

In the reign of Queen Victoria England had fifteen wars.

The enormous growth of the city of London is shown by the fact that its present population is given at 5,670,000, or considerably greater than that of Paris, Berlin, Vienna and Rome combined.

There are 536 authorized guides in the Alps. One hundred and ninety-four of them have taken a regular course of instruction in their profession and have received diplomas. Thirty-five of them are between sixty and seventy years of age and six are over seventy.

Equatorial Africa promises another treasure to civilization, announces the New York Press. It is a much scented plant, the branches of which carried about the person will frighten away mosquitoes. The smell of the plant is neither unpleasant nor unhealthy, but no mosquito will venture within its range.

To use the phonograph for recording the chatter of monkeys and to attempt from such a record to evolve the language of the simians is something which in the opinion of the San Francisco Chronicle out-Darwins Darwin. With such methods as these we ought to get hold of the missing link before the end of the century.

Sig. Henri Bosquet, of Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, says there are some sixteen men to one woman in that very interesting South American metropolis, and that any newly arrived, fairly good-looking candidate for matrimony can readily have a choice of fully fifty eager swains. Buenos Ayres was once something of a cowboy capital, and has evidently not yet passed the frontier period of woman worship.

Why cannot, asks the New Orleans Picayune, some able designer get up a representation of the eagle that looks something like that glorious bird? The spread-wing idea is unnatural and absurd. It is only because of its antiquity that it is tolerated. An eagle that would spread its wings and legs, in an attempt to symbolize peace and war deserves to be shot. A fine design of an American eagle at rest, perched on a crag or limb of a tree, would not be a bad one for our silver coins.

A man by the name of George Hulce, at New Haven, Conn., was named as an executor in a will. When the will was probated two witnesses, through an honest mistake, swore that he was dead, and the court had an order to that effect entered upon the records. A short time afterwards Hulce turned up all right, but he has been declared to be legally dead and is so in law until the record is changed. This cannot be done without reopening the case, which will cost some money. This, Hulce declares, he will not pay, and as no one else has any interest in the matter he will probably remain legally dead as long as he actually lives.

The depreciation of farming lands in England has gone so far, asserts the Boston Cultivator, that in many localities they are worth only half what they were twenty years ago. The low price of wheat, and competition with other countries in meat and other food products, is responsible for much of this decrease in price, though part of it is due to a succession of bad seasons. The United States now leads all competitors in wheat production. But it is certain that after a few more years American increase in population will take all the wheat we can grow. When that time comes, not only English but other wheat growers will share in the increased prosperity of farming that must everywhere prevail.

The census bulletin giving the population of Texas by minor civil divisions shows some wonderful percentages of increase of population, notes the Louisville Courier-Journal. The increase over 1880 in the whole State was 643,774, equal to 40.44 per cent., which is itself a healthy percentage, though quite insignificant compared to the growth in population of some of the counties. Only sixteen counties show decreases. Armstrong County shows an increase of 2945.16 per cent.; Childress, 4600; Collingsworth, 5330; Hardeman, 7333; Randall, 6133.33; and Floyd, 17,533.33 per cent. The effect of these magnificent percentages is somewhat impaired by giving the figures upon which they are based. Armstrong, for example, had only thirty-one population in 1880 and 944 in 1890—an immense relative but very moderate positive increase. Childress increased from twenty-five in 1880 to 1175 in 1890; Collingsworth from six to 357; Hardeman, from fifty to 3904; Randall, from three to 187, and Floyd, from three to 529. There are still counties in the State the population of which is put down at 3, 4, 7, 9, 14, 15, 16 respectively.

Within the last three years the American Indians have disposed of 25,000,000 acres of their land.

Old Red Cloud, who was deposed from his position as Chief of the Sioux to make way for American Horse, a younger man, is now a pitiful spectacle, it is said. He frequently visits the Chadron agency and weeps and wails about his fall from power. He is now rapidly growing blind and seems to be dying from a broken heart. His aged squaw remains faithful to him, and he is popular with the Sioux Nation.

Alaska's gold products are constantly growing more numerous, and reports from the gold fields are of the most encouraging nature. True, the adventurous miners must brave dangers and hardships in order to reach the remote mining regions, but their reward is gold, and for gold men will risk their lives and even their souls. With gold as their reward, thousands of prospectors will settle in Alaska, and the precious metal may make Alaska as popular in '92 as it did California in '49, says the Port Townsend (Washington) Leader.

Says the Trenton (N. J.) American: Australians are protesting against the immigration of the "scum" of England. It is not so long since the chief inhabitants of Australia were English convicts; but, after all, they were no worse than the robbers who "came over with William the Conqueror," and there are many persons who would be glad to trace their descent from them to-day. But the Australian objection is based on the fear that the English scum of to-day will interfere with the prosperity of the labor element. Yet Australia could easily sustain four times as many people as there are in all the British Isles.

Miss Alice Rideout, the young Californian who is to model the staturary figures for the Woman's Building of the World's Fair, Chicago, Ill., had a novel introduction to the art in which she has since become so proficient. She was walking in San Francisco with her big dog when the animal jumped into the open door of Rupert Schmid's studio and upset a recently finished model. Miss Rideout hastened in to apologize, and finding no one there set to work with her limited knowledge of art to repair the damage done. So successful was she that when the sculptor entered he recognized her talent and persuaded her to learn modeling.

A uniform route across the Atlantic for all steamers leaving Liverpool for New York, and another separate route for steamers leaving New York for Liverpool, have long been regarded by the large steamship companies, and by all thoughtful persons interested in the North Atlantic trade, as a pressing need of the time. A conference of the principal companies trading from Liverpool to New York, relates the Scientific American, has resulted in an agreement upon such routes, and the steamers of the Canard, White Star, Inman and International, Guion and National companies will now follow them. The tracks being fixed by common consent, represent the safest courses which the combined wisdom and experience of the lines adopting them can suggest. They do not materially affect the length of the passage, which will vary from 2900 miles between January and July, to 2775 miles between July and January, when the North Atlantic is comparatively free from icebergs.

The preacher must be a man of fine presence, awe inspiring, and, if possible, philosophical and pensive, logical, poetical and fanciful, asserts a writer in the St. Louis Republic. He must also see the humorous side of things, and must likewise possess the ability to touch the feelings. He must not only weep with those that weep but must make those who do not weep at least moisten their dry orbs. Beyond this he must cause mirthful smiles to glisten on the half-dried tears that he may have started. He must in his eloquence be a Cicero. He must be pious without seeming to be so, for there is no offense more obnoxious than cant and long-facedness, though he may employ the undertaker tones at funerals. Smartness and novelty must be possessed, even if they trench on sacred associations. He must not be oblivious to the funny side of serious things, for he must draw like a poulitice, developing the financial side of the church. The pews must be filled. Railway companies and banks and corporations of every kind may refuse to pay dividends, but the church must pay through good and bad times. The pastor must be one of those nondescript financiers who can do better pecuniarily for everybody else than for himself, as it is commonly understood to be "the prerogative of divine grace to keep him humble and of the church to keep him poor."

FATAL MINE DISASTER.

Scores Killed by an Explosion in Indian Territory.

Many Bodies Recovered Charred Beyond Recognition.

A dispatch from South McAllister, Texas, says: The lives of about 200 miners working in shaft No. 5 of the Osage Coal and Mining Company, situated at Krebs, Indian Territory, have been lost by an explosion which occurred there about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The day men had just come to the shaft and the night men, with their lamps and kettles, had gone down to take up their ten hours' work.

Suddenly a loud, rumbling report was heard and the earth shook as though by an earthquake. This was followed a minute later by the enormous, suffocating puff of smoke from the mouth of the main shaft.

The day men already up had not yet started for their cottages, and they realized at once that the explosion was in the mine. Their first thought was to rescue the 340 poor fellows who were known to be in the pit.

A frightful difficulty was met at the outset. The lower portion of the shaft had become blocked by a mass of debris hurled from the siding when the shot was fired which ignited the gas and caused the terrible blow-up. As many of the men who had been relieved had congregated near the cage ready to come up they were covered by the debris, and thus jammed up the only available means of exit.

While a few of the survivors were able to relieve the pressure from the shaft, forty of them being subsequently brought to the surface in buckets by those who were outside of the shaft. While this was going on about eighty others reached safety by means of an escape ladder that was in the shaft, and some of them were badly injured that they could scarcely walk or move.

As soon as the news of the disaster had reached the adjoining village a big crowd gathered near the mouth of the pit, being mainly composed of the wives and children and other relatives of the entombed miners. Their cries, moans and prayers were equal to those of the men who were in the mine. So great was the lamentation that it interfered greatly with the work of the rescuers. By noon next day 143 miners had been rescued, most of these being unconscious and ill weak and much exhausted. At daylight, however, the bodies had been sent up, all blackened, disfigured, unrecognizable.

As soon as the full extent of the disaster was known a dispatch was sent to W. Farnham, Vice-President of the company, in St. Louis, Mo., who at once returned word to John Sherman, who was nominated for reelection to the United States Senate, setting fifty-three votes to thirty-eight for J. B. Foraker.

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UNITED STATES troops defeated a band of Garza's Mexican rebels at the La Jota (Texas) crossing of the Rio Grande River. One of the rebels was shot while swimming the river, and another was captured by the Mexican troops on the other side. Garza's men also attacked a detachment of United States cavalry on the way to Brownsville, Texas, and rescued a number of rebel prisoners.

C. N. PAUL, County Treasurer of Hastings, Neb., gave up his office and a settlement in his accounts of \$22,000 was discovered. His bondsmen made it good.

FOUR men were killed in a running fight with outlaws near Springfield, Kan.

HARRY MILLER, son of Joaquin Miller, the poet, was at San Francisco, Cal., sentenced to two years' imprisonment for "holding up" a stage in Mendocino County some weeks ago.

At Polling, Ala., a boiler of the sawmill of Miller, Caldwell & Flowers' Lumber Company exploded, killing Engineer Cooper and three others, and wounding four more. The mill is a total wreck; loss, \$25,000.

THE Tennessee Legislature, in session at Nashville, has refused to make an appropriation for the World's Fair at Chicago.

A MEETING of cotton planters of the South was held in Memphis, Tenn.

JOSEPH CLARK, representing an English syndicate, bought thirty-three, or all but six, of the four mills in Utah. The transaction involves \$1,500,000 for the plants and \$300,000 for stock now on hand.

CHARLES WATKINS, a mulatto, was hanged in Salem, Va., for the murder of his wife, on April 7, 1891.

THE Democratic members of the Mississippi Legislature met in caucus at Jackson and adopted a resolution to the effect that they will make no nominations for United States Senators to succeed George and Walthall. This means the re-election of these Senators to succeed themselves.

THREE men were killed and three others seriously, if not fatally, injured by the explosion of a boiler at Chicago, Ill. The boiler was very large, and was supported by numerous small manufacturers. Those killed were all young men.

The jail at Reynolds, Miss., was broken open by about one hundred lynchers, who took Cal Foster and Horace Disbrow, two colored men, charged with the murder of a white peddler, and hanged them to a tree near the jail. The prisoners acknowledged their guilt.

WASHINGTON.

PRESIDENT HARRISON sent to Congress a message touching the relief of the famine in Russia.

THE President sent to the Senate the following nominations: Interstate Commerce Commissioners—James W. McMill, of Iowa, vice Thomas M. Cooley, resigned; William M. Lindsey, vice W. L. Bragg, deceased; William R. Morrison, of Illinois (reappointment). Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General—E. G. Rathbone, of Ohio. William B. Hess, United States Consul-General at Constantinople; William D. McCoy, of Indiana, Minister Resident and Consul-General to Liberia; Andrew P. McCormick, of Texas, United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit; Abraham J. Sney, Governor Territory of Oklahoma.

THE Acting Secretary of the Treasury sent to Congress a letter from Robert F. Porter, the Superintendent of the Census, accompanied by a deficiency estimate of \$1,000,000 for continuing the work of the census, which appropriation, it is asked, be made in the Urgency Deficiency bill.

SECRETARY OF STATE BLAINE was seized with an acute attack of indigestion and was obliged to suspend for the day. He recovered in a few hours.

THE President sent the following nominations to the Senate: Walter Wyman, of Missouri, to be Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine Service of the United States; and W. H. Mitchell, of Illinois, to be Surgeon of the Marine Hospital Service of the United States.

GENERAL JOHN IRVING GREGG, a distinguished soldier of the war with Mexico and the late war, died at his residence in Washington in his sixty-sixth year.

SECRETARY BLAINE sent notice to the diplomatic representatives of countries that have not entered into reciprocity agreements that the statutory clause of the Tariff act would be applied by the President on March 15.

REAR-ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER RAYMOND PERRY RODGERS, United States Navy (retired), died a few days since in Washington. He was the son of Commodore George Washington Rodgers and Anna Maria, sister of Commodore Perry. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on November 14, 1819.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Eastern and Middle States.

By the terms of the will of Mary Macrao Stark, who died a few nights ago in New York City, upward of \$4,000,000 of her estate is left to various colleges and charities of the Presbyterian Church. The Lenox Library receives her magnificent library and collection of art works in addition to \$300,000.

BOTH branches of the New York Legislature were organized by the Democrats. Walker, from the Twenty-seventh Senatorial district, was seated, and Governor Flower's first message was read. Robert H. Bush was elected Speaker of the Assembly. Edwards, Independent, acted with the Democrats.

A HEAD end railroad collision occurred at the crossing of Smyrna, N. Y., resulting in the killing of Martin Young, engineer, of Utica; Martin Shesley, engineer, of Oswego; Albert Cady, fireman, of Norwich. Both engines exploded soon after they struck, and were blown into twisted scraps of iron.

THE United States revenue cutter Gallatin went ashore on a ledge of Manchester-by-the-Sea, N. H. All hands were saved, except J. Jacobson, a carpenter. The vessel is a total loss. The fault seems to have been with the pilot, who lost his reckoning.

THE New York Chamber of Commerce declared a State appropriation of \$1,000,000 for New York's exhibit at the World's Fair.

GOVERNOR RUSSELL, of Massachusetts, was inaugurated for his second term at Boston. In his message to the Legislature he condemned the cumbersome system of State executive commissions.

An explosion of gas at the Nelson Colliery, Shamokin, Penn., killed Philip Desert and Paul Cronce and injured six others.

CHARLES S. QUACKENBUSH, son of a former Mayor of Albany, N. Y., fatally shot his wife and killed himself in Newark, N. J.

SOUTH AND WEST.

SIX men were killed outright, two fatally injured, and many others badly hurt, in a railroad collision at Aladdin, Mo.

FOUR men were killed by a railroad train leaving a trestle at Dyke Ridge, N. C.

In Springfield, the county seat of Stewart County, Kan., the Sheriff and his two deputies were killed by a mob of forty men who were in ambush. The attack is the outcome of a plot to kill Thomas Botkin, Judge of the Judicial District.

A TORNAADO swept through Fayetteville, Ga., killing four persons and seriously injuring a dozen more. A path 300 yards wide was cut through the town and for three miles east of it the devastation continues.

THE United States Government's suit against the schooner Robert and its crew for violation of the neutrality laws in conveying arms to the Chilean steamer Itata, was dismissed in the Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco, Cal.

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SECRETARY BLAINE recovered from his recent illness and attended a Cabinet meeting at the White House.

SECRETARY NOBLE has received a letter from a man at Boston, Mass., in which he expresses his pension check, and says he voluntarily relinquishes his pension, as he does not wish further assistance from the Government.

THE President has remitted the unexpired portion of the court martial sentences in the case of Commander George A. Bycknell, who was tried in May last for the wreck of the United States man of war Galena and sentenced to one year's suspension.

FOREIGN.

EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH, of Austria, dissolved the Hungarian Diet.

EIGHT of a sleighing party of eleven were drowned by the breaking of the ice in a canal on the Dutch frontier.

THE tug Progress, of St. Pierre, New Foundland, while cruising off that port picked up a vessel, bottom up, and towed her ashore. When she was righted it was discovered that she was a banking schooner belonging to Lacroix, of St. Pierre. When she was dried on a dock the bodies of ten men were found in her. She had a crew of sixteen or seventeen.

THE CZAR refuses to admit that the famine in Russia is widespread.

INFLUENZA is spreading in Yorkshire, Dorset, Essex and Kent, in England. The disease is of a severe type. Many deaths are reported.

THE French revenue returns for 1891 show a surplus of \$39,000,000 over the expenditures. The French Chamber of Deputies has passed the Tariff bill.

THE "grip" has prostrated half the force of the London (England) General Postoffice, and many employes of London business and banking houses.

YELLOW fever has broken out in Kingston, Jamaica, and the troops of the British garrison have been removed from Port Royal to New Castle.

SEVERE snowstorms, accompanied by intensely cold weather, prevailed in many parts of the United Kingdom. Railway traffic has been greatly impeded. The farmers have sustained heavy losses through their sheep perishing in the drifts. The snow is so deep at Windsor, England, that it has stopped the royal hounds. The storm at Belfast, Ireland, was the worst known for many years and caused a complete suspension of traffic.

MARTINEZ, the condemned murderer, was shot at the City of Mexico, Mexico. Before he was executed he attacked the chief detective and dangerously wounded him. He attempted to escape but was recaptured, tied and then shot. He died blaspheming. The sight was sickening.

THE continued occupation of Egypt by Great Britain is favored in Germany and opposed in France. The funeral of the Khedive took place in Cairo. A British Cabinet Council, with Lord Salisbury presiding, was held in London. At this meeting it was decided that Prince Abbas, the son of the late Tewfik Pacha, should be made Khedive of Egypt without a regency. It is thought certain that France will protest against this order of things.

THE FIRST ROPE BROKE.

Then the Sheriff Had to Go to Town For a New One.

William McCoy was hanged at Homer, Liberty County, Ga., for the murder of John W. Bowie last September. At his first attempt to hang McCoy the rope broke and the Sheriff had to go into town for a new one. The second attempt was not made until an hour afterward, and was successful. The hanging was private, and was witnessed only by the court officers and newspaper men.

EIGHT MEN KILLED.

A Fatal Georgia Fight Over Cutting at Cards.

Eight men were killed in a general fight at Bright & Williams' turpentine still, in Clinch County, Georgia.

The fight started with a quarrel between two of the men named Ed. Williams and Joseph Parker over alleged cheating in a game of cards. Parker began the shooting. Both he and Williams were killed.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

Beaver, medium, 4 50 @ 5 00
Beaver, small, 3 00 @ 3 50
Mink, large, 1 50 @ 2 00
Mink, small, 1 00 @ 1 50
Skunk, black, 1 00 @ 1 50
Skunk, white, 1 00 @ 1 50
Squirrel, 1 00 @ 1 50
Muskrat, winter, 1 00 @ 1 50
Muskrat, fall, 1 00 @ 1 50

BUFFALO.

Steers—Western, 2 00 @ 2 50
Steers—Medium to Good, 4 25 @ 4 75
Lamb—Fair to Good, 6 00 @ 6 40
Hogs—Good to Choice Yorks, 4 50 @ 4 80
Flour—Best Winter, 3 00 @ 3 50
Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 1 10 @ 1 31
Corn—No. 4, Yellow, 45 @ 48
Oats—No. 3, White, 35 @ 38
Barley—No. 2, Western, 65 @ 68

BOSTON.

Egg—Near-by, 45 @ 50
Opossum—Native, 45 @ 50
Hay—Eastern, 16 00 @ 17 00
Straw—Good to Prime, 11 @ 12
Butter—Firsts, 33 @ 36

BASEBALL IN 1892.

How the Twelve League Clubs Will Take the Field in April.

President Young, of the new "National League and American Association," announces the baseball teams as they will practically take the field in the twelve cities when the championship contests begin next April. To begin with New York, says the Herald, Manager Powers has been careful in his selection of players, and feels confident that the Giants will push to the front, especially if Richardson is allowed to come back from Washington. The pitchers are Amos Rusie, "Silver" King, John Ewing and "Mickey" Welch. The others, with the possible exception of Sharrott, whose arm is an uncertainty just now, will be released outright when the time comes. "Jack" Boyle, "Buck" Ewing and a youngster from Joliet, Ill., named Moran, are the catchers, and Doyle and Ewing will alternate at first base in the event of the latter's injury.

In the order of Richardson's return he will, of course, play second base, while "Tom" Fuller and "Denny" Lyons, of last year's St. Louis Browns, will cover short and third respectively.

John Ward will have a team in Brooklyn that should land some of the best players in the League struggle. He will play second base himself, and will have clustered about him this galaxy of fine fielding and heavy hitting beauties: Brostrom, first base; Joyce, second base; Egan, catcher; Tom Brown, outfielder; "Tom" Daley, "Con" Dalley and "Tom" Kinslow, catchers; Buffinton, Haddock, Hart and Lovett, pitchers.

In the estimation of the proverbial crank the Boston team is the strongest of the clubs in the League struggle. He will play second base himself, and will have clustered about him this galaxy of fine fielding and heavy hitting beauties: Brostrom, first base; Joyce, second base; Egan, catcher; Tom Brown, outfielder; "Tom" Daley, "Con" Dalley and "Tom" Kinslow, catchers; Buffinton, Haddock, Hart and Lovett, pitchers.

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