

## CROP REPORT.

The Month's Averages as Made by the Department of Agriculture.

The crop returns of the Department of Agriculture show a slight improvement in the condition of corn, raising the monthly average from 81.1 in July to 82.5 in August. In only four years since the initiation of crop reporting has there been a lower August condition. In the year of worst failure, 1881, it was 79, declining to 66 in October. In 1890 it was 73, declining to 70.6 in October. In August, 1886, it was 80.7, and in 1887 it was 80.5, declining later only in the latter year. A slight improvement is indicated in the States north of the Ohio River, and a greater advance in the States west of the Mississippi River, except Kansas and Nebraska. Condition is high in nearly all the Southern States, nearly the same as in July in the breadth west of the Mississippi, higher in the lower States of Atlantic Coast, and slightly lower in Alabama and Mississippi. A small decline is seen in the Middle States, except New York, and also in both the Eastern States, though in both of these divisions the average is higher than in the West. The following averages of principal States are given: New York, 90; Pennsylvania, 86; Virginia, 90; Georgia, 90; Texas, 94; Tennessee, 92; Ohio, 81; Indiana, 74; Illinois, 73; Iowa, 79; Missouri, 83; Kansas, 81; Nebraska, 81. The crop reports indicate a present tendency to further improvement.

The returns relating to spring wheat are lower, declining during the month from a general average of 91.9 to 87.3. Condition of other crops averages as follows: Spring rye, 89.8, instead of 92.7 in July; oats, 86.3, a fall of 0.3 point; barley, 91.1, instead of 91; buckwheat, average, 101.3, condition, 92.9; potatoes, 85.3, declining from 90; tobacco, 88.8, a fall from 92.7; hay, 83.3.

The report shows a reduction in the condition of cotton during July from 86.9 to 82.3. This is the lowest average since August, 1888, when the general condition was one point lower. The season has been almost everywhere too wet, though in South Carolina and Georgia alternations of excessive rainfall and blistering sunshine have been injurious.

The natural result of these conditions appears in grassy fields, rank plant growth and small fruitage, with considerable shedding. Grass worms and caterpillars have appeared in the more Southern and Western districts, but no material damage has yet resulted. The State averages of conditions are: Virginia, 83; North Carolina, 82; South Carolina, 83; Georgia, 84; Florida, 81; Alabama, 83; Mississippi, 80; Louisiana, 84; Texas, 80; Arkansas, 75; Tennessee, 79.

## LAND OFFICE REPORT.

Commissioner Carter's Review of the Operations During the Year.

Land Commissioner Carter's valdictory report of the operations of the Land Office for the past fiscal year has been made public. The Commissioner says that, under the repeal of the timber culture law, approved last year, large numbers of cases, long suspended on the mere suspicion of fraud or under harsh technical rulings, have been passed to patent, and more than 3,000 additional entries have been considered and proper action taken.

The total number of agricultural patents issued from 1885 to 1888 was 162,754, covering 261,400,000 acres; while the total number of agricultural patents issued from 1888 to 1892 was 299,128, covering 47,730,000 acres, substantially clearing the desert and leaving the office free to attend to current business. The total number of mineral patents issued from 1885 to 1888 was 3792, the total number issued from 1888 to 1892 was 7354, clearing the mineral and coal lands. The total educational and internal improvement selections made from 1885 to 1888 were 334,000 acres, while from 1889 to 1892 the total selections made were 2,935,000 acres. In the matter of surveys and resurveying during the same periods like results were maintained.

The average of public lands disposed of during the fiscal year was 1,571,000 acres. The miscellaneous entries aggregated 11,505,000 acres; Indian lands, 97,000, making a grand total in round figures of 13,073,000 acres. There were patents for the benefit of railway companies under Congressional grants during the past fiscal year 2,918,000 acres, as against an area patented for railways during the previous fiscal year of 4,088,000 acres.

The total area of the vacant public land in the United States is 567,396,000 acres, of which 230,001,000 acres have been surveyed.

## HONORS TO RIGGIN.

The Dead Sailor's Remains Reach New York From Chile.

The body of Charles W. Riggins, the boat-swain's mate of the United States cruiser Baltimore, who was killed by the mob in the riot at Valparaiso, arrived at New York a few days ago from Colon on the Pacific Mail steamship Columbus.

The body was in charge of William B. McCreery, United States Consul at Valparaiso.

A delegation from Philadelphia met the body. The delegation had among its number John K. Riggins, a brother of the dead sailor, and Major R. M. J. Road in charge of the funeral ceremonies at Philadelphia.

The body was transferred from the steamship, where it was stored between decks just aft of the main hatchway, to the wharf. The embalmed body was in a coffin which was encased in a hermetically sealed leaden casket.

When it was removed to the wharf it was wrapped in an American flag. The special steamboat which had been engaged to transport the body to Jersey City was in readiness. Consul McCreery turned the body over to the Committee of Arrangements, and it was placed on board the waiting steamboat.

At 10:30 o'clock the steamboat started for the Pennsylvania Railroad station in Jersey City.

The body was then placed on board of a special car tendered by the Pennsylvania Railroad and at 2:20 o'clock shipped to Philadelphia.

## SISTERS DROP DEAD.

They Had Been in a Runaway a Short Time Before.

At Fairmont, Neb., Lizzie and Bertha Shultz, aged twenty and seventeen years respectively, were driving from their country home into town when the team took fright at the cars and ran away, throwing the occupants to the ground. They were assisted to a house and quickly recovered, hired a team and started home. Bertha, while putting away the horses, suddenly dropped dead. Lizzie and her mother ran to the barn, when Lizzie fell prostrate almost on the body of her sister and expired.

## OVER A PRECIPICE.

A Family of Six Killed by a Team Running Away.

A whole family, consisting of a man and wife and four children, names unknown, were killed at Guthrie, Oklahoma, a few days ago.

The family had been in that city buying provisions, and while returning to their claim on the Old Cheyenne reservation their team ran away and over a precipice. Every member of the family and both horses were killed.

## PROMINENT PEOPLE.

PRINCE BISMARCK is paraly of Slav origin.

JUSTICE LAMAR'S long locks have been clipped close and are now quite gray.

It is fifty-nine years since Gladstone took his seat in the British House of Commons.

CARL SCHUBERT has built for himself a pretty summer cottage at Lake George, N. Y.

JULES MASSENET is regarded by many people as the most popular musician in Paris.

BISMARCK and Von Moltke once fought a duel over a girl when they were fellow students.

SENATORS HAWLEY, of Connecticut, and Gibson, of Louisiana, very much resemble each other.

GENERAL RIDWELL, the Prohibition candidate for President, will not do any campaigning.

BARON HIRSCH, the Hebrew philanthropist, is planning an extended tour through the United States and Canada.

JUSTICE SHIRAS, the new appointee to the Supreme Bench, is a cousin of James G. Blaine, his mother having been a Blaine.

FIMS REEVES, the famous English concert tenor, who is now an old man, has joined the teaching staff of the Guildhall school of Music, London.

WATSON R. SPERRY, of Delaware, the newly appointed Minister to Persia, is about forty-five years of age and a graduate of Yale, class of '71.

COLONEL ROBERT H. CROCKETT, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Sixth Arkansas District, is a grandson of the famous Davy Crockett.

The little Queen of Holland had had a uniform made for her, as Empress William, of Germany, has appointed her Colonel of the Second Regiment of Westphalian Infantry.

CHAIRMAN CARTER, of the Republican National Committee, wears a light colored coat, and in many personal features is a striking reproduction of the traditional "Uncle Sam."

ROBERT H. FOLGER, of Massillon, Ohio, is claimed to be the oldest practicing attorney in the United States. He was born in Chester County, Penn., 1812, and began the practice of law thirty years thereafter.

CHARLES F. LUMBIS, the young novelist and explorer, whose name is beginning to be known beyond the pages of the magazines, is about thirty-two years old and has passed his entire life in the far Southwest.

KNUT NELSON, who is the Republican candidate for Governor of Minnesota, is familiarly called "the little Norwegian." He is about five feet six inches in height, and wears a closely cropped, dark chin beard, streaked with gray. His profession is the law. In it, as in political life, he is especially popular with the Scandinavian citizens of the Northwest.

CHOLERA PATIENTS SHOT.

They Tried to Break Through the Guards at Trebizond.

The cholera is raging in Asia Minor, having been brought there by travelers from Persia. At Trebizond, the capital of the vilayet of that name, not less than 1500 persons are confined in the lazaretto, a rail enclosure outside the walls of the town. Many are restless under detention, and the other day made an effort to break through the cordons established around the lazaretto and to gain their freedom. The Turkish troops were summoned to prevent the escape.

A large force of military hurried to the scene, and the mob was ordered to disperse and return to the lazaretto. The mob refused, whereupon the troops were directed to fire. The soldiers sent a volley straight into the struggling mass, who were firing air with cries and shouts of defiance.

A number of persons fell, killed and wounded. This terrified the rioters, and the survivors returned, without further demonstration, to the lazaretto. The number of killed was eight and of wounded thirty-four.

In Northern and Central Russia the disease is increasing, and in Moscow twenty-three more factories have been closed, owing to the spread of the plague. The Grand Duke Sergius, Governor of Moscow, has ordered every man dealing with the plague; while the Grand Duchess Elizabeth, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, devotes her personal attention to the relief of the sufferers.

Besides the sanitary precautions taken, prayers are offered up daily in the churches for the abatement of the pestilence, and the monks of the various monasteries may be seen going in procession and chanting hymns. The authorities are enforcing a thorough cleansing of the filthy districts of the lower classes, who object to being disturbed. People who fail to obey the sanitary regulations are severely punished.

## EIGHTY-SIX DROWNED.

They Went Down in a Collision Off Finland.

Later details of the collision, attended by a great loss of life, between steamers near the coast of Finland, show that two coasting steamers, the Ajax and the Runeberg, collided off the port of Helsinki, capital of Finland. The Ajax was crowded through the narrow channel from Helsinki, who were out for a sail.

The Runeberg was in the coasting business. The Ajax has sailed out, and, having been delayed on the return by a heavy fog, was not at high speed when the collision occurred.

The Runeberg was going at ordinary speed, and struck the Ajax near the center, shattering that steamer so that the water poured in a torrent.

The passengers on the Ajax, nearly all Swedish Finns, behaved with notable courage. The men pushed the women and children to the life buoys, thrown out by the Runeberg, and took their own chances at struggling in the water.

There was no time to lower boats, as the Ajax sank almost instantly, carrying down nearly a hundred passengers. Eighty-six persons were drowned and thirty-nine bodies were recovered.

## MARBLEHEAD LAUNCHED.

The Last of the Three 2000-Ton Cruisers Slips Into the Water.

Cruiser No. 11, the first large man-of-war launched in Boston since 1818, was put overboard a few afternoons ago at the Harrison Loring ship yard at South Boston, Mass.

Assistant Secretary J. B. Soley, Governor Russell, members of the Massachusetts Legislature and representatives of Boston's Board of Aldermen and Common Council were among the thousands of spectators of the launching. All the ships in the neighborhood were dressed with flags, as well as the cruiser herself.

About one o'clock all was in readiness, and as the ship started down the ways, Mrs. C. F. Allen, of Salem, broke a bottle of wine on the vessel's stem and christened her the Marblehead.

The Marblehead was constructed at the ship yards of Harrison Loring, who received the contract for building her November 11, 1889. The price agreed upon for the hull and machinery was \$614,000. The principal dimensions of the cruiser are: length on water line, 237 feet; beam, 57 feet; draught, 14 1/2 feet; displacement, 2000 tons; maximum horse power, 3100; speed, 17 knots.

## WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

The Fine Arts building at the World's Fair will have a mosaic floor, the contract for which has been let at \$16,980.

ONTARIO (Canada) breeders of thoroughbred animals have already applied for space for 103 horses, 193 cattle, 275 sheep and ninety-one swine.

A SEPARATE building at the World's Fair for the shoe and leather industry exhibit is now an assured fact, as the required \$100,000 has all been raised.

A "MODEL of the figure of Lot's wife in salt" will appear in the Kansas World's Fair exhibit to represent or illustrate the salt industry of the State.

The German exhibit at the World's Fair will contain an architectural display including drawings illustrating 200 or more of the most notable buildings in the empire.

The New York State Board of Charities is preparing an industrial exhibit for the World's Fair, the products of the charitable, corrective, reformatory and eleemosynary institutions under its supervision.

FULLY 100,000 men, it is believed, will participate in the parade on the occasion of the dedication of the World's Fair buildings in October. The militiamen and "regulars" who will participate will number about 10,000.

An Indiana stone quarry company is having a life-size figure of an elephant chiseled out of a solid block of stone. It will be eleven feet high and weigh thirty tons. It will be exhibited at the World's Fair.

RHODE ISLAND will present its World's Fair building to Chicago after the Exposition closes. The structure will be very picturesque in appearance, being a reproduction in part of the famous "Old Stone Mill" at Newport.

Mrs. POTTER PALMER, President of the Board of Lady Managers, and Archbishop Ireland have agreed to give the space for the World's Fair an exhibit of the work of the Catholic women of the world. This project has the special approval of Pope Leo XIII.

A WHALING party is being fitted out at a Massachusetts port with a view of obtaining reliable information for the Fisheries department at the World's Fair. If captured, the whale will be confined in a tank and towed to Chicago by way of the St. Lawrence River.

MORE than 200 panels of native woods will enter into the interior decoration of the Wisconsin exhibit in the Fisheries department at the World's Fair. Some of them will be carved and others decorated with paintings of Washington scenery and groupings of flowers, fruits, grains, fish, game, birds, etc.

The South Kensington Museum, London, recently paid \$300,000 a yard for some lace manufactured in the south of Ireland. It is said that this is the highest price on record and that the lace is of the most exquisite workmanship. The lace will be exhibited at the World's Fair.

An international congress of charities, correction and philanthropy will be held at the World's Fair, to consider questions relating to charitable institutions, paupers and unfortunate. The congress will begin June 13, 1893, and last one week. Ex-President R. B. Hayes has been invited to preside over its deliberations.

The California Carlot will be represented in miniature at the World's Fair by an exhibit of electric cars. Fresno County will distribute 2500 pounds of raisins in souvenir boxes. A playing fountain of wine will form a feature of the viticultural display. A rose tree twenty-four inches in circumference will be one of California's exhibits.

The New York Central Railway, in its exhibit at the World's Fair, will strikingly illustrate the wonderful improvements that have been made in railway transportation by showing a magnificent, complete vestibuled train and along side of it a reproduction of the first train of cars used in this country, the cars of which resembled old-fashioned stage coaches.

## THE LABOR WORLD.

TEXAS has no legal Labor Day.

A UNION of legal glaziers has been formed. There are gloomy prospects for the cotton trade in England.

The typewriters of Chicago are about to organize a trades union.

OVERTIME has been practically abolished in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

UNION laborers at Haverhill, Mass., have agreed not to shave non-union men.

OWING to the Homestead strike the price of structural iron advanced 84 per cent.

THE Government is preparing to enforce the eight-hour day law on governmental contract work.

FARMERS in the West are offering as much as \$2.50 a day to men to help them harvest the grain crop.

THE composition roofers of St. Louis, Mo., gained a strike that guarantees them \$2.25 for a day's work of eight hours.

SERVANT girls in California receive on an average \$25 per month. Nurse girls are paid \$13 to \$23, and good cooks from \$30 upward.

THE latest reports to the general office of the Knights of Labor from Australia say that the Order is growing wonderfully in that country.

THE Iron Moulders' Union of North America has cast 18,605 votes in favor, and 4505 votes against, opening the World's Fair on Sundays.

THE Java Government, heretofore dependent upon compulsory labor in coffee gardens, is now trying to pay labor by the contract system.

ACCORDING to Secretary Cooper, of the Iron League, the Board of Working Delegates costs the workmen of New York City \$150,000 a year.

DROUGHT sufferers from Mexico are coming into the United States in great numbers, and this is being done by their board or for twenty cents a day.

In Great Britain the year's loss in wages through ill health is about \$55,000,000, and it is estimated that forty per cent. of those who start in business fail, March being considered the slackest month for business.

THE Carriage and Wagon Makers' International Union, in session at Columbus, Ohio, provided for organizers in each State, and ordered that any person in the union who becomes intoxicated shall be summarily dismissed.

DURING the last five years the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators has reduced the hours of labor and advanced the wages of its members in 23 cities. The receipts at the general office were \$29,720.51, and the expenditures amounted to \$21,918.87.

## A RICH TRAIN CAPTURED.

Mexican Brigands Make a Big Haul of Silver Sulphides.

The mail courier from Mazatlan brings information of a bold and successful robbery committed by a band of brigands near Culiacan, in the State of Sinaloa, Mexico.

A train of ten burros was on the way from the Yedras mines to Culiacan, loaded with \$50,000 worth of silver sulphides in boxes for export.

It was guarded by twenty men, who were attacked in camp by fifteen bandits. Three of the guards were killed and the others were overpowered and bound hand and foot.

They were kept in the condition by the brigands, who drove the mules with their precious loads into the deep recesses of the Sierra Madre Mountains. A company of Government troops went in pursuit of the robbers.

## STALLION AGAINST BEAR.

A TERRIFIC BATTLE WITNESSED BY IDAHO RANCHMEN.

The Big Horse Had Whipped Many Bears, But at Last Met His Match in a Huge Grizzly.

A BATTLE between a powerful stallion and a big grizzly bear was witnessed by the employes of James Murrefree at the latter's mountain ranch in Idaho.

The battle royal between the two beasts commenced at about 4:30 in the morning, and lasted about an hour. The ranch hands saw the melee from its commencement, but so confident were they that the stallion would prove a victor, they did not attempt to interfere until it was too late. Time and again old Grey Rex, as the big Norman horse was called, had in short order killed black bears of considerable size, and the men thought his early morning antagonist was nothing more than an unusually big black bear which had come to the ranch in search of a juicy shoot. They observed that the shaggy animal's method of fighting was quite unusual, but they were too anxious to enjoy a little sport to give the matter a second thought.

Old Grey Rex had been sleeping in his shed the previous night, and when he heard the men moving about he pranced out, neighing for his matutinal feast of grain. As he rounded the corner the men saw him eagerly sniff the air, his ears slanted forward and his mane stiff and bristling. Gazing over the grassy range the men saw the figure of a bear, leisurely slouching off toward a heavy copse. A moment later Grey Rex, his eyes distended with rage, sharp snorts of anger and defiance issuing from his red nostrils, started majestically across the plain to offer battle to the retreating intruder. The bear heard the hostile advance of the stallion, and he glanced over his shoulder, but did not quicken his shuffling gait. He had seen horses before.

"By George, boys, there's gold in some fun!" cried Cowboy Jack Spire, and the men clambered to the roof of a shed the better to see the battle.

It was not long delayed. Grey Rex, with a piercing scream of rage, with his white teeth exposed, dashed at the bear, which, with a low, grumbling growl, jumped to one side in time to avoid the onslaught. The savage stallion wheeled, slowly approached the bear, and then with a quick turn he landed his hind feet upon the grizzly's ribs. The blow was a stunner, and the men who heard it thought the bear was done for. It was a surprise for the bear, but it did not disable him. With a shake of his big head, and a shifting of his feet, he faced the stallion, which again rushed at him with widely opened mouth. The grizzly was ready, and old Rex received a slap on the muzzle that threw him off his feet, and caused him to collide with his hind hitting antagonist. Over went both bear and horse. Rex was the first to regain his feet. With a fierce scream and with terrific force he brought his sharp fore feet down upon the bear's left flank, bringing the blood in a stream. It was a fearful wound, and the bear was for a moment badly dazed. The stallion had gained a decided advantage, but he had become more wary. He was accustomed to fighting with bears that rose upon their haunches, giving him splendid opportunities to deliver adroit kicks, the force of which soon proved fatal. The tactics pursued by his latest opponent puzzled him and he hesitated. The ranchmen noted this with surprise, and jumping from the shed they cautiously approached the battlefield. To their subsequent regret they were too excited to think of bringing firearms.

Rex heard the men approaching and he speedily regained his waning courage. He dashed at the bear, turned nimbly, and kicked him end over end. The bear did not seem to be very badly injured, but he was now thoroughly aroused. Rex was upon him in an instant, thinking to again stab the bear with his forefeet. As the horse reared for the blow the grizzly darted forward, and with a tremendous blow from one of its armored paws, it ripped open the bowels of belligerent stallion. The men saw the blood rush forth, saw the protruding entrails, and realized that Rex had at length met his match. Jim Maxwell rushed to the house for his rifle, and the other men tried by shouts and sudden sorties to frighten the bear away.

But it was now too late. The animals were at it tooth, hoof and claw, engaged in one final struggle. It was a terrible conflict. Both animals were bathed in blood, poor old Rex's color appearing only in irregular spots. He fought like a demon, striking, kicking and biting. Again and again with his gleaming teeth he tore patches of hide and flesh from the body of the bear, and nearly every time he tried to land his feet he succeeded. But the bear was as savage as the horse. He had been crippled fore and aft, but he was full of fight, and great patches upon the stallion's sides, breast and head showed where his blows had struck. The bleeding animals did not pause a moment. They fought like tigers, the horse shrilly screaming and the grizzly growling sullenly.

Presently the bear saw a chance to deliver a blow with one of his tremendous paws. It fell with murderous force upon the stallion's shoulder, and it knocked him over and over. When he arose he was dazed. It was evident that he could not see the bear, for he commenced to trot here and there apparently in search of his foe.

Presently his eyes fell upon the bear, which was savage and expectant. With a fearful cry of rage the horse rushed, or rather staggered, toward his red-eyed antagonist, and again he essayed to strike with his fore feet. But he was too weak. He gave the foe an opening, and a moment later he sank to the earth dead, with a broken neck.

Just at this instant Jim Maxwell fired. The bullet pierced the grizzly's body. With a sharp yelp he turned to flee, but

he suddenly wheeled, dashed at the men, struck Maxwell upon his left hip, breaking the bone, and then, falling forward across the form of the prostrate man, the grizzly died with his face toward the foe.

## SELECT SIFTINGS.

Paper quilts are becoming popular. There are now 250 lepers in Louisiana. Really beautiful turquoises are very rare.

The American gooseberries require pruning every year. There are certain antelopes which never visit drinking places.

Babies should be given a drink of water two or three times a day. Rabbits signal with their forepaws, and have regular signals and calls.

The market price of a wife in Equatorial Africa is ten bundles of hairpins.

A New York man committed suicide, recently, because his wife refused to support him.

A complete buggy in sections was not long ago shipped from this country to Mexico by the parcel post.

It requires upward of 148,000 acres of rich land to produce the sugar yearly consumed in the British islands.

The serpents have their hearts situated in the head, hence they are always very careful in protecting that region.

The loco weed, which is abundant in Western Kansas, has a peculiar fascination for cattle, upon which it exerts an intoxicating effect.

Sewell County, Kansas, has an ox which measures fourteen feet in length, six feet and a half high, and when fat, weighs 4500 pounds.

The longest speech ever made was by a Roumanian deputy in support of the impeachment of an ex-minister, John Bratiano, when he spoke for thirty-seven hours.

The Bridge of the Holy Trinity, Florence, Italy, was built in 1569. It is 322 feet long, of white marble, and is even now reckoned as being without a rival as a specimen of the bridge-building art.

The Servians have a curious custom of giving a parting kiss to their deceased friends before final burial, and the observance of it has caused a serious epidemic of diphtheria. The custom has now been forbidden.

Gold was probably the first metal discovered and used. It was mined in Egypt and well known in the Eastern Empires 1800 years B. C. It was doubtless known and used in India many hundred years before that period.

In India a huge funnel of wickerwork is planted in a stream below a waterfall, and every fish coming down drops into it, the water straining out and leaving the flapping prey in the receptacle all ready to be gathered in.

Few relics of antiquity are so curiously interesting as the charts employed by ancient mariners, which have portrayed upon them ever so many extraordinary monsters, horrible dragons and terrific giants scattered here and there.

Princeton, N. J., has two trees which were planted previous to the Declaration of Independence. The sycamores in the Dean's yard were planted in 1767, by the order of the college trustees, to commemorate the resistance of the Stamp act.

A startling variation of the snake story comes from Rome, Ga. A gentleman, seeing a snake lying on the road, prodded it with his umbrella. The snake straightened its body, spread out two long wings like a goose, arose in the air, and flew across the field.

A Bath (Me.) man one Sunday morning became so lost in abstraction while barbering that he forgot to shave the other side of his face. He went to church that way, and attracted the attention of those in the neighboring pews by holding his hand to one side of his face throughout the service. He will never be caught that way again.

## An Electric Hat Polisher.

The electric hat polisher is the latest innovation in the field of applied electricity. In the lower corridor of the Produce Exchange Building may be seen in daily use a practical illustration of this process. The operation is as simple as it is effective. The hat is slipped over a clutch, which holds it firmly, and the clutch is attached to the end of the shaft of a small motor. The current is switched on, and as the hat spins around at the rate of 2000 revolutions a minute, a brush moistened with benzine, or some more mysterious fluid, is applied. After this cleansing strips of silk or plush take the brush, and the hat is polished off.

Ironing is rendered unnecessary, as the heat developed by the friction against the rapidly moving surface answers every purpose of a heated iron. Not only is much time saved over the old method, but the results are said to be superior. Silk, derby or straw hats are renovated with equal success.—New York Advertiser.

## Funny Things About the Face.

The average human nose is badly out of line, and it is this fact that usually lends its peculiar piquancy to the face. A medical writer says that there are anatomical reasons why a slight deviation from a true centre line may be expected, if he is correct in his deductions, the nose which is squarely set between the two eyes is, after all, the abnormal one.

German and American doctors in Japan have succeeded in discovering a surgical process by which the Japanese characteristic eye can be relieved of its slant and made to look like the European optic. The Japs are having their visual organs operated upon by the wholesale, which removes one of their national characteristics, as they have their national dress.

Soon, if this thing goes on, we shall have changes in the style of wearing faces, and the paper will quote the latest mode in noses as well as eyes.—New York World.

## "THE PETRIFIED FOREST."

THE WONDERS OF CHALCEDONY PARK IN ARIZONA.

Thousands of Mighty Trees Turned to Solid Stone—Myriads of Precious Gems—An Enchanted Spot.

M. C. HOVEY describes in the Scientific American a trip to Chalcedony Park in Arizona. He says: From the very start the road was lined by specimens of agatized wood. Now and then a petrified log, or solitary stump, were harbingers of what was to be seen further on. The term "park" is a misnomer; for there is no natural park here, nor has the hand of man done anything but to shatter the marvelous relics of dateless antiquity. The people of the vicinity always speak of it as "the Petrified Forest." But that again is misleading; for there is no forest, whatever there may have been fifty centuries ago. It certainly seems as if the place ought to be made a National park, and should be both better protected and more easy of access. As it is, the enchanted spot lies at the mercy of vandals, the only precaution against spoliation being a railroad rule against shipping specimens from it in bulk.

How shall the Chalcedony Park be described? At first one gets the impression that it is a small affair, of perhaps fifty acres. Then he says that it must be a hundred. And after riding over its amazing ruins for many hours in succession, he concludes that the area includes a thousand acres; and finally he hardly questions the bold estimate of Mr. C. F. Lummas that the extensive forest now hardened into stone formerly covered "hundreds of square miles;" and accepts without dissent the assertion of Mr. G. F. Kunz, that there may here be seen at a glance a million tons of precious stones. A matter-of-fact visitor might say that the scene reminded him of a vast logging camp, where the lumbermen had tossed the huge logs from their sleds at random, and then had gone away, leaving them to become rain-soaked and moss-grown. The trees when standing were fully two