The Farmers' Leader.

CANTON, S. D.

FARMERS' PUBLISHING CO., PUBLISHERS

TRADE WITH THE SOUTH

MEETING OF A COMPANY WITH BIG HOPES.

A Promise That the United States Flag Will Soon Be Seen in all the Waters of the Globe With a Carrying Trade Equal to Any Nation.

The officers and directors of the Pan-American Transportation company, an organization formed for the purpose of putting on lines of steamers between the southern ports of the United States and the principal ports of South America and the West Indies, have been in session in Chicago. The purpose of the meeting was to map out the work more completely and perfecting an arrangement for floating the additional securities to carry it on to the amount of a hundred million dollars. It has been decided to move the headquarters of the company from Mobile, Ala., to Chicago, which is to be made the central distributing point for all products to and from South America. The projectors say the possibilities to the United States and to the world in fact, are enormous enough to seem almost visionary. Within a year after the lines are established they promise the United States will have as much carrying trade as any nation and the American flag will be seen on all the waters of the globe The original capital stock of $10,000,000 has already been subscribed but the company has authority to increase it to $100,000,000. The ports from which the lines are intended to run are Galveston, New Orleons, Mobile and Tampa. There will be three lines from Galveston and Tampa each, and one, or possibly two, from the other ports named. The projectors contemplate building at least twenty steel steamships under the provisions of the mail subsidy bill.

THE ELECTION IN KENTUCKY.

Democratic Majorities Increased and Many People's Votes.

With a quiet election Kentucky elected a state ticket, adopted a constitution and chose a legislature. John Young Brown is elected governor, and the balance of the state ticket, all democrats, go in by majorities ranging from 20,000 to 40,000. The democratic majority will probably show an increase over last year. The new constitution has carried, and the majority for it is placed at anything from 50,000 to 100,000. The heavy majority for it is a surprise to its opponents. These have included some of the best known and ablest public men in the state, including Senator Carlisle and Governor Buckner. The people's party has polled about 20,000 votes. These have come mostly from the republican party and the four cities. While the alliance was supposed to be back of the people's party, it has done very little for it on account of the disturbances which rose last January and which caused the retirement from the alliance presidency of S. B. Erwing, the people's party candidate. The alliance has devoted itself to the legislature and probably has practical control of that body, and so will control the revision of laws under the new constitution. In only a few instances has the alliance put out candidates in opposition to the democratic nominations. So, while the legislature will be nominally democratic, it will have strong alliance affiliations and tendencies.

Executed but Innocent.

More than fifteen years ago a man named Cameron disappeared near Beatrice. Jack Ma n, with whom he was seen last, was in possession of some of the missing man's effects, and after several trials was convicted of murder and executed. Now Cameron has been discovered alive at LaCrosse, Kan. He had gone to Mexico and then to Alaska while Marion was on trial for his life. Hearing of Marion's execution upon his return a year ago, and fearing himself amenable to the law, he concealed his identity, but remorse caused him to reveal it.

Violating the Game Laws.

The game laws of South Dakota are being grossly violated at all points in the state. It is unlawful to shoot any wild fowl before August 15, but thousands of young chickens have been killed this summer by over zealous nimrods.

Hung to the Boat All Night.

City Attorney Bailey, Clarence Beebe and George Shepard, of New Haven, Conn., were on the catamaran Typhoon, which sprung a leak on the sound off Pawson Park, and were rescued at daylight after having hung to the boat for eight hours during the night

Sam Jones Rotten Egged.

At Houston, Tex., while preaching to a large audience and when in the midst of his discourse some people on the outside turned out the lights and rotten egged Rev. Sam Jones and his audience, most of whom were ladies. There is great indignation.

Great Floods in India.

Fifteen inches of rain fell in India within twenty-four hours. The towns of Mahooda and Bhownugger were flooded and water is breast high in the streets. Three hundred people and countless stock have been drowned.

Killed While Crossing a Track.

Rev. Wellington White and three little girls were killed by a passenger train in Elmira, N. Y., while driving across the track. Mrs. White and a 2-year-old girl received probably fatal injuries.

No World's Fair Work in Chicago.

The labor assembly of Chicago has decided to issue a warning to the workmen of the world not to come to Chicago in expectation of getting work in connection with the world's fair.

Canada Against Reciprocity.

The Canadian house of commons voted down the reciprocity amendment to the government's resolution to consider the tariff changes. Yeas, 88; nays, 114.

California Forest Fires.

Forest fires in the vicinity of Sonora, Cal., have destroyed a number of ranch houses and other property, and now threatens to wipe out the town of Columbia.

Will Not Go on the Stump.

Ex-President Cleveland says that he does not intend to take part in the campaign in Ohio or in any other state.

Life Term for an Editor.

William J. Elliott, the former proprietor and editor of the *Sunday Capital*, of Columbus, O., who with his brother, P. J. Elliott, killed Albert C. Osborne, the reporter of the *Sunday World*, and W. L. Hughes, a bystander, besides wounding a number of people during the shooting affray on the street on the afternoon of Feb. 23 last, was convicted of murder in the second degree. The trial has been in progress since May 11. The crime was the direct result of personal journalism. When the verdict was read there was a sensational scene. Two or three of Elliott's female relatives screamed and fainted. Elliott, enraged, snatched a G. A. R. button from his lapel and threw it at the jury. By the laws of Ohio murder in the second degree is punishable by life imprisonment, the court having no alternative in the matter.

DEATH TO BUGS.

Wiping Out Foes of the Crops With Artificial Diseases.

When M. Pasteur, a few years ago, proposed to kill off the rabbits of Australia by introducing among them a contagious disease of a fatal character, humanitarians exclaimed "O!" What will they think of similar plans, which bid fair to be widely adopted before long. for wiping out various bugs that attack the crops? There is the cabbage worm, for example, an inch and a half long, with a special appetite for the vegetable in question. It is subject to a singular and very deadly disease, caused by bacteria, as consumption and typhoid fever are in man. Scientists are forming a plan for spreading the complaint among cabbage worms in general to such an extent that the species shall be exterminated. Prof. Galloway who superintends the United States government plant hospital, has just received a small consignment of germs of the malady from Florida, where the insect commits great havoc, and he is preparing them by myriads artificially in corked tubes filled with gelatine. It will be easy enough to prepare a quantity of beef tea—on that diet all bacteria greedily feed and multiply—and transform it within a few hours, by simply introducing a few bacteria as an ingredient, into a solution every drop of which contains thousands of lively microbes. All that remains theoretically will be to spray the liquid, as if it were any insecticide, upon the infested cabbages, and any worm that is touched by a particle of it must die.

A STOCK YARDS SETTLEMENT.

Chicago Packers and the Stock Yards Company Agree at Last.

The Chicago Stock Yards company and the packers, Messrs. Armour, Morris and Swift, have effected a settlement. The company agrees to pay $500,000 for the Central stock yards property of Chicago, half in cash and half in mortgage, pending law suits to be abandoned; to give $500,000 in common stock to be held by the packers for five years for 1,000 acres of the packers' land at Tolleston, Ind., best suited for stock yards; to guarantee principal and interest at 5 per cent. on $2,000,000 fifteen year bonds of the Tolleston Stock Yards company, with a sinking fund attached. These are given to the packers above named who covenant perpetually to remain at Chicago or go to Tolleston when the time comes. Each of the three guarantees the others and also guarantees that their united business will net $2,000,000 the next five years. The smaller packers are left to shift for themselves by this arrangement.

ONE MORE WRECK IN OHIO.

A Narrow Gauge Train Dumped With Seventy Passengers.

Another horror has been added to the late list of railroad accidents in Ohio. A passenger train on the Bellaire, Zanesville & Cincinnati narrow gauge railroad left the track three miles south of Bellaire, two cars being overturned and dragged some distance. Seventy passengers were on the train, and the two cars turned were crowded. Fourteen people were injured, four seriously and one fatally. The train was running thirty-five miles an hour, and as it reached the curve the cars were noticed to sway violently and unheeding the cries for the prssengers to keep their seats, a rush was made for the doors. Many of the frightened passengers had reached the platform when the cars jumped the rails, and when they turned over in another moment, these were hurled into the ditch.

HE'S AN ALLIANCE HERO.

Judge McKay, of Kansas, Becomes More Unruly Than Before.

A letter from Anthony, Kan., states that since his return from his interview with the supreme court at Topeka the alliance judge, McKay, has been acting more arbitrarily than ever and is determined to rule in the Twenty-fourth district according to his own ideas of law and in defiance of the supreme court. He has set aside all the decisions of the special judge who was elected by the bar to preside over the court while he was before the supreme court answering to the charge of contempt of court. The people's party papers are attempting to make a hero of Judge McKay.

The Spanish Reciprocity Treaty.

The Spanish reciprocity treaty and the diplomatic correspondence pertaining thereto has been made public, the president issuing the proclamation announcing the full text of the treaty. It is made pursuant to the last tariff act with a view to securing reciprocal trade by reason of the exemption from duty of sugar, molasses, coffee and hides upon their importation into the United States.

Given Two Weeks to Return.

At Pottsville, Pa., notices have been published in the daily papers giving the 800 striking hands of the Pottsville iron and steel company's mill two weeks in which to return to work. The strikers were notified that if they did not return in that time the mills would be closed to them forever and non-union will be secured and put to work under police protection.

Absorbed Grasshopper Poison.

Reports from different parts of Placer county, Cal., shows that fifteen persons manifested symptoms of poisoning after partaking of pressed corn beef prepared by a butcher of the town of Loomis. One child died, and it is feared other fatalities will be reported. It is believed the beef cattle absorbed grasshopper poison.

THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Common to prime	$ 3.00	@	6.00
HOGS—Shipping grades	4.80	@	5.00
SHEEP	4.50	@	4.55
WHEAT—Cash			.88
CORN—Cash			.61
OATS			.27¾
RYE			.73
BARLEY			.70
FLAX			1.03
BUTTER—Western dairy	.10	@	.15
EGGS—Western	.14	@	.15

SIOUX CITY.

CATTLE—Fat steers	$ 4.00	@	5.50
CATTLE—Feeders	2.50	@	3.75
HOGS	5.10	@	5.40
SHEEP	3.25	@	4.50
WHEAT			.75
OATS			.28
CORN			.45
FLAX			.95

OMAHA LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Common to prime	$ 3.00	@	5.00
HOGS—Shippers	5.10	@	5.40

NEW YORK PRODUCE.

WHEAT	$ .97	@	.98
CORN	.69	@	.70
OATS—Western	.34	@	.40

LIQUOR AND SUICIDES.

BAD DRINK INCREASES SELF DESTRUCTION IN BERLIN.

The German Emperor Having Statistics Gathered to Back up a Proposal to Increase the Penalties Imposed on Drunkards—State Supervision of Beverages.

The German emperor's projected measure for the suppression of public drunkenness, has become, under the manipulations of the ministers, merely a proposal that the landtag should increase the penalties imposed on drunkards. Ministers Herrfurth and Miqueal and others concur in the belief that the public would not tolerate active legislative interference with drinking. The emperor thinks differently. The draft of the proposed bill was sent him and returned with suggestions concerning state supervision of the healthy qualities of beverages. Impressed with the recent official statistics concerning the growth of criminal offences and suicides arising from drink, the government has opened an inquiry in regard to the law and is gathering evidence from hospital and other medical sources concerning the increasing use of potash spirits and other impure alcoholics and how far the use of these spirits may be regarded as a leading factor in crime. The official returns of suicides in Berlin during the first fortnight of July shows a total of 147. The cause of this enormous self destruction is attributed chiefly to drink. The emperor is a friend of good beer, but blames bad drink for many of the violations of law throughout the empire, and more particularly in the greater cities.

MORTGAGE STATISTICS.

Generalizations From the Census Office Bulletin.

The count of the farm and home transcripts made in accordance with the mortgage collection clause of the census act has been completed by the census officers. There were returned by enumerators 2,491,030 farms and homes occupied by owners which are encumbered by mortgages. This includes some about which the enumerators made no report, and which belong partly to the class of hired and partly to the class owned free, as well as partly to the class owned and encumbered. Until this unknown quantity due to the failure of the enumeration is eliminated it may be regarded as approximately true that 2,250,000 of the 12,500,000 families of the United States occupy and own encumbered farms and homes, and that 10,250,000 families occupy farms and homes either hired or owned free. The proportion of hired and owned farm homes and farms will be known when the population division completes the count of the returns pertaining to them. The preliminary results indicate that the average debt for a farm in Iowa is $1,283; of a home, $719; the average for farm and home, $1,140, If these averages hold good for the union the incumbrance on the farms and homes of the United States occupied by the owners is about two billion, five hundred and sixty-five million dollars.

Threaten a Revolution.

The Farmers' Alliance and Knights of Labor of the Third and Fourth congressional districts of Texas are holding a week's encampment at Sulphur Springs. Among the prominent persons present is Senator Peffer, of Kansas. The speeches so far are all in favor of the people's party movement and some of them favored revolution if the ballot did not succeed. A response to an address of welcome was made by L. R. Hoods. He predicted an impending revolution in the event relief failed through the ballot. He said that John Brown succeeded Garrison, and the people intended to break the reign of plutocracy, peaceably if the could, but forcibly if they must.

Maryland Stands by Gorman.

The Maryland democratic state convention was more of a ratification meeting and ovation to Senator Gorman than a party convention. Although Senator Gorman was unable to be present, the convention was unanimously for him, as is shown by resolutions adopted and the frequent and rapturous applause whenever his name was mentioned. Not only does the platform recognize his signal services to the democratic party, but a special resolution indorsing him for re-election to the senate gives evidence of the esteem in which he is held. One enthusiastic speaker said that "the leader in defeating the force bill would be the next president of the United States."

Jews Killed and Burned.

A number of Russian Jews have arrived at Boston and tell a thrilling tale of Russian persecution. They lived in a hamlet containing eighteen houses near Veile. At midnight July 18 Russians from the city attacked the hamlet, setting fire to the whole settlement, causing the death of twenty Jews and the fearful burning of twenty more. The Jews armed themselves and retaliated, one young man, whose mother had been burned, killing three with a crowbar. Officers finally appeared and arrested the young man and the other Jews. All will probably be sent to Siberia.

Strikers Are Dangerous.

The strike of the employes of the horse car railroads in Toulouse, France, has assumed serious proportions. The strikers demolished the kiosks on the principal thoroughfares and tried to destroy the tracks of the roads. Dragoons had to be called to the scene of the disturbance. During the charge made by the cavalry upon the crowds upon the boulevards many people were injured and a number of arrests were made. The strike finally ended in a compromise.

Burned Their Idols.

Capt. Jack Crawford has returned from a trip to the northern part of Vermillion lake, Minn., and reports that Frank Porter, a half-breed, and Mrs. Dempsey, of Stillwater, Minn., have for three months past been working among the Chippewa Indians on the reservation and have converted nearly all to Christianity. A few days ago the Indians gathered all their idols in a big pile and burned them.

The Pesky Hoppers.

Grasshoppers are ruining the oats crop prospects in twenty counties along the Ohio and Indiana border line, and the devastation is most marked in the region around Wabash, Miami and Maumee rivers. Crops are ruined by a small green hopper on farm after farm. Many growers, alarmed at the ravages of the pest, cut the oats green. but the hoppers followed it into the shock. and are now in the corn.

Encke's Comet Is Coming.

The well known periodic comet of Encke has been discovered at the Lick observatory It is very faint and following closely the path predicted for it by Dr. Barklund.

Some Big Forgeries.

A sensation was caused in Berlin by the discovery of forgeries on the Deutsche bank of $295,000. The forger, who was one of the clerks of the bank, has escaped.

SOUTH DAKOTA NEWS.

Events of More Than Usual Interest All Around the State.

The following record shows the business transacted at the different land offices in South Dakota during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891. The totals show that the business transacted has been considerable:

	Declaratory statements.	Homestead entries.	Timber culture entries.	Homestead proofs.	Timber culture proofs.	Cash proofs.	Total number of entries.
Pierre	32	374	32	72	24	15	549
Chamberlain	17	191	37	102	60	14	451
Rapid City	409	406	89	204	14	302	1,424
Aberdeen	158	207	185	336	64	126	1,076
Mitchell	127	146	133	331	481	72	1,293
Huron	81	169	203	634	187	44	1,318
Yankton	19	112	41	166	361	60	759

The number of acres newly filed on is as follows: Pierre, 114,473; Chamberlain, 35,400; Rapid City, 130,499; Aberdeen, 83,307; Mitchell, 64,134; Yankton, 22,307; Huron, 58,384. The number of acres acquired by final proof is: Pierre, 17,760; Chamberlain, 28,689; Rapid City, 32,094; Aberdeen, 80,272; Mitchell, 131,920; Huron, 136,935; Yankton, 84,488. One interesting feature is the great number of timber culture proofs made in the Mitchell, Yankton and Huron land districts, where finely cultivated and thrifty groves dot the prairie at all points. The business, as is natural, shows a slight decrease from the previous year, although the Rapid City office shows an increase in some respects, as does also the Mitchell office.

An Expert's Opinion.

John Inglis, expert crop reporter for the Pillsbury mills of Minneapolis, has the following to say of the prospects of wheat in South Dakota: "I have made four trips into the state for the purpose of examining the wheat crops during the past four years, each trip being just prior to harvest, and I know that the present outlook has not yet been equalled. I have sixteen states in my round-up, beginning with Tennessee on the south and ending with the north line of the country, and the present condition of wheat is equal to that in the more southerly states. I have examined the condition of the wheat in the counties east and south of Davison, and it is all in superb condition. My average for this country last year was eight bushels to the acre, while this year there will be but few fields which will yield less than fifteen bushels to the acre, and many will certainly go from twenty-five to thirty. Taking the condition of crops as a whole, it is quite evident that this year will be South Dakota's banner year."

Hopes Blasted by Hail.

A hail storm which visited the vicinity of Hot Springs, S. D., covered a vast scope of country and reached the agricultural portion of Fall River county, west and south of Oelrichs, the very best portion of the farming country, where the storm covered a strip of country six miles in width and literally pounded all vegetation into the ground. Previous to this the farmers of this section, for the first time in two years, were indulging in high hopes of this year harvesting bounteous crops. The destruction this storm has wrought falls heavily upon a large number of people who have labored hard for years to drag out an existence on ranches in this country. Last year, as well as the year previous, they were unable to raise crops on account of the drouth, and now, after a splendid prospect for one of the finest crops ever produced in the country, they are ruined by hail.

LATE NEBRASKA NEWS.

Happenings of General Interest in the Prosperous Commonwealth.

An officer of the Nebraska state banking department said the loan and building associations organized in Nebraska have in general failed to make their reports to the state officers as required by the new law. Only two have so far complied, although the law went into effect July 4. It has been hinted that the board will declare illegal any business that may have been transacted by these delinquent associations between July 4 and the time of issuing their permits. The board is unable to tell the number of associations doing business in Nebraska, but it is thought the local organizations will number about forty. It is believed that the national associations operating in the state will exceed that number. The board has begun a crusade against the nationals because none thus far examined have stood the test. They all seem to be organized for the purpose of providing big salaries for the officers who manage them, and in some of them the members have very little assurance against loss. It is believed that very few, if any, of the nationals will run the gauntlet and be permitted to do business in Nebraska. There are several such associations organized under the laws of the state and having their headquarters within its limits, but they will receive the same treatment as other national associations

Nebraska's Enormous Crop.

N. B. Kendall, of Kendall & Smith, Lincoln, who operate an extensive system of elevators on the B. & M. railroad, said: "I have been traveling extensively in the territory in which we operate, and I must say the outlook is exceedingly flattering. There will be such a crop of small grain as was never before raised in Nebraska. Barley is somewhat stained and will be only a fair crop, but wheat, rye, oats and flax show a wonderfully increased yield per acre. I think wheat will exceed the average by 33 1-3 per cent. and oats by nearly 50 per cent. From my observations and the report of our agents we estimate that the Nebraska oat crop will average from thirty to thirty-five bushels per acre, but I have seen fields that will thresh fully seventy to the acre. We estimate that winter wheat will yield an average of twenty bushels and spring wheat fifteen bushels. We have not yet gathered any satisfactory statistics on flax. I am confident we will have a good crop of corn. but the weather of the next two weeks, or say three, will determine whether it will be exceptionally large or not. Corn is about two weeks late, but I can notice a decided improvement in the pest week. I think it will make an average crop, nearly equal to that of 1888, and there is a possibility, with favorable weather, of its being considerably larger."

To Nominate for Governor.

Somewhat of a sensation has been caused in Nebraska by the announcement that John C. Watson, chairman of the republican state committee, announces the belief that a governor should be elected this coming fall. He believes that a governor may properly be elected in November, and he will lay the matter before the state committee and ask that the nomination of a candidate for governor be inserted in the call.

Two Bucks Fight a Duel.

Two Shoshone bucks, Spruce Aleck and Laughing Charley, fought a bloody duel at an Indian camp near Wells, Neb. The trouble was about a squaw. The bucks were hobbled together and fought with knives. They were horribly mangled and Aleck will die.

AMERICA'S BIG TRADE.

GREATEST IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY.

Cotton Leads the List of Exports by Many Millions—Provisions Follow Second and Breadstuffs Come Third—Total Commerce Reaches the Enormous Figure of —1,729,330,896.

The Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department has issued a summary and review of the foreign commerce and immigration of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1891. It gives also a comparison of the imports and exports during the past nine months, as compared with the corresponding nine months of the preceding year.

The statement says that the total value of the commerce of the past fiscal year was the greatest in the history of the Government, and exceeded the total value of the commerce of 1890 by the sum of $82,191,803. The commerce of 1890 was the largest for any year in the history of the Government up to that time, exceeding the commerce of the prior year by the sum of $159,606,063. Our total commerce during the past fiscal year amounted to $1,729,330,896. During the year there was an increase of our imports of merchandise, in order of magnitude, in the following articles: Coffee, tin plates, hides and skins, fruits, chemicals and drugs, india rubber and gutta percha, sugar and molasses, etc. There has been a decline in the value of our imports of wool and manufactures thereof, silk and manufactures thereof, hemp and jute and manufactures thereof, breadstuffs, and animals.

The total value of imports of merchandise during the last year was $844,905,491. The total value of our exports of merchandise during the same period was $884,425,405, which shows an excess in favor of exports, during the fiscal year, of $39,519,914. There was also an excess of exports of domestic merchandise over such exports of the prior year of $26,941,737. The increase in the exports has been in the following articles, stated in order of magnitude of increase: Raw cotton, provisions, refined sugar, cotton manufactures, copper and manufactures thereof, and iron and steel and manufactures thereof.

The value of the leading articles of exports from the United States during the past year was as follows: Cotton, $290,706,898; breadstuffs, $127,668,092; provisions, $138,176,638.

Since Oct. 6, 1890, to June 30, 1891, inclusive, the total imports of merchandise were $630,206,005, as compared with $598,769,905, the value of such imports for the corresponding period of 1890, which shows an excess for the nine months of 1891 of $31,436,100.

The exports of gold and silver during the last fiscal year were $108,729,288; and the imports were $36,212,334, an excess of exports of $72,516,954. The exports of gold during the last fiscal year were $86,363,622. The imports of gold were $18,246,512, showing an excess of exports of gold of $68,117,110, the largest excess of exports of gold in any year of our commerce.

There has been a large increase in the volume of immigration into the United States during the last fiscal year. The total number arriving was 555,456, as against 451,219 during the fiscal year 1890, showing an increase during the last fiscal year of 104,277. This increase is largely from the following countries: Italy, 23,354; Austria-Hungary, 14,861; Germany, 21,112; Russia (including Poland), 28,245.

EDWIN BOOTH A SICK MAN.

Excessive Smoking the Cause of His Illness.

Dispatches from Buzzard's Bay stating that Edwin Booth was badly broken in health through overindulgence in smoking, while shocking the general public, were not a surprise to many of the tragedian's professional associates. For the last two years it has been an open secret among Mr. Booth's intimates that his physical condition was such that a collapse might result at any moment. Last summer while visiting Mr. Jefferson at the Bay he became so weak that he could walk only with the aid of a cane, and was constantly in communication with his physician. During his last tour, which was brought to an abrupt close by the death of Lawrence Barrett, he was frequently ill, and his vitality decreased to such an extent that his acting was materially affected.

The death of Mr. Barrett was a great shock to Mr. Booth, for the ties of artistic and personal friendship which existed between them were exceedingly strong. It deepened the cloud which had settled upon the tragedian's spirits. The recent publication of the wretched Augusta De Lanoir story was brought to his attention and added to his mental depression. Mr. Booth has always been a more than moderate smoker, but of late years the habit has rapidly grown upon him. During the present summer he has practically lived with a cigar in his mouth. The effect upon his health has been marked and immediate. Mr. Jefferson argued with him persistently, for at one time the comedian was himself a victim of the weed, but by a determined effort of will stopped the use abruptly. This Mr. Booth is not able to do. A mental depression now exists to a greater degree than ever before and several severe nervous derangements have resulted.

Bernhardt an American.

IF Sarah Bernhardt is not French she is not Sarah Bernhardt.—*Detroit News.*

THE current story that Sarah Bernhardt was born in America and ran away to France is simply foolish. She came of good stock, and they happen in France to know all about not only her mother and her father, but her grandmothers and her grandfathers.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

IF Sarah Bernhardt is a Rochester, N. Y., girl, who ran away from home thirty-nine years ago, she has been fooling the world about her age. If she is an American girl it only furnishes another evidence of the superior quality of American material for all purposes.—*Toledo Commercial.*

JAY GOULD says that he obeyed the doctor's orders to "drop everything" when he started West. It has not yet been learned that Mr. Gould dropped the railway properties which he gobbled by means of his money-squeeze last fall, so that it is to be feared that the medical orders were not literally carried out. However, if the precedents established on former occasions when Mr. Gould left Wall street are adhered to, something may be heard to drop when he comes back.—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

WERE SLAIN BY A JOKE.

THE OHIO WRECK CAUSED BY WANTON FOOLISHNESS.

Several Lives Are Lost—Nearly Forty Persons Injured, Some Fatally—Two Cars Thrown Off the Track and Demolished—Thrilling Stories of Eye-Witnesses.

The wreck at Middletown, Ohio, on the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad, was one of the worst that have ever happened in that vicinity. The National Cash Register Company of Dayton had given its employes an excursion to Woodsdale, in a train of sixteen coaches. The day had passed merrily, and everybody was laughing and chatting when the train reached Middletown at 8 o'clock on its way home. Some one had turned the air-brakes on for a joke, and the engine was puffing and wheezing to pull the heavy load with the brakes on. Pretty soon a draw-bar broke, and the train was stopped on the siding at Middletown for repairs. William G. Douglass, one of the foreman of the National Cash Register Works, tells this story of the wreck:

The train of fifteen crowded cars started on its return trip from Woodsdale about 7 o'clock and about an hour later the accident occurred at Middletown. A drawbar about the middle of the excursion train broke and they stopped at Middletown to patch it up for the run to Dayton. Brakemen were immediately sent out with red flags to flag the approaching train, and nearly half an hour was consumed in repairing the disabled car. Red lights were not promptly changed to the rear of this car, though the train was pulling out when the accident occurred at nearly 8 o'clock. The 250 men, women, and children were in the last three coaches and all knew that freight train No. 44 was following and they appreciated and talked of their danger. Some of them called Conductor Peter G. Clancy's attention to their peril and he cautioned them that if they heard train 44 coming they should jump from the car. Five minutes later the awful disaster was upon them. The excursion was slowly creeping off the side-track, when an ominous roaring was heard from the expected train No. 44, not over a quarter of a mile away. Nearer and nearer came the monster mogul with thirty-five loaded cars, and when in sight of Middletown Station Engineer Schwind saw the flagman waving the danger signal, and he immediately called for brakes, shut off steam and applied the sand. He saw that a collision was inevitable. Then he and his fireman jumped and an instant later the crash came—a rear-end collision of mighty force.

The excursion train was pulling out on to the main track and all but the two rear coaches had left the siding when the mogul engine with the heavy train behind it went plowing through. The two rear cars and human freight were hurled into the ditch and the next coach was struck fairly in the end, and the locomotive, pushing under, elevated it to an angle of forty-five degrees, and there it stood, filled with shrieking people. This car caught fire, but Engineer Schwind and his fireman were able to extinguish the blaze by use of hose from the locomotive. Two cars lay crushed in the ditch with a mass of maimed and mangled people moaning in agony, pleading for help. Rescuers set to work at once to extricate them. Legs, arms and heads could be seen through broken windows or pinned under the wreck. Groans of the helpless sufferers, and moans of the dying, mingled with the frantic cries of mothers seeking husbands and children. Many had been cut by glass and the timbers in the rush to escape, and bloody faces and hands bore ghastly testimony to the great number who were injured. Physicians and citizens of Middletown were soon at the scene to join in rescuing the unfortunates. The terror-stricken excursionists were made comfortable in the houses, the dead persons were properly cared for, and the injured received all necessary attention.

A tramp named James Wilson, of Columbus, Ohio, who, with his two little boys, was having a free ride on the freight train, says he is a railroader by occupation and was on the third car from the front when approaching Middletown: that he plainly saw the red lights swinging, and that the engineer tried to stop the train but could not, and the heavy cars crowded him into the excursion train.

WIND FANNED THE FLAMES.

Twenty-two Buildings Burned in South Haven—Foundry Damaged in Toledo.

At South Haven, Mich., fire broke out in H. Zeedyke's grocery store. Before the flames were under control twenty-two buildings were burned. A strong northwest wind was blowing at the time, and before apparatus was at the scene the fire had full sway, and the people could only look on and see it burn. The tearing down of two small stores finally stopped the flames. Loss, about $40,000; insurance, $10,000. Among the heaviest losers were: Guy Smith & Co., grocers, $6,000; insurance, $4,200; G. B. Pomeroy, agent implements, $3,000; no insurance; C. Comstock, groceries, $4,500; no insurance; C. J. Fletcher, store and house, $4,000; insurance, $500; H. Peckham, $3,500; no insurance; H. Zeedyke, J. McCrimmons, the Public Library, the G. A. R. armory, Masonic Hall, and many other buildings.

Fire broke out in the foundry-room of the Central Chandelier Company's building, Toledo, Ohio, destroying the greater portion of the two upper floors. The loss was chiefly on machinery, and is roughly estimated at $15,000; insurance, $49,000.

Near Vacaville, Cal., fire in the Blue Mountains burned over a large extent of territory. There are a large number of thriving orchards recently planted in Gate's Canyon, besides a number of residences, and, as seen from the town, the entire section is burned over. No call for help has been made, and no advice as to the extent of the damage is obtainable.

Missing Links.

BUTTER is sold by the yard at Cambridge, England.

PHILADELPHIA claims the largest cold storage warehouse in the United States.

IT is said that the five leading hotels at Saratoga take in an aggregate of $2,000,000 a month during the busy season.

BERLIN'S Society for the Homeless last year provided shelter for 100,000 men and 15,000 women. In the eleven years of its existence it has furnished lodgings, food and medical care to 2,200,000 persons.