

An expert says that there are now 1977 temperance drinks that are rivals in popularity.

It sounds to the Boston Transcript like a bit of incongruity that the rosemary and lavender are found in most perfect bloom on the dreary deserts of Arabia.

In Cape Colony, South Africa, the natives are coming into citizenship so fast that the people have raised the property qualifications for votes from \$125 to \$375, and the voter must be able to write his name and address clearly.

The South, the Farm, Field and Stockman asserts, is beginning to want better horses. As they are not yet breeding them extensively, it is opening up a new field for the sale of Northern-bred horses. They used to think the mule good enough for any purpose.

The New York Post wonders why it was that "a social democracy in New England produced the most inveterate type of aristocratic politics ever known in our country, and why a social aristocracy in Virginia produced a democratic order of Federal politics at the very beginning of the Republic."

The question of an antidote for an electric shock is now being agitated. An amateur investigator is reported to have found that the insertion of aromatic spirits of ammonia into the body of a bird which had received an electric shock brought the animal back to life after all signs of animation had disappeared. The subject affords a good field for investigation.

There is no equal area on the face of the globe so well adapted to sheep husbandry in all its branches, maintains the Farm, Field and Stockman, as the southern half of the United States, and no equal area where it is less appreciated and improved. The climate is perfect, being free from the extreme heat and drought of Australia, which often rots the wool and kills their sheep by the millions.

Some ambitious Englishman has been figuring in the Toronto (Canada) Empire the additions that have been made to British territory since 1885. They look up as follows: In Asia, 273,700 square miles and 5,500,000 people (estimated); in South Africa, 1,693,205 square miles and 14,329,000 people; in Australasia, 97,300 square miles and 158,000 people—a total in the seven years of 2,069,205 square miles and 19,987,000 people.

New York's most notable capitalists are men of very simple habits, and some of the richest of them spend less than a well paid clerk spends on minor personal pleasures. Very few of them use tobacco or liquor. It is said to be a rare thing for Jay Gould to have \$100 in money in his pocket, and Russell Sage, John D. Rockefeller and C. P. Huntington carry but little ready cash with them. Mr. Sage keeps as careful a record of his small personal expenses as does a young housewife on a limited income.

The recent death of Elihu Matthews in Cleveland revives interests in the anonymous authorship of the once famous novel, "The Bread-Winners." During his lifetime Professor Matthews steadfastly refused to divulge the secret, but it is said that he has left among his papers a letter, which will be made public, giving a detailed history of the writing of the book, its origin, development and publication, the precautionary steps taken to conceal the identity of the author, etc. This revelation, argues Eugene Field in the Chicago Record, will fix the authorship of the famous book upon Mr. William Elery Curtis, a journalist and litterateur of national reputation now residing in Washington.

Julian Ralph has been describing Chicago's big packing houses for Harper's Weekly. An idea of the immense amount of business done by these mammoth slaughter houses is given in this extract from Mr. Ralph's articles: "As I passed out of the yards some one handed a card to me. It contained a record of the business of one firm, the leading one of the 'big four' packing concerns. It showed that during the year ending April 1, 1891, that company transacted sales of \$66,000,000 worth of meat and other goods. It killed 712,000 cattle, 1,714,000 hogs and nearly 500,000 sheep. It employed 7900 persons and paid nearly \$4,000,000 in wages. It owned 2250 refrigerator cars and fifty acres of buildings. It made 7,000,000 pounds of glue and 9500 tons of fertilizers. I suspect that its hogs and sheep and boxes of glue and sides of beef and cans of meat may stretch out, if piled one on the other, from here to the moon, but I leave the calculation to others, satisfying myself with the reflection that America is great, and Chicago is its prophet."

Mrs. Mary Lease says that the prairies of Kansas are dotted with the graves of women who died of "mortgage on the farm."

An observant woman is authority for the statement that the evolution of man in the matter of domestic science has taken a mighty stride of late. In proof of this, cites the Boston Transcript, here is King Humbert of Italy proudly dabbling in amateur cooking.

The United States Senate is a great place for chums, avers the Chicago News-Record. Beck and Allison were such a pair, as were Don Cameron and Butler, Vest and Plumb, Edmunds and Thurman. Another notable case of congressional Damon and Pythias is that of Tom Reed and Bourke Cockran in the House.

In 1825 there was but one lone representative of homeopathy in this country. To-day 25,000 physicians are enrolled under the banner of Hahnemann. In 1836 the first homeopathic college in the world was incorporated, issuing diplomas to sixteen physicians in six years. Now, says the New Orleans Picayune, there are sixteen such colleges graduating annually 500 students.

That the Norsemen discovered America centuries before Columbus did receives emphasis from Professor Horsford, of Harvard, who says that they landed on the Charles River at Cambridge. The professor petitions the municipal authorities to protect certain ridges of grass-covered earth, which he claims are the foundations of Leif Erickson's house and date from the year 1000.

"While farmers in the South are complaining that the last year's cotton crop of nearly 9,000,000 bales—the largest ever raised—will leave them scarcely a dollar of profit, and bring thousands of them in debt," exclaims the St. Louis Republic, "the Illinois State Board of Agriculture reports that seven of the ten corn crops of that State between 1882 and 1891 were raised at a loss of \$80,000,000."

New York is the first city in the country to start an effort to provide artistic street decorations for a public celebration. In order to secure worthy results, Perry Belmont, Chairman of the Art Committee for the Columbus celebration on October 12, has called to his aid as advisers the leading painters, sculptors, designers and architects of the city. This is a distinct and important advance in civilization, declares the Boston Transcript. The popular taste has been too long at the mercy of mere contractors.

John Burns, the eminent English labor authority, says that no man's services are worth more than \$2500 a year. The St. James Gazette notes that an exception will have to be made in the case of opera tenors, as Jean de Reszke earns that much in a week. Recently he contributed a night's salary to the Erving Thomas memorial fund in the shape of a check for \$800. At three performances a week that amounts to the nest sum of \$125,000 a year, more than the most fashionable physician or the most successful lawyer can hope to clear. For the last two generations, says the Gazette, famous singers have been paid the most enormous rates, yet none of them have transmitted any amount of money to the next generation. It is easy come, easy go.

An interesting contribution to the discussion of American country roads, comes from Professor Richard T. Ely, who affirms that "poor roads cost this country on the average over \$20 a horse." He is sustained by Professor Jenks of Knox College, who thinks "\$15 a horse is a low estimate for this loss." The Board of Trade, of Knoxville, Tenn., has also made the suggestive computation that bad dirt roads cost the people of that one commonwealth more than \$7,000,000 a year. From tables made upon other statistics it is also declared that on a gravel road a horse will draw nearly one and a half times the load, and on macadam over three times the load he can draw on the common dirt road. The losses from time consumed, from wear on beast and vehicle and from repairs in indirect ways fall principally, of course, upon those engaged in agricultural pursuits. The average cost which produce carriers bear in hauling to the Knoxville market from the surrounding farming region is estimated at \$7.50 a load. This average, it is authoritatively stated, could be reduced one-half upon good dirt roads and five-sixths over good macadam roads. That is to say, one of the chief expenses borne by farmers is doubled through the extravagant economy which perpetuates poor roads. It is, comparatively speaking, a saving of cents and a spending of dollars. The amount of money annually lost in this country from coast to coast through badly kept highways can only be guessed at, but it is something enormous.

## CHOLERA IN EUROPE.

### The Dread Disease Spreading Rapidly in All Directions.

### Great Britain Adopts Extraordinary Precautions.

The London Lancet, England's leading medical authority, says that the cholera is making steady headway in Russia, and that even the incomplete official returns received admit that 500 deaths are caused daily by the disease. It is spreading westward, and the report that it has invaded Roumania, if true, is of serious import to Europe. No proper account, the Lancet says, has yet been issued with regard to the disease in Paris. The Lancet concludes its article as follows: "When half the people attacked die it matters little what name is given to the cholera in Paris and its suburbs."

The Paris correspondent of the Lancet telegraphs that M. Netter, a member of the Hygiene Publique, reports that in twenty-nine out of forty-nine cases of illness which he has investigated he has found the true cholera bacillus. M. Netter further says that true cholera is limited to the suburbs of Paris, and that only that form of disease known as cholera exists in the city. Professor Dieulafoy, however, states that he has found the cholera bacillus in two cases in Paris.

"In view of the report of the commission of Spanish doctors that the cholera epidemic in the suburbs of Paris is undoubtedly Asiatic cholera, it may be of interest," says a London dispatch "to know exactly what precautions are being taken by the authorities to minimize the risk of such a terrible plague in England. As France is so close and a ceaseless interchange of visitors is always going on, it is recognized that it would be futile to attempt to deal with such a disease as cholera by quarantine. In fact, the only means of preventing the cholera is by strict quarantine regulations apply in this country; what is known as Levantine plague and yellow fever.

"In addition to the order recently issued to all port and other sanitary authorities absolutely to prohibit the landing in England of all rats from France, it has been ordered that when a customs officer boards a vessel in port he must ask whether there are any cases of disease on board, and if there is the slightest suspicion of cholera, he must detain the vessel pending the arrival of the medical officer of health, who examines every one on board and detains every person who is suffering from cholera. He may also detain everyone whom he suspects to be suffering from cholera, provided the detention does not exceed forty-eight hours, which is considered sufficient to enable him to ascertain beyond doubt whether it is an indubitable case or not. All other passengers are allowed to land on condition of giving their names and addresses to the medical officer of health.

"Then there comes into play the system in force for communicating with the medical officer of health of every district to which any passenger is going, and the local sanitary administration of the district itself is relied upon to prevent the spread of cholera. It is claimed that the sanitary condition of ports in Great Britain is far superior to anything which exists in foreign countries, although in the case of Marseilles, for instance, considerable improvement has been made since the cholera epidemic in that Kingdom there are hospitals, where persons suffering from cholera would be isolated. All the port and sanitary authorities know their duties perfectly."

St. Petersburg, advises state that the cholera has made its appearance in Poland, and several cases are reported at Warsaw. It continues to rage with virulence in the southeast of Russia.

On account of the spread of cholera, the great Nishni-Novgorod fair will be closed this year earlier than formerly. Most of the richest merchants have remained away for fear of contracting the disease. The attendance of traders is said to be only a third of what it has been in former years.

## KILLED BY BURGLARS.

### Tortured and Killed for Not Telling Where Their Money Was.

Burglars entered the house of a family named Rubinstein at Warsaw, Poland, and demanded from the father his money. He refused to say where he kept it and the burglars chopped off his fingers with an axe. He still refused to tell and they brained him. They then turned to Mrs. Rubinstein, who protested that she did not know where the money was. At her torturing, she refused to tell the burglars out her throat.

The youngest daughter was killed in the same way, and three boys of two, three and five years each, who had begun to cry, were dashed against the wall until dead.

The oldest daughter was hung by her feet until she told where her father had kept his savings. The burglars found about 800 roubles in the chimney, to which she directed them. They then stabbed her in the breast and left her for dead.

A mother-in-law called at the house next day found the door open. On the floor of the first room was the eldest daughter, weak from the loss of blood but able to tell her story. The bodies of the other six had been thrown in a heap in the bedroom.

## PUT TO THE SWORD.

### A Mad Scotch Clerk Hacks Three Persons to Death.

James Fraser, a bank clerk, residing in the village of Polmont, County of Stirling, Scotland, rushed into the house of a neighbor with a drawn sword in his hand, and without a word of warning made a murderous attack upon him, slaying with his weapon all who came to rescue his victim. The neighbor made a good fight, but all his attempts to disarm Fraser were unavailing and at last, worn from loss of blood he was unable to resist longer and was hacked to death. The murderer then turned upon the next victim, who was slaying in the same way. He was finally captured after a desperate struggle. He was believed to be insane.

## SHOT BY MEXICAN RANGERS

### Robbers Taken Out and Their Dead Bodies Left Where They Fell.

Several Texans from the Mexican frontier report that six of the robbers who recently attacked Quarry Foreman C. H. Wood near Trespaldas, on the Mexican International road, and who attempted to murder him and afterward robbed his car, have been arrested by Mexican Rangers, who, after identifying the men by stolen property upon their persons, took them out a short distance from the main track and put the entire number to death. The six robbers were shot and their bodies left where they fell.

CLAY C. CLOUGH, of Boston, Mass., has come into \$25,000 by the will of Heford Drummond, of London. About a year ago, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Mr. Clough, at the risk of his life, stopped a pair of runaway horses attached to a carriage in which were Mr. Drummond and his only daughter. The gentleman wanted to know his gratitude in some substantial way, but Mr. Clough declined a reward.

## THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

### Eastern and Middle States.

ROBERT RAY HAMILTON'S body has been taken to New York from Wyoming and placed in the vault of his uncle, Robert Ray, in Greenwood Cemetery.

PAUL'S NEW YORK Biscuit Company's plant in New York City, was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of over \$100,000.

LOUIS COUGHER, a farmer of Myersville, N. J., was clearing away the grass in front of his mowing machine, when the horses started and he fell in front of the knives. He caught the reins and tried to stop the horses, but could not. The top of his skull was cut off by the knives, exposing his brain. His death was witnessed by his little son.

FREDERICK MOLLICK, a baker, was arrested at Long Branch, N. J., accused of committing the Anarchist Berkman in the attack on Chairman Frick in Liverpool, also an alleged accomplice of Berkman, was arrested in Pittsburgh. The police of that city thought there was a plot to assassinate Frick, which had its inception in New York.

INTENSE heat prevailed throughout the Eastern and Middle States, causing many deaths and interfering with work in factories and mills. The highest temperature, 101 degrees, was reached at Philadelphia, where there were thirteen deaths from prostration.

The human line steamer City of Paris, which flies the American flag, resumed all records on her late trip from Liverpool to New York, and is now Queen of the Ocean. She accomplished the run in the marvelous time of five days, fifteen hours and fifty-eight minutes, beating the best previous record by thirty-three minutes, which was held by the White Star steamer Teutonic.

At Wilkesbarre, Penn., Alexander Eggleston shot and killed his wife and then fatally shot himself through the head. Eggleston had been a very hard drinker, and six weeks before his wife left him, taking her eight children.

FRANK MOLLICK, the alleged accomplice of the Anarchist Berkman, who shot Frick, was forcibly taken from Long Branch, N. J., to Pittsburgh before his lawyers could serve a writ of habeas corpus.

A PLOT to blow up the Carnegie mills in Pittsburgh, by an explosion of natural gas, was accidentally discovered in time to prevent great destruction of life and property. It is believed to have been the work of Anarchists.

The Chief of Police of Long Branch, N. J., was arrested for permitting Frank Mollick, the Anarchist, to be taken out of the State of New Jersey without extradition papers.

GEORGE K. SIBBARE, the well-known broker, committed suicide in the Manhattan Club, New York City.

The Crane Chemical Works at Springfield, N. J., blew up, and several of the buildings which composed the plant were shattered. A number of houses in the vicinity were blown down and a number of people slightly injured. The shock was tremendous, the vibrations being plainly felt in Orange, four miles from the scene of the explosion.

GENERAL SNOWDEN, in command of the Pennsylvania militia, left Homestead with a large portion of his staff.

JAMES RIDLEY, a flagman at one of the railway crossings in Manhattan, N. Y., shot and stoned Thomas Killyard, an Irishman, with his own brains. He was insane.

The forest fire that raged in the southern part of Ocean County, New Jersey, during the dry spell caused considerable damage.

## South and West.

A DISTRUSTFUL hailstorm visited Lakefield, Minn. The storm covered a strip of country three miles wide. The fields in the strip were utterly laid waste.

EXPERT accountants who have been examining the books in the Treasurer's office in Dakota County, Minn., have plotted their work, and report that ex-Treasurer Wilkinson is \$13,400 short.

BODIE, the largest town in Mono County, California, has been wiped out by fire. The fire burned up the entire business part of the town, only one store escaping. Over fifty stores were destroyed and many dwelling houses. The loss is about \$200,000, with small insurance.

The West Virginia Democratic State Convention met at Parkersburg, W. Va., with 1200 delegates present. A. McCorkle was nominated for Governor.

A STEAM engine boiler, used with a wheat thrashing machine near Kyle's Station, Butler County, Ohio, burst. Ambrose Alexander Holden was killed, and George Wiley, Edward Taylor, William Shark and John Kyle were painfully wounded. The barn was set on fire and burned to the ground, with about \$2000 worth of grain and farming implements.

A BOLLER in the single mill of Hartwell & Smith, on Oswego Lake, Mich., blew up, killing four men, fatally injuring another and demolishing the mill.

The Michigan Supreme Court has declared the recent Reapportionment act unconstitutional.

MRS. ROBERT MOHLE, an old woman, living ten miles from Hillsboro, Ill., was stung on the back of the neck by a bee and died from the effects in thirty minutes.

The Colorado People's Party State Convention at Denver and nominated a full ticket headed by Julius Thompson for Governor.

A DESPERATE fight occurred at Flat Rock, Ky., between Deputy Sheriff Grant Sellers and John Coffey, in which both were killed.

APPLICATION was made in Indianapolis, Ind., for a receiver for the Erie and Iron Hill, serious charges were made against the Vice-President of the concern.

JULIUS WISE, colored, was hanged at Lexington Court House, S. C., a few days ago, for the murder of another colored man.

A SEVERE storm, amounting to a tornado, swept over Harrisonburg, Va. Houses were unroofed and trees uprooted.

EX-CONGRESSMAN KNUTE NELSON was nominated for Governor by the Minnesota Republican State Convention at St. Paul. The nomination was made by acclamation.

## Washington.

GEORGE SMILAS was confirmed by the United States Senate as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

SENATOR ALDRICH, of Rhode Island, opened the tariff debate in the Senate with a speech in which he asserted that the cost of living had been decreased under operation of the McKinley bill and that wages had been increased. His statements were denied by Senator Vest, of Missouri.

THE President has approved the act to enforce reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and Canada.

In the House of Representatives, a vote on the proposition to appropriate \$5,000,000 for the World's Fair at Chicago, resulted 117 ayes, 105 nays.

THE Senate in executive session confirmed the following nominations: A. Barton Hepburn, of New York, Controller of the Currency; Watson R. Sperry, of Delaware, Minister and Consul-General to Persia; Truxton Beale, of California, Minister and Consul-General to Roumania, Serbia and Greece.

THE President nominated Watson R. Sperry, of Delaware, to be Minister Resident and Consul-General of the United States to Persia. He is editor of the Wilmington News.

THE Secretary of the Treasury instructed customs officers to deny admission to rags exported from France during the prevalence of the cholera epidemic. He also directed collectors of customs along the Atlantic seaboard to prohibit the landing of immigrants from France.

THE Committee on Territories was instructed to visit (during the recess the Ter-

ritories of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Oklahoma to inquire into their resources, population, etc., and as to the propriety of their being admitted as States.

THE President approved the act granting pensions to the survivors of the Indian wars of 1832 to 1845, known as the Hawk, Creek, Cherokee and Seminole wars.

THE President vetoed the famous William McCarrahan bill. The bill provided for the payment of the McCarrahan claim for about \$3,000,000, which had been before Congress many years.

SECRETARY NOBLE issued a public notice warning all persons now on the Colville Indian reservation, in the State of Washington, without express authority to leave the same without delay.

## Foreign.

THE English have armed the natives of East Africa to fight the Germans.

Eighty persons were injured by the falling of the seats in the theatre at Hull, France.

A COMMERCIAL treaty between Germany and the Republic of Colombia was signed.

In view of the cholera in certain parts of Russia all the schools under the control of the Holy Synod have been closed.

A RECOUNT in Scotland reduces Gladstone's majority in the British Parliament to forty.

The customs revenue of Cuba is to be farmed out by Spain to a syndicate of foreigners.

## FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

### In the Senate.

141ST DAY.—Mr. Sherman introduced a bill to promote peace among Nations.—Mr. Morgan introduced a bill providing that the Government should take possession of the central and Union Pacific Railways until their indebtedness to the Government is discharged.—The Anti-Option bill was further discussed.

142D DAY.—The conference report on the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was presented.—Messrs. George and Hunton spoke in favor of the Anti-Option bill.—Mr. Peffer asked for the appointment of a select committee on the Homestead conflict.

Mr. Sanders objected, because he thought that the resolution should also include the troubles at the Cour d'Alene mine in Idaho.

143D DAY.—Mr. Aldrich spoke on the results of the McKinley Tariff law. Mr. Vest replied.—The Anti-Option bill was laid before the Senate as the "unfinished business" and it went over.

144TH DAY.—The New York Bridge bill was taken up, but went over without action.—The Anti-Option bill was further discussed.

145TH DAY.—The bill, abolishing the office of Post Trader in the army on the termination of the present appointments, was passed.—The Senate refused to recommit the Anti-Option bill by a vote of thirty-two to thirteen.—The O'Neill Eight-Hour bill was passed.—The proposed investigation of the Homestead strike was discussed.—The Hudson River Bridge bill was assigned to the calendar.

A House resolution to adjourn in two days was brought to the Senate and there referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

146TH DAY.—Messrs. Carlisle, Sherman and Proctor spoke upon the tariff, consuming the entire day's session.

### In the House.

147TH DAY.—The General Deficiency bill was discussed. The item for the payment of the Indian Depredation claims, amounting to \$475,251, was agreed to, 93 to 94, and then the House further insisted on its disagreement to the bill, and again sent it to conference.

148TH DAY.—The report on the Raun investigation was presented and discussed.

149TH DAY.—The Deficiency bill was discussed.—The Sundry Civil bill was discussed.

150TH DAY.—The World's Fair appropriation of \$3,000,000 was passed, but on a motion to reconsider filibustering was defeated.

151ST DAY.—The House spent the day in filibustering against the motion to lay the motion to reconsider the World's Fair appropriation on the table.—A resolution to adjourn in two days was passed.

152ND DAY.—Mr. Hatch, of the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the majority report on the effect of the present tariff law upon agriculture. Mr. Funston presented a report containing the views of the majority committee.—Great excitement was aroused by the charge in Mr. Watson's speech in the House.—The deadlock over the World's Fair appropriation remained unbroken.

## THE HOMESTEAD LOCKOUT.

### An Estimate of What It Will Cost All Concerned.

A dispatch from Homestead, Penn., says: "The great lockout at Homestead is just one month old, and has already cost over \$1,000,000 besides the sacrifice of a half-score of human lives and serious injuries to many times that number. Of the loss in cash, the military has cost in round figures \$300,000, the workmen have lost in wages \$150,000 and the Carnegie have spent and as much more in getting the strikers out. The workmen at Beaver Falls, Duquesne and the Union Mills in Pittsburgh have lost about \$100,000 in wages by their sympathy strike, and the firm is out \$100,000 by the idleness of these plants. Added to this will be the county expenses for deputy sheriffs and murder trials, the expense to the city for hunting Anarchists and to the Nation for the Congressional investigation. Another item of no mean significance is the loss to workmen and manufacturers in plants indirectly affected, which have been forced to close down for want of material. The lock-out workmen have not as yet been deprived of any of the necessities of life, and if the fight should last several weeks longer there is no danger of the workmen's families coming to actual want. Subscriptions have been coming in liberally and the relief work has been carried on judiciously and well. Every day people come to the Amalgamated headquarters and receive orders for groceries and provisions, already the funds collected will hold out for some time. The people who are receiving aid are principally those who received \$1.40 a day, the cheap laborers, who left their places out of sympathy for the members of the Amalgamated Association."

On the 29th of June, 2000 men having been locked out, 1800 others struck out of sympathy, and only a few watchmen were left around the plant. Now there are about 750 men in the mill, and the firm says it has a quantity of beams ready for shipment.

The men claim that their rags are as solid as the first day after the mills were closed against them, while the officials of the company assert that there are gaps that are daily becoming wider.

When the striking workmen at the Allegheny Bessemer Steel Works at Duquesne were paid off a watchman named Foley got into an altercation with a man named Bourke, a striker. They were arrested and taken to the Allegheny already. While there Foley's son attacked Bourke and cut him over the right eye. A crowd of several hundred workmen gathered around to see the fight and nearly created a riot. The crowd was ultimately scattered by the Sheridans Troop, which was telegraphed for to the heights above.

The world-be assassin Berkman was given a preliminary hearing in the County Jail office in Pittsburgh, and was admitted to bail aggregating \$21,000, which was not furnished, and his prisoner was remanded for court.

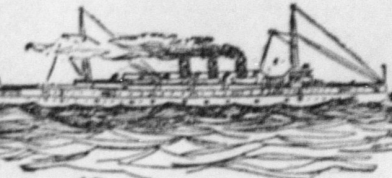
The Northern Pacific railroad estimates that there will be 181,000 head of cattle shipped East from Idaho, Montana and Washington this season against 200,000 last.

## THE GEM OF THE OCEAN.

### Columbia, Our Commerce Destroyer, Launched.

### Description of the Greatest and Fastest Vessel Afloat.

The new United States commerce destroyer Columbia, officially rated as Cruiser No. 12, but nicknamed "The Pirate," was successfully launched at 3:50 o'clock a few afternoon ago in Cramp's shipyard, Philadelphia. The young lady who was selected to christen the beautiful craft was Miss Edith Morton, the daughter of Vice-President Morton.



THE COLUMBIA.

When all was ready she broke a bottle of champagne, richly decorated with a hand-painted picture of the cruiser and her namesake, and her silk streamers, upon the cruiser's prow, and the new member of the navy gracefully slid from the ways and beautifully settled in the water. As the stern struck the river every whistle in the vicinity began shrieking, and the pandemonium continued for some minutes. The Columbia's anchor was cast when the middle of the river was reached.

Around the christening party who mounted the flag-covered stand at the bow of the vessel were Secretary of the Navy Tracy, Vice-President Morton and Mrs. and Miss Helen Morton. The ladies carried large bouquets of roses, and H. Cramp, of the shipbuilding firm, stood at the side of the fair christener as prompter. There were also several hundred persons from Washington, New York and elsewhere on the platform.

While no invitation was issued by the firm of William Cramp & Sons, the yard was early thrown open to the public and all were made welcome. From Washington came a small but distinguished party of officials, including Commodore Norman H. Farquhar, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks; Commodore George Devey, of the Bureau of Equipment; Commodore Francis S. Ramsey, Bureau of Navigation; Commodore William M. Folger, Bureau of Ordnance; Chief Constructor Theodore D. Wilson, of the Bureau of Construction and Repair; Paymaster-General Edwin Stewart and Captain John A. Howell, President of the Steel Board.

Fifty thousand people watched the launching from the yard and neighboring docks, and, in fact, from every vantage point in the City of Philadelphia. The Columbia is named in honor of the capital of South Carolina. She is of a class that takes the name of a city. In view of the near approach of the Columbus Centennial, Secretary Tracy thought that the name might have a double significance.

Description of the Vessel. Cruiser No. 12, when completed, will not only be a triumph of shipbuilding, but will embody all the essentials of propulsion, offensiveness and defensiveness which have long been recognized as combining the factors necessary to a maximum advance in naval architecture. She is termed "the 7000-ton, three-screw commerce destroyer" in the Congressional Appropriation bill.

She is primarily designed for speed, for her chief function will be to sweep an enemy's commerce from the seas. To do this she must be able to overhaul in an ocean race the swiftest passenger steamships. The trans-Atlantic record being five days, nineteen hours and five minutes, she must keep it down to five days and a fraction of an hour. A combination of perfected machinery such as has never before been designed will accomplish this end.

The cruiser is full of intricate mechanism and has ten boilers, six of which are double ended, 132 feet in diameter by 21 1/2 feet long. Two others are 11 1/2 feet in diameter by 18 1/2 feet long, and the remaining two, which are single ended, are ten feet in diameter by eight feet long.

The boilers are made of steel and carry a pressure of 190 pounds per square inch, built in air and water-tight compartments, into which is forced a draught of 216-500 cubic feet of air per minute when running at full speed.

The engines are three in number, consisting of vertical triple-expansion cylinders, each of which develops 7000 horse power and drives a separate screw. Under full pressure, each of the three screws should turn at the rate of 128 revolutions per minute. Ninety revolutions will be the normal speed of the City of Philadelphia. The cruiser's shafts are made of forged steel 16.5 inches in diameter.

The vital portions of the vessel are protected by an armored deck 4 inches thick on the slopes and 2 1/2 inches on the flat. The gun deck will be minutely subdivided by coal bunkers and store rooms. The bunkers not used for coal will be filled with a patent substance of such solidity as to form a wall of armor, and having all the advantages of an inner 100 poundment armor.

In the event of an emergency this patent substance, the nature of which is kept secret, can be used for fuel. Forward and abaft of the coal bunkers the cofferdam will be filled with a water-repelling substance similar to wood.

In the wake of the eight four-inch and machine guns the ship's sides will be armored with four and two inch plating. The six-inch guns, which are four in number, will be mounted on the open deck and protected by heavy shields attached, as in the new ships, to the gun-carriages.

The coal capacity of the cruiser is 2000 tons. At ten knots speed per hour this will give her an endurance of 109 days, a range of action of 25,249 knots, and she will be able to steam around the world in 109 days without recouling, thus breaking all records for speed, economy and capacity.

The batteries of the cruiser will consist of four six-inch breech-loading rifles, twelve six-pounders, rapid firing; two machine guns, one field gun and six torpedo tubes. She will have two signal masts.

The new cruiser is eminently superior to any other war ship in the world. The Blake, the finest ship in the United States navy, is the nearest approach to Cruiser No. 12.

It was stipulated in the contract with Cramp that the vessel, in all its parts, should be of domestic manufacture.