

The cost of the great German army for a year under its present conditions is said by military authorities to be \$120,000,000.

So delicate is the adjustment of the most powerful cannon that allowance has to be made for the curvature of the earth before the discharge.

The New York Mail and Express calculates that a subscription of \$32.27 from every inhabitant of the United States would wipe out all form of public indebtedness—National, State and municipal.

The city of Cincinnati has for many years been a favorable abiding place of Hebrews, remarks the New York Press. At a recent celebration there Rabbi Wise said that "Cincinnati would hereafter be the Zion of Judaism in America."

There is much in the lingo of the Wyoming war, confesses the New York Commercial Advertiser, which is as perplexing as some of that in the Bering Sea quarrel. A rustler appears to be a person who gains a livelihood by stealing other people's cattle, while a regulator is a gentleman who is paid \$6 a day for killing rustlers.

It is stated that a sugar refining company in Chicago, Ill., is making 150 barrels of oil per day from corn. The oil resembles lincseed oil and may be used for similar purposes. There is about four per cent. of this oil in the grain, which has hitherto been wasted by the ordinary methods of making starch and glucose.

Now that rancee culture has begun seriously to engage the attention of planters in the Tropics, it is interesting to learn on the authority of a foreign journal that rancee fiber, under great hydraulic pressure, may be made to assume the compactness of steel. It is asserted that when so prepared it will be particularly serviceable for steam pipes, as it will not be subject to contraction or expansion and also will not rust.

Within three years passenger rate on the railroad across the Isthmus of Panama have been reduced to ten and five cents a mile for first and second class tickets. Up to that time the charge for passenger transportation on the Panama Railroad was the highest in the world, being \$25 in American gold for first-class and \$10 in gold for second-class passengers between Panama and Colon, or about fifty cents and twenty cents a mile, respectively.

It is not a very infrequent occurrence in the London police courts, declares Once-A-Week, for infuriated prisoners to attempt to assault the presiding magistrate. Mr. Montagu Williams, who sits in one of the East End Courts, often has boots thrown at him, and on one occasion he received a severe blow in the face from such a missile. The habit seems to be spreading. The other week the newspapers reported a case in which a disappointed litigant kicked in open court his own lawyer, for which he may have had some excuse, and assaulted the reporters, for which there could be no justification.

The remarkable progress of women engaged in business affairs is instructively set forth in the Massachusetts State Bureau of Labor statistics. According to the figures there presented in 1885, there were only about 180,000 women engaged in industrial pursuits. Now there are more than 800,000. Two thirds of these working women are under thirty years of age, and inasmuch as this proportion has been maintained during the half dozen years, it seems to indicate that marriage constantly tends to deplete the ranks. "Such being the fact," comments the New York News "there need be little fear that the industrial independence of the gentler sex will result in an increase of old maids."

The New England Courier, a German-American weekly, published in Boston, Mass., gives some very interesting figures showing how great and influential the Teutonic race has become as an element of immigration into this country. In Illinois one-half of the foreign born population is German. In Minnesota the proportion is one-third; in Nebraska and Iowa more than one-third; in Wisconsin one-half, or one-eighth of the whole population; in Indiana, the banner German State, out of 244,000 foreigners, 80,000 are of German birth, or fifty-five per cent. of the whole. Out of 12,000,000 immigrants into this country since 1820, 4,500,000 have been Germans. Coming from the most thrifty and best educated country in Europe, observes the Boston Globe, these people, constitutionally endowed with patience, skill and perseverance, have engrained a solid, thoughtful, industrious, and peace-loving element into the composite structure of the Union.

Disappointed genius may comfort itself with the reflection that Columbus was over four hundred years in attaining his present popularity.

The colored population of New England increases so slowly, notes the New York World, that the race appears to be becoming decadent in those States.

A recent State report shows that, of Kentucky's white children, sixty per cent. are enrolled, and one child in two goes to school. Of colored children less than forty-five per cent. have their names on the school records, and only one child in three is really under instruction.

Writing of the poor children of New York in Scribner's magazine, Jacob A. Riis remarks that we have to take into account that "half the poverty, the ignorance and helplessness of the cities of the Old World is dumped at our door by immigration," while the procession of the strong and the able move on to the West.

The pneumatic tube is fast being perfected. In St. Louis mail matter is to be carried two-thirds of a mile by such service. Some day the Eastern States will be gridironed with pneumatic tubes, and then, the New York Mail and Express predicts, Gotham newspapers will be left on an Albany doorstep within thirty minutes after leaving the press. The perfection of pneumatic service will revolutionize many lines of industry.

Says the St. Louis Republic: There is plenty of money in New York—but it doesn't grow on trees. Bank coffers are overflowing with idle dollars, and they are so cheap that the Union Trust Company will allow only one per cent. on deposits, while bankers are declining new accounts. An authority says: "Commission houses are overrun with bank messengers offering to lend them funds at almost nominal rates and almost any sort of collateral."

"Our afternoon papers," says a San Francisco newspaper man, "are one day ahead of the world in giving the news. For when they are ready to go to press New York is ready to go to bed, and the London Times has gone to press for the next day. In the case of our morning papers, they have the advantage of securing the exclusive news of New York or any other large Eastern paper may have for the representative of the San Francisco papers wait until the New York papers come out at 3 A. M. and then wire the sensation west, where they arrive long before midnight."

The dreams of science penetrate the field of miracles, soliloquizes the Detroit Free Press. Since that German genius has found a way of transforming sawdust into sugar, other chemists are busily seeking to convert articles that have been useless for food into nutritious and toothsome dishes. The wonderful accomplishments of the age warn us against scoffing at the wildest predictions of science. No one knows how soon we may be eating hot basswood biscuits, dog-wood sausages or Norway pine apples. Hardwood army crackers and slabs of side meat may feed future warriors and the food of our navies may be towed in log-like rafts. You can't tell.

English is now in the lead as the probable universal language of the world, asserts the New York Gazette. In Germany and Russia it has supplanted French as the first foreign language to be learned. In Russia it is the fashionable thing to be able to speak English. Moreover, the Russians prefer English for their own language for use in telegrams, as English conveys more meaning in fewer words. The deliberations in international conferences are now conducted in English instead of in French. In uncivilized regions the triumphs of English is, needless to say, even more complete. It has everywhere on the coast of Africa driven out all other European languages. Even in the French Colonies it is asserting itself against French, and in the German Colonies it divides the honors with German. It has no dangerous rival in Africa except Arabic. Portuguese was the dominant language on the west coast for many years; now English is spoken continuously from Sierra Leone to the San Pedro River, a distance of over 800 miles. The Nile and Niger and the Great Lakes are already English; the Congo and Zambesi will most probably end by being so. It is therefore difficult to see what can prevent English from becoming the common language of the whole world. Omitting all mention of India, where English has spread with unexampled rapidity, Japan is said to be adopting English wholesale, the signboards of the shops being very generally, and the names of towns and villages always, inscribed in English as well as Japanese characters. The agency which has done and will do the most to make English the universal speech is colonization, and the agents are English-speaking colonists.

## AN ISLAND LAID WASTE.

### A Hurricane's Fatal and Destructive Work at Mauritius.

#### Enormous Damage to Buildings, Shipping and Standing Crops.

Baron de Worms, Parliamentary Secretary of the Colonial Office, read a telegram in the British House of Commons, London, fully confirming the news of the terrible disaster at Mauritius. The dispatch said that one-third of the capital city, Port Louis, was destroyed. Among the buildings wrecked were the Royal Palace and two other churches. Many sugar mills in the country were completely demolished. The special correspondent of the Times says that the loss of life in Mauritius is not less than 1000. It was thought that in the city of Port Louis alone 600 persons were killed. In the various country districts at the time the dispatch was sent, 300 persons were known to have lost their lives. The latest official estimates were that 1200 persons suffered more or less, and that many of those who were injured would die. The hospitals in Port Louis were filled to overflowing with the injured, and tents were erected on the hospital grounds to accommodate those whose injuries demanded instant attention in Port Louis alone 1000 persons were injured. The Government, which is under the direction of Sir Charles Cameron Lees, has taken measures to relieve the distress that prevails in every direction. Thousands of people have lost their houses. Baron de Worms added that Lord Knutsford, the Colonial Secretary, had communicated the facts of the disaster to the Lord Mayor of London, and stated that the latter would at once open a fund for the benefit of the islanders.

Other advices from Mauritius are to the effect that the devastation caused by the hurricane was enormous. Business at Port Louis, the capital, and at the other towns on the island is still greatly interrupted. All the crops suffered more or less, and some of them are ruined. The hurricane was accompanied by one of the heaviest rainstorms in those latitudes.

When the storm broke, the scene defied description. Amid the roar of the gale could be heard the crashing of thunder that was appalling in its violence. The flashes of lightning were so awfully vivid that even those who have seen the electrical displays that sometimes occur in the tropics were frightened. The people were panic-stricken, and sought safety in their houses, many of them only to find death shortly afterwards in the falling buildings. The wind gauges were blown to atoms, but those best qualified to judge say that the wind blew at the rate of 120 miles an hour. It was utterly impossible for a human being to stand against it. Many of those who lost their lives were killed by being lifted bodily from their feet and dashed against trees, walls and houses. The greater part of the fatalities were among the poor. The island is very fertile, and the crops are of great value. Many of the houses were blown down. The houses were blown down to atoms, but those best qualified to judge say that the wind blew at the rate of 120 miles an hour. It was utterly impossible for a human being to stand against it. Many of those who lost their lives were killed by being lifted bodily from their feet and dashed against trees, walls and houses.

There was no loss of life among the British troops on the island, although a number of the soldiers were injured. The hospitals are unable to accommodate all the patients offered, and many hundreds of dwellings in town, village and country are giving refuge and such succor as they can to the crippled and wounded sufferers. The dead were buried as rapidly as possible, large draught canoes being thrown upon a common grave, as it was feared that the corpses in that warm climate might cause a pestilence. In some places whole families were buried beneath the ruins of their houses.

Mauritius, or the Isle of France, is an island belonging to Great Britain, lying in the Indian Ocean, about 600 miles east of Madagascar, and 227 miles from Cape of Good Hope. It is thirty-six miles long, and thirty-two miles wide, and has an area of 676 square miles. It is noted for its violent hurricanes, and has been the scene of many great disasters. The island was first settled by the Dutch in 1638, and thirty years later, in 1666, it was taken by the British. It was then called Ile de France. The English captured the island in 1810. Slavery existed until 1833.

The island is a fertile soil of importance to England with regard to her Indian possessions. It is surrounded by coral reefs which, on the seaward side, make fine protected harbors. The reefs are cut by eleven passes through most of which vessels of large draught can enter. The island is very fertile. Indigo, cotton, sugar, and spices are grown successfully. Deer, wild hogs, goats and apes are common in the mountains. The population is a little over 300,000, and is made up of various Asiatic, African and European races. The English encouraged Indian immigration, and this element is large. The other great branch of the population, the liberated Africans and their descendants, regard themselves as superior to the Indians. Port Louis is the only town of importance. It has a convent, with a large school attached, a college supported in part by the Government, and a number of Government schools. Several newspapers are published. The island is similar to that of other British colonies.

## LIBERTY'S FIRST BREATH.

### Celebrating the Signing of the Famous Mecklenburg Declaration.

Senator Hill, of New York, who delivered the oration at the 117th anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, arrived in Charlotte, N. C., at an early hour on the morning accompanied by Senator Ransom Gray, Representative Alexander and others of prominence. The party was met at the station by a procession, composed of military and civic organizations and citizens generally, and escorted to the hotel.

The signing of this declaration has always been celebrated in Charlotte. The celebration of 1875 attracted the largest attendance ever known in the history of the town, but the assemblage gathered this year was considerably larger than that one. The city was profusely decorated and the stately arch that spanned the four corners of the principal square of the town was a particularly handsome object.

## KILLED THE MESSENGER.

### A California Stage Held Up and Robbed of \$20,000.

The Redding and Weaverville stage was again held up in the suburbs of the town of Shasta, Cal. Two masked men, one on either side of the road, ordered Driver Boyce to halt and to throw down the boxes. Messenger Buck Montgomery, who was inside the stage, opened fire on the robbers, wounding one of them, but was himself mortally wounded by a robber who was in ambush. He died a few minutes later. Driver Boyce and a passenger named Smith were also wounded, but not fatally. The robbers rifled the treasure boxes, securing about \$20,000.

## THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

### Eastern and Middle States.

Secretary Blaine has appointed as Junior Counsel for the United States before the Bering Sea arbitrators Russell Duane, of Philadelphia. Mr. Duane was a member of the class of 1841 in the law school of the University of Pennsylvania, and attracted Mr. Blaine's attention by his mastery of oration at the commencement on "The Case of the Seaward."

Just after a train left Hyde Park, N. Y., a well-dressed man rose from his seat in the parlor car and shouting: "They are after me!" plunged the blade of a knife in his throat, and drawing it rapidly right and left cut his throat from ear to ear. He died instantly. He was Albert L. Stanton, of New Jersey.

The Delaware Democratic State Convention held at Dover elected the following delegates to the National Convention: Thomas F. Bayard, Hiram B. Borie, Governor Reynolds, Richard R. Kenney, John W. Casney and William L. Rinnam. The resolutions denounce the McKinley bill, oppose the free coinage of silver, and strongly indorse Cleveland. The Chicago delegation was not instructed, but all favor the nomination of Cleveland for President.

An extensive forest fire did much damage on the plains south of Windsor Locks, Conn.

Professor Jacob Gould Shurman has been elected President of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. Professor Shurman has been at the head of the Sage School of Philosophy at Cornell University during the past six years.

The Grand Jury at Lyons, N. Y., completed their hearing on the case of Oliver Curtis Perry, the noted desperado of express-train robbery fame. Four indictments were found. He was arraigned, pleading guilty, and was sentenced to imprisonment for forty years and three months in the Auburn Prison.

A terrific storm along the South New Jersey coast made havoc with piers and beaches.

Jealous Ferdinand Palkowicz, a Hungarian blacksmith in East Orange, N. J., shot and killed his wife and ended his own life.

A great fire raged along the water front at Oswego, N. Y., sweeping through the line of elevators. It started in the big Washington Mills. Six elevators were destroyed.

The Director of Warner's Observatory, Rochester, N. Y., who discovered the comet now attracting so much attention, has succeeded in obtaining an excellent photograph. The comet has a bright tail and is unprecedented in astronomical history.

South and West.

Taney Valley, in Great County, Texas, was swept by a cyclone from one end to the other and not a building has been left standing. Five persons were killed instantly, ten were fatally injured, and many more were badly hurt. Hardly a person in the valley escaped.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Aubrey, of Adel, Ga., were thrown from a carriage and killed.

Ring Brothers' circus train was wrecked near Atchison, Kan., and four showmen were killed and five badly injured.

A mob of 200 men at Clarksville, Ga., broke into the jail, took therefrom three colored men, charged with the murder of a night policeman at Toocoo, and hanged them all on the limb of a large oak tree.

The Arizona Territorial Democratic Convention at Tucson elected delegates to the Chicago Convention, of which Austin Corbin is to be the head. The company will have a capital of at least \$10,000,000. Its vessels will ply between New York City or some port on Long Island and Great Britain.

By the capsizing of a boat on the Dowdle Place, near Morrilton, Ark., Hamp Wilson, colored, four women and five children were drowned.

Jim Taylor, a colored man, who assaulted a white girl near Chestertown, Md., was lynched by an armed mob early next morning.

There has been a battle between United States Deputy Marshals and horse thieves in the Sac and Fox country in Oklahoma, in which two of the thieves and one of the deputies were killed.

The Utah Republican Territorial Convention was held at Salt Lake City. Strong resolutions were adopted indorsing Harrison's Administration, free silver coinage, land tariff and the Republican organization of the Territory. The delegates elected to Minneapolis were uncommitted.

The Congress of the National Art Association, in session in Washington, passed a resolution favoring the admission of works of art free of duty.

Justice Harlan and Senator Morgan have formally notified the President of their willingness to serve as arbitrators on behalf of the United States in the Bering Sea matter.

The body of Senator Harbison, accompanied by the Congressional Committee, his immediate relatives and a few personal friends, all in charge of Sergeant-at-Arms Valentine, was taken from his house at Washington and conveyed to Poplar Hill, Md., where it was buried beside that of his wife.

The National Baptist Educational Convention at Washington elected the following officers: President, Professor G. W. Hayes, of Virginia; Vice-President, the Rev. Isaac Tompkins, of Texas; Second Vice-President, the Rev. T. T. Maloy.

John M. Lacey, Private Secretary of General Rosecrans, Register of the Treasury, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart while laboring under temporary aberration of mind.

Miss Maryann Barry passed away at the Baptist Home in Washington after having lived in the National Capital since the year 1800.

Secretary Foster has written a letter to Representative Lord, of California, saying that it will take \$160,000 a year to enforce the new Chinese law. This estimate is based on the cost of the arrest during the present fiscal year and their deportation of 2500 Chinamen.

H. W. Biddgett, Judge of the United States Court for the Northern District of Illinois, has been selected as one of the counsel for the United States in the Bering Sea arbitration. This completes the list.

The President, Mrs. Harrison and party returned to Washington from their trip to Fortress Monroe.

A proclamation was issued by the President announcing a reciprocity arrangement with Guatemala to take effect May 30.

A bill to place on the pension roll, at the rate of \$20 a month, George W. Jones, of Iowa, formerly a distinguished Senator from that State, was reported to the Senate by Mr. Turpie and was immediately passed.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of Nathan A. Morford, of Arizona, to be Secretary of Arizona.

Foreign.

Newfoundland decided to remove the discriminating duties on Canadian products and to grant Canada bait privileges.

Russia has refused Russia's offer of a loan for paying the indemnity to the tobacco corporation, and will raise the money in England.

Dispatches from Venezuela confirm the capture of Bolivar by the insurgents.

The death is announced in London of General George Klapka, a contemporary of Louis Kosuth. He was born at Temeswar, Hungary, April 7, 1833. He had a famous military career.

John A. Anderson, United States Consul-General at Cairo, Egypt, is dead.

French forces in Tongkin, China, recently attacked and captured a pirate stronghold. The pirates made a desperate resistance and their loss was very heavy, it being known that 125 of them were killed. The French loss was also heavy, fifty-three soldiers and five officers being killed in the attack.

## WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

The Salvation Army intends to show at the Exposition in a complete manner its whole scheme of moral and social reform. The general tint of the World's Fair Buildings will be pale ivory. Several of them, however, will show modification of that color.

The liberation of carrier pigeons and the keeping of a record of their flight will be an interesting feature of the live stock exhibit at the Exposition.

The Brazilian Minister at Washington has notified Director-General Davis that the Republic of Brazil will send a special commissioner to Chicago to arrange the preliminaries for its exhibit at the World's Fair.

William Saunders, Executive Exposition Commissioner for Canada, says that a large and excellent exhibit from the Dominion is assured. It will be especially notable in the lines of agriculture, dairying, minerals and manufactures.

Liberia, the negro republic, has accepted the invitation to participate in the Exposition. Forty-five nations and thirty-one colonies and provinces have now accepted, and the aggregate of their appropriations, with this yet to be heard from, is \$4,516,808.

Philadelphia's contribution to the Pennsylvania exhibit at the Fair will include a number of articles of great historic interest. Among them are the desk and chairs used in the Continental Congress, and the celebrated portraits of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Success is already assured to the project which an association, under the auspices of the Board of Lady Managers, has of erecting several dormitories where women, especially those of the industrial class, can obtain neat, respectable and cheap living quarters while visiting the Exposition.

Italy has finally decided to take part officially in the Exposition, and has entrusted the management of participation to the various chambers of commerce in the principal Italian cities. The Government will encourage an extensive Commission of Italian artists to support all exhibits to New York in one of its warships.

Professor Charles D. Walcott, of the United States Geological Survey, intends to have at the World's Fair an exhibit which will illustrate a section of the earth's crust, by specimens of fossiliferous strata, and by their proper relative positions, and by collections of the characteristic fossils shown in connection with the formation in which they are found.

President Harrison has accepted the invitation, conveyed to him by a committee, to attend the dedication ceremony of the Exposition Buildings next October. It is believed certain that every member of the President's Cabinet and of the Supreme Court, and nearly every Senator, Congressman and Governor also will be present on that occasion.

Helena, Montana, will send to the Exposition a meteor, discovered near that city. It is composed of nickel and magnetic iron, and is in two pieces of ninety and seventy pounds respectively. It is reported that when found these pieces were in a hole in the ground large enough to contain a house, from which fact it is inferred that the meteor exploded when it struck the earth.

The New York State Building at the Exposition, as shown by the plan which the commissioners have approved, will be one of the most commodious and artistic of all. It will measure 97 by 195 feet, be two stories high and covered with "marble" treated to present marble. The estimated cost is from \$80,000 to \$100,000. The ground floor is to contain wide corridors, an information bureau, postoffice, parcel-room, open court and large reception room for women. The second story will have a large hall or auditorium, forty-two by eighty feet, a general reception room and an apartment for the newspaper men of the State who may be sent there.

Mrs. Viola Fuller, of Mitchell, S. D., has applied for a space in the Woman's Building for a unique and beautiful opera cloak, the only one of its kind existing. The garment, which is fifty-seven inches in length, and circular in design, is composed entirely of certain small and particularly delicate feathers of prairie chickens. Only five or six feathers of this peculiar kind are found on a single bird, consequently the cloak represents not only ten years' patient labor, but the plumage of hundreds of birds. The feathers were sewed to the fastenings one at a time and deeply overlapping, any now form like green grass as soft as the bird's breast. The cloak is trimmed in other furs, which is also the product of South Dakota.

Snow in May.

New England and a Portion of New York Experience a Winter Storm.

Snow commenced falling at six o'clock in the morning along the northern division of the Boston and Maine Railroad, commencing at White River Junction, Vt., and continuing as far south as North Bosawen, N. H. In many towns four inches covered the freshly opened leaves and lower ends of the south-bound freight train from Woodville came into Franklin at half-past nine covered with three inches of snow. The hills of Franklin and North Bosawen were white with snow, through which green grass five inches high overtopped, making a novel spectacle to the passengers of the morning southward train, upon which the snow still fell as far south as Penacook, below which it fell itself in a pouring rain at Concord, where it is believed that considerable damage has been done to the cherry and apple crop in Northern New Hampshire.

Three inches of snow fell in New Hampshire at Dublin and six inches at Chesterfield. At Hanover five inches of snow fell. It has snowed hard all through the valley at West Randolph, Vt. It is thought that that damage will be done to growing crops. At Montpelier a half inch of snow fell.

Four inches of snow fell in New York State at North Creek, Warren County, and at Johnsons near Warrenburg were covered two inches deep. There was a severe flurry of snow in the Catskill Mountains, the ground in many places being completely covered.

The fields in the eastern part of Dutchess County, New York, were covered with an inch of snow. The storm was the heaviest at Mount Riga and through the Harlem Valley.

## DEATH BY ELECTRICITY.

Successful Execution of Tice at the Auburn (N. Y.) Prison.

Joseph L. Tice, the Rochester wife murderer, was executed by electricity at 6:30 o'clock a few mornings ago in Auburn (N. Y.) Prison.

The execution is considered a great success. There was nothing revolting about it. The witnesses saw no burning of flesh, no exhalation of air from the lungs, no struggling of the victim. The murderer met his fate calmly. He was apparently unmoved while being strapped in the chair, and he had nothing to say at the last.

The electric current was turned into the body four times, each contact being brief. The physician in charge believed that better results would be obtained in this way than with two long contacts. The complete time of contact was fifty seconds.

At the request of Dr. Daniels, Dr. Baker and Irvin examined the body. They said there was no tuberculation whatever. Tice was dead. The other physicians examined the body a little later. All agreed that Tice had passed into eternity the instant the first contact was made. A close examination of the body showed no marks or burns upon it.