

Artistic coffins are nowadays made out of wood pulp.

Among the industries of the United States that of paper making now holds fifth place.

In the twenty years that have elapsed since the close of the Franco-Prussian war Europe has doubled her military strength.

Although worth \$35,000,000 at the time of his death, Leland Stanford borrowed money all his life, and said that he could have profitably used more.

A remarkable discovery has been made at Carrog, near Llangollen, Wales. While a number of workmen were carting stones from the bed of the river Dee, they discovered the remains of an ancient church, which was washed down by a heavy flood 300 years ago.

The scientific investigators at Munich claim to have discovered that Asiatic cholera is essentially a poisoning with nitric acid generated by Koch's comma bacilli. This is interesting. If we can't kill the bacilli, perhaps something can be devised to neutralize the poisonous acid.

The largest use of placards on record was prior to the Paris election in 1889. General Boulanger had 15,000 bill-stickers, who put up 45,000 daily, in all 900,000. In some places, when they were torn down after the election, there were found sixty layers of bills alternating with those of Boulanger's rival.

The collection of postage stamps has brought into existence a professional stamp repairer, who, for a small fee, dexterously repairs mutilated stamps. His specialty is restoring the margin to the envelope stamps that have been cut to shape, and have thus lost much of their philatelic value.

Mr. Dobbins writes to the Pittsburg Dispatch that the very objectionable bit of slang, "the wind blew through his whiskers," is not American at all. In fact, it was first used by an Englishman, one Dan Chaucer, who wrote the "Canterbury Tales." In the tale of "The Shipman" occurs this remarkable line, "With many a tempest had his beard been shaken."

The Central Peruvian Railway across the Andes starts from sea level at Callao. It crosses the Andes range to Oroya, 136 miles from the coast. At the seventh mile it is 700 feet above the level of the sea. At the fiftieth mile the elevation is about 6000 feet and the ascent is steady and rapid until it reaches its highest point at the 106th mile, when the height is 15,665 feet.

The originator of the Concord grape is still living in Concord, Mass. He is Ephraim W. Bull, now eighty-seven years old, and one of the prominent men of the historic town. He was a friend of Emerson and Alcott, and has been greatly honored by distinguished visitors to Concord, and by horticulturists at home and abroad. In his garden at Concord he still shows the old mother vine of the Concord grape which he developed from the seed of a native wild grape planted just fifty years ago.

The conservative University of Virginia could not permit a woman to attend its lectures, observes the New York Telegram, but it did send Miss Caroline Preston Davis to stand its examinations in mathematics at the close of the year, and as she passed the whole course successfully the faculty bestowed on her the certificate of excellence and made her practically the first female graduate of the university. Dr. Thornton gave to the graduating class the privilege of conveying to her the honorary diploma and the boys did it with a yell.

Says the New York Press: Four distinct invasions of the frozen mysteries of the Arctic region will be under way this year. Lieutenant Peary will endeavor to map the northern coast of Greenland and to investigate the archipelago which lies beyond. If conditions favor he may make a venturesome dash on sledges across the frozen sea toward the pole. The other American explorer, Gilder, will examine the movement of the magnetic pole. Two avowed attempts to reach the North Pole will be made, one by Doctor Nansen, of Norway, who proposes to drift with the ice in a craft especially designed to resist pressure from floes, and another by Mr. Jackson, whose effort to cross the ice on sledges assumes that there is no open Polar Sea, and is supported by the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain.

Twelve different kinds of languages are preached in four languages in the eight churches at Wahoo, Neb.

Whaling in the Antarctic seas this season is reported to be a failure. Grampuses, seals and sea lions are numerous, it is further stated.

For some unexplained reason, states the New York Tribune, more fires seem to break out on Sunday morning than at any other time of the week.

The success of the three experiment farms in Manitoba, Assiniboia and British Columbia is causing Canadian farmers to urge the Government to establish a larger number.

When people talk about bad times the Baltimore American thinks it would be well for them to remember that there is about seventeen hundred million dollars (\$1,700,000,000) of deposits in American savings banks. Savings banks are pretty good financial thermometers for telling the real condition of the country.

The Cincinnati Times-Star exclaims: Chicago that succeeded in planning and executing an architectural and artistic and a mechanical triumph of which the most imaginative Roman poet in Rome's Augustan age could never have dreamed, will continue to be talked about throughout the world and in places, too, where all other American cities are unknown.

Says the New York Independent: It is the native custom in Tinnocely to marry with a necklace instead of a ring, and the Church of England missionaries there have consented to the change in the marriage service so that it shall read: "With this necklace I thee wed." But with a delicious insularity some of the Anglicans at home are protesting against the crime of the change.

The new invention of M. Turpin, to whom the world is indebted for the discovery of melenite, the most powerful explosive in existence, seems destined, if not to render war impossible, at any rate, to render the artillery now in existence altogether superfluous. It consists of a very light gun and carriage drawn by two horses, and four charges can be fired within the space of fifteen minutes, each of which throws 25,000 bullets over a surface of 20,000 square yards. The range of the gun is about two miles.

Connecticut is now added to the list of States where the practice of medicine is regulated by law. There are now but nine States in the Union where the practice of this profession is absolutely unrestricted by any rules whatever, and the Boston Herald regrets to say, that Massachusetts is one of the delinquent States. The only equipment that is essential for the practice of medicine in Massachusetts is a signboard hung outside the physician's office, and even this is frequently dispensed with. Massachusetts is the irregular practitioner's paradise.

Where has the duster gone? asks the Philadelphia Press. It is still worn in the West. It still appears on longer lines of travel. Its manifest and sensible convenience endears it to middle-aged men. But on a short line like that between this city and New York the duster has disappeared as completely as last winter's snowflakes. The clothing stores keep them on the back shelves. Few are sold. The big wholesale dealers do not sell a dozen where they once disposed of a bale. In a few short years this convenient garment has been relegated to the country districts and the provinces. Yet in our climate, with our hot, dry summers, our abundant dust and long railroad journeys, the duster ought to have become a permanent article of clothing for all travelers.

"Kypnosis bicyclistarum" is apparently known in the West as well as the East. "Why is it," asks the Chicago Journal, "that as soon as a young man learns the useful and graceful art of bicycle riding he must forthwith attempt to undo the work by which he was made in the image of his Maker and seek to transform himself into a hideous mesozoic dinosaur or some other uncleanly creeping thing? The head goes down, the back is humped, the arms assume the position of forelegs, and all that is wanting is a croak to pass for a broken-backed frog. There is no excuse for this abomination. An erect attitude gives the rider a much better command of the wheel. It is merely a habit due to too much pernicious and unhealthy 'scorching.' Women who ride wheels do not stoop. Out upon this frog-squat, this hump-backed disease, 'Kypnosis bicyclistarum!'"

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT.

ORIENTAL FARMING PRODUCTS AT THE FAIR.

Japan's Section of the Agricultural Building is an interesting place to visit—Various Tea Exhibits—The Japanese Honey Industry—Domestic Fowls of the Country.

Agriculture is the occupation of the greater part of the people of Japan. The mountainous and volcanic nature of the country renders large portions unarable. For probably the same reason the soil is not naturally very fertile, but it can be, and is, made so by the abundant use of compost. Moreover, not even half of what is fairly fertile is under cultivation; but the amount of cultivated land is gradually increasing, and the harvests are becoming richer. But it can be readily understood that, for any reason, the crops fail, severe suffering will be widespread. The prosperity of the country depends upon the prosperity of the farmers.



JAPANESE VEGETABLE PEDDLER.

The front entrance to Japan's pavilion in the Agricultural Building, says the Chicago Record, is at the south end of the Japanese section. The doorway is constructed of native woods in the style of a native gateway, with a thatched roof. Just inside the entrance is a booth devoted to the exhibit of tea from Shizuoka (prefecture).

The Shizuoka tea is of the first quality. Its fine flavor has been developed through the culture of many years. The annual product is 25,000,000 pounds, of which 20,000,000 pounds are exported to the United States. A small sample package of this tea is given away, of which a tiny cup may be had in the Japanese tea house.

Mr. M. Hoshita is the overseer of the Shizuoka exhibits; Mr. T. Watanabe is in charge of the different exhibits of tea, and Mr. K. Tawara is chief of both the fisheries and the agricultural bureaus. These gentlemen are always pleased to make explanations to the visitors. The sample package is put up in paper dipped in the tannic acid of an unripe persimmon to preserve it from moisture. Mr. Watanabe is "purveyor of tea to his Imperial Majesty's Court of Japan."

Just beyond the Shizuoka booth is the ex-



JAPANESE EXHIBIT IN THE AGRICULTURAL BUILDING.

hibit of tea, above which is a series of pictures illustrative of the different stages and kinds of labor employed upon the leaves from picking to shipping. A group of photographs of similar scenes may also be found just over the front entrance. Ise is the name of a province famous for its traditions and its tea. It is the place where the ancestors of the Japanese history (unfortunately not creditable), Jimmu Tenno, the Japanese Romulus, in 660, B. C., laid the foundations of the Japanese empire. It is now the most sacred spot in all Japan, the seat of the ancient and powerful shrines where the ancestors of the present emperor are worshipped. It is also the place where, according to tradition, the tea-plant was first discovered and cultivated.

Other important agricultural products exhibited by the Japanese are rice, barley, wheat, buckwheat, beans, sweet potatoes (dried), daikon (a large, bitter radish, which is a staple article of diet) and tobacco. A great many kinds of jellies and sweetmeats are made by the Japanese from vegetable products and are harmless and delicious. Several varieties of bottled, boxed and canned fruits, jellies and confections are on exhibition. The sembei is a kind of wafer much liked by both natives and foreigners. Many kinds of sash are also exhibited. The advertisement of one is a curiosity.

"The manufacture of the Awa-ame is perfected by my house with experiments of many years and scientific principles. It contains more nutritive materials. That taste is very sweet. Persons who have tasted it always would taste the sweetest feelings."

"The Okinawa, a cake, is made of the Awa-ame again. It is most delicate in taste and especially excellent quality for tea-cake. There is no slightest danger for the change of its taste kept long."

"Both are so honorable that obtained medals at each time of National industrial exhibitions."

"Original manufactured by Osugi Kuroumura."



A JAPANESE TEA HOUSE.

"Pass sixteenth generations to me from the first manufacturer of my house. Continuing about during 270 years. The Japanese honey industry is also represented at the World's Fair by specimens of bees, honey, beeswax and hives. The Japanese agriculture bureau has published a little pamphlet explaining the way of using the hive, the method of collecting honey and giving the names of the plants from which the bees get honey. It is there stated also that one swarm will produce 13,582 pounds of honey and 747 pounds of beeswax, and that honey sells for nine sen (cents) a kin (1.325 pounds), and beeswax at thirty sen a kin.

Eastern and Middle States.

A young girl who was employed as a domestic at a boarding house and George B. Frame, a boarder at the same place, were struck by a train while they were attempting to cross a railroad bridge on the outskirts of Watertown, N. Y., and instantly killed.

A plot of convicts at Dannemora (N. Y.) Prison to murder the guards and escape was exposed by a prisoner; he was pardoned by Governor Flower.

MISS LIZZIE BYRAM died at her father's cottage, Ashbury Park, N. J., of hydrophobia, the result of the slight bite of a surly pet black and tan dog.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND started from Buzzards Bay, Mass., on a fishing trip in E. C. Benedict's steam yacht Onida.

A DINNER was given in honor of James H. Eckels, Controller of the Currency, at the Union League Club, New York City.

The corner stone of the Odd Fellows Temple, which will cost \$1,000,000, was laid at Philadelphia, Penn., with impressive ceremonies.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND returned to Gray Gables, Buzzard's Bay, Mass., from his fishing trip; he said that his health was splendid and that his rheumatic trouble had left him.

FIRE on the dairy farm near Carteret, N. J., occupied by Thomas Stutz destroyed a building covering seven acres, and caused a loss about \$30,000.

STATE SENATOR EDWARD R. OSBORN, of the Fifteenth District, died in Albany, N. Y., at his home, of paralysis, at the age of eighty-two.

The will of A. J. Drexel was filed for probate in Philadelphia; among the bequests was one of \$1,500,000 to found an art gallery or museum.

J. R. THOMAS, Postmaster of Ovid, N. Y., after being wounded twice slightly, killed one of two burglars who were robbing his office. The dead thief is William M. Lindsay, an ex-saloon keeper of Rochester, N. Y.

South and West.

At Denver, Col., the People's Savings, the Rocky Mountain Time and Dollar and the Colorado Savings Banks have closed their doors. At Kansas City, Mo., the Missouri National Bank has suspended payment; also the Grand Avenue Bank, a private institution. The assets are \$209,000; liabilities, \$140,000.

FOUR people were killed and several injured in a collision between a Grand Trunk train and a horse car in Chicago, Ill.

The foreign exhibitors at the World's Fair are getting ready to file claims against the National Government for damages, already being prepared.

The First National Bank at Colortown, Ga., closed its doors. The suspension was caused by inability to realize at once on call loans.

SEVENTY MOHLER has issued a statement saying that if the conditions continue favorable Kansas will have the largest corn crop of its history, with the exception of that of 1887.

MISS EMMA GARRETT, of Philadelphia, who with her sister, Miss Mary S. Garrett, had charge of the Pennsylvania blind children's exhibit at the World's Fair, committed suicide by leaping from a window at the Briggs House.

THREE Denver (Col.) National banks—the Union National, the Commercial National and the National Bank of Commerce—closed their doors, owing to the heavy demands of excited depositors. The Mercantile Bank, a small private institution, also suspended, owing to the closing of the Union Bank.

EDUCATION'S exhibition in the Agriculture Building at the World's Fair, was thrown open to the public view, and was visited by large crowds.

THE drought, which extended over an area of 40,000 square miles in Western Texas, has been broken by good rains.

At Denver, Col., the German, State and People's National Banks closed their doors to re-establish the heavy demands that it was evident would be made. The list of closed banks in Denver is now thirteen, of which six are National, five savings and two private institutions.

TWO men were mortally wounded and one instantly killed in a pitched battle between tramps and citizens near Sheffield, Ind.

At Green Bay, Wis., Rear-Admiral Melancton Smith, United States Navy, died after a two-days' illness. He was born in New York City, May 24, 1810, and entered the navy as a midshipman at the age of sixteen.

THE Brazilian Building was dedicated at the World's Fair.

THE Commissioners of Agriculture of the Southern States, in session at Atlanta, passed a resolution calling for the adoption of a uniform system of control and regulation of the manufacture and sale of commercial fertilizer.

SWEDEN'S day at the World's Fair was celebrated by a big procession and a concert; Columbia Building was opened on the same day.

A NUMBER of striking miners, with their wives, attacked the strip pit miners in one of the mines near West City, Kan. A fierce fight ensued, in which clubs and firearms were used. About 100 shots were fired and a number on both sides were injured. No one was killed.

It is estimated that ten thousand persons in Denver, Col., and twenty thousand outside of it have been thrown out of work by the cessation of silver mining. They are in great distress.

Washington.

THE absence of the President and his family at Buzzard's Bay is being taken advantage of thoroughly renovate the White House, and to make some changes in the arrangement of the interior.

It was reported that the warship Mohican was disabled on June 25 by a shot from the coal-poaching steamer Alexandria passing through her machinery; the story was discredited in Washington.

THE Navy Department formally accepted the cruiser Detroit and authorized the payment to the builders of reserved funds amounting to about \$235,000.

THE manufacture of the new army rifle (the Krag-Jorgensen) is being pressed vigorously, and a large number of special orders and sharpshooters have already been procured. It is believed that the first lot of completed arms will be ready for delivery and issue to the service about September 1.

THE Department of State has just issued a register containing some new features. One of these is a historical sketch of every Secretary and Assistant Secretary. Another is a record of the persons in the diplomatic and consular service.

Foreigns.

FRENCH marines have captured two Siamese forts on the Upper Mekong river; a Siamese force was repulsed with great loss by Annamite militia. France has not disavowed Admiral Humann's action in causing gunboats to ascend the Meinam.

THE court martial of Captain Bourke and the other surviving officers of the Victoria was begun at Valetta, Malta; Captain Bourke testified in his own defense.

In the court-martial of the officers of the Victoria at Valetta, Malta, Flag-Lieutenant Gillford and Staff-Commander Hawkins Smith testified that Vice-Admiral Tryon said immediately after the Camperdown straggle, "It was all my fault."

BERNARDS raided the village of Lipkay, Bukovina. The villagers killed five of them and several more, and occupied the place. They were finally routed and the place looted.

FRANCE sent an ultimatum to Siam giving her forty-eight hours in which to comply with her demands.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

BEAR ADMIRAL MEBURN, in his testimony before the Malta court martial, said that Sir George Tryon's command was impossible to follow with safety.

THE Infanta Eulalia, of Spain, who has been visiting Paris, left en route to England, where she will visit the Duke of York and his bride, Princess May.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

GOVERNOR RUSSELL, of Massachusetts, rides a bicycle.

GENERAL ALE-JANDRO RODRIGUEZ ARIZ, Governor-General of Cuba, is dead.

GENERAL MELINET, aged ninety-five, still holds a commission in the French army, being stationed at Nantes.

GENERAL EDWARD JARDINE, hero of many battles and the New York draft riots, died at a New York hotel a few days since.

COLONEL C. C. JONES, Jr., historian of Georgia, died a few days ago of Bright's disease at Augusta. He was sixty-two years old.

COLONEL JAMES CLAY, of Bourbon County, Kentucky, owns more blue grass land than any man in the world, being assessed on 4256 acres.

THE decadence of the popularity of the bull fight in Spain is largely responsible for the Duke of Veragua's threatened bankruptcy. He raises fighting bulls.

MAJOR ELIJAH W. HALFORD, who was Private Secretary to President Harrison, has been stationed at the Department of the Platte headquarters, Omaha, Neb., as assistant paymaster.

A NOTAL personage has been added to the list of operatic singers by the debut in France of the Princess Almada, who is said to be a descendant of the house of Delhi. Unlike the rest of her immediate family, this Indian aristocrat is a Christian.

The inventor of the now important art of lithography, Alvis Senefelder, was born in Prague in 1771. He died, almost unknown, at Munich in 1834, having been little by little by his discovery. A monument has at last been erected to him at Berlin.

FINDING that Cluny Castle would be too small to accommodate his summer guests in Scotland Andrew Carnegie has rented Craigdarroch House, two miles distant. This is the place which John Morley once described as an ideal Highland residence.

The Coran Minister and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Y. determined to identify themselves with Christianity shortly after the death of their first child. Except on state occasions they wear American clothes.

Two or three years ago, against the advice of all her friends, the wife of Senator Stewart, of Nevada, bought a silver mine in Mexico. Then she went for a trip around the world, and recently returned to find herself the owner of a bonanza that almost equaled anything Nevada ever knew. She is now building a large villa near Washington.

The late Senator Stanford always wore a little butterfly necktie, one of the kind that is fastened on a short ended bow and fastens to the collar button with a rubber loop. For many years that was the only cravat in the Senator's possession. He parted with it only when it was completely worn out and his wife made him get another. The portrait by Meissonier, which cost \$15,000, has him wearing this tie.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

SPAIN proposes to have a world's fair.

ENGLAND will not back Slam in her troubles with France.

THE French Government has overruled the rioters of Paris.

THE gold reserve is steadily climbing to the \$100,000,000 mark.

THE clip of 1893 will be the largest ever known in Wyoming.

AN army of crickets is devastating the growing crops of Wyoming.

THE proposed silver convention in St. Louis has been abandoned.

THE Baldwin apple crop is reported to be a failure in Western New York.

A MATERIAL falling off is noticeable in the number of applications for Federal jobs.

THE Legislature of Vera Cruz, Mexico, has prohibited cock fighting and bull fighting.

A PREMONENTIAL crop of wheat is predicted for the Canadian prairies the coming fall.

THE Mexican Government will pay \$5,000,000 in railroad subsidies in the year following July 1.

THE failures for the first six months of 1893 have been 6239, more than in any previous like period.

OF the 20,000 licensed vehicles in New York City 10,000 are permitted to stand over night in the streets.

CHICAGO has taken Boston's place in the last six months and is now second in bank clearings in the country.

THE Nicaragua Canal Construction Company is out of funds and has stopped all work upon the Nicaragua Canal.

THE total value of the exports of beef and hog products from the United States during June, 1893, was \$10,098,830.

THE Canadian Dominion revenue for the year ending June 30 was \$37,183,255. The expenditure was \$30,622,633.

THE American choice timothy is quoted abroad at thirty-five dollars a ton. In England hay is now selling at from \$45 to \$50 a ton.

THE scarcity of fodder in the south of England has become so pressing that the farmers are feeding their horses rice, which is cheaper than oats.

THE railroads have agreed on the low rate of a cent a mile to delegates to the National Grand Army encampment at Indianapolis, Ind., in September.

A SHOWER of millions of toads is reported at Grand Falls, Me. It was thought they came from the water spouts that were sent up a few days before.

THE CROP OUTLOOK.

The Secretary of Agriculture Thinks the Prospects Are Good.

J. Sterling Morton, Secretary of Agriculture, in an interview states that the crop prospects "are good. The outlook for a fine crop of corn in all the corn-growing parts of the country is good. The reports also indicate that the wheat and oat crops will be large."

"A demand for large exports of hay and other forage comes from all parts of Europe, France, Germany and Belgium will take the largest quantities. We are making an effort in the Agricultural Department to secure some statistics as to the amount of beef consumed in this country. It is a difficult thing to do because of the absence of any figures on the subject. The farmers have suffered greater losses on beef in the last ten years than on any other product, and still the strange fact remains that beef is the only product of consequence which does not figure in the speculative markets. There is no dealing in 'futures' or 'options' on beef."

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

Two Children Killed and Their Father Nearly Blinded.

While James Watt and two children, aged nine and eleven years, were driving from a neighbor's to Mr. Watt's house, a short distance away, they were overtaken by a shower of rain and stopped under the shelter of a tree near Russellville, Ky. They had been there but a short time when lightning struck the tree, wagon, and occupants. The two children were instantly killed. The sight of one of Mr. Watt's eye was destroyed and that of the other was injured.