The Elk County Advocate.

HENRY A. PARSONS, Jr., Editor and Publisher. | NIL DESPERANDUM. | Two Dollars per Annum.

VOL. XI. | RIDGWAY, ELK COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1882. | NO. 49.

Hidden Treasures.

There are gems as bright, as precious,
Lying hid beneath the ground,
As those worn by lord or lady,
Gems as fair as ever found.

There are virtues just as noble
Hidden 'neath a load of care
As those blazoned on the banner
Which the conquering heroes bear.

There are hearts that beat as grandly,
Thoughts that never have a pen,
Treasures locked in sacred caskets
Never praised by tongues of men.

Rarest gems are ne'er discovered;
Shallow, hidden in the earth,
In the deepest caves of ocean
Lies the pearl of richest worth.

Search among thy fellow-workers,
Probe beneath the wound of toil,
Surely thou shalt find a diamond
Hidden deep within the soil.

Hearts are bound in ribs of marble,
Gems are bound in ribs of rock.
Happy he who bursts the portal,
Happy he who the gates unlock.

—*By Emma V. Shattuck.*

SACRAMENTO.

It was an odd name for a girl—Sacramento.

So the girl herself thought as she stooped down beside a spring at the foot of a cottonwood tree and lazily dropped her pail into the water.

"It ought to have been given to a boy, if it was a fit name to give to anybody," she said, quite aloud. "But I'm more boy than girl anyway."

This last was added rather bitterly, as she looked at her brown, rough hands and her bare ankles, and thought of the "boys' work" she had to do.

And it was hard to believe that this was the best kind of a life for a young girl like Sacramento. Here she lived alone, for her father was down at the mouth of the canon all day. The garden work she was obliged to do, and the care of the cattle fell upon her. It was not often that she saw any person but her father, although now and then, in spite of herself, she came in contact with the rude men of the mining camp up above.

Yet Sacramento had her dream, one that she "scarcely dared to own;" but it came to her often as she went about her work.

She knew that down at Santa Barbara and in the towns along the coast, and far, far away across wide stretches of the continent to the great East, there were girls who lived lives very different from her life; and she dreamed of such a life for herself.

"Oh, if I could only go away from here!" she cried out, almost as one cries for help. "If I could only go down to San Francisco and go to school there for a single year! Ah, if I only had five hundred dollars!"

Suddenly there was a step—not of a man, but a horse—on the bank behind her, and then some one spoke. She knew the voice without looking up. It was Pete Larrabee, a fellow who lived down on Habnemann's plantation, two miles along the trail. He sometimes rode by. He had not heard her last words at all; yet strangely enough his own were a repetition of them,

"Five hundred dollars, Sac," said he. "Five hundred dollars in gold! D'ye want ter earn it! There's yer chance," and he threw down to her a bit of paper crumpled into a ball.

She picked it up and slowly unfolding it ran her eyes over its contents.

$500 Reward.

The above amount will be paid for information leading to the arrest, dead or alive, of Walter Somers, who has worked for some time past on Maxwell's ranch. Said Somers is about eighteen years old and five and a half feet high, rather good-looking, with light, curly hair, blue eyes and a light mustache. When last seen he had on a black slouch hat, gray business suit with blue flannel shirt, and boots with red tops marked with maker's name.

The name of the county sheriff was signed at the bottom of the bill. Sacramento, having glanced it through, looked up.

"He's been stealin' horses," exclaimed Pete. "Got off last night with four of Max'll's best somewheres. Thet reward won't do much good, though, Ther Regulators'll lasso him an' string him up long 'fore ther law'll git started. They're bevin' a meetin' now up at the Gulch. I tell ye, they are mad. They'll make quick work ef they ketch 'em. Yer father's there. Ye needn't look fur him afore night much."

Then, after a word or two more, the man rode on; and presently Sacramento took up her pail and with the sheriff's bill still in her hand went slowly up the bank and across the trail toward the house, thinking very seriously about the five hundred dollars all the while.

It was some hours after this, and the afternoon sun was going down behind the tops of the mountains, that Sacramento, having finished her housework, was preparing to sit down on the porch to do her sewing when she was met in the doorway by a young man she had never seen before.

And yet he was no stranger. The girl knew him instantly, although the slouch hat was pulled down over the flaxen hair and blue eyes, and the gray pants, torn and muddy, had been drawn out of the boot legs so as to no longer allow the red tops of the boots with the maker's name to be seen. It was the horsethief.

She did not, however, express any surprise as she saw him. She was accustomed to the sight of rough, evil men; and at the first glance she had felt that this one could not be either very wicked or very dangerous. He was not much more than a lad, and had an air of gentleness and good-breeding about him that six months of Western life and the miserable plight he was in at the moment had by no means destroyed. He seemed to be short for breath, too, and was trembling as if he had been running.

Instinctively he raised his hand toward his hat and then, bethinking himself, dropped it again.

"Could you give me something to eat and drink?" he asked, in a hesitating voice. "Anything will do. I am very hungry. I—I have had nothing to eat since last night.'

"Come in," said Sacramento, gravely. In her voice was neither kindness or unkindness. She was trying to realize the situation she was in. "Come in and sit down."

Then she went into the closet near by and began taking down from the shelves milk and bread and meat, as she slowly did so turning over the matter in her mind. Here was this man who had been stealing horses and for whose capture five hundred dollars was offered, in her kitchen. Five hundred dollars! Exactly the sum she had been wishing for—the sum that would take her down to San Francisco to school and help her make a lady of herself. And this sum might be hers if she could in some way secure this stranger or somehow keep him in the house until help arrived. Help? Why, she hardly needed help. He was weak and exhausted, and in the drawer of the kitchen table there was a loaded revolver which she knew well how to use.

She came out presently and set the things before him, bringing also a teapot from the stove and pouring for him a cup of tea. Then she went and sat down by the window and watched him furtively as he ate.

In spite of his caution he had taken off his hat while he was eating. She could better see what he was like. It was an almost boyish face, worn, but not wicked, with the curling hair lying in damp clusters upon his pale brow. In the hands, small and well-shaped, and in all his motions and manner she felt that she could read something of his story. She had heard before this how young lads in the East filled with romantic notions about Western life and adventure sometimes left their luxuriant homes and found their way out to the ranches of the Pacific slope. Perhaps he was one of these.

As she looked at him, fancying all this, and realizing the terrible strait he was in, and the probable dark fate that was before him, her heart yearned with true womanly sympathy; and her feeling found expression before she was able to restrain herself.

"Oh, how could you do it? How could you do it?" she suddenly exclaimed, her voice quite full of what she felt.

He looked up at her in wonder; but as his eyes met hers he understood her.

"I did not do it. Upon my honor, I did not!" he said. "It was that man Dennis."

Sacramento breathed a great sigh of relief. Horse stealing was held in that section to be a crime worse than murder; and she was by no means free from the popular estimate of its grave nature.

"Oh, I am glad of that!" said she. "But—" She hesitated, and then went on doubtfully. "But then how was it? Why did they say it was you? And why did you run away?"

"It was Dennis' doings, their laying it to me. He did that to clear himself. And after that, you know as well as I do, there would have been no use in trying to prove myself innocent. They always hang a horsethief first and then consider his guilt afterward. I had to run to save my life."

"Do you know that there is a reward offered for your capture?"

"I know the Regulators are after me," answered the young fellow, sullenly. "They came pretty near catching me, too, this noon. I just escaped them and came down the canon by the mountain trail. I have had a hard run for it, and what with no sleep or food for twenty-four hours I am about used up. I felt as though I could not go another step when I saw your house. You—you have been very good to me. I shall never forget"—

"But what are you going to do now?" interrupted Sacramento. "You are not safe here."

"I know it. But I threw them off the track at noon, and I do not think they are within five miles of me. Now I have had something to eat I will take to the woods again. I hope I may get away. If I don't"—his voice trembled and tears came into his eyes. "If I don't, I shall get a hanging, I suppose. Oh, what a fool I was not to prefer home to this sort of thing. And yet, I wouldn't care so much either, if it wasn't for my father and mother." And there the poor fellow fairly broke down.

"Hark!" Sacramento exclaimed. She had been crying, too; she could not help it.

They both listened. In a moment they heard plainly the sound of horses coming down the trail. The girl turned with instant self-possession.

"Go in there! Quick! Quick! There is not a moment to lose! Here, take your hat!"

And handing his hat to him she half-pushed him across the room and into her own little room that led off from it. Then she hurriedly cleared the table again, barely finishing the task as the horsemen halted at the door.

There were three of them. One was her father. Sacramento knew the other two men by sight. They were rough, but of the better sort of those who made up the dwellers in Kelly Gulch. The faces of all three were stern and forbidding, and they evidently had been riding hard. They dismounted together.

"Sac," began her father as he entered the door, "hev ye seen anything of a young chap, afoot or a-horseback, coming this way?"

Sacramento had expected the question and was ready for it. And she meant, if it were possible, to answer it without a lie.

"A young chap 'about eighteen years of age and five feet and a half high, rather good-looking, and with red-top boots on?'" replied she.

"Yes! yes! That's him!" cried one of the other men, eagerly. "Have you seen him? Has he been here?"

"I was only quoting from this handbill," said Sacramento, taking the paper from the shelf where she had laid it.

"Then you hain't seen him at all?" asked her father.

"I have been right here all day, and nobody has gone by except Pete Larrabee. It was he who gave me the bill. Are you sure he came this way, the—the—horse-thief?"

"No; but we didn't know but he mighter. The chances is thet he slopped off to the mountains, meanin' ter go through Stove-pipe Pass. They'll git him, though, afore sundown."

"It's sundown now," observed Sacramento.

"Then they've got him now," was the sententious response. "And we should be too late for the hangin' ef we sh'd go back. Leastways"—this was added to his companions—"you'd better come in and have a bite afore ye go."

So presently the three men sat down to the supper that the young girl quickly prepared for them. And while they were eating she herself, at her father's bidding, went out to take the saddle off Bueno, his horse, and give him his feed. As she approached the door once more a few minutes later she heard words which caused her to stop and listen.

"I don't like ter say anything against thet kid o' yourn, neighbor," one of the men was saying, "but it hes kinder seemed ter me all ther while 's though she sorter hed some 'at on her mind like. Ye don't 'spose she knows anything 'bout thet young feller, arter all?"

Sacramento's father laughed at this as though it was too absurd to be considered.

The other, however, was not to be laughed out of his suspicions.

"Fur we all know," persisted he, "she may hev him hid here somewhere on the premmysis."

"It's easy enough to see," returned the proprietor of the said "premmysis," testily. "Where d'ye think she's hid him? In her bedroom?"

As he said this Sacramento, who was now near enough to see into the kitchen, saw her father rise from his chair and step to the door of the room where she had concealed the fugitive. Her heart almost stopped beating as she saw him push open the door and enter the room, followed by his companions.

"We'll make a clus search of it while we're about it," she heard him say within.

And then she stood there in terrible suspense upon the porch, expecting every instant to hear the shout that would follow the discovery of the fugitive.

But no such shout was heard; and instead of it, a moment after, the two men came out again, her father still laughing at his friend.

What could it mean? Had the young man been able to conceal himself in the room and so evade their search? That was not possible. Then she thought of the window. Could he have escaped from the room by that? The window was so small she could scarcely believe that he could have crept through it. And yet he must have done so.

She went hurriedly to the back of the house and then down beyond the horse sheds. No one could be seen. She halted a moment under a live-oak tree just at the edge of the garden. The evening was very calm and still, and the twilight shadows were deepening fast. Was it the rustling of the wind in the boughs overhead that caught her ear? She listened.

"Hist! I am here—in the tree."

The words came in a distinct whisper from directly above her.

She stood and thought a single moment before replying. Then she said, "You must get away from here at once," in an eager whisper. "One of the men suspects something, and they may at any moment make a search of the place. I am going into the house a minute. Get down at once and go through the garden and across the trail to a spring that you will find there. It's at the foot of a big cottonwood tree. Stay right there until I come."

Then she went back hurriedly to the house. The three men were still sitting at the table, and Sacramento felt rather than saw that one of them still regarded her suspiciously as she came in. She did not speak to them at all, but went directly through the kitchen to her own room, and in a moment came out, went about her work in the kitchen, and took up a pail apparently to go to the spring for water.

Ten minutes later, standing in the shadow of the cottonwood, young Somers heard a step, and then Sacramento, leading Bueno all saddled and bridled, appeared. He started forward.

"Hush!" she said; "they may come out at any moment. Listen to what I say. Your life depends upon it. You must ride straight down the trail for a quarter of a mile. Then, close by a big cottonwood, just like this, you will strike a path to the left. Bueno will know it, once you get him in it. It will bring you out, half a mile on, at a corduroy road that crosses the swamp. This end of the corduroy has got out of order and there are some logs laid. Lead Bueno across and then pull the logs away. If you can do that it will make trouble for those who follow you. Beyond the swamp is a big plain. Strike straight across it, keeping the moon square on your right—the moon will be up by that time—and three hours' riding will bring you to the new railroad. After that—God help you to get safe away!"

Sacramento paused and put out her hand. "Can you remember?" she demanded.

"I can, but I can never forget—"

"Never mind that. Here, take this. It is a little money. You will need it. Now mount and ride—slowly, a little way, and then for your life."

The young man still had hold of her hand. The tears came into his eyes. The next moment he was gone.

The next morning Sacramento told her father the story and coaxed him into forgiving her. And the following afternoon a man brought Bueno over from the railroad town; and then she knew that the fugitive was safe.

Six weeks later a lawyer from Santa Barbara appeared with a letter from Walter Somers. He was with his friends at New York, and he begged Sacramento to accept, as a gift of gratitude, at least the amount of the reward that had been offered.

And so it was that she went down to San Francisco to school that winter, after all.—*Youth's Companion.*

THE FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

The Care of Tools and Farm Implements.

Dollar after dollar dwindles imperceptibly but surely away on many farms during the winter season because reapers and mowers, seed-drills, plows and harrows are left just where they were last employed to bear the injurious effects of pelting storms and dry winds. Tools worn or loosened and calling for simple repairs are used until past mending, and yet it is the leisure season of the whole year.

A few hours spent each day by the farmer and his boys in the repair shop or, barn cleaning and oiling machines, painting wagon-bodies and repairing wheels and axles, replacing rake-teeth, tightening hoe-handles, sharpening the knives to reaping machines, making rollers and stump-pullers, etc., would not only save unnecessary loss in actual dollars and cents, but a vast amount of time, anxiety and annoyance in the spring when the rush of work leaves little or no time in which to make repairs or supply the place of lost tools.

There are a variety of mixtures that may be applied to the iron parts of implements to prevent rusting, the cheapest of which is grease that has not been salted. An excellent article for the protection of steel or iron may be prepared by melting lard and common rosin slowly together and stirring the mixture until it cools. When required in large quantities it may be made in the proportion of about six pounds of lard to two of rosin. If only a small amount is desired, a piece of rosin the size of a hen's egg will suffice for one pound of lard. This mixture can be applied with a cloth to the metal surface, giving it a thin coat. The rosin prevents the lard from becoming rancid and the grease excludes the air and moisture.

Previous to applying any protective wash, machinery should be thoroughly cleaned and the bearings wiped and oiled with castor oil or other lubricant. Castor oil, by the way, is counted among the best of oils for iron axles. A wheel well lubricated will not only revolve readily but runs much longer than when oiled with cheaper sort of grease.

It is also economy to look after the woodwork of tools and machinery. Alternate wetting and drying soon injures any wood, causing cracking and final decay. This may be prevented by the timely and occasional application of some cheap paint. When woodwork from exposure has become cracked it is advised to give it a wash of crude petroleum previous to an external coat of paint. Petroleum not only improves all wooden tools, but is alike valuable for rustic furniture, such as arbors, garden chairs and vases that are exposed to the weather. Gas tar is sometimes employed as a paint for wagon wheels. A correspondent who has made use of it in this way says that it forms a hard, durable black polish, somewhat like Japan on tinware, and dries in the summer sun—on wood in one day and on iron in two days. A good black paint for coarse iron work, according to the *American Journal of Industry*, may be made by mixing plumbago with hot coal tar. Equal parts of asphaltum and rosin dissolved in common turpentine, says the same authority, make also a good cheap covering for heavy iron work.

To preserve harness, leather-belting and the like, keep in some dry, airy place; take apart occasionally and thoroughly clean and oil every portion. Never oil harness until it has first been relieved of all dirt; scrape off the thickest accumulation of mud, etc., with a dull knife, then remove the rest with a wet cloth. If oiled previous to cleaning the oil soaking through the dirt into the leather carries with it fine particles into the pores of the leather, thereby rendering it hard and stiff. For harness common neatsfoot oil is excellent, but when mice and rats abound pure castor oil is better, for these varments do not like it. Apply the oil with an old woolen cloth, putting on as much as will rub in and dry readily. After oiling harness and belting let it hang for two or three days in some warm, airy place and expose to the sunshine when that is practicable. Never keep leather appliances of any sort in a dark, damp place.—*New York World.*

Farm and Garden Notes.

Sheep give back to the farm more, in proportion to what they take from it, than any other animal.

Do not allow the cattle to tramp over the mowings when the ground is soft enough to retain the imprint of their hoofs wherever they go.

Frequently after squashes begin to blossom they dry up and die. For this disaster no one has yet been able to give a satisfactory cause.

Strawberries are much more prolific when four or five different varieties are planted together, although each variety may be a perfect one, than if but one perfect variety were planted alone.

The opinion has generally prevailed that a little bran mixed with meal would produce more pork than clear meal, but in some experiments lately tried it was found that clear meal made more pork than a mixture of bran and meal.

Professor Brewer of the Sheffield Scientific school, New Haven, says: "On account of the value of our straw and of the stalks of our corn for feeding it is found that an acre of corn, wheat or other grain pays as large a profit here as at the West, and that the labor of each man is as well or better paid."

The best thing to do with inferior stock, when the price of grain and other feed is as high as it is now, is to fatten them quickly, if possible, and sell them or dispose of them in some other way. Better give them away than, by keeping them, to deprive the better animals of an abundance of food.

A correspondent of the London *Live Stock Journal* cured a horse of the bad habit of rearing when mounted by providing himself with a bottle of water, and dashing the contents "with violence on its head" the moment it began to get upon its hind feet. A second application was never needed.

The Flemish farmer scrupulously collects every atom of sewage from the towns, he guards his manure like a treasure, puts a roof over it to prevent rain and sunshine from spoling it; he also gathers mud from rivers and canals, and the excretions of animals along the highways, for conversion into phosphates.

Store cattle, or dry cows, may be kept on the poorest forage until the cows come in, when they should have as good food as can be afforded. So the best way to manage will be to feed up the poorest stuff first. If it is found that the corn-fodder is injured by the blackening and mildewing effects of the rains it should be fed before the hay; but if it has been secured in good order before sustaining any damage it may be as well to feed it last or after the hay is pretty well fed out. This is of importance mainly as the feeding season will have to be well extended into summer next year, or until soiling crops can be obtained.

Recipes.

GRIDDLE CAKES.—Take a cupful each of sweet milk and sour milk, a tablespoonful cream or other shortening; sift a scant half-teaspoonful cream tartar in the flour; dissolve a half-teaspoonful soda in a little water; stir in flour to make a thin batter; have the griddle hot and buttered, dip on a spoonful at a time and fry a light brown.

APPLE CREAM.—Peel and core one pound of apples, place them in a stewpan with eight ounces of sugar and a pinch of ground nutmeg. Let cook until tender; pass the apples through sieve and let get cold. Whisk up rather stiff half a pint of cream, add the apple pulp, a little essence of lemon, one ounce of isinglass boiled in a gill of water; mix well together; pour into a jelly mold and let set. When required dip the mold into warm water for half a minute, wipe it with a cloth and turn it out on a glass or silver dish. Garnish with red flowers and slices of lemon.

MASHED POTATOES.—Boil the potatoes gently, after having made them as nearly uniform in size as possible, by dividing the larger ones, or what is better, by slicing all, but not very thinly. As soon as the fork goes through readily turn the water off (saving that for mixing your bread if you bake the same day), then mash through a colander into the same kettle or saucepan. Add butter and cream and salt, and with a long-handled spoon beat a few minutes briskly. Set the saucepan where it will thoroughly heat again, and your potatoes will be a noticeable feature of the best of dinners.

NOODLE.—"Noodle," if properly made, is a great addition to soup, and is preferred by many people to the best "A. B. C. macaroni." For a family of four two eggs will be sufficient; beat them until they are very light; stir in flour as long as it is possible to work it in; salt it well; roll it out on a kneeding-board until it is almost as thin as paper and is perfectly smooth; put a clean paper on a chair or table near the stove and lay the noodle on it to dry. It should be prepared early enough in the morning for it to dry for an hour at least. About twenty minutes before the soup is taken from the stove take the noodle and stir it over and over until you have a strip three or four inches wide; then with a sharp knife cut it in narrow strips; put these in the soup and let them cook from ten to fifteen minutes. Beef soup, with noodle, and a pinch of curry powder, is a dish to be "somewhat considered."

Household Hints.

Alum is one of the best additions to make whitewash of lime that will not rub off. When powdered chalk is used, glue water is also good, but would not answer for outside work exposed to much rain.

That rustic black Italian crape may be restored by dipping in skimmed milk and water, with a bit of fine glue dissolved in it and made scalding hot. It should be clapped and pulled dry, like muslin.

Common soda is excellent for scouring tin; as it will not scratch the tin and will make it look like new. Apply with a piece of moistened newspaper and polish with a dry piece. Wood ashes are a good substitute.

Mildew may be removed from linen by mixing with soft soap a little powdered starch, half the quantity of salt, and the juice of a lemon, and applying it to the mildew stain with a paint brush on both sides of the linen. The stained article should then be left out on the grass day and night until the spot be removed.

Something for Nothing.

All newspaper publishers have had experience with men who want to advertise themselves or their business in newspapers without cost to themselves. It is pitiable to see the shabby means they take to attain the end they have in view. Men who would feel insulted if they were called dead-beats, will with bland effrontery ask a publisher to "please mention so and so" (an advertisement), or, handing in what is really an advertisement under the guise of a communication, they will say, "Here's a little item that will help you to fill up with." Men who do this—and there are some in every town—call themselves honorable and would not think of asking a real estate owner to let them use one of his houses a few months for nothing; nor would they ask him to let them cultivate and use a part of his farm, without expecting to have to pay rent for it.

The advertising columns of his paper is to the publisher what the house or farm is to the real estate owner—his source of income. Why any one should expect the newspaper publisher to be more generous in squandering his substance than other business men is something that cannot be accounted for, except on the supposition that some people have an idiotic idea that printers set up type for the love of the work, and that ink and type and printing presses are gifts from heaven to sinful men, who publish newspapers merely for the purpose of smoothing the pathway of their fellow men on the rugged road to fortune, and who hope not for reward this side of the grave.—*Texas Siftings.*

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Eastern and Middle States.

THE Hon. A. A. Pettengill, for twenty-five years editor and proprietor of the daily *Standard*, died at Bridgeport, Conn. He had been a State Senator, Congressman and United States marshal, and was census commissioner of Connecticut.

EX-GOVERNOR ALEXANDER H. BULLOCK, of Massachusetts, dropped dead on the sidewalk in Worcester, Mass., of apoplexy. He was born in Worcester in 1816, and had been successively a member of the Massachusetts legislature, mayor of Worcester, speaker of the State house of representatives, and governor, to which latter office he was elected in 1866, and twice re-elected.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT gave a reception to his friends at his new house in Fifth avenue, New York, which cost $3,000,000 to build and furnish, and is considered the finest private residence in the city. More than 600 men were employed for a year and a half on the interior decorations alone, while sixty sculptors were brought from Europe and kept at work two years. The house is 84 feet front by 115 feet deep, and four stories high.

AT Jeanesville, Pa., the coal breaker operated by J. C. Hayden & Co., one of the largest breakers in Luzerne county, was totally destroyed by fire, together with about 200 tons of coal. The loss is estimated at $200,000.

GOVERNOR CORNELL has sent to the New York legislature a special message, called forth by the recent railroad slaughter at Spuyten Duyvel. The message calls attention to the need of stringent laws for the prevention of accidents on railroads.

WHILE blasting at a stone quarry near Reading, Pa., three men were frightfully injured by a premature explosion, two of them having their eyes blown out.

THE one hundredth anniversary of Daniel Webster's birth was celebrated at Boston by a banquet, and at Salisbury, N. H., his birthplace, commemorative exercises were held.

THE Pennsylvania board of pardons, in session at Harrisburg, decided against the applications of six murderers for a commutation of their death sentence.

South and West.

MR. LAMAR has been re-elected to the United States Senate by the Mississippi legislature.

INDIANOLA, Ill., has lost its business part by fire. The court-house, postoffice and several other buildings at Abilene, Kansas, have also been destroyed by the flames.

ANOTHER terrible tragedy is reported from Kentucky. James R. Wilmot, a farmer living near Lancaster, killed his mother, aged eighty-nine, his wife and two daughters, aged about nineteen and fifteen, made an unsuccessful attempt to kill a son of twenty, and then hanged himself in his barn.

THE flood at Nashville, Tenn., inundated more than 1,000 houses and compelled no less than 1,500 persons to abandon their homes. The city was surrounded on three sides by water. All the principal streets were flooded, and houses and barns were continually passing down the swollen river.

FIRE broke out in the house occupied by George C. Smith and family at Clinton, Mo., and Mrs. Smith, with four daughters, ranging in age from six to seventeen years, perished in the flames. Mr. Smith, with an eight-year-old daughter and a neighbor's child, escaped.

AT Seattle, Washington Territory, James Sullivan and William Howard, who had murdered a young man named Reynolds, were taken out of court by a crowd of 400 men and hanged. The crowd then proceeded to the jail, overcame the guards, took from his cell Benjamin Payne, under arrest for killing a policeman, and strung him up in company with the other two men.

ANDERSON JONES (colored) was hanged at Augusta, Ga., for murdering a young merchant named Haralson, and at Franklin, Idaho, Michael Mooney met a similar fate for the murder of J. Hinckley, a station agent.

JOHN WAGGONER, in jail at Ironton, Ohio, on the charge of having murdered Dr. Joseph A. Beggs, bookkeeper and chemist for the Ætna iron works, was taken from his cell by a body of masked men and hanged to a tree in the court-house yard.

AN unsuccessful attempt was made to wreck a special train on which Jay Gould and party were going northward toward Sedalia, Mo. The obstruction placed on the track was discovered a few minutes before it was reached by the train. A farmer was arrested for the act, and stated that some of his stock had been killed by trains, and that he attempted to wreck the train in revenge.

HEAVY rains caused an increased rising of the Cumberland river at Nashville, Tenn., and the inundation hemmed in the city on nearly all sides. Ten thousand families were driven from their homes. In many instances the people were imprisoned in their houses by the flood and had to be rescued by boats. Many acres of business houses and private dwellings were inundated, and the pecuniary damage is very heavy.

THE bark F. L. Carney, from Navassa, West Indies, to Baltimore, loaded with guano, sunk three miles south of Hatteras inlet, N. C., and eight of the ten men on board lost their lives.

A LARGE candy and cracker factory and seven adjoining buildings in Atlanta, Ga., have been destroyed by fire, causing a loss of $500,000. One man was burned to death.

MRS. REBECCA RANKIN, a wealthy old widow, living near Newcomerstown, Ohio, becoming possessed with the idea that she would die in poverty, arose in the night and hanged herself.

A COLLISION between two trains on the Charleston and Savannah railroad, twenty-seven miles from the former place, resulted in the death of two men and serious injuries to several more.

From Washington.

THE Senate select committee on the rights of women gave a hearing to a large delegation of the members of the National Woman's Suffrage convention.

COLONEL DUDLEY, commissioner of pensions, in an address to the House committee on pensions, said if he had 400 men to place in the field as special agents he could eliminate all pension frauds within three years' time. He thought such special agents should receive about $1,400 per year and expenses.

THE national board of health has at its meeting declared smallpox to be epidemic in the United States. The inspection has been ordered of several of the most important quarantine stations, to determine if the rules and regulations of the board, approved by the President November 14, 1881, are being properly enforced.

THE total values of the exports of domestic provisions, tallow and dairy products during December, 1881, were $12,981,978, and during December, 1880, $15,874,787; for the twelve months ended December 31, 1881, $133,329,242, and for the same period in 1880, $143,882,570.

TWENTY States and Territories were represented at the fourteenth annual convention of the National Woman's Suffrage convention. Elizabeth Cady Stanton presided, and numerous addresses in conformity with the principles of the party were adopted.

THE secretary of the navy has received the following dispatch, dated Irkutsk, Russia, from Engineer Melville, of the lost Jeannette: "Melville, Danenhower and eleven men all well. Melville returned to Arctic ocean; found log books, instruments and four records left by De Long. No tidings of second cutter, Lieutenant Chipp. Search continued during the winter by Cossack commandant of Bolun and Iakutsk, under directions of General Tchernieff. Word from Kolyma river that no boat had arrived to date, November 19. I am acquainted with the country where De Long and party are, and request orders to remain, with two men, to renew the search in March, Danenhower and nine men to return to the United States. Danenhower's sight partly recovered." Secretary Hunt replied, giving Melville the orders he asked.

Foreign News.

THE English schooner Weathergage capsized off Honduras, and eight passengers were drowned.

A FIRE in a theater at Rotterdam, Holland, created a panic, and several persons leaped over the balconies and were injured.

THE London *Times*, in its financial article, says that a break-up of the excessive speculation which has been going on in Europe is now taking place.

AN insurrection against Austria has broken out in the Balkan peninsula. The rising commenced in Herzegovina, extending to the border districts of Dalmatia, Bosnia, Albania, and probably Montenegro. An Austrian army corps will be dispatched to crush the insurrection.

MANY men and horses were burned to death and much property was destroyed by the burning of a circus in Bucharest, capital of Roumania.

THE Holy League, a society formed to counteract nihilism, will be recognized as a branch of the Russian police.

THE insurgents in the Balkan provinces have slaughtered a detachment of ten Austrian soldiers and defeated another body of Austrians near Bledagora.

A TRIBE occupying a region near the South African diamond fields and which is allied to Great Britain has suffered a loss of 150 men from an attack made by another tribe which was aided by Boer mercenaries.

MANY small engagements have taken place between the Austrian troops and the insurgents in the Balkan provinces.

THREE thousand French troops are reported to have died in Tunis, North Africa.

THE panic in Paris financial circles has spread to Vienna, and many cases of suicide are reported.

THERE are 70,000 claims for the fixing of fair rent before the Irish land courts.

TWO hundred revolting Arabs were killed in an engagement with Turkish troops in Arabia.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Senate.

Petitions for a commission of inquiry concerning the alcoholic liquor traffic, for an increase of pay to members of the life service, and from citizens of Kansas for woman suffrage, were presented....Bills were introduced providing for a commission on the alcoholic liquor traffic; permitting Ward Hunt, supreme court justice, to retire; granting a pension to Lucretia R. Garfield, etc.....The arrears of pension bill and the Sherman refunding bill were successively discussed.

The bill to retire Supreme Court Justice Ward Hunt was reported favorably....Mr. Blair offered a resolution instructing the committee on public lands to inquire into the administration of the land laws and systems, their operations in the practical disposition of the public lands, and any abuses and hardships which may exist in their administration, and to report facts and recommendations. Adopted....Mr. Brown made a speech on the currency question, his text being his resolution declaring the inexpediency of contracting the currency by the withdrawal of the silver certificates, or the discontinuance or further restriction of silver coinage, and that gold and silver coin, based upon a proper ratio of equivalence between the two metals, and issues of paper predicated upon and convertible into coin on demand, constitute the proper circulating medium of this country....The Sherman refunding bill was further discussed by Messrs. Morgan, Sherman, Beck and Bayard....Mr. George introduced a bill to encourage agriculture and manufactures. It proposes to repeal all duties and imposts now laid on machinery for the manufacture of cotton or woolen goods or goods composed of hemp or jute; also on all tools of mechanics which are used solely in manual labor; also on all agricultural implements and on all iron cotton-ties.

A lively debate took place on the Sherman funding bill, the participants being Messrs. Saulsbury, Windom and Hill....The bill retiring Supreme Court Justice Hunt was passed by a vote of 41 yeas to 14 nays.

House.

Mr. Belmont offered a resolution asking for full information as to the relations of the government with South America....Mr. Robeson called up the report of the committee on rules increasing the membership of various committees of the House. Mr. Orth offered as a substitute for the committee's report his amendment for the election, at the beginning of each Congress, of a commission charged with the duty of assigning the membership of committees. A long discussion followed, during which there was considerable excitement. A motion to lay Mr. Robeson's report on the table was lost by a vote of 149 nays to 107 yeas.

A bill was introduced for the sale of the United States court-house at Boston....A bill was reported for the sale of the land of the Miami Indians in Kansas, and a report was made on the subject of metric coinages....The report of the committee on rules, proposing an increase in the membership of certain committees, was further discussed.

The day was chiefly occupied in the discussion of the report of the committee on rules in regard to enlarging the committees of the House; the report was finally recommitted by a vote of 159 to 90.

A curious application of electricity is now employed in the Spanish army. Conscripts wishing to escape military service have, it seems, often resorted to the trick of bending the body while being measured, so as to bring their stature below the limit prescribed for the service. To prevent fraud of this kind is the object of the new device. When the man is standing perfectly erect the backs of the legs at the knees press against electric contacts, causing two bells to ring, while a third bell is similarly rung by pressure of the head. For a correct measurement the three bells should ring simultaneously. The ringing ceases when there is the least bending.