

Mrs. Frances Marie Gardiner of Boston committed suicide at her home by taking poison.

Charles Jones and Lon Irwin were fatally shot and Thomas Wolfe stabbed in a general fight at Straight Creek mines, in Kentucky.

The Hamburg-American Steamship company has definitely adopted Plymouth, England, as a port of call instead of Southampton.

A dispatch from Crete, island of Crete, says the Cretan revolutionary committee has informed the foreign consuls that it declines to surrender.

E. D. Fish, one of the stockholders whose fallures were announced on the Stock Exchange in Liverpool, is dead. His body was found in a tunnel of the Mersey railroad.

Word was received in Boston from Somerville, N. C., announcing the death of Cross G. Smith, formerly New England agent of the Associated Press. Death resulted from consumption.

Friday, Jan. 2. M. Herbert Joseph Walter Frere-Orban, the distinguished Belgian statesman, died in Brussels.

Albert W. Woolley was hanged at Pittsburg for the murder of Mrs. Jennie Buchanan in Allegheny City on May 9, 1894.

The five members of the Yehuda brotherhood, recently convicted of counterfeiting in Philadelphia, were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$1,000.

The inauguration of Frederick T. Greenhalge as governor of Massachusetts for the third term and of Roger Wolcott as lieutenant governor for the fourth term took place at the state capitol in Boston.

The five cities of New York, St. Louis, San Francisco, Cincinnati and Chicago have filed applications with the national Democratic committee for designation as the place of holding the national convention.

A successful raid was made on the moonshiners who have been operating in southwestern Arkansas. Two stills and eight men were captured, and two men, who made a stubborn resistance, were killed.

At Columbus, O., Mr. and Mrs. John H. Hibbard, their son Allen and infant daughter Dorothy, Miss Fay Hibbard and Mrs. Grace Hibbard Lee were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the residence of Mr. Hibbard.

Saturday, Jan. 2. The bakery and confectionery establishment of J. Van Velsor, in Buffalo, was burned. Loss, \$60,000.

One hundred men employed in S. K. Wilson's woolen mill, at Trenton, struck on account of wage troubles.

D. G. Luffin, general freight agent of the Lake Shore railroad, died at his home in Englewood, a suburb of Chicago.

The children's home at Columbus, O., in which there were 300 inmates, was destroyed by fire. All the children were rescued.

It is reported that negotiations are being made for the establishment in New York of a branch of the Imperial Bank of Russia.

Herbert Godney, a young lawyer of Middletown, N. Y., was found dead in his office, having evidently committed suicide by shooting himself.

James Conway, a member of the chamber of deputies of France, was shot and seriously wounded by his former election agent in Paris.

Sunday, Jan. 2. A severe earthquake shock was felt at Victoria, B. C.

The treasury statement shows the gold reserve to be \$61,311,828.

The Norfolk and Western offices at Roanoke, Va., were entirely consumed by fire.

Prince Alexander of Prussia is dead. He was 78 years of age and was a general in the Prussian army.

Miss Frances K. Willard, owing to indisposition, has declined her engagements for Maryland and Virginia.

Mrs. Rachel Reid Butterfield, the widow of the late General F. W. Butterfield, died at her home in Kansas City.

The president has signed the bill authorizing the acceptance of the ram Katabdin for the United States navy.

Francis Stoll, papal legate to the United States, was elevated to the cardinalate in the Baltimore cathedral with imposing ceremonies and in the presence of hundreds of ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Catholic church and distinguished persons in all circles of life. The benediction was conferred by Cardinal Gibbons.

Tuesday, Jan. 7. J. A. Davis, deputy collector of customs at Malone, N. Y., died at that place.

INDEPENDENCE NEAR.

THE HEROIC STRUGGLE OF THE PARTISANS FOR FREEDOM.

Insurgents Rapidly Approaching Havana. Terror and Consternation in the Capital.—De Lome Denies the Reports of the Revolutionists' Victories.

HAVANA, Jan. 2.—The insurgent band commanded by Zayas was reported at different times at Calimto, Guayabal, Hoyo Colorado and Punta Brava, showing that he followed pretty closely the line between the provinces of Pinar del Rio and Havana up to the extreme northeastern portion of Pinar del Rio. This brought him into the region into which large numbers of troops were sent to guard the western approach to Havana. It does not appear that the insurgents were in any great force, and no engagements are reported.

The fields of the Valdespino estate have been burned, and the villages of Puerto la Guira and Marroco have also been put to the torch after being plundered, according to the report received here.

The influx of refugees from the whole of the territory surrounding Havana continues, and apparently it is not possible to obtain sufficient means of transportation to accommodate the fleeing families and their household goods. The country seems to be entirely abandoned to the insurgent army, and no movement apparently awaits them.

The eastern portion of the island seems not to have been entirely stripped of an effective force of insurgents. A report from Santa Clara says that the troops recently taking flight were followed by Pancho Carillo and in the battle which ensued sustained a loss of 50.

Word has just been received that the south of eastern market has been held in the neighborhood of Guayabal, an important town of 4,000 inhabitants in Pinar del Rio, 45 miles southwest of Havana. It is supposed that an engagement took place there between the forces of General Suarez Valdes and the insurgents, but the numbers engaged or the course which the fortune of the fight is taking is not known.

The insurgents are burning and destroying up to within eight miles of Havana. The district around the village of Calabazar also suffered. Calabazar is only two miles from Vento, where the apparatus is located upon which Havana depends for its water supply. In the Calabazar and Hoyo Colorado districts the case has been the same in the fields of Maulin, Garro and Baranca.

De Lome's Statement. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—At the state department it is said that no information has been received concerning the reported critical condition of affairs at Havana. As the Cuban government has no ships in Cuba waters no information comes from that source. The intelligence from Cuba is of such an alarming character that some surprise is expressed, even by officials, that no word has been sent to the government as to the situation.

Minister de Lome of Spain has his patients sorely tried at the reports, which he regards as exaggerated, at the capital. He has sent inquiries to him. The mention of the report that General Campos has resigned or that Havana has fallen is indignantly resented by him. He does not care to make denials, for, he says, those reports are such preposterous insinuations that he will not notice them.

Called to Preach in Hartford. ROCHESTER, Jan. 2.—Rev. Harold Patton of this city has accepted a call to become pastor of the First Baptist church at Hartford.

ODD FACTS ABOUT MADAGASCAR. The Policemen Sleep on their Beats.—The Curfew is of Ancient Use.

Probably the sleepiest policemen in the world are those of Madagascar. At Antananarivo, the capital, there is little evidence of the force by day, for its members are usually wrapped in blankets and sleep on their beats.

At night, too, the guardian of property is seldom to be seen, and that he is actually guarding is only to be told by the half hourly cry that is sent up to police post No. 1 along the royal palace.

"Watchman, what of the night?" "We are wide awake, keeping a sharp lookout, and all's well."

Antananarivo has no lamps and no streets. It is simply a great collection of houses tumbled together. There is a big force of night police, known as the "watch." The men gather themselves together into groups, and choosing snug corners, wrapping themselves in straw mats, they drop into long and profound slumber. One member of each group remains awake to respond to the half hourly call from the palace. As he calls back, the others, half awake, mechanically shout back the response. It makes little difference, however, that the police continually sleep, for robbery is rare.

Curfew, though popularly supposed to be purely an early English and Norman-French custom, has been established in Madagascar for centuries. In every town and village between 9 and 10 the watchmen go around shouting out in the Malagasy dialect, "Lights out!" and they see that all is in darkness in every house. After these hours no one is allowed to travel around without a special pass.

There is no criminal code of any account, and when a man is caught in the act of stealing the populace is apt to ignore the police and surround him and stone him to death. The Madagascans have no "swear words" in their language, and when their feelings are overwrought against a man the only thing they can do is to execute summary vengeance on him.—New York World.

On and Water. "I'm very unfortunate," said the young artist. "You are deficient in one important quality," replied his candid friend. "What is that?"

"Tact. When Mr. Green came to see you about a portrait, you never stopped to think that he made his fortune out of a lucky streak in kerosene."

"Never."

"And you told him he ought to have his picture done in oil, and he didn't leave the order."

"That's so."

"And when Mr. Skinner, who has prospered as a dairyman, called at your studio, you rushed from Scylla to Charibdis and advised him to be done up in water colors. You're a good painter, my boy, but what you need is discretion."—Washington Star.

Whiting to Please. Tourist (in Ireland)—I should like a room with an iron bedstead. Hotel Proprietor—Sorr, Oi haven't an iron bedstead in the place—they're all soft wood. But you'll find the mattress noise and hard, sorr.—Pick Me Up.

THE MINUET DANCER.

THOUGHT THE KAISER WOULD. A Coachman Told Him He Stupid Never Set a River Afire.

An amusing little story about the present emperor of Germany, William II, and a Vienna coachman was narrated at a banquet lately given at Vienna by some diplomats, the narrator being himself a well known and prominent member of the corps diplomatique.

In the year 1887 the present Emperor William II of Germany, then Prince William of Prussia, came to Vienna, visiting his particular friend and chum, the late Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria. Joined by the Prince of Wales, who was at that time also a frequent visitor to the Vienna court, the three princes took a fancy to mingle with the commons of the Vienna population. Dressed in ordinary clothes, they visited places which are not in the least regarded as suitable for princely guests.

One day they entered a hotel, but instead of going into the dining room they walked into the "schwemme," a place which answers in some degree to the barroom of an American hotel; in this room coachmen and the servants of the hotel guests take their meals.

The three princes took seats at an empty table, and listened, highly amused, to a fierce debate about politics between several stout members of the class of fashionable Vienna coachmen who are known all over Europe as "fische Wiener fischer." The distinction of those characters is a kind of good natured coarseness and droll familiarity toward their customers as well as to perfect strangers.

After listening awhile Prince William put in a word, and soon was drawn into the excited discussion. Suddenly a stout, red faced coachman walked up to the table where the three princes were seated, and, tapping Prince William gently on the shoulder, said, "Now, if you should ever have anything to say in politics, you wouldn't set a river on fire, I'm sure!"

As every public coachman in Vienna wears a number, this coachman was upon a special request of Prince William—easily identified. The prince sent him a handsome scrap with his initials as thanks for the amusement he had furnished, and thus the man learned in amazement whose political abilities they were that he had so belittled.—Vienna Letter in New York City.

STORIES OF THE DAY.

Things Seen and Heard at the Capitol at Washington.

One of the saddest places about the whole capitol is that little corner of the senate chamber known as the "chamber of the deaf." It is a place where the deaf are crowded into that narrow space day after day are enough to soften the most hard hearted. Out there, one day this week, sat a widow. She was old and poor. It was a raw, cold day, but the deaf woman had only a thin shawl about her and one shoe was all broken at the side, so that only her stocking kept her foot from the ground. She had sent in for "her" representative, and when he came out, he was coolly courteous, but finally seemed to warm up a little, and, at her earnest solicitation, reached into his pocket. Somebody about getting her a place. He was so emphatic in saying that she must not worry, but leave all to him, that he turned to leave him with her face fairly transfixed with a glow of happiness. When she had disappeared over the last "whispering stone" toward the senate chamber, the members turned to the page and said sternly:

"See here! If that old guy comes fooling round here after me again, I am not in my seat! Do you see?" The boy "sighed" all straight enough and gave a frightened promise to remember. Poor little old woman!

There is a regular King Humbert of Italy on the floor of the house, and it will surprise him greatly to read this and find himself quite an attraction among the women in the galleries. The particular attraction is a pair of fierce gray moustaches, and they belong to Mr. Poole of New York. Really, the likeness to the royal Italian is quite startling.

Terry of Arkansas has cultivated a remarkable suit of chrysalisium hair in the back of his head, which grows in masses. If he could coax his locks to unkink themselves, he would rival in this respect Buffalo Bill.

Prince Albert coats are quite the fashion since Mr. Reed set the pace on the deck of the battleship, but there are ways and ways of wearing them. The average congressman needs to take some lessons in the art. A closely buttoned Prince Albert is a sight for gods and men to laugh at if it does not fit, and most of them do not.

One of the remarkable and enjoyable features of the Fifty-fourth congress is the absence of smoking upon the floor. Men like Mr. Quigg and Mr. Tarnsey, who all but sleep with cigars in their mouths, find it rare self denial to go without smoking, but they content themselves with a "dry smoke," twisting and chewing to pieces almost any kind of tobacco that will otherwise liberally on the floor was Mr. Powers of Vermont. He was clear back by the fireplace and was busy thinking when he lighted his cigar, and the expression of cherubic content which went over his face when he settled back in his chair to take that beloved smoke was something to remember.

The ladies who watch with such interest every day the proceedings of congress have quite decided that Mr. Crisp has the smallest and whitest hand in the house.

"What brand do you wear, mister?" asked a man with high heeled boots and a sombrero of Representative Miller yesterday as that gentleman came out of the house.

Mr. Miller looked a little surprised, but he answered promptly that he didn't know exactly what his questioner meant.

"I want to know which camp you are in when there is a general stampede?"

"Do you mean to ask my politics?" asked Mr. Miller.

"Precisely," said the stranger. "I'm out of my own reservation and I've kind of lost my bearings. I'm on the trail of the man who corralled a permit to come hither and pass the government for my state, and the herd boss told me you were the man to ask."

"I reckon you all know him like a hen, the same his name being Dennis Flynn." And Mr. Flynn soon appeared.

"And who is that?" asked a gallery occupant of his friend, who seemed to know everybody and had been keeping up a running comment on everybody and everything in the house while the Hayard resolution was being discussed, as Mr. Dingley of Maine addressed the chair.

"He's one of the most highly respected men in the house," said a stranger at his left.

"And the thinkingest man to boot," responded the friend, and went on delivering his opinions audibly.

"Say, Charley, I want a business expense like that for a flower stand. It's just too lovely for anything, and it wouldn't tip over." She was evidently a bride, and she was commenting on the malachite mace standard.—Washington Star.

THE POTENT PEANUT.

ONE WOULD HARDLY THINK THE HUMBLE GOOBER SO IMPORTANT.

About Four Million Bushels Raised in This Country Every Year.—The Most Nutritious and by Far the Cheapest of Foods.—Substitute For Olive Oil.

But little is known of the peanut outside of localities in which it is grown, and even where it is most largely grown its possibilities are for the most part not at all realized, and it is not by any means made to yield the highest results it is capable of. Taking into account all its sources of value, the peanut ought to be one of the most profitable of the general farm crops in the south. The following facts about it are in the main condensed from a bulletin of the United States department of agriculture prepared by R. B. Handy of the office of experiment stations.

The yearly production of peanuts in this country is about 4,000,000 bushels of 25 pounds, the bulk of the crop being produced in Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. These 4,000,000 bushels, while fully supplying the present demand of the United States, amount to but a small part of the present crop of the world, as the exportation from Africa and India in 1892 amounted to nearly 400,000,000 pounds, of which 322,000,000 pounds went to Marseilles for conversion into oil.

The largest part of the American crop is sold by street vendors, but small amounts are used by confectioners, chocolate manufacturers and for the manufacture of oil. Peanut oil is used for lubricating and soapmaking and as a substitute for lard and codliver oil and butter in cooking. The residue from oil-making, known as "peanut cake," is a highly valued cattle food in the countries of Europe and is also ground into fine flour and used as human food. It makes good soup, griddle cakes, muffins, etc., and is one of the most nutritious of foods. The vines, when dried, become a very nutritious hay, readily eaten by stock, though requiring care in the feeding lest it produce colic.

The present uses of the peanut and its products are likely to be greatly extended and new channels of utility found for it, as has been the case with cotton seed. With better methods of tillage and a larger yield per acre the cost of production would be greatly lessened. According to the eleventh census, the average yield of peanuts in the United States in 1889 was 17.6 bushels per acre, the average in Virginia being about 20 and in Tennessee 32 bushels per acre. This appears to be a very low average, especially as official and semi-official figures give 50 or 60 bushels as an average crop, and 100 bushels are not an uncommon yield.

While the peanut has been cultivated in the United States to a limited extent for a number of years, it is only since 1866 that the crop has become of primary importance in the eastern section of this country, which seems peculiarly adapted to its production. Between 1865 and 1870 the rapid spread of the culture of peanuts was phenomenal. Each year doubled and at times increased threefold its crop over that of the preceding year, so that this country, from being a large importer of west African nuts, was soon able to supply the domestic demand for the human raised article.

Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee produce a large part of the peanut crop of the United States. Within the last few years this crop has ceased to be as profitable as heretofore. The method of culture—the annual planting of nuts on the same land, the lack of proper rotation of crops, the complete removal of all vegetation from the land and the failure to replenish the soil by means of fertilizers—has been a great factor in reducing the profits of the crop by reducing the ability of the land to produce such crops as were previously secured in that section, so that now instead of an average of 50 bushels per acre, with frequent yields over 100 bushels, the average in the peanut sections is not over 30 bushels, while the cost of cultivation has been but slightly reduced.

As regards food value, peanut kernels, with an average of 29 per cent of protein, 48 per cent of fat and 14 per cent of carbohydrates in the dry material, take a high rank and should be classed with such concentrated foods as soja beans, cotton seed, etc. The vines are shown by analysis to be superior to timothy hay as a feeding stuff and but slightly inferior to clover hay.

The ground hulls are used to a considerable extent as a coarse fodder in European countries. Examined for the ground residue from oil extraction, it is a valuable feeding stuff highly appreciated and extensively used in foreign countries. It contains, as the averages of over 2,000 analyses show, about 52 per cent of protein, 8 per cent of fat and 27 per cent of carbohydrates and is one of the most concentrated feeding stuffs with which we are familiar, ranking with cottonseed meal, linseed meal, etc., and in some cases ahead of them.

In describing the uses of peanuts it is scarcely necessary to more than refer to the use to which fully three-fourths of the American raised crop is devoted. The nut is sorted in the factory into four grades, the first, second and third being sold to vendors of the roasted peanut either directly or through jobbers, while the fourth is sold to confectioners to be used in the making of "burnt almonds," peanut candy and the cheaper grades of chocolates. The extent of the use of the peanut by the American people will be more fully appreciated when it is remembered that they use 4,000,000 bushels of nuts yearly, at a cost to the consumers of \$10,000,000, which do not form a part of the regular articles of food, but are eaten at odd times.—Boston Herald.

To Reach a Volcano. Engineers have completed the survey of the volcano Popocatepetl, in Mexico, for the purpose of determining the best location for an aerial cable railway to the summit. It has been determined to start the line from the ranch of Tlanaco, on the northwest, and tourists will be able to make the ascent to the summit, nearly 15,000 feet above the sea, with entire ease and also descend into the crater, where the work of extracting sulphur is going on.

AN INTERESTING CAVERN.

Immense Subterranean Cave Found Near San Diego.

A big cave has been discovered on the ocean side of Point Loma, near San Diego, Cal. So far as explored it does not seem quite as large as the Mammoth cave of Kentucky, but it is as interesting.

The discovery was made by Horace Metcalf and Vazir G. Matthews, who live on Point Loma. They started out on a sort of exploring expedition, and at a point about a mile and a half north of the lighthouse saw a big hole just above the surface of low tide which seemed to be the entrance to a cave. They tried to get down, but the cliffs at that point were too steep, and they gave it up.

Going farther north, they found an easier place of descent, where they let themselves down with a rope. Near the place of descent they ran across a smaller hole, which they entered, finding that it connected with the larger and led into the bowels of the earth.

Metcalf and Matthews made their way in with some fear, finally reaching a point 250 feet from the entrance, where the passageway widened out into an immense chamber big enough to hold the largest building in San Diego. They did not fully explore the cave, but thought it ended at the big chamber. They describe the interior as grand, but it is probable that other passages will be found admitting explorers at any time. The tide fills part of the passageway to the great chamber.

Richard Henry Dana, in "Two Years Before the Mast," mentions a cave under or near Point Loma, and it is believed that this is the one referred to.—San Francisco Examiner.

CIGARETTES AND INSANITY.

A Hospital Superintendent Says They Are Very Closely Related.

Dr. Benjamin Blackford, the able superintendent of the Western State hospital at Stanton, Va., in his annual report to the board of directors of that institution, says:

"To a great extent the increase of insanity may be attributed to the pernicious 'cigarette smoking habit,' now so prevalent among and undermining the moral, physical and mental health of the youth of our country during their early years and development, when the brain is tender and plastic and easily affected by the noxious inhalations issuing through and around the nerve centers. Their nervous organization is apt to become more shattered by the 'cigarette habit,' than if they were addicted to alcoholic stimulants during that period, and will surely be the first to give way, and, of course, the first to suffer, especially during the period of puberty, with its strain on the nervous system. The youth at college who burns the midnight oil is to be commended for his industry, but too often he burns out his brain at the same time with the accompanying cigarette habit, now so prevalent among and undermining the moral, physical and mental health of the youth of our country during their early years and development, when the brain is tender and plastic and easily affected by the noxious inhalations issuing through and around the nerve centers. Their nervous organization is apt to become more shattered by the 'cigarette habit,' than if they were addicted to alcoholic stimulants during that period, and will surely be the first to give way, and, of course, the first to suffer, especially during the period of puberty, with its strain on the nervous system. 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