory to the Union of States.

THE collection of internal revenue for the first six months of the current fiscal year were \$63,312,565, an increase of \$863,957 over the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

THE President has vetoed four private pension bills. THE men-of-war Vandalla and Mononga hela have been ordered by the Secretary of the Navy at once to Samoa, as the condition of affairs there is said to be critical.

THE fund to pay the expenses of Mr. Farnell in his litigation with the London Times amounts to more than \$150,000. PORTIONS of Scotland have been visited by an earthquake.

TWO men were blown to atoms by an explosion of dynamite at Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada. A YOUNG woman and man from Lyons were found dead in a room in a hotel at Monte Carlo.

A PORTION of the Imperial Palace at Peking, China, has been burned down. AN explosion of fire damp occurred in the Hyde Colliery near Manchester, England.

BEFORE help could reach her, Mrs. Anne Sullivan was burned to a crisp in her residence at Haverstraw, N. Y. ISAAC BELL, JR., ex-Minister Resident to the Netherlands for the United States, recently died in St. Luke's Hospital, New York city.

MRS. MARY J. HALE, a lady aged sixty years, was killed at Riga, N. Y., by Chris. Burger, a boy aged sixteen years. The murderer killed his victim with a boot, pounding her head and face to pulp, breaking the frontal bones of the skull and crushing the nose and forehead.

WORK OF THE WIRES.

Some Notable Happenings Transmitted by Telegraph.

A Bill to Admit Five New States Passes the House.

THE House has passed the bill for the admission of North and South Dakota, Montana, Washington and New Mexico, by a vote of 144 yeas to 68 nays.

It provides, in brief, for the admission of two new States, South Dakota and Montana, and that North Dakota, Washington, and New Mexico may be admitted after they have formed and adopted State Constitutions, and whenever Congress shall have passed special acts in their behalf.

THE main provisions of the measure are as follows: South Dakota is to be admitted as a single State, and is to be entitled to two Representatives in Congress, and is to be admitted into the Union upon proclamation by the President.

THE Territories of New Mexico and Washington are authorized to elect delegates and hold constitutional conventions and frame and adopt constitutions, and the fledgling States are to be kept out of the Union until Congress by special acts shall open the door and admit them.

THE number of leading Republican ex-soldiers, members of the G. A. R. and Union Veteran Union, have organized themselves at Bloomington, Ill., into Camp No. 1 of a new organization, to be known as the Republican Soldiers' League of the United States.

His Wife Was Petrified. A remarkable case of what is alleged to be petrification has just come to light.

A Relic of the Revolution. The old blast furnace at the Oxford Iron Works, Oxford, N. J., is being torn down to give way to modern improvements.

New Panama Canal Company. The Banque Parisienne has assumed the entire cost of the issue and constitution of the new Panama Canal Company.

A PALACE AFIRE. Enormous Loss by the Burning of the Chinese Emperor's Home.

MISSIONARIES KILLED. Tragic Scene at a German Station in East Africa.

SIGHTS IN COREA.

STRANGE SCENES IN A FAR AWAY COUNTRY.

An Extra Horse Required to Carry Your "Cash"—Corean Women—The Wonders of Seoul—Fat Corean Child.

PEAKING of Coreas and the Coreans, Frank G. Carpenter says in one of his entertaining letters:

The unit of money is the copper or brass coin known as the "cash," of which it takes more than 1000 to make a Mexican dollar worth here seventy-five cents.

Considering the poverty of Corea one might suppose that the foreigners here had a hard life. This is far from the case. They have comfortable homes at Seoul, and their provisions, which come in large part from China, are plenty and good.

Speaking of the Corean baby-eating by the missionaries, the King in this case sent out a proclamation asking any one who had known of babies being stolen by foreigners to come forth and make his charge good.

Corean society is divided into three classes, the King, the nobles and the common people. The latter live in thatched huts and they are the poorest of the poor.

There is now one big American firm in Corea, and here at Seoul the foreign colony, which is made up of three or four scores of bright men and women, is almost altogether American.

Corea and who possess the confidence of the native merchants, Corea does a large part of its buying through its merchant guild and in this way large sales are made at one time.

Corean stores are of the size of a large drygoods box. They are arranged around narrow courts with a little platform two feet wide running around their outside and forming a sort of shelf two feet high, going entirely around the court.

None of the shops of Seoul are, however, large, and the trade of this capital of 300,000 people is made up of what the Yankees would call a whittling business. The loudest-mouthed and most enterprising persons in the whole city seem to be the venders of roasted chestnuts.

The roofs of the country huts are now covered with red peppers, and I see them sold by the bushel in the markets near the wide street of the bell. The Coreans may use them as appetizers. They have, it seems, an ever-present craving for food, and make their stomachs ache their god. To eat, to smoke, to sleep and to squat is, to all outward appearances, the chief employments of the people, and to be fat in Corea is a sign of wealth.

Corean ladies have a place in the back of the house to themselves. Fashion in dress does not change with them and their lives are those of almost perfect desolation. Those you see on the street are the common women, or servants, and these have green gowns over their heads and their dresses, which, I am told, are cut after the same style as those of the ladies, and consist of a short skirt with a waistband about a foot wide.

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side, and widows among the better class do not marry again. The only women who have the right to be seen by men outside their own families are the dancing girls, and these are much like the Geishas of Japan.

The Wonderful Forage Plant of California. Many people, whose only acquaintance with alfalfa is through the medium of the newspapers, are a little skeptical as to many of the claims made for that wonderful forage plant.

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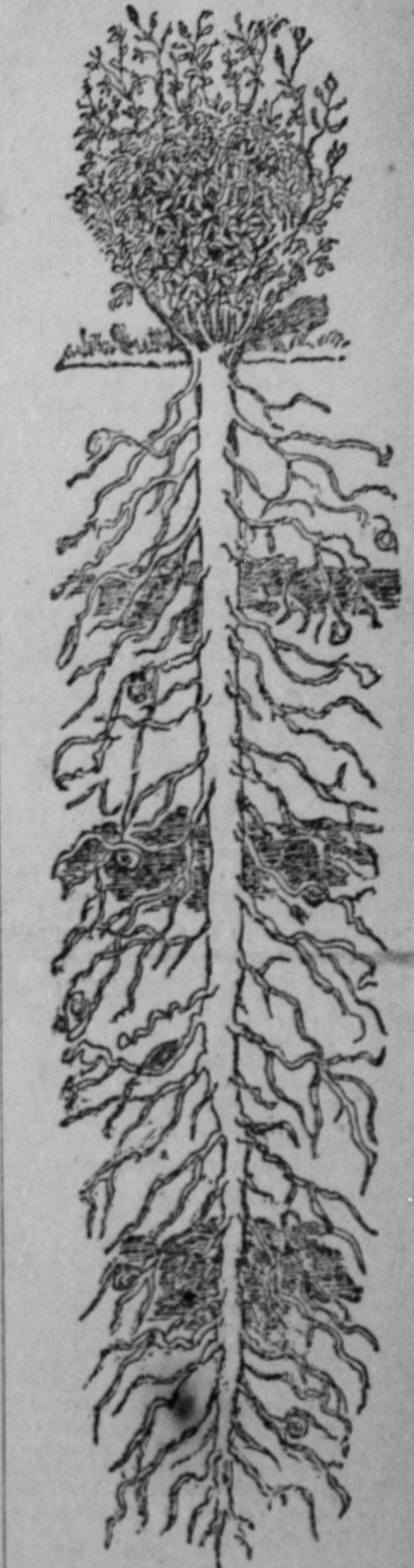
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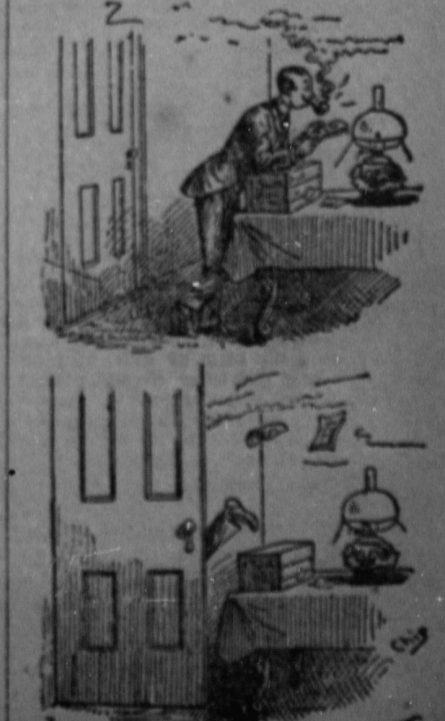
A MAID OF THE QUEEN.



explain to some extent the relation which the roots of the alfalfa sustain to the plant above ground. The proportion is certainly remarkable, but, after all, it is rather under than over the truth.

Part of a Letter.

DEAR JACK: Knowing what an ardent sportsman you are, old fellow, I send a box of very fine gunpowder, extra powerful. Be careful about smok—



Typical Corean Women.