The whaling industry, which is declining fast enough naturally, has received another hard blow by the many fatalities which have happened to the ships of the fleet this year in Arctic waters.

In the old colonial times there were only seventy-five postoffices in America. Ten years later there were 900 offices; in 1880, 42,000; in 1883, 67,000, and to-day about seventy thousand have regular postmasters, receive and deliver mail matter and employ 2,000,000 employes, men and women.

One thing which both surprises and exasperates the British troops who are operating in India is the discovery that the hostile tribesmen are thoroughly armed with modern rifles of English manufacture. It appears that the English gunmakers are so eager for business that they have been ready to supply arms to the enemies of their own Government.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale is having a rather unpleasant time of it these days owing to a ridiculous report sent out from Boston to the effect that he advocated the study of the Indian language in the schools. The doctor writes that all he asked of the public school was that New England boys should "know the meaning of the words Massachusetts, Connecticut, Shawmut, Winnisimet and other words which come into their local life as one ought to know why the Tuileries were so called if he lived in Paris." The doctor also denies that he repeated the Lord's prayer in Indian. He used the two first words of the prayer to illustrate the formation of Indian words, and adds: "In fact, the two first words of it are all that I know, except the amen at the end." By the time Dr. Hale's little talk had filtered through several sources until it reached the newspapers it had become a lecture in which the most extraordinary position was taken, which surprised his admirers everywhere.

Contrary to the popular opinion, one would make money by backing labor all the year around, maintains the New York Press. The following figures, furnished by the Board of Trade of England, give proof of this. They relate to the year ending August 31, and may, therefore, be trusted to show the actual and present relations of the two great parties. During the twelve months a total of 850 disputes were settled. In 358 the men carried the day; in 265 the masters were victorious, and in 194 the men were partially successful, which means that some sort of compromise was arranged, while thirty-three disputes are classed as indefinite. Of the total of 821,800 men whose wages were increased or diminished, only 55,200 had embarked on actual strikes, while in the case of 766,500 the change arose from the automatic working of sliding scales, together with negotiation, the action of conciliation boards and the voluntary concession of employers. Putting it in the form of a percentage, we have in the case of each 100 workers 85½ receiving an advance and 14½ suffering a decrease.

The Boston Herald observes: "The law that has been passed in Switzerland rendering compulsory insurance against illness on the part of all the citizens of the republic who cannot show that they have reserved means of support in case of physical or mental disability is only a symptom of the tendency all over the world toward securing social well-being by means of legal enactments. As the State is called upon in the last resort to care for those who are both physically and financially incapable of supporting themselves, the State has the right to demand that those who may at any time become burdens upon the public shall in the days of their strength, health, and activity supply themselves with the means of meeting the ills of life. It is presumable that the State itself might undertake to carry on an insurance business of this kind and exact its premiums in the form of a tax. It could doubtless do the business on a large scale at a much lower cost than if the same service was performed by one or more corporations. Another form of insurance of the social kind is that provided for in New Zealand, this coming out of the annual taxes. Under the New Zealand system every one over sixty-five years of age who has lived twenty years in the country is entitled to draw a pension. The maximum amount is fixed at $2.50 a week, and the minimum amount at $1.25. This is not a large sum, but on an average payment of, say, $100 a year, there are a great many poor men and poor women of over sixty-five years of age who would find life much easier as the result of this official contribution."

BATTLES OF THE FUTURE

IT IS PREDICTED THAT THEY WILL BE FOUGHT IN THE AIR.

Balloons For Warfare Almost an Accomplished Fact—France and Germany Have Flying Fleets—Danger to This Country From an Airship Squadron.

The appeal for money for balloon experiments, addressed by the Chief Signal Officer of the Army to the Secretary of War, is a confession of the weakness of the United States in a branch of military art which, according to the Detroit Free Press, is gaining importance steadily. Our own bureau of military intelligence has been gathering information on this subject very industriously of late, and the Government is following closely all that is being done in the direction of aerostatics by foreign powers. At the same time, nothing is being done in this country toward the creation of a fighting balloon service, though many students of military science believe that the war vessel of the not distant future will be an aerial vessel—a flying machine that will accomplish a revolution in the practice of warfare far more complete than that which has been marked by the creation of modern battleships, high-power guns and high explosives.

It is an open secret that Germany now possesses a fleet of war balloons, which in the event of trouble with France would take a most important part in the operations against the latter country. The French, however, have balloons of their own, more or less similar in type, and it seems not unlikely that in the next Franco-German conflict there will be actual engagements between squadrons of airships.

The balloons in question are cigar-shaped—that form presenting the least opposition to the wind. They are operated by means of propellers, and are steered with rudders of some sort. One of the newest French balloons, with which experiments have been made at the School of Aerostation at Meudon, is described as being filled with hydrogen gas. Inside of it is a smaller bag, which is pumped full of air, so as to keep the outer envelope stiff. In the car carried beneath is a powerful bichromate battery, which runs an electric motor, driving a very large and light cloth-covered screw propeller. This machine travels fifteen miles an hour. An improved copy of it twice as big is being built, and is expected to "do" twenty-five miles an hour.

Rumor says that the Germans have evolved a balloon that is readily steered and carries a great weight; but they are extremely anxious not to give out any facts. The French and the English also have tried captive balloons with success in campaigns—the former in Tonquin and the latter in Africa. Even slow-going Spain is investigating the subject, and proposes to employ balloons to watch the rebels in Cuba.

Sooner or later Uncle Sam will be obliged to have a fleet of war balloons. Balloons are the only means of defence against balloons. A hostile fleet of vessels could not approach our shore without a fight, but a squadron of air-ships could sail in and hover over our great cities without the slightest effective resistance. No fort that can be built is able to withstand high explosives dropped from aloft. It is easy to imagine two or three balloons hanging in the air over New York like gigantic birds holding destruction in their claws, ready to destroy the town unless bought off by a fabulous ransom.

True, such air-ships could not fly across the ocean. But what is to prevent vessels of war from bringing them over and sending them up from a short distance off our coast? The balloons may be placed in very small compass, and the hydrogen gas required to inflate them can be carried compressed in steel cylinders. Imagine a flock of such flying foes launched toward our shores! What could we do for defence? Not anything. That is to say, we could do nothing unless we had balloons of our own. We would be obliged to surrender and pay whatever war indemnities might be demanded.

On the other hand, no hostile fleet would dare to come near our coast if we owned a few war balloons. According to the latest estimates, nearly $100,000,000 must be expended in order to establish proper coast and harbor defences. Millions of dollars would have to be spent annually for the maintenance of the system thus created; furthermore, the system itself would have to be remodelled every few years in order to keep it from becoming obsolete. "Vastly more effective," say Professor H. A. Hazen, "would be the protection afforded by half a dozen aerial batteries of four balloons each stationed at different points along the Atlantic seaboard. To establish these batteries would cost not more than $200,000, and the expense of maintaining them would be only a few thousand dollars per annum. They could easily and promptly destroy any foe that ventured near our shores. The wind at high levels is always from west to east, and at the shortest notice they could float seaward and assail a hostile squadron, dropping torpedoes upon the decks of the ships and blowing them up. Having wiped out the enemy, they could return by the use of propellers."

The war balloon needs no gun. All it has to do is to drop explosives, which would be best made up in the shape of cartridges. A single cartridge of moderate size, loaded with nitro-glycerine, will render a first-class cruiser hors du combat; three or four will destroy a battleship.

Members of the Turn Verein of San Francisco desire the elimination of the words "In God We Trust" from the coins of this country.

CHINESE CHILDREN.

Bright and Interesting Little Specimens of Oriental Humanity.

The Chinese children are things of beauty and joys forever. They are as pretty and bright as they can be, and run scurrying away from you wherever you may chance to walk in the quarter. The place literally swarms with them, and yet the Chinese are too provident to have very large families. A merchant with three wives will probably not have over four children. It is said that the largest family in Chinatown is that of a poor Chinese clergyman. He is a Presbyterian missionary and has already seven children. This is more Presbyterian than Chinese. The parents are very fond of their children, especially the men. The women do not seem to care so much, but the men fondle the little ones all day, and love to carry them about in their arms. You cannot please a Chinese father more than to say pleasant things about his child. The babies are undeniably interesting. The little ones have a peppery smell much pleasanter to the nostrils than sour-smelling American children. The little boys assume the dignity of cue-strings when they are about five. Red is the prevailing color for the cues of the children of both sexes. It means simply youth, and has no sinister significance, as so many Americans think.

I once asked a Chinese father what the fur ears on the baby's head signified. "It's the fashion," he explained loftily, "all same American ladies wear birds on their heads." The Chinese are very fond of saying, when reproached for the cruelty of foot-binding, that the practice is not nearly as injurious as squeezing the waist. Intelligent and educated Chinese are not at all bad at repartee.

Of course, the little children have any number of bangles, beads and bracelets by way of decorations. It is not unusual to see bangles on their little bare ankles as they run through the streets. Their clothes are very gay, though there seems to be a growing and unfortunate tendency to dress the little ones in American fashion. This is the more to be regretted as, though Chinese dress is becoming to Americans, the converse is by no means true. The close-fitting American garments show off all the defects of the figure and seem to rob the Chinese of all their native grace, which is considerable. Many of the children go to American or Mission schools, and parents of heathen faith allow their children to go to the "white devils'" missionary schools because of the advantages they have in learning English. After school hours the children play on the sidewalks. They play queer little games with sticks and stones. The most common materials are playthings for a Chinese baby. One of their favorites requires a worm and bowl, and the screams that greet the worm's attempt to escape are fraught with merriment and terror. The little girls are usually staggering under the weight of an inordinately fat baby brother, but they do not seem to mind. They are extremely obedient children and seem brighter than little Americans of the same age.—National Magazine.

Key Concealed in a Ring.

A Cincinnatian but lately returned from England tells of a rather novel innovation in the way of locks and keys, or, to speak more correctly, key, says the Cincinnati Enquirer.

At a country place he visited he was surprised to see his host unlock the gateway of the place with a small key that in some mysterious way was produced from a large seal ring he wore. Yet the ring was not large enough to be conspicuous by reason of its size or style. As he expressed some surprise in the matter his host said:

"This is a master key. You see, it slides under the set in the ring and occupies no space whatever. It will unlock every lock about the place, even my dressing bag, my trunk, my band box and wine cellar."

He was asked as to the arrangement in general, whether one key, say of the butler, would unlock the front door.

"Not at all," he replied. "The locks are all arranged in suites. The butler can unlock all the doors that are in his department, and the housekeeper can unlock the linen closets and other doors under her supervision, but she cannot get into the butler's domain. And in every other department about the place from end to end every one has his or her key, but I have only the master key. All of the doors open to me. My valet can open my dressing case and closets, but he cannot get a bottle of wine. Of course, the arrangement in a seal ring is novel, but it is very handy for me. In the first place, I cannot lose it, and in the second place, everything opens to me without asking a question."

Abandonment of Sunday.

During the "Reign of Terror," 1793, the infamous decree to abandon the Christian religion in France and to substitute for it the worship of Liberty, Equality and Reason was passed. Churches were quickly despoiled of their ornaments, and civic feasts substituted for religious festivals. The convention also enacted that time, instead of being reckoned from the birth of Christ, should be reckoned from the birth of the French republic; and that the Christian Sabbath might not be observed, a day of rest being granted only at the close of every ten days. No other instance is known where the observance of one day in seven as a day of rest has been abandoned since the command for its regular observance was given to Moses on Mt. Sinai. It is a singular coincidence that, by keeping this command, there is at present a perpetual Sabbath, since the Greeks observe Monday; the Persians, Tuesday; the Assyrians, Wednesday; the Egyptians, Thursday; the Turks, Friday; the Jews, Saturday, and the Christians, Sunday.

HYPNOTISM IN SURGERY.

USED SOMETIMES BY DOCTORS IN PLACE OF ANÆSTHETICS.

A New York Physician Says He Has Found It of Service—Its Effect on the Operator—Hypnotizing a Person at a Distance—Theories About Hypnotism.

"Do you use the hypnotic influence in your practice?" asked a New York Sun reporter of Dr. Robert A. Gunn, who is a firm believer in hypnotism.

"Yes," said Dr. Gunn. "Occasionally I do. But not as often as I used to. It is not because I have less confidence in it, but because I have been too busy to experiment with it. I do not think that the greatest success lies in the use of the hypnotic power by the physician or surgeon himself. For instance, in the case of a surgical operation the better arrangement would be to have a regular hypnotist place the patient under control, just as we have a doctor simply to give the chloroform or ether. Then the operating surgeon has no strain upon his own nerves, and can give his entire concentrated attention to the operation."

"Is the exercise of the hypnotic power exhausting to the operator?"

"Not exactly exhausting, but it does take something from him. For instance, on one occasion I invited a number of friends to my house for the purpose of showing them some experiments in hypnotism. I spent about three hours at the work, and after they had all gone I sat down at my desk, intending to prepare an article to be sent to the printer in the morning. The subject was one with which I was perfectly familiar, and ordinarily I could have prepared the paper in a very short time. On this occasion, however, I was incapable of constructing a single sentence. I had no particular sense of exhaustion; I simply felt like remaining perfectly quiet, and I finally gave up the attempt to write that night.

"Soon after that I wanted to devote an evening to hypnotic experiments, so concluded to do my writing in the afternoon and have it out of the way before evening. I wrote for over three hours and up to within a few minutes of the time set for the experiments. Although I had the same subjects as before, all of my experiments were unsatisfactory and some of them were total failures. I had evidently exhausted my nervous energy by close application to mental work, and there had not been a sufficient interval for recuperation."

"Could you hypnotize a person in the same room with you without making an open attempt to do so?"

"Not unless I had hypnotized the same person a number of times before. It is always more difficult to hypnotize a person the first time than it is afterward. The more frequently it is done, the more susceptible the subject becomes."

"Have you ever hypnotized a person at a distance?"

"Yes, in one case. I had been treating a woman for insomnia. I had on repeated occasions put her to sleep through hypnotic influence. One evening I said to her: 'I am not coming to-morrow night, Mrs.——, but at 10 o'clock exactly I shall try to put you to sleep just as if I were here.' The next evening I went home so that at 10 o'clock I could settle myself for a concentrated effort to hypnotize my patient. I conjured up the picture of the room, of all her surroundings, of herself, and then I tried to put her to sleep. The next day she told me that she had gone to sleep soon after 10 and had enjoyed a good night's rest. Well, of course, I put it down to her imagination and concluded to test her. I told her that I would try again that night at the same hour. But I did not. I went out with a friend and did not come home until late.

"The next day she said: 'Doctor, you didn't do as you said you would. I was awake until 2 or 3 o'clock this morning. I assured her that I had tried to influence her and that I would try again that night. Again, however, I did not. I wrote until about 1 a. m., and then I concentrated my mind on my patient and tried to put her asleep. In the morning she told me that at 10 o'clock she was perfectly wide awake and remained so until 1 o'clock, when she suddenly became drowsy and soon went to sleep."

"Is hypnotism used in any of the New York hospitals?"

"I don't think so. It is in France and Italy that the greatest experiments have been made. In the famous hospital at Nancy, in France, thousands of insane patients are treated by hypnotism every year, and wonderful results are obtained."

"How long does it take to put different subjects under hypnotic control?"

"Of course that varies greatly. Some persons can be hypnotized in two or three minutes. With others several attempts, of half an hour at a time, are necessary. It grows easier with repetition. Some are susceptible at the very start. I had one patient, a woman, who had an obstruction of the tear-duct, so that the tears continually ran down her cheeks. I had repeatedly asked her to let me operate on it, but she would not listen to the idea. Finally a small abscess formed and she came to me again. I urged her to let me operate, but she would not consent. I had noticed that when I treated her eye I seemed to have a soothing effect on her, so without saying anything to her I began stroking her forehead and eyes, but only as if I were examining the afflicted part. She began to get drowsy and I quickly put her to sleep, made a slit and inserted a probe, extracted the matter, and fixed the thing up properly, then wakened her.

"She wouldn't believe it when I told her I had operated on her, so I turned the eyelid over and showed her the cut. 'Oh, well,' she said, 'it was always that way!' Then I put her to sleep again, inserted the probe, and left it there while I wakened her. That convinced her, but when I went to take out the probe she screamed and wouldn't let me touch her. I had to put her to sleep a third time in order to get the probe out. After that she came every morning for a while, let me put her to sleep, and insert the probe; then sat in the outer office for half an hour, with the probe in place, and after that was put to sleep again to have it removed."

"Have you found that there are any after effects of hypnotism?"

"No, except beneficial ones."

"What is your theory about hypnotism?"

"Well, I don't agree with a number of explanations, so called, which have been advanced. The physicians of the German school ascribe all the phenomena to the influence of 'suggestion,' but they don't explain what causes the condition in which a subject becomes susceptible to this suggestion. The physicians of the French school say that all hypnotic subjects are in a diseased condition and that the hypnotic state is simply a form of hysterical seizure. I consider this an error. I have hypnotized subjects whom I consider normal and healthy. Hammond, Beard, and others who have been compelled to acknowledge the genuineness of the phenomena, explain them as resulting from 'a polarization of the attention,' whatever they may mean by that.

"I regard the hypnotic power as a concentration of nerve force. Every time we have a thought, an emotion, a sensation, there is an explosion of nerve cells in us. It is this explosion which produces nerve force. It is this force, in a peculiar degree, which constitutes personal magnetism. The orator who sways his hearers to alternate tears and laughter possesses it in an unusual degree. This nerve force has a particular character in different individuals. Like different chemical elements, these 'auras' sometimes meet and mingle, sometimes meet and repel each other. When they are agreeable to each other there is friendship. When this is carried to a higher degree we have love. By a concentration of will power we can direct the current of nerve force and magnetism and make it influence another person. By repeating this effort at concentration and direction we gain more and more perfect control over the current and it becomes constantly stronger. That seems to me to be the secret of the hypnotic power."

A Moment of Awful Suspense.

"The nervous strain on the engineer of a fast train is something enormous," said one of them the other day. "Not only the lives of the passengers are at stake, but there is the constant fear of running over some one on the track. An accident, no matter how innocent the engineer, is always a kind of hoodoo."

"What was my worst accident? I shall never forget it. If it had been traced on my mind by a streak of lightning, it couldn't have made a more lasting impression. It happened one bright moonlight night in November. We were spinning over the rails at full speed across country where there were few people passing at that time of night, when I looked out and saw the figure of a man lying across the track not ten feet in front of the engine. I stopped as quick as possible, but too late, of course. We had run over him, and the lifeless body was under the wheels.

"We got out to look for him and found his hat, a piece of his coat sleeve and one of his shoes, but the rest seemed to be further back under the train. I backed up the engine and got out to look again. There lay the body. I nearly fainted when I saw its distorted form. I felt like a murderer.

"Did I know the man? No, not personally. He was a scare-crow from a neighboring corn field." - Detroit Free Press.

A Profitable Tree.

"What do you think of one apple tree from which ninety boxes of fruit were gathered in one year?" queried P. W. Tonneson, the county fruit inspector. "Well, it's a fact. Just across the Puyallup River bridge on Main street of Puyallup, on Mr. Lacy's place stands an apple tree, the record of which might be placed among the historical archives of the State. The tree measures five and a half feet in circumference, and is somewhere in the neighborhood of thirty-five years old. It is of the Waxen variety. According to Mr. Lacy's statement, the tree has borne this year about ninety boxes of apples, most of them being salable fruit. Mr. Larson, the former proprietor, stated, while living on the place several years ago, that the tree has been a regular bearer, and that it had averaged between fifty and seventy-five boxes of apples during the past twenty years. The huge tree presents a remarkable appearance in the spring when in full blossom. It is without doubt the largest and most prolific bearing apple tree in the State."—Tacoma (Wash.) Ledger.

Lady Somerset's Gifts.

Lady Henry Somerset has given the town of Reigate, England, sufficient land for the erection of ten almshouses. This gift is in connection with the scheme for the erection of almshouses at Reigate in commemoration of the diamond jubilee. One of the conditions of the gift is that on the governing body of the almshouses there shall be not less than three women, and in deference to Lady Henry's wish a scheme in which provision is made for this representation has been drafted for submission to a town meeting shortly to be convened.

The Best Celery.

Good celery—or we may say first-class celery—cannot be obtained without an abundance of water, for the plant is naturally a citizen of swamps. It is always best, therefore, to set the plants in shallow ditches, so that water can be more easily collected; and it is also very fond of high living, consequently no well prepared manure is too rich for it. The quality of market celery has fallen off somewhat of late years, chiefly through the cultivators treating it to surface culture. When planted in the latter way there is not the same advantage for blanching as when set in trenches. It is much easier to let down earth than it is to raise it.—The Silver Knight.

Millet Hay Good For Horses.

I am surprised to learn of Professor Hinebaugh's adverse experience with millet as horse feed noted in American Agriculturist of November 13, as mine is just the opposite. I fed three horses millet from October, 1896, till about the last of June, 1897, together with grain ration. I must say I never had my horses do better. In fact they rather lost flesh after feeding timothy hay with the same amount of grain. I am now feeding the same horses millet and grain and expect to do so as long as the millet lasts, which will be all winter at least. I have seen and talked with one man in this county who has fed millet longer than I have. He raises more and more of it every year and feeds it to all kinds of stock. I have cut the millet quite green, before it is all headed out.—William Dougall, Schenectady County, N. Y., in New England Homestead.

The Old Farm.

The following beautiful composition is from the pen of Jean G. Wiley, in the National Stockman and Farmer:

"What a cherished spot in the memory of vast multitudes is the old farm! Men who have climbed to the topmost round of the great ladder of fame; men who have achieved by industry, self-reliance and perseverance, success in life; many of these look backward o'er the long years to the happy days of childhood spent on the old farm.

"A memory lingers o'er this cherished spot, the loving face of a good mother, the cheerful countenance of a kind father, the bright faces of brothers and sisters gathered round the old fireside, soften the heart and bring tears to the eyes of the strongest men.

"A sweet influence of such a home is like a flower that never dies, but sheds its sweet perfume all through life, and reblossoms anew in eternity.

"It is said that in order to be successful in any pursuit one must first learn to overcome difficulties. It was on the farm where most statesmen encountered and overcame difficulties. A boy on the old farm has an opportunity to learn this important lesson without meeting many of the temptations incident to the life of a city boy. As we live in an age of progress, the farm of to-day bears but little resemblance to the farm of fifty years ago. It now requires an educated man to make a prosperous farmer.

"One who has spent his happy childhood on the old farm, received an education and went abroad, plunged into cares and bustle of city life, in after years revisits the old farm. All the old familiar spots, as the meadow, orchard and old-fashioned well, with its moss-covered bucket, recall scenes which seemed long since forgotten.

"Pictured on memory's wall are the faces of loved ones, those of father, mother, brother, sister and dearest friend, as they were in boyhood's days. They are all gone. Some are dead, others are toiling or roaming in different parts of the world; and as he sits and meditates upon the past, he longs once more to be that free-from-care, light-hearted boy, roaming over the meadows and woodlands of the old farm, that he once was. He now realizes, more fully than ever, how vain are the hopes of life.

"The old farm house is filled with strangers, and he, feeling wiser and better by his visit to the old farm, returns to the toils and cares of city life."

Farm and Garden Notes.

The goose lays a score or two of eggs in a year.

From thirty-five to forty ducks and drakes are allowed in a pen.

Eleven dozen eggs a year is the average estimate given as the production of the hen.

Ducklings are marketed at five pounds weight, which they should attain in ten weeks.

The secret of large honey crops is, strong colonies and plenty of room for the bees to store honey.

Each frame of comb in a hive should occupy one and a half inches of space, and in spacing the frames it should be done with exactness.

In 100 parts of the yolk, fifty-two per cent. is water, forty-five per cent. is oil and fat, and one per cent. each of albuminoids, coloring and mineral matter.

Peach trees may be examined for borers as late as the weather holds good, and if not yet attended to should not be neglected longer. Do not permit these grubs to winter in the trees.

If two or more swarms cluster together, do not hive them thus, but hunt out the queens and divide them, especially if they are first swarms and large ones. Valuable queens are thus saved by so doing.

If properly kept and judiciously applied to land, poultry manure is worth one-half the cost of the food the fowl gets, and yet little account is taken of the droppings when an estimate is made of the profits.

A very profitable field of investigation for farmers the coming winter will be to learn all they can about the insect and other enemies of the various plants which they cultivate and the remedies therefor.

Robbing frequently occurs at the end of the honey season, as in swarming colonies frequently become queenless, and sooner or later they will fall a prey to robbers. If colonies are in proper condition in every respect robbing seldom occurs.

Beeswax is a valuable product, and every particle of comb should be saved and rendered into wax. The price of beeswax has not fallen below twenty-five cents per pound for the last twenty years. The solar wax extractor, which can be made very cheaply, should stand in every apiary.

In the planting of windbreaks the Nebraska station has found that the western grower needs protection chiefly on the south and west, since it is from that direction that the most damaging winds come. The eastern grower needs protection on the west and north for like reasons.

If obliged to keep apples and potatoes in the same apartment, store the apples in the cooler and the potatoes in the warmer portions of the cellar. Very many apples are lost every year by being kept too warm. They are best preserved in a temperature maintained close to the freezing point,

Largest Fountain in the World.

The Anaconda Mining Company has acquired rights to all the water in Hearst Gulch and Lake, at Anaconda, Montana, which are fed by the melting snows that exist there the entire year. This lake lies up against Mount Haggin, 2900 feet above the level of the street in front of the Montana Hotel. The company will raise the bank about Lake Hearst so as to make it a reservoir with a capacity of nearly a billion gallons and giving a daily flow of four million gallons down a slope of 3000 feet into the city.

A steel pipe line will carry this water down six miles to Anaconda, where another immense reservoir will be built to receive it. This reservoir will be 320 feet higher than the business centre of the city and a quarter of a mile long. Its short line will be irregular, lying against the hills, and it will be a beautiful sheet of water. As a further means of adding to the beauty of the spot, the supply main from Lake Hearst will terminate in a fountain in the centre of the reservoir. Only a portion of the enormous pressure will be used, but a solid jet of water over three inches in diameter will be thrown 220 feet vertically in the air, while around the base of the fountain will be a fringe of sprays, consisting of rows of jets rising to varying heights and at different angles. The fountain, when completed, will be, without exception, the largest in the world.

Turned to Stone While He Rested.

A petrified man, leaning up against a tree in the woods near Eatonville, Wash., is the discovery of Prospector Lafayette B. Smith, Tacoma, reported to his friends Saturday. The story was first received as a joke, whereupon Smith said that he would prove that he was telling the truth, and forthwith started for Eatonville, prepared to bring in the petrified form. He reports the body to have been petrified while standing, with clothes and boots on and with several traps scattered about. Smith will have to build a trail a distance of a mile to get the petrified trapper out of the heavy timber and into the turnpike leading to this city. He left here equipped with axes and other tools necessary to bring his find to town.—San Francisco Examiner.

"Kismet."

A lady living in a fashionable quarter has a bit of statuary bearing the inscription "Kismet." The housemaid was dusting the room the other day when the mistress appeared.

"Shure, ma'am, what's the manin' of the 'ritin' on the bottom of this?" asked the maid referring to the inscription on the statue.

"Kismet means 'fate,'" replied the mistress.

Bridget was limping painfully when out with her sweetheart not long afterward, and he asked:

"What's the matter, Bridget?"

"Faith," was the answer. "I have the most tirrible korns on me kismet!"—Tit-Bits.

Japanese Birth Trees.

At the birth of a Japanese baby a tree is planted, which must remain untouched until the marriage day of the child. When the nuptial hour arrives the tree is cut down, and a skilled cabinetmaker transforms the wood into furniture, which is considered by the young couple as the most beautiful of all ornaments of the house. —Meehan's Monthly.