

It is said that the late patent decision is likely to cheapen telephone service amazingly.

Athletics are said to be languishing in our colleges. Football is under bar and baseball is too slow.

There are about 12,000,000 houses in this country, with less than six people to each on the average.

"Ninety-six per cent. of our trade is confined to the home market," estimates the Atlanta Constitution.

An educational qualification will hereafter be required of men seeking enlistment in the United States Army.

The world's chief supply of alabaster comes from the quarries of Volterra, some thirty miles southeast of Pisa, in Italy, where this industry has been handed down for generations.

Schools of stenography and typewriting turn their pupils to use by doing at rather low rates typewriting for lawyers and others. The copying makes good practice for the pupil and incidentally brings in considerable revenue to the school.

The Boston Transit Commission will relieve the narrow, crooked and crowded streets by a subway, beginning in the Public Garden and ending at Park street. The subway will be partly double-track and partly quadruple, and will be lighted by electricity.

England is not generally thought of as a gold producing country, but knowledge says that there are perhaps few countries in the world in which the metal is more generally distributed. The principal mines in Wales, now abandoned, were worked as long ago as the Roman occupation.

The Southern Florist and Gardener says: The last census shows that the earth yields to the Southern farmer twenty-five per cent. on his capital annually, against a yield of only fourteen per cent. to his Northern brother. If the value of machinery and live stock is included as capital, the difference in favor of the Southern farmer is even greater.

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The Boston Transcript says that the British Iron and Steel Institute has just awarded the Bessemer gold medal, the highest prize to which metallurgists may aspire, to Henry Howe, of Boston, a son of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe. "This honor," it adds, "has been conferred on only four Americans hitherto—Peter Cooper, Abram S. Hewitt, Alexander L. Holley, who introduced the Bessemer process into this country, and John Fritz, who designed and built the great Bethlehem iron works. Mr. Howe received the medal for his writings and investigations into the scientific features of steel making. Among the European recipients of the medal are Sir William Siemens, the inventor of the open-hearth steel-making process; Sir Joseph Whitworth and Lord Armstrong, of gun fame, and G. S. Thomas, the inventor of the basic Bessemer process."

The St. Paul Pioneer-Press remarks: While the farmers of the Northwest are deploring the advent of the Russian thistle, a new forage plant, also of Russian origin, has made its appearance, which promises to prove such a blessing to farmers as to more than make up for the damage done by its pestilent compatriot. It is known as escauline. It requires no cultivation. Once planted, it propagates itself in any soil, in dry, sandy, barren or in wet, alluvial swamps. It stands the drouth, for its roots strike deep. It drinks in the rain, when there is any, like a camel loading up for a journey through the desert. It is as nutritious as any of our grasses. It possesses a combination of remarkable properties, which adapt it wonderfully well for the conditions existing in Minnesota, and especially the Dakotas and beyond. Our impression is that the Minnesota agricultural college is trying it, or has arranged to try it on the State experimental farm.

According to the New York Tribune, in every country of the globe the farmer is raising a wail of distress. Farm products are too cheap.

American carpets are being introduced into Switzerland by a German firm of Stuttgart, and the American Consul at Zurich reports that United States manufacturers have a great field in Europe for their fabrics.

To the Pyramids by trolley may soon be a possible trip, announces the Electrical Review. The Egyptian Government has just granted a concession for an electric railroad in Cairo, and the Pyramids are only eight miles away.

There were 4912 suicides in this country last year. Nearly one-half were caused by despondency, 457 by insanity, 218 by liquor, 270 by ill health, 241 by domestic troubles, 232 by disappointed love, 122 by business losses and 1310 were unknown.

It is predicted by Collector of Internal Revenue Mize, of Chicago, that the income tax from Chicago will not exceed \$1,000,000, and may fall below \$500,000. If he is correct, observes the New York Times, Chicago is very much poorer than the world had been led to suppose.

The cost of the Baltic Canal is estimated at \$37,440,000. Prussia contributed \$12,500,000 and the Imperial Treasury raised the rest. It is a singular fact, comments the New York Mail and Express, that although this canal is about twice as long as the Manchester Canal, the latter cost \$75,000,000.

Superintendent of Agriculture Morton says that the greatest enemy to the export trade in apples of the United States is the codling moth, but that the entire crop could be made wormless by spraying at the proper season with a solution of Paris green. He says that Great Britain alone during the nine months ending with September, 1894, paid the orchards of the United States \$2,500,000.

Harry Hayward, of Minneapolis, who induced Blinx to kill Miss Ging for the insurance on her life, is the second man found guilty by an American jury of murder in the first degree, completed through

honesty controlled," is thus fairly introduced into our courts. But, remarks the St. Louis Star-Sayings, the Supreme Court of Minnesota, following the example of the Supreme Court of Kansas in the Gray case, may refuse to let this verdict stand.

Since 1888 England has acquired the following islands in the Pacific: Gilbert group, thirteen islands; Ellice group, five islands; Union group, three islands; Kingman, Fanning, Washington, Palmyra, Jarvis, Christmas, Starbuck, Maiden, Vostok, Flint, Penrhyn, Dedoss, Rule, Coral, Gardner, Johnston, Danger, Suvaroff and Caroline islands. While American missionaries, sailors and commerce have been familiar in the Pacific islands in the last half century, no attempt has been made by the United States Government to annex any of them, remarks the New York Tribune by way of contrast.

The New York Post says: The placing of a colossal figure of William Penn on the Philadelphia City Hall has inspired a proposal to perpetuate the memory of Roger Williams in the same way on the dome of Rhode Island's new State House. It is now recalled that the Roger Williams Monument Association started a fund thirty-four years ago to erect a memorial column on Prospect Hill. Zachariah Allen in his diary of that time says with amusing ignorance of the problem presented by the convexity of the earth: "A statue on the top of this column would stand nearly 450 feet above tidewater. It would be conspicuous from Newport and Block Island, and, I think, from the State House at Boston." Thus, it was suggested, would the capitol of the colony which disgraced its intelligence by the banishment of Williams be forever doomed to find his figure still within sight. The association failed to raise enough money to put up the column, but the sum was deposited in bank, and has now increased to a considerable sum. There seems to be an impression that the top of the State House would be the appropriate place for Roger Williams, and the association is advised to transfer its fund to the State if the Government will agree to thus honor him and will also bind itself to erect a statue elsewhere to another great Rhode Islander, who has been neglected, General Greene, of Revolutionary fame.

108 Killed by Trolleys in Brooklyn. Irene Madden, a pretty little girl who would have been six years old next day, was killed by a trolley car, almost in front of her home at 176 Sackett street, Brooklyn. She is the 108th victim of the trolley cars since electrical propulsion was introduced on the surface lines in Brooklyn, about two years and a half ago.

FOR A NICARAGUA CANAL.

Official Exhibition of This Country's Interest in the Project.

INSPECTION OF THE ROUTE.

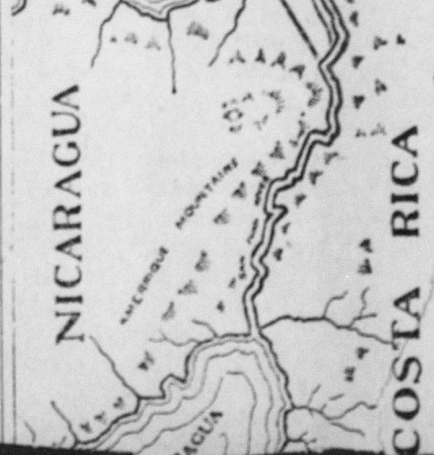
Three United States Commissioners to Be Conveyed to Greytown for the Purpose of Investigating the Feasibility of the Waterway—Description of the Proposed Course of the Canal.

President Cleveland has determined that an official exhibition of the interests of this country in the Nicaragua Canal, which was authorized at the last session of Congress, shall be promptly made, and the Government Commission to examine the canal route, for which the Sundry Civil bill made \$20,000 immediately available, is to be sent to Greytown soon on board a United States warship, to emphasize the concern of this Government in the enterprise of American citizens who have been acting under a charter granted by Congress in 1853. The programme of the Administration's action was agreed upon at a Cabinet meeting, when Secretaries Lamont and Herbert were directed to select a member of the corps of Army engineers and one of the Naval civil engineers, who, with a civilian, constitute a board of engineers charged with "ascertaining the feasibility, permanence and cost of construction and completion" of the Nicaragua Canal. This board "shall visit and personally inspect the route of said canal, examine and consider the plans, profiles, sections, prisms and specifications for its various parts, and report thereon to the President on or before November 1, next."

ROUTE OF THE CANAL.

Proposed Course By Which the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans Will Be Joined.

San Juan del Norte, or Greytown, on the Atlantic and Erizo on the Pacific side of the Isthmus of Tehuacan are the two ends of the proposed ship waterway, employing the San Juan River, Lake Nicaragua, and some smaller basins in the western slope.



"The distance from port to port is 169 1/2 miles, of which 20 1/2 miles," according to the summary survey "will have to be an excavated channel, and 142 1/2 miles in lakes, rivers and basins. The summit is necessarily Lake Nicaragua, 110 feet above the sea. There will be three locks near either end; the summit level maintained to within 12 1/2 miles of the Atlantic and extending within 3 1/2 miles of the Pacific." The whole route is divided into four divisions.

First, the eastern from the sea about 19 miles inland, in three locks to a small basin known as the San Francisco, will lift the westward bound ships by steps of 31 feet into the first foot-hills of the eastern divide, 30 feet higher utilizing a stream called the Desado, and 45 feet still above through the heaviest cut of the whole course, through the dividing ridge into the valley of the San Juan—or a total rise of 106 feet.

Second, the San Francisco Division includes the next 12 1/2 miles from the San Francisco basin westward, utilizing the course of another small stream, the Limpio, thence by means of flooded valleys, affording a broad waterway to a dam called the Ochoa dam, in the San Juan, where the junction with the river is made. This dam is to hold the level of the river up to the 106 feet, the maximum level reached on the divide, and favors the river way to the lake.

Third, for the River and Lake Division there are to be 12 1/2 miles accounted for, that is, to the west shore of Lake Nicaragua. In the river channel a lot of rock blasting will be required to secure the necessary depth and width. Allowance is to be made for the natural drainage of the lake by allowing a fall of 4 feet from the lake level of 110 feet to the minimum river level of 106 feet at Ochoa dam. In the lake considerable mud dredging will be required for 1400 feet from the west shore.

Fourth, the Western Division comprises the remaining 17 miles from the west shore of Lake Nicaragua—9 miles excavation cutting through the western ridge, 5 miles across the flooded Tola basin, and the remaining 3 miles to the Pacific Ocean at Brito, by three locks (Nos. 4, 5 and 6) with lifting distance of from 106 to 114 feet, varying in the last lock according to the rise and fall of the ocean tides. Here it will be necessary to artificially improve the harbor of Brito by a "breakwater," part of which has already been constructed.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED

Washington Items.

Four hundred New England school teachers were received in the East room at the White House by President Cleveland. They were members of an excursion party from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts.

Treasury officials say the condition of the Treasury is better now than at any time during the present Administration.

The members of the President's family left the White House and took up their residence at Woodley, Mr. Cleveland's suburban place, where they were joined by the President later in the afternoon.

Governor McKinley, of Ohio, called on President Cleveland at the White House.

The military and naval members of the Board of Engineers to inspect the Nicaragua Canal route and plans were appointed by Secretaries Lamont and Herbert.

The United States steamer Castine has been ordered by Secretary Herbert to Madagascar, and her Commander is instructed to investigate the alleged unjust imprisonment of ex-Consul Waller by the French.

Reports were circulated in Washington that the Supreme Court Justices, on an informal ballot, stood five to three against the constitutionality of the income tax law.

Foreign Notes.

The Chinese at Hai-Chang fired on a Japanese flag of truce, wounding the flag bearer.

Instead of christening Germany's new ironclad Bismarck the Kaiser named her Aguir, after his son.

United States Minister to Turkey Terrell carefully escaped being killed while driving in Constantinople. He will come home on a vacation.

It was said that Japan would demand of China payment of the 400,000,000 yen war indemnity in gold.

The British ship Ethelred, from Boston for Port Antonio, Jamaica, was fired on by a Spanish gunboat off Cape Maisi, Cuba.

The United States Consul at Brunswick, Germany, advises American packers to prepare home meat for export, as it is largely consumed in Germany and is rising in price.

A new Ministry has been formed in Venezuela by President Crespo.

Spain has called out 20,000 of the reserves for her army.

Lord Rosebery's Ministry has selected William Court Gully to succeed Mr. Peel as Speaker of the British House of Commons.

Oxford University won the annual boat-race on the Thames from Cambridge.

The British House of Commons adopted a resolution in favor of giving home rule to England, Scotland and Wales as well as Ireland.

BRITAIN'S belligerent attitude towards France caused concern in Europe.

Domestic.

There has been organized in New York City a company with \$500,000 capital to operate telephones all over the United States, in opposition to the Bell Company.

At a meeting of the Academy of Medicine, New York City, Dr. Herman M. Biggs and other prominent physicians praised anti-typhoid remedies for diphtheria. Dr. J. E. Winters attacked it as dangerous and without curative properties.

Masked robbers held up a train in the Indian Territory and shot Express Messenger Jones, inflicting a serious wound. They got about \$250, six watches, two diamond rings and other articles of value.

Frederick W. Griffin, the assistant cashier of the Northwestern National Bank at Chicago, has confessed the embezzlement of \$50,000, which he lost in stock speculations.

While putting off freight at Antiquity, Ohio, the passenger steamer Iron Queen took

CHEERING FOR "AMERICA"

Honors to Dr. Smith, Author of Our National Hymn.

THE ORIGIN OF THE ANTHEM.

Exercises Held in Boston's Music Hall—The Author Tells How He Came to Compose the Words—Addresses and Music in Honor of the Occasion—Celebrations in the West and South.

The testimonial to Dr. S. F. Smith, author of the National hymn, "America," took place in Music Hall, Boston, Mass. The hall was well filled at the opening exercises in the afternoon.

Dr. Curtis Gould, Chairman of the Executive Committee, presided, introducing the venerable author of the favorite hymn, who briefly expressed his gratification at their presence in his honor. Mrs. Smith was also present. There was a chorus of 200 schoolchildren.

There was also music by Baldwin's Cadet Band and solos by Mrs. Jennie Patrick Walker and Joseph I. White. The Rev. Edward Everett Hale and others spoke.

The main celebration came in the evening, when another big audience gathered in Music Hall to listen to addresses interspersed with music. Curtis Guild, Jr., introduced Governor Greenhalge, of Massachusetts, to preside.

In taking the chair, the Governor said that the Commonweal felt through every nerve and pulse the full significance of this occasion. The Hallelujah chorus was sung by 125 voices from the Handel and Haydn Society, conducted by Carl Zerrahn, after a thank you, Dr. Smith told the story of "America."

Dr. Smith said that, traveling in Italy a few years since with a small company of Americans, he spent a few days in the buried city of Pompeii. In the company was a sister of the Hutchinson family, and after partaking of a frugal meal in one of the excavated baths, it was suggested that it would be appropriate "in that dead and buried city to sing a live hymn—so we sang one with such fervor that a company of Scotchmen not far away heard us and joined us. Then they all sang "Auld Lang Syne."

The added volume of sound attracted a group of a third nationality, and a third National song was sung.

Dr. Smith then told how "America" came to be written. In 1831 Commissioner Woodbridge, of New York, was taken to Germany to inspect the public schools there. He was a great interest was taken in music, and brought home several music books, placing them in the hands of Lowell Mason. As Mr. Mason had no knowledge of German he asked Dr. Smith to translate some of the songs, so he could write new words for some of the music, as he wished to prepare a choir book for children's voices.

Dr. Smith was looking over this book one day in February, 1832, when his attention was drawn to a tune which he thought particularly appropriate because of its simple, natural movement. The German words were patriotic and he was seized with the idea of writing a new "America" which was composed in less than half an hour and reposed in the folds of a portfolio for a long time before being sent to Mr. Mason, who brought it out on the Fourth of July at a children's celebration in Park Street Church, Boston.

Congratulatory telegrams were received from the Governors of Iowa and Wyoming, the Department of the Potomac, Department of Massachusetts, G. A. R., and from other organizations.

The ringing of the Columbia Liberty Bell constituted the celebration at Chicago in honor of the Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, author of "America." The Rev. Hopkins and Superintendent Lane of the Chicago public schools were in charge of the ceremony. The bell was rung by a delegation of pupils from the schools, one for each State and Territory of the Union.

After the ringing the gathering joined in the singing of the National hymn, and a telegram appropriate to the occasion was sent to Music Hall, Boston, where the main celebration was in progress.

Dr. Samuel F. Smith, the venerable author of the National hymn "America," was appropriately remembered in Birmingham, Ala., by the pupils of the several public schools. It was abstracted from the recitation halls of the several buildings and carried out a special programme.

ROBBED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

Thieves Loot Springfield (Ill.) Postoffice in Sight of Many Clerks.

The Springfield (Ill.) postoffice was robbed of about \$8000, a few days ago. It was the nearest and most mysterious job ever done in that city. The amount taken, with the exception of about \$30, was in stamps. It was abstracted from the vault in Postmaster Ridgely's private office while Mr. Ridgely was absent for luncheon. The loss was not discovered until after 4 o'clock p. m. The thieves used duplicate keys to unlock the office and vault, and they worked so quietly that with a dozen clerks at work on either side of the room no suspicion was aroused.

Central Italy Shaken.

Tuscany, Italy, has been shaken by earthquakes several times. At Trezzino a dozen houses collapsed. Seven dead bodies have been removed from the ruins. At Montecatini the choir and seated himself without opening roofs were shaken down and three buildings were wrecked. Two persons were killed and ten or twelve were injured.

Newspaper Cleanings.

Spain exports 1,450,000 oranges a year. Montana's gold output in 1894 was \$4,500,000.

Great Britain has only 40,000 volunteer soldiers.

The Salvation Army is still stoned in the streets of London.

Britain's belligerent attitude toward France causes concern in Europe.

Relief was given to 137,000 destitute persons in London during the week just passed.

A large deposit of asbestos was recently discovered twelve miles northeast of Dillon, Montana, and can be traced for a distance of 2500 feet.

Melbourne, Australia, has eighteen cable road systems.

The Minnesota Legislature has refused to remove the capital from St. Paul to Minneapolis.

Plymouth Church, of Brooklyn, has commenced a crusade against the slaughter of people by the trolley cars.

MURDER MYSTERY SOLVED.

William Cesar Confesses the Murder of Mary Martin in New York City.

The mystery surrounding the murder of the young colored woman whose mutilated body was found in front of the New York Bank Note Company's building at Sixth avenue and Waverly place, New York City, was solved after the tragedy had remained a three-days' wonder, by the arrest of the murderer and his confession. The murdered woman went by the name of Mary Martin. The murderer was William Cesar, a West Indian colored man, employed as a porter in Younan's hat store in the Hoffman House. He killed her in a fit of anger in the apartment where they lived, at 148 West Twenty-seventh street. He took her to Sixth avenue, passing probably 200 people on the way, and hailed the first Sixth avenue car going downtown. He loaded the body on the front platform, which was well filled with passengers and rode down town as far as the car went. Then he got off, lugged it over to the sidewalk, and boosted it upon the fence, intending to shoulder it. It slipped from his grip and fell inside. He left it lying there, and hearing the back platform of the car rock back up town. All this in sight of many people.

The story of the crime and the subsequent disposal of the body, as related by Superintendent Byrnes after the confession of Cesar, is the most remarkable ever told at Police Headquarters.

RHODE ISLAND REPUBLICAN.

Charles W. Lippitt (Rep.) Elected Governor by Over 10,000 Plurality.

The election in Rhode Island for State officers was very quiet. It rained during the forenoon, but cleared in the afternoon. The Democrats generally were slow in getting to the polls, and even the clearing weather in the afternoon failed to bring out anything like the normal Democratic strength. Voting almost everywhere favored the Republican candidates.

Charles Warren Lippitt (Rep.) was elected Governor over George L. Littlefield (Dem.) by 10,600 plurality. The remainder of the Republican State ticket, Edward Allen, for Lieutenant-Governor; Charles J. Bennett, Secretary of State; Edward C. Daniels, Attorney-General; Samuel Clark, General Treasurer, were all elected by pluralities of about 10,000.

The Republicans carried Providence, and their Assemblymen will have pluralities ranging from 2500 to 3200. The Republicans elected their entire Assembly ticket in the four cities of the State—Woonsocket, Pawtucket, Central Falls and Newport—by pluralities ranging from 100 to 500.

The new Assembly will include thirty-two Republican Senators, sixty-nine Republican Representatives, three Democratic Senators and three Democratic Representatives. This is the first time since the Civil War that Dr. L. F. C. Garzin, the well known labor worker, was elected to the Assembly.

The Prohibition party vote made considerable gains. In Westerly there were 73 Prohibition votes against 126 Democratic.

A MURDERER IN HIS TEENS.

Newton Walters Kills Two Boys and Afterwards Attacks Their Sister.

A double murder and attempted criminal assault occurred four miles northwest of Galena, Kan. James Walters and Samuel Cox, live on adjoining farms. Cox is a widower, and his daughter Dolly, about seventeen years old, keeps house for him. He had two sons, one living and James' aged son, who, living

years old, and a son of James Walters, was infatuated with Dolly Cox, but the latter did not care for him.

Young Walters went to the Cox place and wanted the two boys to go to the river with him after ducks. The Cox boys and Walters started out, taking a gun with them. Mr. Cox was absent on business, and the girl was left at the house alone.

About noon young Walters returned to the house alone and made an attack on the girl, who escaped, however, and ran to one of the neighbors. Word was brought to town of the affair and a party went in search of the Cox boys, who were still missing. The body of the older boy was found in a sitting posture against a tree with a bullet hole in his forehead. He was alive, but unconscious. He regained consciousness long enough to say that young Walters shot him, and then he died. Near where the older boy was found were traces where the younger boy had been shot and dragged to the river and thrown in.

WAGES ADVANCED, WORK RESUMED.

An Improvement Indicated in the Industrial Situation.

Thomas Dolan & Co., manufacturers of woollens, etc., at Philadelphia, Penn., have granted an advance of fifteen per cent. in wages to their weavers. There are several other manufacturers of the same line of goods, the weavers say, who have also been asked for an advance in wages, but delayed arranging until Dolan & Co. took action, and now that the latter firm has granted the increase the others, it is expected, will shortly follow suit.

Notice was posted in the mills of Wholender, Shore & Co., at Carlisle, Penn., to the effect that five of the ten per cent. reduction lately made in the wages of the employees will be put on again. It is likely that the remaining five per cent. will be restored soon.

The Globe Iron Works, Cleveland, Ohio, made a cut of ten per cent. in wages about a year ago. Notices have been posted in the works announcing a restoration to the old rate. The Cleveland Shipbuilding Company has reached an agreement with its employes, and they are all back at work again.

For the first time this year all the foundries in Millville, N. J., are in full operation, and the prospects for the remainder of the season are good.

LAKE IN THE DEATH CHAIR.

Emma Hunt's Murderer Killed by Electricity in Auburn (N. Y.) Prison.

William Luke was executed by electricity at Auburn (N. Y.) Prison about noon for the murder last October of Emma Hunt, a domestic employed by Joseph Van Camp, a farmer living near Abbeon. Luke walked to the chair and seated himself without once elevating his downward eyes. He submitted to the buckling and pinning in a dazed sort of way. As the preacher was in the midst of a comforting passage the deadly current was turned on. The voltage reached the 1740 notch, and was almost instantly reduced gradually to 150 volts. It was the unanimous opinion that death was instantaneous. Upon removing the mask the eyes were found closed, the lips slightly apart, and the face ashen pale. Luke confessed that he committed the crime.

The Labor World.

A Texas telegraph operator has fallen heir to \$2,500,000.

Any number of New York saleswomen work for \$2 a week.

The Bon Marche, at Paris, gives employment to 15,750 persons. The voltage reached the average pay of telegraphers the country over is \$38.22 per month.

The carlers and spinners of Fall River, Mass., have organized a federation.

Alabama miners, in convention at Birmingham, decided to join the United Mine Workers, from which they withdrew three years ago.