

Japan is the country where the cremation of corpses is practiced on the largest scale. The custom dates back about 1,200 years.

Cano-building is one of the industries of Kennebunkport, Me., which used to build great ships, and even now launches an occasional schooner.

A runaway horse in Denver the other day finished a flight by landing in the interior of a rapidly moving trolley car, where he rode for nearly a block before the vehicle could be stopped.

There are six surviving governors of New York—Cornwall, elected in 1879; Cleveland, elected in 1882; Hill, first elected in 1885; Morton, elected in 1891; Black, elected in 1896, and Roosevelt, elected in 1898. Three of the six, after having been governor, attained honors in the field of national politics—Cleveland as president, Hill as senator, and Roosevelt as vice president.

Mr. Justice Brown of the Supreme court, once said, in addressing a class of young lawyers, that a verdict of a jury in a criminal case is a decision not upon the question whether the man on trial is guilty or not, but upon the question whether he shall be punished or not. An important distinction. It shows the element of human interest, independent of legal subtleties, which the jury system secures.

An atrocious murder was committed recently at Puy-Saint-Guilmer, near Clermont-Ferrand, France. A young man of twenty-seven, named Jean Baptiste Gometon, after shooting at his father with a rifle, followed him into the street, and in the presence of the neighbors chopped off his head with a hatchet. Jealousy was the cause of the crime, as both father and son were in love with the same woman.

An order has been given for the erection of a monument to Jennie Wade in the field of Gettysburg. Jennie Wade was a young Iowa woman who was visiting at the home of her sister in Gettysburg when the battle began. Her fiancé was in the Union army, and was killed. She and her sister were in a large brick house almost within the Union lines. On the morning of the third day word came to the house that many of the soldiers were suffering for want of food, and the women set about making biscuits and bread for the soldiers. Jennie was engaged in this task when a musket ball went through the kitchen, killing the young woman.

At the beginning of the new season year the people here have been busy. A large factory will be located in New York, Broome, Seneca and Boston went out of operation, and the mill wagon has taken their place. This looks like a step backward. It is probably only temporary. Congress seems to have refused to continue the appropriation solely on account of its unwillingness to foster a private monopoly. Doubtless a pneumatic tube service built and owned by the government will yet be established and maintained in all large cities, although several ingenious rival contrivances for doing the same work deserve consideration before a final decision is made.

The Crandall toy works of Pennsylvania have bought a large tract of lumber and mineral land in North Georgia, a short distance from Chattanooga. The company is having a railroad line built through the center of this tract. In the center of the tract the company will erect a town of its own. A large factory will be built at this point, and houses for the workmen. The town will be built and operated after the manner of Pullman, Ill. Surveyors are at work surveying branch lines of railroad through the tract. Coal mines will be opened and fuel and raw material will be supplied in abundance to operate one of the greatest toy concerns in America.

A French writer, Henri Couplin, says that the fact that, notwithstanding their simplicity, the songs of the birds cannot be imitated with musical instruments arises from the impossibility of reproducing their peculiar timbre. The notes of birds, while corresponding with our musical scale, also include vibrations occupying the intervals between our notes. The duration of birds' songs is usually very short, two or three seconds for thrushes and channches, four or five seconds for blackcaps, four or two to five minutes for the lark. Monsieur Couplin remarks that while one in every ten species of European birds is tuneful, the proportion diminishes to only one in a thousand among the gorgeously clad birds of the tropics.

Mary Clark, who had spent most of her 76 years in one of the cotton mills of Manchester, N. H., died last week as the result of the extreme heat. Miss Clark was supposed to have had a little money laid by, but a superficial search brought to light only four \$5 bills. In looking about the room a policeman picked up a pair of corsets. They were suspiciously heavy, and he ripped them open and found \$990. Miss Clark had worn the corset in the mill every day, being afraid to trust her savings to the banks.

The house which former President Cleveland and family are to occupy in Tylringham, Mass., this autumn is a farmhouse, built in 1767. Although it has been remodelled in recent years to suit the convenience of summer guests, it retains much of its quaint, old-fashioned character. The interior is furnished in a pleasantly simple and elegant style. The house is situated on a hillside, and the view from the porch is a beautiful one.

THE NEWS IN IOWA

Col. J. K. P. Thompson of Rock Rapids has withdrawn from the race for the republican nomination for lieutenant governor.

Every joint in Perry has been closed as a result of a letter written to Governor Shaw by a mother of that city. The governor referred the letter to Perry officials and the joints were locked up.

The plant of the Iowa Manufacturing company of Oskaloosa, of which Frank Baker is manager and principal owner, was completely destroyed by fire. As there had been no fire in the building since three days previous, the origin is supposed to be incendiary. The loss will reach \$20,000, partially covered by insurance. Thirty men are employed in the works, and they will be out of employment temporarily. The building was new, having been occupied for the first time in March.

Geo. M. Titus, author of the famous and ill-fated biennial amendment, was defeated at Muscatine for renomination for state senator from the district composed of Muscatine and Louisa counties. F. M. Molesberry of Columbus Junction, Louisa county, was chosen by a vote of 19 to 13. The outcome was problematical to the end, and Titus was defeated by the defeat of the right of the Muscatine county delegates. A contest over the method of voting resulted in the defeat of the Titus forces, the Molesberry party carrying the point to a vote by the individual written ballot. Titus' hope was in a vote by delegations, but the undercurrent against him would be forced to display itself openly.

A serious and what may prove fatal shoot affray occurred at Washington shooting affray occurred at Washington a few days ago. Henry Humm, an old soldier about 60 years of age, shot through the right lung with a revolver. The two men on the sand road about one-half mile from each other, seven miles southwest of the city. The dispute arose over a calf belonging to Buntensch, which had strayed out of its pasture and wandered into the field. Sheriff John Terry and deputy Sheriff W. Black started on the trail of the victim's would-be murderer, but up to the last report no trace of the man could be found and his whereabouts are unknown. Buntensch is a wealthy and retired German farmer about 40 years of age.

Twelve miles from Sioux City well diggers struck a six-inch vein of black petroleum. This is in the midst of the region where six months ago an Ohio company leased every acre possible, believing the region to be the outlet for the oil of the world. An expert is expected from Ohio soon. Oil comes to the surface in the region where the discovery was made to such an extent that drinking water is scarce and ponds have glistened with crude oil. Two years ago boys discovered a small amount of petroleum, and this was pronounced a strike. A strike was made in a well ninety feet deep. At that depth a stratum of blackjack was encountered, and the diggers, expecting water in it, stopped work and fitted up a pump. Six feet of water and six inches of thick black oil now gush from the well.

The board of control has just awarded contracts for canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned corn and canned tomatoes for the year beginning October 1 for the different state institutions. The awards were as follows: Apples—W. W. Sprague, at Anamosa, Clarinda, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Eldora, Glenwood, Marshalltown and Mt. Pleasant—Sprague, Warner & Co., Chicago. For Mitchellville—Frank MacVeagh & Co., Chicago. Canned vegetables—For Mitchellville and Marshalltown, Marshalltown, Mt. Pleasant, and Independence—Sprague, Warner & Co., Chicago. For Davenport, Eldora, Marshalltown and Mt. Pleasant—Reid, Murdoch & Co., Chicago. Canned tomatoes for institutions at Anamosa, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Ft. Madison, Mitchellville and Mt. Pleasant—Sprague, Warner & Co., Chicago.

Shelton L. Bowen, of Bowen & Rueger, elevator men of Des Moines, has just returned from a trip over the state for the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the corn crop. He was as far north as the state line and as far west as Sibley and Hartley, deploring the condition of the crop and making a personal inspection of the fields in the several portions of the state visited by him. To a reporter Mr. Bowen said: "I would not say that Iowa will not have 50 or 60 per cent of a normal crop, because I do not think it is a good way to estimate the probable yield. The average varies so from year to year that percentages based on the normal yield are apt to be misleading and not to convey an idea of the real condition of the crop. I am prepared to say, though, that after a careful inspection of the corn crop in the several portions of the state, Iowa, even if we have an abundance of rain from now on and the frosts come late, will not have over half a crop. What I mean by that is that, acre for acre, the fields of the state will not produce as much corn as would have been expected if the season had been normal. Last year we had 307,000,000 bushels, or thereabouts, and I feel safe in saying that we will be extremely fortunate if we get a yield of 150,000,000 bushels this season."

William H. Dishrow, a prominent citizen of Cass county, who lived four miles northeast of Atlantic, was kicked by a vicious horse at the home of James Lepper, near there, and was so seriously injured that he died as a result of his injury in a short time.

Oliver Mitchell, a prominent young man of Rockford, was shot in the back during a sham battle and died soon after. The accident occurred during a Sons of Veterans' celebration at Rockford, the young man being shot by a young man who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Mitchell, old residents of Floyd county.

At the preliminary hearing of Ben McKnight, charged with murder in the first degree in the killing of his wife at Sioux City, June 14, the defendant was held to the grand jury by Justice Perri. The charge of murder in the second degree, fixing his bond at \$10,000, which he failed to give. The defense tried to secure an acquittal on the ground that there was no evidence against McKnight in view of the fact that his statements in view of witnesses who testified were made in view of expected death, hence were not admissible in evidence. There were no eye-witnesses to the act of the alleged beating from the effects of which the woman died.

DOWAGER EMPRESS DEAD

Mother of Emperor William of Germany Passes Away. Cronberg, Aug. 6.—Dowager Empress Frederick died yesterday at 6:15 p. m. The death of the dowager empress was somewhat sudden. At 4 o'clock her physicians reported no change in her condition. Emperor William and her majesty's other children were in the sick room most of the day.

Hamburg, Aug. 6.—A premature statement that the dowager empress was dead was given out officially at Hamburg castle shortly after noon. Copies were posted in half the shop windows of the town. The blinds were drawn in the windows of many of the residences and all flags were half-masted. A little later the principal street of Hamburg was filled with shoppers buying black. Then came the news that the empress was dead. There seems little doubt that the message came from Friedrichshof, although who sent it no one seems to know. Count Marshallaupt, who gave out the accurate announcement, has been summoned to Cronberg. The fact news was telegraphed widely, and many German cities displayed signs of mourning. When the official contradiction was sent, this was scarcely believed. Some of the mourning emblems in Cronberg were allowed to remain. These were greatly multiplied when the flag on Friedrichshof fluttered down to half mast. One by one the little shrines brought out flag poles bearing German colors at half mast, with crepe above and below. Even the cottages were decked with a scrap of black.

Soon after nightfall Emperor William and Empress Frederick, with the crown prince and princess, drove to Cronberg. Whether the body will lie in state has not yet been determined. The details of its removal to be interred by the side of the remains of Emperor Frederick will be discussed in many reports from the city of Cronberg. The dowager empress knew her end was near. She had said farewell to most of her servants. It is understood that she has arranged for the future of nearly every one of them. She had expressed a desire that not much should be known by the public concerning her illness, and she had been saddened by the condition of her sufferings. There was much reluctance in summoning King Edward, as it was not desired that he should have a long wait. Tonight the children of the deceased placed floral tributes around the body, which wears a singularly peaceful expression, almost childlike, having shrunk from its normal size. In the course of the evening several telegrams of condolence arrived from European sovereigns addressed to Emperor William.

The now famous \$10,000 law suit between Charles Yates and the heirs of the Wash Hardin estate has been brought to a sudden termination at Centerville by arbitration. Mr. Yates married the ward of Mr. Hardin some ten years ago and had been with and taken care of the Hardin family, which consisted of Mr. Hardin and his aged wife, ever since. Mr. Hardin forgot him in his will and he brought suit for taking care of the aged couple. He was awarded a verdict of \$8,000 and the heirs gave notice of appeal, but finally agreed to a settlement at \$5,000, and the defendants to pay the costs, which will make the total almost another thousand.

Iowa cattle feeders are profiting by the drought in Kansas and northern Missouri and in some parts of Nebraska. In these districts the almost total destruction of the corn crop and the burning up of range and enclosed pasturage has caused the owners of stock to rush their holdings to the market and in the past few days stockmen who have no feed or prospect of feed with which to carry their stock through the winter are loading thousands upon thousands of all kinds of cattle on the stock markets at Kansas City, St. Joseph, St. Louis and South Omaha. The shipments are made without reference to whether cattle are in a marketable condition or not. The result is that of yearlings, stock cattle and cattle that have been on grass and are now in fair condition for corn feed to fit them for market have been offered in the past few days, with the result that there has been a general slump in prices and an over-supply on the markets. Iowa stockmen who have assurances of good fall pasturage and of about 80 per cent of a corn crop, to say nothing of a big supply of fodder, have been quick to take advantage of an opportunity to buy cheap stock and feed for their winter needs.

No. 1010—Mrs. Rosenthal, second hand clothing store, occupied by Rosenthal, his wife and five children. No. 1012—William Jones, colored, restaurant occupied by Jones and about fifteen boarders. No. 1013—George McClemmy's grocery, occupied by McClemmy, clerk and servant girl. No. 1016—Patrick Quigley's grocery store, occupied by Quigley, wife, three children and his uncle. No. 1018—Albert Mountain's grocery and meat store, occupied by Mountain, mother, his wife and three children. The explosion occurred about 9:30 o'clock. What exploded and how it happened is not known at this time, but it is believed to have been a barrel of gasoline in one of the grocery stores. With the explosion of No. 1009, the explosion of No. 1010, were blown outward into the street, while the floors and roofs were blown upward and fell straight to the ground. Almost every building in a radius of two blocks about the scene shattered and windows panes shattered. Every building on the opposite side of Locust street was more or less wrecked, but none of them fell.

PEACH CROP IS IN PERIL. The Much Feared Yellow Appears in the Fruit Belt of Michigan. St. Joseph, Mich., Aug. 6.—Owing to the hot weather that prevailed in this vicinity during the month of July the much-feared yellows have appeared in orchard after orchard of the La Grange peach district, a few miles east of Benton Harbor. The yellows was imported into this section of the fruit belt through affected nursery stock. Where commissioners have been appointed and made semi-annual inspections of orchards they often found affected trees and ordered them removed, but many cases the inspectors' orders were not observed by the fruit grower and the trees remained in the ground until entire orchards in nearby districts had been subjected to the disease.

General's New Honors. Columbus, O., Aug. 3.—Crescens, champion of the trotting turf, added more laurels to his fame yesterday by trotting a mile in 2:02 1/4, reducing by half a second his week-old record of 2:03 1/4, made at Cleveland last Friday. The first half was trotted in :59 1/2, the first time that the distance has been covered in less than one minute by a trotter. The time by quarters was :29 1/2, :59 1/2, 1:30 1/4 and 2:02 1/4. Some of our anticipations are never in any possible position to be realized. When Vesuvius is at her best as a sputer, she performs wonders. Her longest and greatest eruption lasted from July, 1895, to September, 1899, and one day a rock weighing thirty tons was hurled to a height of 1,300 feet. "Don't think," said the dentist, "that brushing is all your teeth need. Besides this, you should draw a bit of very fine cotton or dental silk between them nightly. It is impossible, with a brush, to be certain that every particle of food is removed from between them, and it is necessary that this should be done if you want to keep them in good order and prevent them from decaying."

CITY GROWS UP IN ONE NIGHT.

Ten Thousand People Located at Lawton With Forty Hours' Notice. Fort Sil, O. T., Aug. 3.—A town of 10,000 people to be known as Lawton, has grown up just outside the fort limits within a night.

Following the close of the land lottery at El Reno, thousands of homeseekers who drew blanks started for the three points picked out by the federal government for town sites in the new country, namely, Andarko, Hobart and Lawton. A majority of the people favored Lawton, which is twenty-five miles inland, and thousands are now camped in and about the proposed town site awaiting the sale of lots on August 6. Already Lawton has forty temporary business houses, including a grocery firm and a newspaper, and that such affairs will be in full swing. Every form of gambling known on the frontier is being run wide open. A thousand Comanche Indians have pitched their tents nearby.

FURTHER FAVORS DENIED

Chinese Christians Are to Be Impartially Treated. Washington, Aug. 5.—The state department has received a copy of a remarkable proclamation issued by Governor Yuan of Shan Tung on June 7, defining the relations that must exist between the magistrates and the Christian natives. The proclamation deals with the subject in language so merged as to make it evident that the Chinese magistrates will not allow the missionaries to exercise the same influence as heretofore in local affairs or in any other than religious matters in the future.

Governor Yuan states he has received many reports from Chinese officials that "unworthy members of the church were practicing their religion simply for the protection which it afforded them, and were lightly setting aside the law of the land and seeking occasions for quarrel and such acts were daily increasing in numbers." In reply to appeals to have the foreign consuls and missionaries devise a method for checking the trouble, Governor Yuan demands to know why his sub-officials have not obeyed his clear distinction between those who administer exact justice without regard to whether offenders are Christians or not. He points out that "the missionaries are merely preachers of religion. They have not authority whatever to interfere in the affairs of the Chinese people, nor any power to exercise official functions, as everybody ought to know." Therefore, the governor enjoins his magistrates to make no distinction between church and people, to let no case presume to exercise his authority for controlling the people. Says he: "The most important matter is that justice should be done to both sides. It makes no difference whether the people annoy the Christians or the Christians annoy the people; let there be clear distinction made between the crooked and the straight and it will then be impossible that any occasion for interference should arise." He concludes that should people insult the Christians because they practice their religion, the magistrates must rigorously suppress the disturbance, while on the other hand should a member of the church drag in his religion, when his suit is one that has nothing to do with church matters and the missionary force himself into the case should be treated as a trouble-maker and reproved, as the facts of the case may justify, and deal with the case according to right and reason.

CASUALTIES IN AN EXPLOSION.

A Dozen Dead and More Than Two Score Injured. Philadelphia, Aug. 6.—A terrific explosion in a block of six buildings on Locust street about tenth last night completely wrecked five structures and caused the death of from ten to twenty or more persons. Over two scores of others were more or less seriously injured. Some of these taken to the hospital will die. It is estimated that at least thirty-five persons were killed in the buildings when the explosion occurred and the exact number of dead will probably not be known for twenty-four hours. The buildings were occupied as follows: No. 1009—Houseman billiard rooms. No. 1010—Mrs. Rosenthal, second hand clothing store, occupied by Rosenthal, his wife and five children. No. 1012—William Jones, colored, restaurant occupied by Jones and about fifteen boarders. No. 1013—George McClemmy's grocery, occupied by McClemmy, clerk and servant girl. No. 1016—Patrick Quigley's grocery store, occupied by Quigley, wife, three children and his uncle. No. 1018—Albert Mountain's grocery and meat store, occupied by Mountain, mother, his wife and three children. The explosion occurred about 9:30 o'clock. What exploded and how it happened is not known at this time, but it is believed to have been a barrel of gasoline in one of the grocery stores. With the explosion of No. 1009, the explosion of No. 1010, were blown outward into the street, while the floors and roofs were blown upward and fell straight to the ground. Almost every building in a radius of two blocks about the scene shattered and windows panes shattered. Every building on the opposite side of Locust street was more or less wrecked, but none of them fell.

STRIKE NEGOTIATIONS OFF.

A Call For a General Strike Will Be Issued Shortly. Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 6.—President Shafter arrived at the Amalgamated association headquarters yesterday and called the newspaper men to his presence. When asked if a settlement could be reached in New York and they waived their rights at the Painter, Lindsay and McCutcheon and the Wellsville plants, he said: "The Amalgamated association could have settled in New York if they had given up these mills, but we could not do that. Just as long as we can fight we are going to fight for them. They are as much of us now as any of the other lodges. Their fight is ours and our fight is theirs."

"When will you issue the call for a general strike was the next question to the president, and his answer was: 'Within a week.'" "Can you say how many men will be affected?" "I don't know," said he, "how many men the strike order will affect." "Will the board be called for any more conferences?" "No, the board has been dismissed and will not be called unless the other side wants peace. They have declared war."

AT THE STATE CAPITAL

Des Moines, August 6, 1901. Major McKenzie of the firm of McKenzie & Ryan has arranged with Judge Holmes for a test suit to determine the right of Iowa veterinary surgeons who are now said to be practicing without having registered and who failed to avail themselves of the provisions made in the state veterinary law which went into effect January 1, 1901. The point in controversy is of which the state term the rights of Iowa veterinary surgeons who are now said to be practicing without having registered and who failed to avail themselves of the provisions made in the state veterinary law which went into effect January 1, 1901. The point in controversy is of which the state term the rights of Iowa veterinary surgeons who are now said to be practicing without having registered and who failed to avail themselves of the provisions made in the state veterinary law which went into effect January 1, 1901. 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