Every Recourse to Law Exhausted to Save the Condemned Man

Willim Henry Theodore Durrant was hanged at San Francisco, Cal., last Friday morning. If ever all known technicalities of law had been taken advantage of it was done in this remarkable case. For two years the case has been swung from court to court ap pealed from lower to higher, but to no avail. Even at the last moment the United States Supreme Court refused to interfere. Durrant gave such an ex-hibition of coolness and nerve as has seldom been seen under similar circum-Hopeful almost to the very stances. Hoperal almost to the very last minute that something or some-one would intervene to save him, he walked to the scaffold and made a litwalked to the scaffold and made a little speech protesting his innocence as calmiy and with as distinct enunciation as if he had been addressing an assemblage of friends upon some ordinary topic of the day. His face was pale, his eyes were red, but his voice was firm, and he stood as solidly as a rock while he proclaimed his innocence and professod forgiveness to those who he said, had hounded him to death. There was not a hitch or accident to mar the plans of Warden Hale in carrying out the sentence of the law. The mar the plans of Warden Hale in car-rying out the sentence of the law. The noose was adjusted, the trap was sprung, the stout rope held and Dur-rant's daed body dangled at the end. The neck was broken by the fall of five feet, and 15 minutes later the murder-er's body was cut down and placed in the coffin. coffin

Durrant's father saw his son meet death. The murderer embraced the Catholic faith at the last moment, the Protestant minister refusing to declare

In innocent.

It was on Easter morning of 1895 that San Francisco was horrified by the finding of a beautiful young girl dead in a closet opening into the library of Emanuel church. The girl had been choked, smothered in her own clothes, and then almost backed to pieces with se knife, borrowed from the church

For ten days another young girl had been missing from her home in the city. She was also a member of this church. The police broke down a barred door

that gave access to the belfry and high up in the steeple they found the body of the missing girl. The body was stark naked, the hands folded across the chest, the head resting on a block of wood. On the throat were the prints of the nails of the fingers that had stran-gied her.

The girl in the beifry was Bianche Lamont, and the girl in the library was Minnie Williams. Durrant knew them He was the assistant Sunday school superintendent of the church and had offered marriage to the gir in the belfry. Durrant had been prominent in the search for Blanche Lamont during the days of mystery. Durrant was convicted on November 1, 1895. An appeal to the state supreme court pre-vented the judge from fixing the date of execution. A new trial was denied on a hearing of appeal in March, 1897, and Durrant was sentenced to bang Durrant was sentenced to hang

A stay of execution was granted on an appeal to the United States supreme court from the ruling of the United States court of California, which refused to grant a writ of habeas corpus. The United States supreme court dismissed the appeal November 8, last. The California superior court, before the arrival of the remittur, immediately ordered Durrant to be hanged November 11, but the state supreme court granted a certifistate supreme court granted a certifi-cate of probable cause and the execu-tion was again delayed and finally set for January 7. A second application to the federal court for a writ of habeas corpus was made Tuesday, January 4. and was denied.

VISIONS OF WEALTH DISAPPEAR.

Alleged Heirs of Robert Morris Cannot Substantiate Their Claims.

The claims made against the United States by the heirs of Robert Morris for the return of money advanced to the government by the patriot during the revolution have been proved with-

The claimants, of which there are several hundred scattered throughout New Jersey, are not so rich in their mind as they were a month ago. These alleged descendants of the famous financier of the Revolutionary war expected to secure from congress a claim for \$8,000,000, which is the principal and integers on sures of revolutionary of the secure of th ipal and interest on sums of money

advanced by Robert Morris when he was the nation's banker.

Some of the newer claimants examined the evidence and found that it all hinged on the signature of Robert Morris in the Bible owned by Mrs. John Brahn of Toms River, who was a descendant of a Robert Morris. The signature was somewhat like, but not identical with that of the great historical signar.

The Bible has been taken to a biblio philist who finds it not a rare edition, and that Robert Morris the financier, was dead some years before the Bible was actually printed, and that the sig-nature of Robert Morris was written there not many years ago. It has also been established that Robert Morris, the financier, had no son who started the Jersey group of the family of that

A Frightful Crime.

A boy named James Smith gave the police information a few days ago tending to show that a frightful crime had been committed at St. Joseph, Mo. According to Smith's story, an unknown man broke a hole in the ice on the Missouri river and shoved a small child into the opening. The act was witnessed by a man who, after telling Smith to notify the police of the affair, followed the murderer across the river to the Kansas side. Neither the pursuer nor the murderer has been found and the body of the child has not been recovered.

Moses P. Handy Dead.

Major Moses P. Handy Dead.

Major Moses P. Handy died on Saturday at the hotel Bon Air, at Augusta.

Ga. The remains were taken to Berlin, Md., for burial.

Major Handy was stricken with the liness which ended in his death while he was preparing to leave Paris for America after completing his work as commissioner to the exposition. Last year Major Handy was appointed by President McKinley as special commissioner to the Paris exposition, where he rendered valuable service.

Boilers Explors

steamer Percey Kelsey left Pittslast Saturday for Cincinnati. Ten
from Pittaburg she was rent in
her boilers having exploued.
dilied were: Milton L. Wood, pilot;
Tivan, second engineer; Leo

TERRELY TOLD TELEGRAMS

Frost in Florida slightly injured the

400,000 people died of starvation in Cuba last year. Twenty-five colored men have en-listed for Cuba in Pittsburg.

Dwight L. Moody is now holding re-vival services in New York City. James D. Scully, a well-known citi zen of Pittsburg, died last Sunday.

Ten insurgents were killed in Cuba n a skirmish with Spanish troops. The exportations of leaf tobacco, fred duty, from Cuba began last week

The Ellwood, Ind., plate glass factory has resumed, giving employment to 600 men.
There are 2,500 cases of fever reported

soldiers and civilians now Two bridges will be built by the Carnegle Steel Company at Chicago, to

At Reading, Pa., Mrs. Koch and Sam-uel Fleming were killed by a passenger train last Tuesday.

Christian Peper's tobacco warehouse at St. Louis was destroyed by fire the other day. Loss, \$100,000.

Efforts are being made in New York to form an international Federation of labor to extend the world over.

Andrew Thomas lost his sight by an explosion at New Castle, Pa., the other day. His son John lost one eye.

Six thousand people witnessed the departure of Gen. William Booth from London for America last Wednesday. Men returning from Dawson City deny that there is no starvation there, and no need of a government expe-dition,

A lunatic escaped from his keepers at Des Moines, Ia., the other day and seri-ously wounded Frank L. Kahler and

Cuestas, president pro tem, has assumed the dictatorship in Uruguay and a revolution is impending in South America.

Burglars stole \$20,000 in mining stocks from the residence of W. W. Jacobs, in Chicago, besides rare coins, silverware and jewelry.

John E. Redmont, the Irish political leader at a meeting in New York re-cently, said that Irish freedom was sure to come.

By falling down a flight of cellar steps at Pittsburg, David R. Kuhn re-ceived injuries from which he died a few days ago

Mrs. J. M. White of New York inis-laid a package containing \$1,000 worth of diamonds in a railroad station. They can not be found.

Now that Kiao-Chau has been ceded indefinitely to Germany by China. Rus-sia is making a demand for Port Ar-thur on the same terms.

In a secret drawer of a bureau be-longing to John Arnold, a brewer of Hazelton, Pa., who died recently, a for-tune of \$59,000 was found.

George W. Heverly, a butcher of Tyrone, Pa., killed his wife and nephew the other day and then committed sui-cide. He was intoxicated.

The "Chorister," a photograph which took first prize at an exhibition in New York last week, was stolen a few days ago. The picture was valued at \$1,000. A mob took Marshal Chadwick from the jail at Colfax, Wash, and hanged him to the court house wall. He was accused of the murder of Hayden, last October.

Oklahoma Territory two Indians were burned to death by a mob of white men. The Indians confessed to having murdered a woman named Mrs Frank Leard.

The image of St. Peter was hit by bullet from the revolver of a lunatic at Havana last Sunday. The incident caused much excitement among the members of the cathedral.

Five, non-union workmen were seri-ously injured by strikers at Chicago a few days ago. They were employed on a building for Armour and were not working for the union scals.

A judge at Susanville, Cal., left the bench the other day and struck an attorney. The lawyer had applied ville epithets to the court, which the judge, F. A. Kelley, would not tolerate.

The supreme court of Minnesota holds that a wife has no dower right in the real estate of her husband which has been turned over to an assigned under the insolvent law of the state.

Hypnotism is the excuse of a woman bigamist for remarrying without securing a divorce from her husband. Mrs. Henry M. Frustuck is the woman's name and she lives in San Francisco.

Robbers bound the express messenger of a Kansas City. Pittsburg & Guit road train Tuesday night, a few miles from Kansas City. They broke open the safe and secured between \$300 and \$400.

Thomas Webber.

Thomas Webber, a well-known resident of Pittsburg, deliberately committed suicide last week. He waited until an approaching train was within ten feet and then placed his head upon

Two men, Fred Shiber and John Bellows, were instantly killed at Allen-town, Pa., last Saturday. The men were buried beneath tons of rock that town, fell from a quarry in which they were

The rim of one of the big six-foot drivers of an engine on the Baltimore & Ohio raildoad burst as the train was rushing past Netherwood, N. J., Sun-day morning. Three persons were clightly injured.

Mrs. Alice Powell, of Pittsburg, carefully laid her baby aside after she had discovered that her clothing was on fire. Had she devoted less time to the child her body would not have been burned to a crisp.

A bicycle rider was attacked recently at New Rochelle, N. Y., by a bull dor. He drew his revolver and shot the dog in the throat and he lost his voice. The owner of the dog sued, but the jury sustained the cyclist.

D. N. Hukili was recently released from prison at Scattle, Wash, where he had been confined for seven months for embezzlement. He has just received word that he is the only heir to a \$1,-00,000 estate in England.

Burgiars entered the clothing store of A. Guttmann in Pittsburg. Wednesday morning. They removed about \$1,000 worth of goods to a waiting wagon, broke open the money drawer, and secured valuable papers from the safe.

\$300,000 in gold arrived from France

Edward M. Hunt, an ex-deputy sher-iff, was shot and killed Wednesday afternoon by W. Ray Smith, at Chica-go, a bailiff in Judge Horton's c-urt and a nephew of the judge. The men had quarreled over a small sum of money.

Seth Burrows, a cowboy of El Paso, Tex., got into a fight across the river, in Juares, Mexico, the other night, and in a pitched battle stood off the Juares police for one hour. Burrows was killed himself, but before biting the dust he killed a gambler, a policeman and fatally wounded two other officers.

DEFECTS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

GAGE'S OPINION.

In Reply to a Senate Resolution He Sugges Some Changes.

In reply to a resolution from the Senate on December 18, calling on the heads of the several executive depart-ments for information as to what posi-tions in the various departments should be excepted from the civil service rules.

be excepted from the civil service rules, Secretary Gage in reply says:

"I believe that experience has taught that the order of May 6, 1896, was too sweeping and that there should be taken out of the classified service a considerable number of places that were at that time classified. The most important of those places are in the internal revenue service. The difficulties which the department has experienced in the administration of the rules as they now exist, as applied to the internal revenue service, have become intolerable. I believe that all positions of deputy collectors of internal revenue should be made excepted places, subintolerable. I believe that all positions of deputy collectors of internal revenue should be made excepted places, subject, however, to non-competitive examinations. The collectors who appoint the deputies are personally responsible for the conduct of their subordinates. This responsibility covers not only the fidelity and integrity of those subordinates in their relation to the government, but extends to a personal liability to those who may be injured in person or in property by inconsiderate or malicious trespass committed by such subordinates. In the course of their duties. It is obviously wrong that a collector, after assuming the heavy responsibility that he does, should be tied down to an eligible list. I believe that it is desirable that the collectors be free to select their subordinates from among men concerning whose personal characteristics they have knowledge.

"Another branch of the service where experience has demonstrated that classification was ill-advised is the custo-

"Another branch of the service where experience has demonstrated that classification was ill-advised is the custodian service in the public buildings throughout the country. There are in this service a large number of low-salaried positions where no academic test is required or desirable. I believe that it would be of distinct advantage to take all positions in the custodian force including elevator conductors, firemen, dynamo tenders and employees of a dynamo tenders and employees of a similar character out of the classified

The employees of the lighthouse es

"The employees of the lighthouse establishment have been under civil service rules since May 6. No improvement has resulted, but on the other hand vexatious delays have occurred in filling vacancies which fortunately so far have not resulted in serious disaster. For all employees in this service save the clerical force the best interests will be conserved by removing them from the classified service. I would also exempt positions of shipping commissioner at the various ports.

"I would further suggest such a modification of the rules as would permit, when no eligible register exists, a permanent appointment to be made, in the discretion of the head of the department, subject to a non-competitive examination by the civil service commission, and also that the rules be so modified as to permit the head of a department to transfer any person in the classified service of another branch, without regard to appointment. of another branch, without regard to appointment

TERRIBLE SUFFERING.

Flesh Dropped From the Frozen Feet of Gold Hunter. A letter from Skaguay, dated January

A letter from Skaguay, dated January 2. says:

"William Byrne, of Chicago, lies in a cabin on the Lewes river with both feet amputated. Byrne and his uncle, James E. Maguire, also of Chicago, were making their way up the river from Dawson and on December 6 Byrne, who is only 18 years of age, had both feet frozen. The men continued their journey for five days. The boy suffered horribly, and the flesh began to drop from the frozen feet. Still they forged ahead, with the bones protruding from young Byrne's feet, until Lewes river was reached, and he was placed in a cabin where he could receive some care. It was found necessary to amputate both feet near the knees. A doctor who happened to be in the Lewes river camp performed the operation.

"Maguire, the uncle of Byrne, reached Skaguay in a dying condition, having bear seized with suick consume.

ed Skaguay in a dying condition, having been seized with quick consump-tion, on the way up. He will probably live long enough to reach his home in

Chicago."

Ed Lard, recently arrested at Dawson for stealing \$22,000 worth of gold dust from a saloon in which he was barkeeper, has been released because the police had no food for prisoners.

DYING ON THE STREETS.

Congressman King Makes a Statement in Regard to Cuba.

Regard to Cuba.

After spending several weeks making personal investigation of the situation in Cuba, Congressman King, of Utah, arrived home last Sunday. His tour covered four provinces and was therough. Speaking of his trip he said:

"I found that no one has ever half depicted the awful horrors of the reconcentrados. These people, naked and emanciated, are dying like sheep in the streets of the towns where they are still huddled. To realize just what this means one must see for himself.

"I found that the Spanish people have little faith in the new autonomical government, for they are strongly cal government, for they are strongly in favor of annexation, and want it at once. General Blanco has not succeed-ed in his efforts to alleviate the suffered in his efforts to alleviate the suffering, for he has not had financial means
to carry it out. I have interviewed insurgent leaders. Spanish officers and
Americans, and have some definite
idea of what is going on in that terribly devastated island. I know positively that General Lee is not going
out with General Blee is not going out with General Blanco to see Gen eral Gomez."

CAPITAL GLEANINGS.

The Hawaiian treaty will be considered in the senate in a few days.

A crank who claimed to have been sent by God to interview President Mc-Kinley was arrested last Wodnesday. More than a hundred Republican members in the house are prepared to yote a change in the present civil serv-

Secretary of War Long thinks that the present fleet of American war ships in Chinese waters is sufficient to pro-tect our foreign interests.

Congress resumed its session after the holiday recess last Tuesday. In the house modifications of the present civit service bill were discussed.

The house military committee will submit a report favoring the establishment of a government reservation of 1,200 acres at Vicksburg. Members of the committee devoted the holidays to an inspection of the land. They were pleased with the site and favor the

A PERFECT COUNTERFEIT.

Silver Certificates of the Denomination of

Silver Certificates of the Denomination of \$100 Recalled.

Five of the most dangerous notes in the history of counterfeiting were brought to the secret service recently and an examination of the day's receipts of treasury cash disclosed a sixth. The notes are silver certificates of the denomination of \$100.

The discovery was made on Wednesday by George Cremer, the assorting toller in the Philadelphia sub-treasury, to whom one of the bills was offered. Within two days three more were presented at the same window. It was Mr. Crether who brought the notes to the secret service.

The discovery of the counterfeits in the treasury cash leads to the fear that other notes of the kind have been received. A careful inspection will be made of every certificate of that denomination in the treasury reserve.

Assistant treasurers at all the sub-treasury cities will be required to send to the treasury in Washington all \$100 silver certificates in their possession and to request all banks, trust companies and other moneyed institutions to do the same. Secretary Gage desired the statement made that in his judgment it is uasafe for business men or others to accept silver certificates of this denomination, and in case any were now on hand they should be sent to the bank for transmission to Washington.

In view of the dangerous character

hington.
In view of the dangerous character In view of the dangerous character of the counterfeit, Secretary Gage decided to stop issuing and to call in all \$100 silver certificates, of which there are about \$28,000,000 outstanding. These will be exchanged for silver certificates of smaller denominations and the plates destroyed. As soon as new plates can be engraved a new series will be issued.

CHINA YIELDS.

Kiaochou Bay Coded to Germany for an In-definite Length of Time.

Some months ago two missionaries from Germany were killed in the Chinese Empire by a mob. Germany did not wait for a settlement of the case, which China claims she would have satisfactorily done. Warships were sent from Germany and without warnsent from Germany and without warning Kiaochou Bay was seized by the Germans. This aroused the indignation of the other European Powers. Germany, however, held fast. Her plea was that two missionaries had been killed, and that she was consequently to have Kiaochou Bay as a coaling station.

At a conference held in the early part of the week the foreign ministry of

At a conference held in the early part of the week the foreign ministry of China decided to cede Klaochou Bay to the Germans. The cession is in the form of a lease for an indefinite period. It is intended by the cession to render possible for Germany the fulfillment of her just wish for the possession the same as other powers, of a base for commercial trade and navigation in Chinese waters. China apparently gets nothing in return. nothing in return.

GLASS TRUST HAS CONTROL.

Three Companies Absorb all the Factories in the United States.

the United States.

The two hundred glass factories of the United States will shortly be absorbed by one of three great trusts now being formed. These factories represent a capital of \$80,000,000.

The American Glass Company has secured control of 92 per cent. of the window glass product and will have its offices at Pittsburg. Most of their factories have been started up, but many will be closed down, as soon as a sufficient stock is accumulated. The trust has advanced the price of window glass from 40 to 50 per cent. No factory will be permitted to make a shipment of glass without orders from the general office.

general office.

Another of the gigantic trusts is the Pitsburg Plate Glass Company, which has been in operation for some time, but which on account of its struggle to would not join it has not yet increased overthrow

would not join it has not yet increased its price.

The third trust is being organized entirely by English capital, and \$30,000,000 has aiready been subscribed, while a much larger amount is in reserve. Nothing less than the absorption and control of every glass factory east of the Alleghenies is the avowed object of this gigantic syndicate of for-eign capitalists.

PAMOUS ABTIST DEAD.

Mrs. Passett Painted Pictures Now Hanging

in the Capitol at Washington.

Mrs. Adele C. Fassett, one of the best known artists and portrait painters in the United States, dropped dead from heart disease on the street at Washington recently while on her way to a reception. Mrs. Fassett and her husband Samuel M. Fassett, have been residents of Washington for over a quarter of a of Washington for over a quarter of a century. They were born in Ohio. Mrs. Passect's sittors for portraits included all classes, from the plain citizen to the president.

all classes, from the plain clizen to the president.

Perhaps the work which gained for Mrs. Fassett the most fame was the painting of the famous electoral committee during the Hayes-Tilden controversy. It now hangs in the senate wing of the capitol. It represents an audience of 268 persons, all painted most faithfully from life sittings in the United States supreme court room.

The portrait which she painted of President Garfield is the property of the United States, and hangs in the room of the repropriations committee of the house of representatives. She also painted a portrait of Gov. Charles Foster, of Ohio.

Fatal Realism.

Fatal Realism
Raiph Wilson, 15 years old, was instantly killed at Buzzard Roest schoolhouse, near Powell, Kan., the other day, while practicing a dialogue with Marvin Hale. In one part of the dialogue the boys were called upon to use pistols. When Hale brought his weapon into play he pulled the trigger. The weapon was discharged and Wilson fell to the stage with a bullet in his temple. His death was instantaneous. Hale did not know the revolver was loaded, and was not arrested.

Big Order for Cuns.

Big Order for Oans.

An order for 10,000 of the latest pattern of military rifles and 5,000,000 rounds of ammunition has been placed with the Winchester Repeating Arms company, of New Hayen, Conn., through its San Francisco office within a few days. The order is to be shipped at the earliest possible moment. A report, which is without foundation, says that the order comes from the Russian government.

Followed the Parcel

Fellowed the Farcel.

Frederick Zimmer, of Zimmer & Koehler, insurance and steamship agents, one of the best known German citizens of Rochester, N. Y., was killed Tuesday morning by failling from the window of his office on the second floor of smith's arcade. Mr. Zimmer was throwing a parcel out of the window to his driver on the sidewalk, when he lost his balance and pitched forward to the sidewalk below, striking on his head. There was a terrible gaping wound at the back of the head.

GREAT BRITAIN NOT CONCERNED.

GERMANY'S ACQUISITION

Kino-Chou Bay of no Commercial Value, and Will Entail Heavy Expense.

Now that Klao-Chou bay has been ceded to Germany, the expected remonstrance from Great Britain has not materialized. The bay is of little commercial value, and will only prove a great expense to the German raiders. If the harbor had been commercially valuable, it is pointed out, it would long ago have been made a treaty port; but it is said to be completely overshadowed by the close preximity of flourishing Che Foo. The province of Shan Tung, it is added, is entirely agricultural and hardly able to support its population, while the strategic value of Klao-Chou bay can be inferred by the fact of Russin, in spite of the Cassini treaty, alowing Germany to ocupy it. Altogether, Klao-Chou bay is not likely to prove a had of roses. A conclusive illustration of the attitude of the British government is furnished by the presence of warships of Great Britain at Chemulpe and Port Arthur, and it is likely to be further demonstrated by the scading of ships to Kiao-Chou bay.

In well-informed circles it is suggested that it is not likely Great Britain will formulty protest against the lease of Klao-Chou bay to Germany, but will confine herself to the significant hint given in the movements of her fleet.

of Kiao-Chou bay to Germany, but will confine herself to the significant hint given in the movements of her fleet, that she intends to claim an equal share of all China's concessions in regard to all seaports, "leased or looted," as being additional treaty ports, As a leading diplomat remarked: "The statesmen of Berlin and St. Petersburg must be strangely unobservant if they imagine that either Great Britain, the United States or Japan will allow them the monopoly of the plums."

The "Spectator" revels in the statement that the United States is inclined

the plums."

The "Spectator" revels in the statement that the United States is inclined to support the British demand that no exclusive privileges be granted to any individual power in China, and says: "Nothing short of a direct menace of aggression would tempt any combination of continental powers to face the whole Anglo-Saxon race united and resolved."

Great Britain's Foreign Trade

The foreign trade of Great Britain during 1897 was the largest in history. The total exports, imports and re-exports amounted to £745,423,000 (\$3,722,-115,000.) The increase was entirely in imports and re-exports, the deciine in exports amounting to £5,735,000 (\$28,-275,000.) The growth of the imports is almost entirely due to the huge purchases of produce in the U.S., amounting to £114,600,000 (\$573,000,000). The greatest quantity of the exports were textiles.

FROM ACROSS THE SEA.

A suggestive piece of news is that Japan has purchased two cruisers of 9,000 tons each, which have been built in England for Chill.

Russia has not granted China the loan as was expected. England is now considering the loan and may grant it. taking the Chinese land tax as secur

Gen. Horace Porter, United States ambassador to France, entertained MMe, Carnot, widow of President Carnot, at dinner recently. Many other notables were present.

A young girl named Ducousset way-laid a clerk of the name of Verdier at Paris recently, threw vitriol in his face and stabbed him in the back. Verdier shot her four times, killing her. It is reported from Cardiff, Wales,

that an American syndicate with a capital of £2,000,000 £310,000,000) is about to purchase the Dowlais Steel works and colleries there belonging to the Winbernen family. The German Transoceanic Electric Company, with headquarters at Berlin, has been formed, with a capital of 19,000,000 marks, for the purpose of erecting electrical stations in America. A central station will first be established

at Buenos Ayres for lighting and general supply.

A dispatch from Oviedo, capital of the province of that name in the Asturias district, says that 200 kilograms (about 440 pounds) of powder exploded recently at the San Manjova factory. Seven were killed outright and many

badly injured. The buildings were com-pletely destroyed. The Swedes seem inclined to take advantage of Russian pre-occupation in the far east to reopen hostilities with Norway. When the relations between the two countries were strained, in 1896, it became evident that Russia was inclined to aid Norway, in exchange for the cession of Finmark, including the port of Hammerfest.

It is amusing to notice Russia and It is amusing to notice Russia and France courting Japan. Both of them are in deadly fear of her forming an offensive and defensive alliance with Great Britain. As a matter of fact, there are things much more unlikely than the eventual alliance of Great Britain, China and Japan, and the contingency would acquire still more probability should Great Britain, as it now seems certain guarantee a Chinese seems certain, guarantee a Chinese loan. At the present moment, so far as Great Britain is concerned, the loan is the kernel of the whole question.

Another Bich Gold Find.

Representatives of Canadian and American companies who visited La-American companies who visited Labrador for the purpose of creeting saw-mills report that that country contains deposits of gold of great richness, and is destined to become a great mining center. There exists strong evidence that the gold is to be obtained in quantities equaled only by the deposits of the Klondike. In fact it is asserted that the deposits in Labrador are on the same range as those on the Klondike. Preliminary arrangements for a gold expedition to start in the spring have already been made.

Deadly Gas Explosion. The Avondale mine, operated by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Company at Plymouth, Pa., was the scene of a terrific explosion of gas a few days ago. The killed are: David Powell, aged 28, married: David F. Jones, aged 59, married: John Jones, aged 23, single. William Brennan is the server of the man intured. He was hadname of the inan injured. He was badly burned in the fire. The men were
ergaged in driving an airway off the
slope. It is supposed that one of the
miners was careless in lighting his
lamp while in the presence of a body of

Hat Pin Used to Advantage

Two women were the passengers on a Chicago street car the other morning. As the conductor entered the car to collect the fares two men suddenly seized him and proceeded to rile his pockets. One of the women came to the rescue. With repeated thrusts from her hat pin she succeeded in forcing the robbers to leave the car.

TRADE REVIEW.

Decrease of Failures Daving 1897 as Compared with Provious Years.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade for last week reports as follows:

In failures 1897 was not only the best year since 1892, but on the whole the best ever definitely known. With 18,-122 failures, in number 11.5 per cent less than 1896, and 8182,581,771 defau ted liabilities, 34 per cent, less than in 1896, the year's banking failures counted lor \$28,249,700 and the commercial failures were but 13,351, with liabilities of \$161,-332,071, the average per failure being only \$11,659, the lowest ever known except in 1892. But even in that year the failures during the last half averaged inabilities of \$10,47 per failure, while in the last half of 1897 the average was only \$9,593.

only \$9,593.

the last half of 1857 the average was only \$3,523.

The returns by branches of business show that in fifteen out of twenty-eight classes the failures were lower than in any previous year of which there is record, with especially large decrease in the great number of unclassified manufacturing and trading failures. Moreover, the year showed remarkable decrease, as some other prosperous years have shown, in comparing the second with the first half.

Wheat declined 1½ cents, owing to the termination of the corner at Chicago, and western receipts were about double last year's, with Atlantic exports 2,840,318 bushels, flour included, against 2,150,509 bushels last year. Exports of corn for the week fell below last year's, although western receipts are unusually large, and the price fell but % of a cent. Cotton was a disappointment to many because it did not change at all sin spot price, although the accounts of reduction in wages by

but % of a cent. Cotton was a disappointment to many because it did not change at all sin spot price, although the accounts of reduction in wages by New England works warrant hope of larger consumption.

Cotton manufacture is a little encouraged by larger demand for goods since the reduction in prices, and the abstention of buyers for months past has probably been due in large measure to expectation of that reduction. Hehind all the market reports there is the fact that consumption of wool has for about five months been the largest ever known, and the buying indicates, as does the demand for such heavy weight goods as has been opened, that a satisfactory half year is expected. Prices so far paid are said to be from 20 to 30 per cent, higher than a year ago, with wool from 50 to 80 per cent, higher than a prange, with wool from 50 to 80 per cent, higher than far encouraging. The iron manufacturer has been further encouraged by unusual business for the season, including a large building contract made and others for bridges pending at Chicago, a sale of 50,000 tons of pig to one pige foundry at the East, and contracts for two vessels of 5,000 each at Cramp's yards, and contracts for 5,500 tons hoop at New York, the 500 for Mexico.

Prices are generally unchanged, though eastern works have advanced structural beams 5 cents to \$1,15. Pig is unchanged, with fairly large sales. Visible supplies of tin are 29,855 tons, against 32,342 a year ago, with 137 cents quoted, and with exports of 10,305 tons of copper in December and 123,000 tons for the year, il cents is now quoted for lake.

The coke output continues heavy, and the output of anthracite was 41,205,000 tons in 1897, though the consumption was about 2,500,000 tons smaller, and there are sales at \$33.85 per ton higher.

Paitures for the week have been 322 in the United States, against 52 last year, and in Canacia 32, against 52 last year.

LEAPED BEFORE HE LOOKED.

Man Deeds Property to his Intended Wife

and then Refuses to Marry.

Michael H. Collins, of South Bruns lick township, N. J., brought suit the wick township, N. J., brought suit the other day in the court of chancery to have set aside a deed made by him conveying all his property to Agnes Allen. The property was conveyed in July, 1896, for \$1 and "other valuable consideration." The other valuable consideration was her agreement to marry him. The bill charges that afterward the woman only laughed at him, and had him ejected from one of the houses he had deeded to her. Subsequently, she received the attention of other men, and otherwise acted in a manner which justifies him in being unable to marry her, even were she willing to marry her, even were she willing to marry him. Collins therefore asks that the deeds be set aside.

AUTONOMISTS THREATENED

Revolutionists Say They Will Pay Dearly for Their Treschery.

The revolutionary junta of Havana has sent a communication to the nu-tonomist members of the cabinet, which concludes. "You shall soon pay dearly for your

which concludes.

"You shall soon pay dearly for your treachery to your country. When the Spanlards are fully convinced of the failure of autonomy you will be the first victims of their wrath. If you escape being hanged by the patriots you will not escape being shot by the volunteers, after having been kicked down stairs out of the palace by the captain general."

The arrival of Gen. Julio Sanguilly, the well-known Cuban leader and hero of the last war, has caused a sensation here. Sanguilly, who remains aboard the steamer Saratoga, says he is on his way to Mexico for his health. This may be true, but there is hardly a doubt but that he will soon be bank in the insurgent ranks fighting. A big crowd was attracted to the wharves by the news of Sanguilly a arrival. His friends and enemies were in the crowd and for a time trouble was feared. Potice inspector Feris, and an escort went on the steamer to prevent Sanguilly from landing steamer to prevent Sanguilly

from landing Three Murderers Hanged.

Three negro murderers died on the scaffold at Hahnville, a small town in St. Charles parish, La., Friday. Louis Richards, alias Pierre, alias Creole, by the latter name notorious, was one of Richards, alias Pietre, alias Creole, by the latter name notorious, was one of the trio. Together with George Washington and Foxilo Morris, also negroes, they were sentenced to death for the murdering and robbing of a Jewish pedier named Louis Zeigler last fune on the Ellington plantation, near Hahnville. Creole confessed, implicating the other two and also confessed that since 1834 he had murdered at least nipe men and one colored woman on various plantations, and that not for a single one was he ever arrested. His a single one was he ever arrested. His victims were principally Italians and Jews, who mde a living by peddling among plantation negroes. Close investigation revealed that his confession was entirely corrent and it cleared numerous murder mysteries of years ago.

Pensioners Frightened.

Pensioners Frightened.

Since the agitation concerning the publication of the list of pensioners has commenced. Commissioner H. Clay Evans has received several letters from pensioners requesting a cancellation of their pensions. One pensioner in Mighigan suclosed his certificate and states his desire to have the same recalled as he was not entitled to the Government's bounty. He added he would endeavor to return a I the money draws since 18 5, when the pension was granted.