

Querstaro, Mexico, has solved the financial problem. Soap is legal tender there.

Japan has three native fire insurance companies, well conducted, it is said, the largest of which has 12,000 policies in force.

The most accurate available sources of information disclose that 920,000,000 gallons of distilled spirits were consumed in the United States last year, and that there was paid for intoxicating drinks in this country during the same period \$1,600,000,000.

A fissure has been discovered in the bluff four miles south of Ponca, Neb., from which issues a blast of intensely heated air. In the report in which the discovery is announced it is stated that "the breath of the blistering wind" has sufficient force to carry away bits of paper and even twigs.

France has the credit of being the pioneer in co-operative organizations, and in that country there are now 1100 co-operative societies with a membership of 600,000. Great Britain has 1516 associations and 900,000 persons interested in them. In the German Empire no less than 5950 organizations have been formed on this principle.

The seeming strange suggestion is made and strongly pressed in England that the men who man the navy should be taught how to swim. Ordinary sailors are instructed and expected to qualify in swimming, but the marines, firemen and engineers are not, and it is a fact, declares the New York Sun, that a large portion of the latter large body of men who serve on war ships cannot swim. It is said that many more men would have been saved from the Victoria but for this fact; also that many sailors who were good swimmers were undoubtedly dragged down by the men who were not. The matter has been taken up in Parliament, and it is probable that swimming will be insisted on as a part of the training of every man serving aboard ship.

The war of tariffs now fairly on between Germany and Russia is no doubt due to more than one cause. Traditional enmity and jealousy have doubtless had a good deal to do with it on either side. Then there have been some indications that Russia, through negotiations with Austria, has been trying to put Germany in a position of commercial isolation, and this the German rulers have resented. They have had the further political motive of gratifying the members of the Agrarian Party in the border provinces, and so making sure of needed votes to pass the Army bill. Judging by the figures of Russo-German trade, the New York Post predicts Russian exports are likely to suffer more than German from the mutual application of maximum tariffs. Russian exports to Germany in 1891 amounted to about \$114,000,000, while Germany exported to Russia in the same year only some \$61,000,000.

In the Chronicle Fire Tables for the present year will be found some statistics of unusual interest. Fire destroyed in 1890 in the United States, \$109,000,000 worth of property, in 1891, not less than \$144,000,000, and in 1892, the round sum of \$152,000,000 went up in smoke. The fire loss in this country passed the \$100,000,000 limit in 1883, and it has increased nearly every year. The insurance men are shaking their heads ominously over these figures. They know that they will have to advance rates, but they dread the opposition of the people and the newspapers. "It is a very serious problem—this matter of fire waste," observes the Atlanta Constitution. "In the past seventeen years nearly seventeen hundred million dollars' worth of property has been reduced to ashes. Georgia's loss for this period foots up over \$32,000,000. Now, what are we going to do about it? At one time it was thought that incendiarianism cut a big figure in all these losses, but it is now agreed that the main cause is to be found in the notorious fact that there is a craze for cheap and hastily constructed buildings, with defective flues and other drawbacks increasing the risk of fire. The way to counteract this evil in cities and towns is to have a rigid system of inspection that will prevent the erection of such dangerous buildings. Out in the country it will be a matter largely under the control of each individual house owner. We need a reform that will give us better buildings, even if we have fewer houses. Between the fire demon and the storm king the average edifice of lathes, plaster, paint and glass has few chances of escape.

The world's coal field will last 1000 years. That gives us time enough to discover or invent a new fuel, comments the Atlanta Constitution.

Lepers are becoming so numerous in Louisiana, declares the Atlanta Constitution, that the people of that State want the Federal Government to set apart an island for them and undertake their care. Unless this is done, the terrible scourge will spread to other States.

The farmer of the future will be a woman, opines the New York Recorder, if Michigan affords a basis for prophecy. In Wayne County alone there are 220 women farmers, and in the whole State 8707, with an ownership of 670,439 acres. The value of the land is estimated at \$43,500,000, and the earnings of the women aggregate \$4,353,500.

It will be new to many readers that the mosquito is now firmly established in London. It is to be found in certain large hotels which are the resort of visitors coming from the continent, and the supply seems to be maintained by constant importations from abroad. Visitors who are familiar with the noise and bite of the mosquito assert that it is the true pest in its worst form, and there is no reason for doubting their experiences.

The statistics furnished by the Secretary of the Treasury about the importation of drugs into the United States are somewhat startling to the New York World. It appears that the Nation disposed of 1,392,437 pounds of nux vomica, but whether for tonical purposes or for impaired digestion or to kill dogs, these being among the various uses to which the drug is put, is a matter of conjecture. The importation of 2,686,677 ounces of sulphate of quinine indicates that malaria still racks the bones of Americans, and the presence of 587,121 pounds of opium on the list excites a suspicion about the increase of the morphine habit. Of ipecac—

Ipecacuanha which, for lack of breath to utter, men call ipecac—the importation was small, duties having been paid on only 38,329 pounds of this old-fashioned medicament.

A resident of Fort Scott, Kan., who was a passenger on a train that was recently stopped and pillaged by robbers, has written a letter to the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad managers suggesting means for putting a stop to the work of desperadoes on the railroads. After observing that the robbers were not only poorly organized, but seemed very apprehensive of the results of their crime to themselves, those guarding the passenger cars continually calling out to their companions in the express car to hasten matters, the writer says: "My observation leads me to the conclusion that if your company will run a twenty-four-inch strip of boiler iron around the bodies just below the windows of your cars, put four or five Winchester in each car just above the windows in glass covered boxes, just as you do axes and saws, marked "For emergencies," post up notices in each car offering a reward, in advance, of say \$200 or \$300 a piece for 'fresh dead train robbers,' I think you will see the meekness and apathy of the ordinary to-be-robbed passenger disappear, and the American public will take care not only of itself, but of any stray robbers 'caught in the act' along the line of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas." Another device to prevent the success of train robbers has been invented by the Western Passenger Agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Road at St. Louis. His plan is very simple and provides for equipping every safe with two locks which interlock with each other, and a notice pasted on the outside of the safe for the special benefit of the robber. The locks, for convenience of description, are called "Lock No. 1" and "Lock No. 2," and the notice reads as follows: "Notice. In case of assault by robbers, throw the combination of lock No. 2. This safe can then be opened only by the agent at the terminal station." The messenger knows the combination of lock No. 1, or has a key to unlock it, but he does not know the combination of lock No. 2, and if he once throws off the combination of lock No. 2, it is utterly impossible for him to unlock and open the safe, and the painted notice on the safe door will apprise the train robbers of the fact. At the first intimation of trouble the messenger's orders will require that he at once throw off the combination of lock No. 2, when the safe is at once locked, not only against the robbers, but against the messenger and every one except the agent at the end of his run.

### THE JAVANESE VILLAGE.

A NOVEL AND INTERESTING EXHIBIT AT THE FAIR.

Scenes of Oriental Industry and Home Life—Dwellings of the Villagers—The Police Station and Its Implements—A Javanese Theatre and Orchestra.

After a careful inspection of the pleasures offered by the Midway Plaisance, perhaps the majority of visitors will decide, says a Chicago correspondent of the New York Evening Post, that the Javanese Village is at once the most unique, refined, and comprehensive in its scope of any at the Fair. There is no sign of coarseness or vulgarity in either amusements or customs, and Oriental life is presented in one of its most charming phases. The houses, bazaars, theatre, and kiosk are a delight to the eye; the men, though lacking the stature of the Saxon, have a sturdy physique, the little women have lustrous eyes, sweet faces and gentle ways; both are placid and soft spoken, industrious and artistic.

The village, which covers a very considerable area, is surrounded by a palisade of split bamboo and at its western side is a high arched entrance made of immense bamboo decorated with devices in smaller bamboo, palm leaves and bark. In the centre of the village and fronting the entrance is a large kiosk where the real Java coffee and tea are served. Apropos of real Java coffee and tea, it was largely with the idea of letting Americans know that the true articles are that this village has been sent over. At present comparatively little, it is said, of our so-called Java coffee comes from the island of Java, but rather from South America. The Java coffee is very high in the essential oil and less is required in making the beverage than when the South American flavor is used. For that reason and for its finer flavor the genuine berry commands a higher price. Most of the Java coffee goes to Amsterdam and Rotterdam, and is distributed from there, while the greater part of the tea crop is shipped to England.

Speaking of coffee and tea-drinking in the United States, Signor Carlo Ferrari, the manager of the Javanese natives here and for

a blade of unusual keenness and temper to work in the tough and fibrous bamboo. Around the central portion and near the kiosk are bazars for the sale of matting, woven bamboo hats, reed instruments, curious drums, embroideries, and a great variety of Javanese art work.

The whole village was constructed in Java on the estates of the proprietors and shipped by way of Hong Kong and San Francisco to Chicago. In Java the village would occupy many acres, but here the Plaisance beautiful gardens surrounding each house at home have necessarily been crowded out. One hundred and twenty-five natives were brought from the same estates properly to represent Java to the Western world. Fifty tons of coffee and thirty tons of tea, for drinking at the kiosk and for wholesale also formed part of the cargo. The owners hope to familiarize Americans with their products and to open direct trade relations with the merchants of this country. On the island of Java the coffee tree begins bearing at three years, is mature at seven years, and lives usually from thirty to forty years, and from its climate and soil the tree thrives best at an altitude of about 4000 feet, when the average yield is two pounds of the berries per tree.

Near the kiosk on the north is a typical Javanese village police station. It is a small affair, having room for not more than two or three persons. In front hangs a gong, in the form of a great red fish, upon which alarms are given. Leaning against the station are the implements with which the culprit is apprehended, and most uncomfortable looking implements they are. They are called tjakak. One, the tjakak bessa, is of iron, shaped like the letter U, with bars on the inner side, and the other is of wood in the form of a V. This has on the inside wicked-looking thorns from the rattan which point backward. Both the tjakaks are fastened to long poles, so that the prisoner may be kept at a distance when his neck is in the jaws of this contrivance, and the long thorns or bars pointing to the rear deprive the poor wretch of any temptation to escape by running. However, there is comparatively little use for jails or tjakaks in Java now. Occasionally a native gets some opium and has a jollification, but for crime, especially of a grave character, is uncommon. The people are naturally gentle, and so extremely sensitive that one who has mastered their language is said to be able to punish them much more severely by words than with a stick.

Beyond the police station to the north is the theatre. This is a long building of the same general construction as the others, ex-



DETAIL OF THE BRAZILIAN BUILDING.

cept that it is higher, wider, more elaborately decorated, and generally a more pretentious piece of architecture. Its seating capacity is for 1000 or more people, and here are given Javanese plays of the present and former periods. In former times the tale was unfolded by using marionettes behind an illuminated screen. One man, called the dalang, worked them and spoke the different parts, changing his voice with the character represented. In the screen was abandoned and dolls were substituted in which the extravagant and characteristic profiles were preserved. Afterwards the several roles were played by persons wearing the typical masks and the white masks, princes and nobles wearing white masks, giants and devils red and brown masks, etc. In the last evolution the parts are both spoken and acted by the same person, but the plot of the play is taken as of old from mythological tales.

The orchestra of the theatre numbers about twenty-five, and their music, though quaint and strange, is not at all bad. The leader plays a two-stringed violin, or rebab, there is one wind instrument, the seoding, a kind of bamboo whistle, several xylophones, some bonangs, a kettle-shaped affair made of bell metal, some big gongs of the same material, and drums great and small. None of the sounds are the discordant, terrible noises of the Chinese, but each one is by itself at least distinctly musical. In fact, the Javanese are said to be in music by far the most frontly developed of any of the Eastern Nations. For some music the octave is divided into seven tones, as for the pelog, and for other music into five tones, as for the salendro. The Javanese play the salendro sound like glass and has a manly sound, while the pelog is more tender and must have a more delicate timbre. This orchestra occasionally plays well-known English and American airs, and the effect is very pleasing if somewhat odd. The dances by the Javanese girls is a slow succession of graceful poses, the best of them being very delicate indeed.

Before one leaves the village he goes to pay a final visit to Kias, the orang-utang, whose large cage is at the corner of the kiosk. This is certainly an extraordinary ape, and nearly as clever as old "Aunt Sally," who used to be at the London Zoo. He washes his face and hands, cleans his teeth, eats his porridge with a spoon, carefully peels and eats an orange for dessert, and then walks on his hind feet about his house, or takes a little practice on the horizontal bar, but always sedately and with great dignity. When the weather is a bit cool, he folds his blanket about him and sits meditatively looking at his strange visitors, and perhaps ruminates regretfully upon the warm days in Java when he could tramp about the village untrammelled.

The largest check ever drawn upon a bank in the United States is exhibited by the Pennsylvania Railroad. It is for \$14,943,632.20, and was drawn by that corporation in payment for the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad.

### A TRAIN'S FATAL PLUNGE.

IT GOES THROUGH A BRIDGE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

The Locomotive Got Across Safely, But Four Wagner Cars Plunged Into the Stream—Many Persons Killed or Injured—The Scene at the Wreck.

The Chicago Limited express train for Boston broke through a frail iron bridge on the Boston and Albany Railroad one mile and a half east of Chester, Mass., at noon, and four Wagner cars were crushed, killing fourteen or fifteen persons, fatally injuring several others, while at least twenty were badly hurt. The wreck is the worst ever known in the history of the railroad. The bridge, strengthened for the big locomotives, and the workmen who were putting on the plates were at dinner when the crash came. The locomotive passed over the structure, but was smashed, the water tank being thrown a long distance.

The buffet car, two sleepers and a dining car were smashed to kindling wood when they struck the stream twenty feet below, but two day coaches and a smoker in the rear did not leave the track. The dead are: Miss Emma Delery, Columbus, Ohio; M. C. Ives, Chicago; T. Everett Sedgewick, Palmer, express messenger; James McMaster, Springfield, brakeman; J. H. Murray, Greenough, N. Y., baggage master; George H. Morse, Boston; Wagner car conductor; J. C. Stackpole, Hartford, Conn.; R. C. Hitchcock, Bellows Falls, Vt.; J. E. De Witt, Portland, Me., President of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company; Thomas Kavanagh, a blanket manufacturer; Miss Susie Cutting, Boston; Mrs. C. H. Blunt, Philadelphia; Mrs. J. S. Winchell, Oaidea, N. Y.; unknown woman, plainly dressed, apparently about twenty-five years of age.

Several of the wounded were hurt so seriously it was thought they would die. The train was seven minutes late at Chester, and the railroad hands say it was going at the rate of twenty miles an hour when it struck the first of the two spans across the Westfield River. The locomotive seemed to leap across the bridge, as the trusses collapsed and fell over to the south.

The bridge was built in 1874. It was a two-span lattice structure 221 feet long. It stretched across the west branch of the Westfield River. The ill-fated train was one of the fastest expresses on the road, stopping only at Springfield, Mass. It carries the largest engine, and is the fastest of any train running west of Springfield.

The scene of the accident is but a short distance below Chester, and is just below the steep grade going up the mountain. Word was carried to the village promptly, and the people did their best to care for the injured.

Two wrecking trains left Springfield immediately after the accident. On the second train were Medical Examiner Breck and Dr. Seelye, of Springfield.

Superintendent Cone, of Chester, who has charge of the mountain division of the road, took charge of the wreck, and with the assistance of the extra engines and section hands did much toward clearing away the wreck before the arrival of the wreckers from Springfield. The physicians of Hantsington arrived on the scene and did much to relieve the sufferings of the injured.

The heroes of the work of rescue were Doctor George L. Wood, of Collinsville, who went to the train to meet his wife, and the colored porters and waiters in the dining car. Although their faces were bruised and covered with blood, they did splendid work.

The hospital was a group of apple trees in an adjoining orchard, where scores were taken. Of teams arrived with loads of straw, cushions, bedding and food. The wounded were soon removed to the houses of N. A. Harwood, Washington Moore and J. C. Crocker, and all that remained on the apple-orchard ground were thirteen bodies covered with red blankets from an adjoining stable.

The dead were many of them horribly mutilated, heads crushed in, limbs torn, and often only recognizable from the clothing. The injured were conveyed in a special train to Boston.

### TO COIN MORE GOLD.

Bullion in the Treasury to Be Minted as Fast as Possible.

Secretary Carlisle has ordered that the mints at Philadelphia and San Francisco be fully manned and run to their full capacity in coining gold bullion. The Treasury Department possesses from eighty-five to ninety millions of gold bullion, a part of the gold reserve. Gold bars cannot be used as currency, and it has been decided, in the present need, to coin the bullion on hand. This bullion will be coined into \$10, \$5 and \$2.50 gold pieces, preference being given to the first two combinations. The coining capacity of the Philadelphia Mint is over \$5,000,000 per month. The San Francisco Mint will also be utilized, but nearly all the bullion proposed by the Government is in the East.

### ARAB MUTINY QUELLED.

Villages Burned and Many Inhabitants Killed by British Marines.

The British cruiser Blanche has quelled a mutiny of Arabs against the East Africa Company's employes on the island of Kismayo, and rescued all the company's servants at the port of Kismayo excepting the chief agent, who had been killed. The steamer Kenia, in Kismayo Harbor, was hard pressed by the Arabs, and was saved from destruction only by the early arrival of the Blanche. The marines drove the Arabs into the interior of the island, after having killed and wounded many and having burned several of their villages.

### THE PRESIDENT'S THANKS.

He Congratulates Wilson on His Success in the House.

The following telegram from President Cleveland respecting the vote in the House Monday on the silver question, was received by Chairman Wilson, who introduced the Silver Repeal bill:

"BREWSTER'S BAY, MASS., August 28. 'To the Hon. William L. Wilson, Washington, D. C. 'Please accept for yourself and associates to-day's achievement my hearty congratulations and sincere thanks. 'GROVER CLEVELAND."

### THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Eastern and Middle States.

The death of August Jacobson, a New York tailor, made the sixteenth victim of the terrible collision between two trains on the Long Island Railroad.

BALEBRICK, a beautiful summer resort on the crest of the Alleghenies, in Sullivan County, Penn., was struck by a tornado, which wrecked a cottage and several barns, and badly damaged other buildings.

T. A. ARNOLD, an Alderman of Newark, N. J., was accidentally killed by swallowing a dose of carbonic acid given by his wife in mistake for a harmless tonic.

REV. FRANK SHEPHERD, a Methodist clergyman and temperance orator, in a fit of insanity murdered his five-year-old daughter Margaret at Rocky Point (R. I.) Excursion Grounds. The child's head was crushed in and she died in twenty minutes.

EDMOND BOSTAROCKE, aged eighteen years, and Samuel and Alexon Bouchard, brothers, aged eighteen and fifteen years, respectively, were drowned while swimming at Manchester N. H.

NEW YORK and New Jersey have been visited by a second hurricane, but happily without the frightful loss of life which accompanied the first cyclone. In New York much damage was done to crops, and along the New Jersey coast many summer hotels and other buildings were badly damaged.

EX-SERVANT and Mrs. William M. Everts celebrated their golden wedding at Windsor, Vt.

THE Pennsylvania Republican State Convention, at Harrisburg, nominated D. Newlin Fell for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and Colonel Samuel M. Jackson for State Treasurer.

NEW YORK Prohibitionists at their State Convention in Elmira nominated a ticket headed by Joseph A. Bogardus for Secretary of State.

THE New York Republican State Convention will be held at Syracuse on October 6, the day after the Democrats open their State Convention in Saratoga.

THE town of Kernersville, N. C., was struck by a cyclone in which hundreds of houses were blown down, four persons were killed and many wounded.

THE seventh annual convention of the International Sunday-school Union was held in St. Louis, Mo.

THE loss caused by the cyclone to the cotton crop in the territory tributary to Savannah is placed at \$1,000,000, and that on the rice crop \$200,000. The total losses on the cotton and rice crops of Georgia and the Carolinas are regarded as incalculable. The property loss in Charleston, S. C., and suburbs resulting from the storm, is placed at \$1,500,000, two-thirds of which is covered by cyclone insurance.

CHICAGO police to the number of 509 clubbed and dispersed a big crowd of unemployed workmen, many of whom were armed with shovels and coupling-pins and threatened to start a riot.

THE Ohio Wool-growers' Association, at its annual meeting in Columbus, adopted resolutions in opposition to free wool.

WASHINGTON.

CONTROLLER ECKELS, of the Treasury Department, has issued a statement showing that thirty-four suspended National banks had resumed, and that there were prospects for the resumption of about sixty more banks.

THE Ways and Means Committee of the House decided to prepare a tariff bill and to grant hearings to persons who may desire to communicate facts and information and submit arguments bearing on the subject of tariff revision.

THE new Chinese Minister, with his wife and three children, the members of his official suite and servants, numbering fifty-seven in all, has arrived in Washington.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND and family have returned to the White House from their country residence on Buzzard's Bay, Mass.

An operation has been performed on Mr. Cleveland's mouth, but the assertion that it was for a cancer is denied. The President has been suffering from an ulcerated tooth.

CHASLES McKEEVER, the senior Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army, has been placed on the retired list on account of age.

Foreign.

In his annual report the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture estimates the world's production of wheat this year at 2,279,000,000 bushels, against the average of 2,280,000,000 annually for the last ten years. The deficits to be filled by the importing countries will require 379,000,000 bushels. The surplus available in exporting countries to satisfy this demand is \$78,664,000 bushels.

At a concert in San Sebastian, Spain, the band refused to play the Basque hymn; a riot followed, the military were called out and two rioters were killed before order was restored. Saragossa, Spain, was also the scene of a riot, spectators at a bull fight being dissatisfied with the performance.

In the British House of Commons several speakers criticized the construction of warships of the Victoria type, and Lord George Hamilton charged the Government with not maintaining the efficiency of the navy.

Ten persons died in Lichtenstein, Germany, from the effects of having eaten poisonous fungi, which they mistook for mushrooms.

ASISITO GARCIA and NISOROT Horta were executed in Havana, Cuba, for kidnaping.

SOLDIERS were called out to fight immense forest fires near Figueras, France. One of them was burned to death, and several others were injured.

DERISO a heavy storm the British steamship Justin, which has arrived at Barbadoes, West Indies, lost six of her crew overboard.

More than 60,000 miners have resumed work in South Wales. Their return to the mines means practically the collapse of the strike in South Wales and Monmouthshire. During their absence from work all but twenty of the 204 collieries in these two districts have been shut down.

An epidemic at Grimshy, the English seaport, has been declared to be Asiatic cholera. Many fresh cases of cholera and numerous deaths are reported in Hungary.

LUCY M. HOOPER, a well-known writer, and wife of ex-Consul-General Hooper, died in Paris.

### DEATH IN A SQUALL.

A Young Man and Five Boys Drowned in Lake Champlain.

George P. Withers, of Port Henry, N. Y., and six young companions, who were sailing in Withers's yacht, the Alpha, were capsized in Lake Champlain. Withers and five of the boys were drowned. Their names were William Gildea, thirteen years old; William Broadner, fourteen years; Eddie Jubert, thirteen, and John Whitman, twelve years, all of Port Henry; and Albert Brush, twelve years, of Brookton, N. Y., who was a guest of Jubert. Joseph La Paro, eleven years old, saved himself by swimming in the Vermont shore. The yacht was a twenty-four foot boat and was considered a strong and substantial one.