

SWEPT BY A GALE.

Terrific Storms Throughout Virginia and Maryland.

The United States Ship Pensacola Sunk at Norfolk.

A dispatch from Norfolk, Va., says: Thunder and lightning, hail and snow and a howling gale were what the people in this vicinity were treated to the other day. This continued all day and changed at 10 o'clock at night to a regular cyclone, the wind blowing upward of fifty-four miles an hour until 5 o'clock that morning.

The United States ship Pensacola sank in drydock, where she was being prepared for sea. Her sea valves had been opened for inspection and another valve was being got out. The tide flooded the dock and she filled with water, and getting off her keel, sank before she could be got in position again.

The lower part of the city was flooded by the tide, and fire broke out on Water street, caused by sticking lime on the wharf of John O. Gammon & Co. The entire block, with the exception of Savage, Son & Co.'s, commission merchants, was in flames.

The loss on buildings and stock destroyed in this block is estimated at \$150,000, partly insured. It is probable that the losses sustained by the wholesale grocery merchants from the water forced into their warehouses by the unprecedented tide will nearly equal this amount.

In Portsmouth fire destroyed the line and lumber yard of Truitt & Hill. The wire along the coast were all down. The snowstorm began at Charlottesville, Va., early in the morning and continued through the night.

The worst storm of the season prevailed at Richmond, Va. It commenced with thunder and lightning and was followed by rain, hail and snow, augmented by high wind.

A furious snowstorm and blizzard prevailed at Winchester, Va., all day, snow falling to the depth of fourteen inches, as much as has fallen during the entire winter. At 10:30 o'clock, while the snow was falling rapidly, a loud clap of thunder from southeast startled the citizens.

The storm in Washington badly interrupted electrical communication and workmen were busy all day repairing damaged telegraph and telephone wires. There are 284 poles down between Alexandria and Fredericksburg, Va.

The fire which recently swept a number of business houses and dwellings at Savannah, Ga., out of existence, was the most extensive in the history of the city. The loss is undoubtedly over \$1,500,000.

The fire broke out during the evening and rapidly assumed proportions of a conflagration. The local fire department was inadequate to cope with the flames, and the Mayor of Atlanta was asked by telegraph to send all the firemen he could spare.

FIRE IN SAVANNAH.

Fifty Buildings Burned, Causing a Loss of \$1,500,000.

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THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

Sir Charles Russell Makes His Opening Speech for the Defense.

The Parnell Commission resumed its sitting in London. Sir Charles Russell opened the case for the Parnells. He declared that the testimony of the 319 witnesses produced by Attorney-General Webster, leading counsel for the Times, was irrelevant.

A NEWSPAPER trust is being organized in England. Newspaper men are ordering supplies from abroad. The Chinese are getting ready to build 650 miles of railroad, 371 locomotives, 150 coaches and 650 cars.

A MEAT syndicate, to be known as the American Meat Company, has been organized in Philadelphia with a capital of \$25,000,000.

WHEN a man feels rocky in the morning he naturally drinks mineral water.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

KING JOHN OF Abyssinia is dead. THE Pope is a very fine chess player. SECRETARY WINDOM is worth \$5,000,000. SENATOR STANFORD is worth \$40,000,000. P. T. BARNUM began poor and has now \$5,000,000.

EMPEROR FRANZ JOSEF is to visit Berlin about the middle of August. THE Empress of Japan has abandoned her intention of visiting this country.

THE Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to dine with Mrs. Bonanza MacLay. MURAT HALSTEAD, editor of the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette, is a sufferer from erysipelas.

MRS. AMELIA RIVES-CHAMPLER, the authoress, is just twenty-six years old, having been born in 1863. RISMARCK looks pale and haggard and has grown ten years older in appearance in the last twelve months.

THE Emperor of Austria has given orders that his dead son's name shall never again be spoken in his hearing.

THE late John Bright had on the walls of his study a portrait of Gladstone, one of Lincoln and one of Washington.

STONEYWALL JACKSON'S widow is now living in Randolph County, N. C., with her father, who is ninety-one years of age.

KING ALEXANDER, of Serbia, is a tall, well-built boy, but awkward and shy. He takes much interest in natural sciences.

ADMIRAL KIMBERLY, who is in command of our Pacific squadron, is fifty-nine years of age, six feet in height, well proportioned, and quick in all his movements.

THE family of Assistant Postmaster-General Clarkson is composed of five persons—himself, Mrs. Clarkson and three sons. The eldest son is eighteen years of age and the youngest six.

THE will of the late John Scott, of Pittsburgh, President of the Allegheny Valley Railway, leaves nothing to his wife, while his three sons get only \$1 each. The estate is valued at \$300,000.

MISS CLARA HUNTINGTON, the daughter of the railway magnate, has \$4,000,000 of her own, and will inherit four or five times as much. She is about twenty-three years old and goes but little into society.

WARD McALLISTER, the famed leader of the Four Hundred Aristocrats of Gotham, is close on to sixty years of age. He is a tall, well-built man, with a brown mustache and goatee, slightly streaked with gray.

ONE of the closest students of the Indian parade and one of the best informed persons in the country in matters relating to the Indians is Miss Kate Drexler, of Philadelphia. The Indian in her hobby, and she is said to give \$100,000 a year out of her own income to the Indian department at Washington.

CHANG FAY MOAR, the interpreter at the Chinese Legation at Washington, is described as a gigantic blonde Chinese man, with a profile as regular as a Greek statue. He comes from the north of China, where, owing to the severity of the climatic laws, the race is kept intact as to its unusual size and peculiar attributes.

MRS. ELA CLYMER, the new President of Sorosis, is said to be the handsomest member of that highly intellectual organization of women in New York. She has a sweet, Madonna-like face, big dark eyes, and a soft, low voice. Mrs. Clymer is a widow, who has left a large fortune by her husband. She possesses exquisite taste in dress, and is, in fact, an ideal President.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

RUSSIA has 128 vessels. AN ice trust is the latest. FLORIDA has fresh pineapples. PROFOUND peace reigns in Samoa.

In America there are 500,000 Jews. LOUISVILLE is to have natural gas. FROGS' legs cost fifty cents a pound. BOSTON eats fifty tons of candy a day. CHICAGO receipts of hogs are increasing.

THE United States has ninety-eight vessels. EUROPEAN crop prospects continue favorable. The number of priests in this country is 8118.

MURDERS are decidedly on the increase in Paris. In Germany there are one million surplus women. A FOREIGN steel rail syndicate is being formed.

A STRONG current of emigration to Chile is noted. In all there are 7000 miles of pipelines in the world. LOUISIANA strawberries are in the New York market.

Cincinnati is paving its streets with Georgia granite. The zouave uniform is to be abandoned in the French army.

The brewery combination in this country has not succeeded. MAUD S., queen of the trotting turf, is now fifteen years of age.

THE annual production of mineral oil is 2000 million gallons. The Hesse, by its destroying the wheat crop in central Illinois.

GAS wells are being struck along the Rocky Mountains slope. FARMERS are paying high prices for a seed wheat in the Northwest.

A BOON is on in the City of Mexico and prices of real estate are high. ALL the election cases in Indiana have been quashed by Judge Woods.

It costs two cents per car mile to run electric cars in New York city. In five years there has been coined in gold \$168,775,000, silver \$263,952,000.

ONE THOUSAND locomotives and steamers are now operated by petroleum. ENGLISH and German bankers are gobbling up gold territory in South Africa.

No Russian liable to military service is permitted to leave that country yet. FLORIDA has sent 2,000,000 young orange trees to California since last September.

The Indiana Legislature refuses to allow natural gas to be piped out of the State. AN Australian experiment of shipping oranges to London proved very successful.

THERE will be about ninety vacancies this year at the United States Naval Academy. DURING the last seven years Atlanta, Ga., has put nearly \$1,000,000 in her streets and parks.

The Spiritualists of Boston recently celebrated the forty-first anniversary of modern spiritualism. NEARLY two hundred thousand barrels of apples are lying unsold in the northern part of New York.

ALABAMA got the first Postmaster appointed in the Southern States under the new administration. TROTTLING begins to be recognized in England. A track for it is to be established just out of Liverpool.

A NEWSPAPER trust is being organized in England. Newspaper men are ordering supplies from abroad. THE Chinese are getting ready to build 650 miles of railroad, 371 locomotives, 150 coaches and 650 cars.

A MEAT syndicate, to be known as the American Meat Company, has been organized in Philadelphia with a capital of \$25,000,000.

MR. KEELY, of motor fame, announces that he has found the missing link necessary to make the vibratory resonator and ethereal generative evaporator a success.

WHEN a man feels rocky in the morning he naturally drinks mineral water.

THE BIG CELEBRATION.

Completed Official Programme of the Exercises.

The following is the official programme of the Washington Centennial Celebration exercises at New York:

Wednesday, April 17.—Formal opening of the Loan Exhibition of Historical Portraits in the assembly room of the Metropolitan Opera House, at 8 p. m.

Monday, April 29.—Arrival of the President and Cabinet at 11 o'clock, A. M., at Elizabeth street, a large number of shipmasters from the Marine Society of New York, Captain Ambrose Snow, coxswain, will row the President ashore.

It will then be received by Chairman Wainwright at the Ferry slip foot of West Twenty-third street and proceed to Elizabeth street and there the Despatch and accompany her to the city. The steamer Sirius will also accompany the Despatch.

The line of United States war ships, yachts and steamboats will be formed in the upper bay and after saluting will follow in this order: 1. President; 2. Governors and Commissioners; 3. other guests. On arrival at Elizabeth street, a large number of shipmasters from the Marine Society of New York, Captain Ambrose Snow, coxswain, will row the President ashore.

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A REJECTED NOMINEE.

Murat Halstead, Whom the Senate Refused to Send to Germany.

Murat Halstead, nominated by President Harrison for Minister to Germany, and rejected by the Senate, is one of the best-known figures in American journalism.

He was born in North Carolina in 1839, but moved to Cincinnati with his parents in 1843. He began his life as an office-boy and then became a reporter. Later he entered Farmers' College, and continued to contribute to the newspapers.

Mr. Halstead has for many years been a force in Ohio Republican politics, although he has made some remarkable changes of opinion. He strongly criticized General Grant's course during the war and was opposed to the use of colored troops. He was one of the Liberal Republicans who supported Horace Greeley for the Presidency in 1872.

He was formerly an opponent of Mr. Blaine, but is now a warm friend of the Secretary of State. Six of the Republican Senators—Messrs. Quay, Teller, Ingalls, Plumb, Everts and Dawes—are understood to have voted against Mr. Halstead, and two Democrats—Messrs. Blackburn and Calmes—voted for him.

Eleven Republican Senators in all are said to have been ready to vote against him if more votes to reject had been required. The Republican opposition to Mr. Halstead was because of attacks upon Republican United States Senators which he had made in his paper a few years ago for refusing to investigate charges of bribery in connection with Senator Payne's election by the Ohio Legislature.

THE TEMPEST-TORN TAHITI. The Society Islands Swept by Hurricanes and Torrents.

The same hurricane which raged so disastrously over the Samoan Islands March 15 was felt with terrific force at Tahiti, where the island was swept by wind and flood, and thousands of lives were said to have been lost.

The waters poured over the level lands forming the outer portion of the island, and the capital city, Papeete, was entirely submerged in the torrent. Houses were carried away, the public buildings ruined and devastation was spread every where.

The interior of the island is mountainous. Some of the people managed to reach the high lands and thus escaped the flood; but the number who perished is far larger and was beyond calculation.

The level tracts of land in the island are fertile, and the chief dependence of the inhabitants for food has been upon the fruits and vegetables raised there. These crops were destroyed and the people who escaped the flood found themselves confronted by the danger of famine.

Tahiti is about 1500 miles from Samoa, in an east-south-east direction. It is thirty-two miles long, and the island is under French control. Its capital city, Papeete, has about a thousand inhabitants. The island of Tonga thirty miles perished and the storm did great damage.

ANNIHILATED HER FAMILY. A Despairing Mother Destroys Herself and Three Children.

Mrs. Margaret Klein and her three children were burned to death in their home at Milwaukee, Wis., early in the morning. The house is a small two-story frame building two doors from Walnut street, and Mrs. Klein, with her children, occupied the three rooms on the lower floor. Upstairs an old man named Lawrence Jung lived with his son and two daughters, and they were awakened about 3 o'clock by the smell of smoke which seemed to come from the room below.

The son got up and going outside saw smoke pouring from the lower rooms. He smashed in a window but got no response, and then turned in a fire alarm.

In the middle room on the lower floor, the doors of which had been tightly closed, the charred bodies of Mrs. Klein and two sons, John and George, aged six and four years respectively, were found. Later the body of the infant son Richard, aged two years, was found in the basement, a hole having burned through the floor, through which the body had fallen. There was every indication that the mother had deliberately burned herself and her children to death by building a fire beneath the bed in which they all slept. Mrs. Klein lost her husband about a year ago.

THE MARKETS. NEW YORK. Deers... 3 73 @ 5 15. Milk Cows, com. to good... 25 00 @ 45 00. Calves, common to prime... 5 00 @ 7 50. Sheep... 3 25 @ 3 50. Lamb... 4 00 @ 5 00. Hogs—Live... 5 25 @ 5 40. Dressed... 5 00 @ 5 25. Flour—City Mill Extra... 4 10 @ 4 75. Patents... 5 15 @ 6 40. Wheat—No. 2 Red... 87 1/2 @ 88. Rye—State... 57 @ 61. Barley—Two-rowed State... 73 @ 74. Corn—Ungraded Mixed... 41 @ 44. Oats—No. 1 White... 30 @ 33. Mixed Western... 80 @ 95. Hay—No. 1... 12 @ 15. Straw—Long Rye... 12 @ 15. Lard—City Steam... 12 @ 15. Butter—Main Creamery... 15 @ 20. Dairy Fat to Cook... 15 @ 22. West. Im. Creamery... 15 @ 20. Factory... 10 @ 16. Cheese—State Factory... 11 @ 11 1/2. Skims—Light... 9 1/2 @ 11. Eggs—State and Foreign... 11 1/2 @ 11 1/2. BUFFALO. Steers—Western... 2 80 @ 4 25. Sheep—Medium to Good... 4 50 @ 4 75. Lambs—Fair to Good... 4 50 @ 5 20. Hogs—Good to Choice... 4 10 @ 5 17 1/2. Flour—Family... 5 00 @ 5 25. Wheat—No. 2 Northern... 1 04 @ 1 04. Corn—No. 3 Yellow... 37 1/2 @ 38. Oats—No. 2 White... 30 1/2 @ 31. Barley—State... 65 @ 70. BOSTON. Flour—Spring Wheat pat. 6 70 @ 7 25. Corn—Steamer Yellow... 4 50 @ 4 75. Oats—No. 2 White... 31 @ 40. Rye—State... 65 @ 70. WASHINGTON (MARK) CATTLE MARKET. Beef—Dressed weight... 5 @ 6. Sheep—Live weight... 4 @ 6 1/2. Lamb... 4 @ 6 1/2. Hogs—Northern... 5 1/2 @ 6. PHILADELPHIA. Flour—Penn. Family... 4 50 @ 4 75. Wheat—No. 2 Red... 87 1/2 @ 88. Corn—No. 2 Mixed, Agric... 31 1/2 @ 34 1/2. Oats—Ungraded White... 30 @ 35 1/2. Potatoes—Early... 35 @ 45. Butter—Creamery Extra... 24 @ 24. Cheese—Part skims... 6 @ 8.

"BUTTER WEEK."

A FESTIVAL WHICH PRECEDES LENT IN RUSSIA.

A Time of Unrestrained Feasting and Frolic—Scenes at the "Balagan" or Carnival Fair.

The Russian festival of "Maslenitsa" (Butter Week) is always a time of riotous frolic and feasting, a time to eat as much butter as possible before the coming of Lent, on the principle of the sick man who, having long been debarred of salmon by his doctor, no sooner heard the doctor's reluctant admission that his case was hopeless than he shouted to his servant: "John, bring up some salmon, quick!" But its most characteristic feature is the "Balagan," or Carnival Fair, which, although common to all Russian towns alike, is seen to the best advantage on the Red Square at Moscow or the Admiralty Plain at St. Petersburg.

And now we enter an enormous amphitheatre, gay with staring pictures of terrific single combats and deadly battles, above which some very rheumatic red letters announce "A Thrilling Melodrama, entitled 'The Russians in the Caucasus.'" I arrive just in time for the last act of a pantomime in the most literal sense, the whole business being done by gesture and dumb-show, without a word spoken, and then comes the "thrilling melodrama" itself.

It is of the good old traditional type, with the usual comic grenadier, the usual heroic Captain of hussars, and the usual hysterical young lady, wrapped in gloom and white muslin, with nothing on her head save the curse of her hard-hearted father. But the savage picturesqueness of the last scene is quite startling after such a tame commencement. The sleeping camp in the cold moonlight; the sudden thunder of charging hoofs; the wild yell and headlong rush of the Cossack horsemen; the stubborn firmness of the gray-clad Russians behind their hedge of steel, from which bursts ever and anon the flash and crack of the fatal musketry; the scattering of the mountaineers and their spectral vanishing into the darkness—are all grimly impressive in the highest degree. As the last volley flashes in the eyes of the staggering assailants, a grizzled old soldier (the scar on whose brown cheek may well be the token of a Cossackian scribe) rubs his sinewy hands and growls approvingly: "Khorosho! tak i slaidnet!" (Good that's the style!).—Harper's Bazar.

WINTERGREEN FLAVORING. Wintergreen is employed for flavor confectionery simply and solely because it is cheap. The checkerberries from which the real stuff is derived cover the hills of New England with their vines. Two dollars is a good price for a pound of the essential oil, which amount will serve to give the desired taste to goodness know how many thousand pounds of candy. Even this, however, is considered too much to pay for it, and the twigs and bark of the black birch are used instead and an oil obtained from them by distillation, which resembles astonishingly the checkerberry product. This is what is chiefly made to serve by local makers of alleged goodies. The chocolate creams you buy here are strong with it; likewise the gumdrops and everything else in the sugary line, even to the molasses candy. However, Boston people have never known anything better, and so it is good enough for them. The lower grade of confectioners make use of an artificial chemical product called "synthetic wintergreen," worth ten cents a pound. It closely resembles the real article when fresh, but gets stale and useless within a few hours. —Pioneer.

TO BUILD UP HIS SYSTEM. Dr. Schermer—"The trouble, Mr. Tyers, is that you don't take enough exercise." Mr. E. Z. Tyers—"Aw—I confess I don't go in very heavy on athletics, doctor. What could you recommend as a mild exercise to begin on?" Dr. Schermer—"H'm! You might stretch your arms over your head when you yawn!"—Puck.

FIRST SHADOW OF SPRING. Dogs, and white-bearded fortune-tellers, who, while professing to read the future, keep a very sharp eye upon the present, warm or every side. Here, a musician is squeezing out of an accordion (or rather discordion) a doleful tune which seems to have only one note, and that a false one. There, a man who is teasing a tame bear, by flipping its face with his new fur cap, suddenly sees the cap snatched from him and torn to shreds by the beast amid a roar of laughter from the crowd. A little farther on, an eager group cluster round a huge Russian teakurn or samovar (self-boiler), drinking their tea out of tumblers in place of cups, and nibbling the sugar instead of dropping it in.

Beyond this rise the glittering "ice hills," down which countless couples—

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