Three expositions are booked for next'year at Baltimore, Nashville and Omnha.

The Russian government has recently placed contracts for \$12,000,000 worth of war material in the United States alone, and the Parliament of Japan is now discussing a plan for the investment of \$140,000,000 in fleets and fortresses.

If the cathode ray assists in the diagnosis of suspected appendicitis, it will be a boon to mankind, suggests the Atlanta Journal. This trouble has been found to be frequent, and unless a correct diagnosis is made in the earliest stage, the chances of recovery are far from good.

The international exhibition of agrienltural implements, to be held at Vienna, will afford American inventors and manufacturers another opportunity to show their old-time superiority in that branch of industry, suggests the New York Tribune. That is a good piace in which to make such a showing, too. for the eastern part of the Dual empire is one of the greatest agricultural countries in the world.

Colonel Carroll D. Wright, of the National bureau of statistics, is reported as estimating that only 1,800,-000 of the 15,000,000 of American wage earners are organized in any sort of trades' unions. He therefore ascribes to other causes than their aclivity the great advance in the wages of labor," which has taken place, amounting, in his estimate, to sixtynine percent during the nineteenth sentury.

An inventor proposes to utilize the sompass of a ship to warn the navigators of the approach of danger. He has constructed a compass which is regulated by a chemical which will not be affected by the magnetic force on board the ship, but will be keenly sensitive to minute symptoms from any other magnetic influence exerted at a distance from the vessel up to possibly two miles. This compass when affected by the magnetism escillates about an eighth of an inch. so the inventor asserts. When it is so affected the metal connections on the rim of the dial plate will close a aircuit, causing the bells to ring in the engine-room as well as in the pilottouse and on the bridge.

In the Arkansas state penitentiary ts a young man who ought to be outside the walls of that institution, deplaces the Washington Star. He only antered it the other day but even a day of residence therein is too long a period of confinement for such a perion as he seems to be. Convicted of grand larceny in Clay county, he jonrneyed aloue from the Clay county sourt house to Little Rock-a distance of more than two hundred miles-and delivered to the authorities there the official papers which set forth his arime and his sentence and which of ourse secured for him instant admis tion to the penitentiary. The precise nature of his offense is not stated but any young man-this one is about sincteen years of age-who will keep faith under such circumstances is deserving of better treatment than a year's sojourn in a penal institution. If that young man has half a chance he will amount to something. A novel and interesting report has inst been issued by the United States geological survey on the public lands aow open to entry and settlement, which embrace one-third of the whole extent of the country, exclusive of Alaska. The relative location and area of this vast domain of free land are shown by a large colored map and the distribution is further illustrated in the report by means of diagrams showing the proportion from each state and territory. Numerous pholographs of scenery in the West are also given. The character of the land a described in general terms and shown by a colored map exhibiting he forests, woodlands and grazing areas. The main point developed by this report is that the value of the hads of this unoccupied third of the United States is dependent primarily on the water supply. Much of it has been reclaimed by irrigation, but by far the greater portion cannot be irrigated, and is valuable mainly for pasmrage and for forest growth. It is merted that the great question before the American people is how best to stilize this vast area to develop its agricultural possibilities, and how to ese that portion which cannot be cullivated for grazing and for the profaction of timber. This report gives is concise form the results of years of investigation, and brings together in colear and striking manner the most minent facts concerning the peo te berlings.

A Song of Hope, Children of yesterday, Heirs of tomorrow, What are you weaving-Labor and sorrow? Look to your looms again ; **Faster** and faster Fig the great shuttles Propaged by the Master,

Life's in the loom. Room for it-room !

Children of yesterday, Helrs of tomorrow, Lighten the labor

And sweeten the sorrow. Now while the shuttles fly Fuster and faster,

Up and be at it-At work with the Master, He stands at your loom.

Room for Him-room. Children of yesterday, Heirs of tomorrow.

Look at your fabrie Of labor and sorrow.

Seamy and dark

With despair and disaster, Turn it and lo.

The design of the Master ! The Lord's at the loom, Room for Him-room !

-Youth's Companion.

## HER LOT WAS TO OBEY.

Tall, debouair and smiling, Jack Dalton looked worthy to woo and win even so fair a prize as pretty Nora Carew, the belle of Hampden town. And as he looked at the bewrtehing face once more he made up his mind that tonight he would put his fate to the touch, and would win-or else lose it nil.

"What energetic people you all are, to be sure !" said Mrs. Carew, placidly surveying the two young people. "Tennis all day long, and now a dance. Where is Gladys, Nora?"

"Here, mother," answered a calm, snave voice, and Giadys Hastings, the weil-to-do married daughter, surveyed her young sister critically as she spoke then as her eyes fell on the impassioned face of Jack Dalton, she turned hastily away.

"Come, Nora," she said, "the carringe has been waiting some time," and in silence the young people. followed her.

And now at last Jack will put it off no longer. The girl he loves with all the strenth of his honest, manly heart is seated by his side. They are in the conservatory and not a living being is in night.

"Nora," he says softly.

The girl blushes a bright pink, but does not appear to resent his familinrity.

"Nors," he repeats, taking hold of the little hand in this, "you know already what I would say, do you not, my darling? Nora, I love you. Love you more, I think, than ever man ever loved before. Nora, will you be my wife ?"

The blue eves were raised for a second, and in their misty radiance Jack Dalton read his answer.

"Nora!" broke in a voice of measured severity, which made Nora start like a guilty creature, "I have been looking for you everywhere! Nora, Mr. Pontifex has arrived unexpectedly at home, and apparently, from what I can gather, does not wish to meet you first here. So, of course, you will at once leave and-"

"Is this true?" he demanded, and his voice to himself sounded far away. Is it true that you are now going to meet your afflanced husband?" Nora looked up startled into his white stern face;

"I-I-" she faltered, but her voice broke and she turned away.

"That is an answer sufficient, he returned. "I fully indorse your sister's sontiment, Miss Carew you are a and flirtf"

With a barsh laugh he turned away as Nora, white and trembling, followed Mrs. Hastings to the carriage, leaving him standing alone, desolate amidst the wealth of flowers and sweet scents, a bitter, broken hearted man.

"I have come for my answer, Nora?" said Mr. Pontifex in his calm, measured voice.

Something in his assured confidence mude the girl flush with sudden anger.

"By what right do you call me by my name?" she asked passionately, and as her eyes dwell on his complacent, uninteresting face, the girl tells herself she hates him.

"By what right? My dear Nora, surely your future husband may-" He ends abruptly, for Nora's eyes are flashing with unconcealed rage.

"My future husband!" she exclaimed, "Never! By what right have you followed me about, tortured me so the last few months, I never liked you, never said I would marry you. How dare you try to imply that you were ever treated by me with more than ordinary eivility."

"Your sister" --- he says but with more uncasiness in his assured tones.

"My sister is not me, Mr. Pontifes. She apparently thinks she can dispose of me as she chooses. I claim the right to choose for myself in the most important, holiest act of a woman's life. Mr. Pontifex I have chosen, and may I ask you to be generous enough to in future, when we meet, abstain from remarks save those of ordinary civility?"

With a bow a young empress might have given, Nora swept from the room. She felt choked, suffocating with conflicting emotions.

"Oh, for some air!" she cried. And, catching up her hat, she ran: from the house, down the garden to the downs beyond, where she paused, exhausted by a large clump of trees. As she raised her head at a sudden rustling, a man came quickly from within the thicket, and Nora confronted Jack Dalton. Haggard, white, unshaven he looked, aged by many years from the handsome Jack Dalton of the night before.

He raised his hat mechanically, and was passing on, but Nora spoke: --"Mr. Dalton," she said, in a trembling voice, which, low as it was,

reached Jack's ents. He raised his eyebrows slightly.

"I am at your service, Miss Carew!" he said, icily.

Nora looked nervonsly at him. ould he not help her? gazing before him with a blank, expression.

pieces. They all sit around the board while the father says a long grace, and a stranger not familiar with their table manners is apt to be left in the lurch. Each man, for the women eat alone, selects the particular piece of meat that strikes his fancy, and as soon as the "Amen" is spoken, sticks his fork into the piece selected. It happens sometimes that two select the same piece ; then, the quickest man gets the booty. Dry bread, sometimes butter, and strong black coffee complete the bill of fare, which may stand as a

sample meal. It has been urged against the Boer that he is uncleanly, and this cannot be denied ; but there is an excuse for this in the searcity of water. - Forum. Oldest Railroad in the World.

The Baltimore & Ohio is the oldest chartered railroad in America, and the oldest passenger railroad in the world. On the 4th of July, 1828, ground was broken for the promising enterprise by Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the only remaining signer of the Declaration of Independence. At the time it was only designed for a horse railroad, for steam had not yet been evolved into a practical motive power. It was the original intention to extend the road ultimately to the Ohio river, hence the name which it now bears was given to it at its beginning.

On the 22d of May, 1830, the road was opened for business from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills, thirteen miles. The first American passenger car then used was almost 12 feet long ;one horse was attached, good for eight miles an hour, carrying 25 passengers. The driver sat in front, the conductor stood on the steps behind. The first driver, Mr. Galloway, who was afterwards made engineer, lived to see the road perfected from the primitive onehorse power to its climax of wonderful display at the World's fair, where he held forth with pride as the first engineer of the first passenger railway in America. 

Very soon after the road started a more ambitious car was used, known as the "double decker." Then a tread car was introduced, the object being for the horse to move its own car and passenger car attached at the same time, a sort of animated fourlegged locomotive, which is doubtless more humorous to read about than it would be to ride behind, particularly in this day of lightning speed.

Momentous events followed quickly on this new road, and on August 28. 1830, the first American locomotive ever constructed, made by Peter Cooper, drew the first passenger car ever propelled by steam upon any railroad in the world, Mr. Cooper acting as engineer.

#### Alaska Pays Its Way.

There are people who are fond of saying that the United States "has spent more in trying to defend the right to control the seal fisheries than Alaska has been worth to it." A document just now sent by the president to Congress shows that the government has derived, since 1876, from the seal fisheries alone, \$6,351,961, and that there is a claim of nearly a million more outstanding. Including all the expenditures of policing Bahring sea and for the support of the natives, and for salaries, there has been a net profit to the United States since 1876 on the scals alone of \$4,658,858. Since the Canadians began their attempts to break up these fisheries the profits have vanished. Aside from the seal fisheries, there are other fisheries of great value. In his annual report secretary Smith says that "the salmon alone taken prepared for the market by cauning or otherwise gives an annual return of \$3,000,000." Gold mining has also become of great and increasing importance, and, according to these official documents, Alaska returns to the people of the United States in one year now almost as much as the cost of it. --- The Manufacturer.

# WEATHER VANES.

## Some Unique Designs Upon the Homes of Public Men.

Adjustment of the Indicator Very Delicate Operation.

There are over 100,000 weather vanes sold every year in this country and they are of all shapes, sizes and representations. Personal taste in weather vanes is apparent everywhere. For instance, so says the weather vane manufacturers, the far west loves emblems of its rich agriculture. A sheaf of ripe wheat is the favorite in its farming districts. In others buffalo, cattle, live stock of all kinds and lifesize deer and antelope are liked. The rooster is a bird that is chosen in all parts of the world for a weather vane, Kentucky is partial to the horse as an ornament to its chimneys and steeples. Alix, with her pneumatic sulky; Patchen, with wagon; Flora Temple and mate, and all the great horses of the South, are made in brass weather vanea and sold freely for ornaments to country homes, breeding stables, manufactories and large buildings.

Weather vanes are made out of solid copper and brass, hammered and hollowed out. The term "solid" means that the metal is of the best quality. The iron vane, or the wooden one, is considered inferior, or if used at all, is selected by a man who has plenty of money, and who can afford to replace the wooden or other perishable vane as often as it is worn

In the city the great destroyer of a gilded weather vane is the dust and amoke. The gold gets tarnished and the copper discolored. The ingenuity of weather vane makers is constantly taxed to overcome this difficulty. On this account many weather vanes ar made of some substance dark enough not to discolor, and if not as beautiful as gold, warranted to last much longer.

Gladstone has upon his country home, Hawarden, a weather vane in the form of a British lion that is of copper so bright that in some lights it looks as black as iron. The lion has a curly tail, and his head wears the joyful expression of being about to spring upon its prey. The head of the lion points to where the wind lies, If the head is at the north, the wind is north.

It is a remarkable fact that, though England put up weather vanes and had its factories before Columbus came over here, most of the English weather vanes are now made in this country. Mr. Gladstone obtained his lion here, and the man who made it tells

with pride of receiving a letter in the handwriting of the old Premier. He wanted "a weather vane bright, light and registering accurately."

The weather vane upon the Fifth avenue home of John Jacob Astor, is a crescent, covered with fine gold leaf. Lie cost might have been \$1,500. this must be added half the sum for putting up. The adjustment of a weather vane is a very delicate operation. The leveling is very nice work. Levi P. Morton has a very large Indian feather upon his country house. It is very ornamental, has the corners of the compass underneath, and makes a suitable finish to the finely trimmed cupola of his magnificent seat. The cost of such a vane is not over \$100 at the most, and from that price down you can get a feather or an arrow at all costs down to \$2.50 which is about as cheap as vanes ever come. The weather vane ornament on Blenheim is a rooster. It is an American rooster and was purchased and placed there by Mrs. Hamersley when she became the Duchess of Marlborough. It is of bright gold and is very large. Its pole is 100 feet high. and the bird itself from tail to head measures six feet. That is large for a gold rooster. - New York Journal.

Every congregation should see to it that there are some arrangements for the comfort and protection of the teams during the hour of service. No one would think of driving horses to town and letting them stand out in all sorts of severe weather as they do at church. And yet only a very few congregations have given the least attention to the comfort of the horses on Sunday. It seems to me that a church should never be considered ready for dedication until there has been made ample provision for the dumb beasts. for how can one's worship be acceptable to the Creator unless he is considerate of the needs of his creatures?

Sheds can be easily and cheaply built that will be a protection both in summer and winter. The cash outlay for their construction need be small. The lumber necessary to cover them and board up the windward side is all that needs to be bought. Poles in nearly all cases may be obtained in the neighborhood and they will always be donated. The work, too will usually be donated.

A "bee" in some leisure time of the year might be held, when men of the whole community would turnout and the entire work could be done in one day. Thus at the cost of a little time and very small amount of money, the work could be accomplished. It is certainly a cause that demands attention.

Cocoa And Chocolate.

For the past fifty years the manafacture of chocolate and the preparation of cocon has been going on in New York. There are now some twenty-five factories and firms engaged in the business. A prominentmanufacturer said to a porter in relation to this:

The reason why New York is the center for the manufacture of the various forms of chocolate is because both the cocoa beau and the sugar roquired in its manufacture are grown this side of the Atlantic, and are more easily produced here than aboard.

There is also another reason why the domestic chocolate is better than the imported, and that is because we make a better quality of goods than they do on the other side.

The American manufacturers give better values and work on a smaller margin.

"One of the reasons why many chocolate manufacturers have had so much success is because New York is 🗭 a seaport, and in some cases I know of cocoa beaus being landed on the dock near a manufactory in the morning and turned out manufactured goods on the following morning. This merely illustrates to how fine point the business has been perfect-

The same authority estimated that the product of chocolate and cocoa of New York manufacture was 3,000,000 poun is a year, He made the prediction that it would not be long before this amount would be doubled. - New York Mail and Express.

"I do not see why, Gladys!" said Nora, but her voice trembled and her fair face was very white.

"Then allow others to judge of what is right and fitting under the circumstances," said Mrs. Hastings, sharply. "I have made your apologies to Mrs. Pelham ; she quite understands the circumstances. Run quickly and get your cloak,"

As the girl goes reluctantly forward lack Dalton makes a hasty step toward her, but Mrs. Hastings gently detains him.

"Pardon me," she said in a soft voice, in which there was a light ring of pity, "but I cannot but fear you do not quite know the facts about my little sister. If you have been led to think anything from her manner I am very sorry, but it happens so often. Naughty child! She is a sad flirt!" Mrs. Hastings gave a gentle, amused laugh, which died suddenly as her eyes fell on Jack's white, stern face.

"Excuse me !" he said, in a haughty tone, "but I do not understand what you are endeavoring to convey to me. Why does the advent of this gentleman appear so important to her,

"Ab, it is as I said ; you do not understand the facts !" laughed Mrs. Hastings. "They are briefly these. Nora is engaged to Mr. Pontifex, has been since the end of the season, and they are to be married in the autumn !"

The place seemed to swim round Jack's eyes, but with a firm resolve not to be beaten he set his teeth hard and with absolute composure surveyed Nors as she returned to her sister's

"I-I don't know how to say it." Nora broke out impetuously, "but I heard you were going away today, and -ob, Jack, don't look away from me -listen to me first ! I-I was never engaged to him. I never even liked him, but Gladyz wanted me to marry him-and I cared for no one else. And one day before we came here when he had wearied me out, I said I would give him an answer three months later. The three mouths aren't up yet, Jack, but he came down yesterday, and I told him today that I could never be his wife. Oh, Jack, if you going away today say goodby to me kindly, for-for I love you, Jack." There was an instant's pause, and then Jack's strong arms were round the little weeping figure, and her wet face was pressed to his--Forget-Me-Not.

Manners and Customs of The Boers. The daily life of a Boer family is a simple one: At daybreak, all the members assemble in the main room-the kitchen and eating room, although most of the food is cooked in the open air-where the head of the family reads reverently a chapter or two from the Bible, generally the Old Testament, a simple, manly prayer is then ordered, followed by the observance of an ancient Bible custom. A colored handmaid enters the room with a basin of water and a towel. The guest is first approached and invited to wash his hands and face and wipe them on the towel. The head of the family is next approached and so on around the room until all have been included in the ceremony. This constitutes the day's ablutions of the family. The morning meal consists of a dish of ment-deer or mutton, and sometimes beef-out into large

Oilsoaked Wood That Was Fireproof. The wood used in the hold of a vessel to keep barrels and hogsheads from rolling out of position, known as "dunnage," is generally good for fuel, but there are exceptions. A Portland man was offered a quantity of this stuff recently, but was advised not to take it as it would not be worth the trouble. It had been used as dunnage for barrels of kerosene, and the barrels of leaking oil had completely anturated it, but this, strange as it may appear, rendred the wood almost unfit for use. It would burn so sallenly or soggily that little heat would be given forth. The reason, as explained by the Transcript, is that the volatile, inflammable principle of the oil evaporates from the wood, and leaves only a clogging, incombustible

Protection for Horses at Country Churches.

As a country parson, writes Rev. M.G. Rambo in the American Agriculturist my attention has often been called to this matter. My ministerial work for the past few years has been in charge of country congregations, and I have been astonished at the lack of provision at the average church for the accommodation of the teams, while the owners enjoy the comforts of the house of God. The horses are compelled to stand out in the burning suushine or in the bleak wintry wind, with scarcely a shadow of protection. It is to me a great source of pain to see the animals suffer as they are often compelled to do in the extremes of weather and I often shorten that service in order that the teams may ubstance.--Lewiston, Ms., Journal, be relieved of there misery.

### An Intelligent St. Bernard.

An English traveler in Switzerland having recently criticised somewhat unfavorably the race of St. Bernard dogs because a certain member of that famous breed took the liberty of devouring the contents of his luncheon basket on a recent occasion, a German admirer of the maligned animal has been moved to take up his pea in its defense. The St. Bernard's action, he maintains, does not exhibit any lack of intelligence. On the contrary, it. shows a very keen appreciation of the interests of the innkeepers in mountainous regions. On the summit where the offence was committed, he points out, there is an inn where an excellent luncheon may be obtained at a very moderate price. When the English tourist makes a practice of carrying all his refreshments up from below, he shows a disregard for the prosperity of such establishments, which the St. Bernard dog-to his honor be it said-has no disposition to encourage. -- Westminster Budget

Cultivating Extravagance.

In Oidtown, Me., there once lived a unique character who was noted for the particularly poor horses he kept about him. Many a time, says the Bangor Commercial, he would be seen upon the road with an animal whose condition would warrant the, intervention of the society with a long name.

One day he appeared upon the street with a nag that would hardly serve for the crows, and was | accosted by a fellow townsman with "That's a pretty good looking horse you have there. Uncle Simeou." "Yak." replied the driver : "I've daeided there" money in these fifty-con have decided to have no with them. I paid t PERSON.