

The cotton caterpillar is reported in Montgomery county, east of Winona, in this State.

The pending duel between W. B. Walker, of the Aberdeen Weekly, and S. A. Dalton, of the Aberdeen Examiner, has been amicably settled through the efforts of mutual friends.

The army officers are well pleased at the appointment by the Interior Department of Gen. Frank Armstrong as inspector of Indian agencies. He is eminently qualified for the intricate duties of the office.

The naval department of the United States seems to have been run mainly for the benefit of John Roach since 1862. He has been paid over \$10,000,000 since that time for constructing inefficient and nearly worthless vessels.

GRANT'S noble letter, in which he expressed so much gratification at the reconciliation of the North and South, will live long after the bloody-shirt howlers are forgotten. The slandered South will regard it as a heritage from the great Northern soldier.

The cholera scourge in Spain continues to spread with unabated virulence. Thousands have gone down before the march of the dread disease, and it has not reached its climax. Every precaution should be taken to prevent the introduction of the disease into this country.

SENATOR JOHN SHERMAN is like Banquo's ghost, in at least one quality, in his effort to get the Presidency—he will not down at the bidding of even his own party. He is now making his fourth unsuccessful effort to get the Republican nomination. He never had any show, and has less now, even should he get the nomination.

The condition of the road leading to the National Cemetery is very bad, and likely to grow worse, unless something is done to improve it. The Board of Supervisors, we understand, think it is no part of their duty to repair this road, which is a singular position to take, as nearly the whole travel from the section of the county north would pass over it. The expenditure of two hundred dollars, it is estimated, will repair the road and render it passable.

YESTERDAY the Louisiana, New Orleans & Texas railroad lost the services of two of its prominent officials—Mr. Charles E. Armstrong, who has filled the responsible position of Auditor, and Mr. Thomas McGhee, who has had charge of the Land Department of the road. The loss of the railroad in losing Mr. Armstrong's services is Vicksburg's gain, as he comes here to engage in business; Mr. McGhee goes to New York to accept the Presidency of an Electric Light Company.

The Aberdeen Examiner, in noticing the nomination of Gen. J. H. Sharp for the Lower House of the Legislature by the Lowndes county Democracy, suggests the election of this distinguished soldier to the Speakership, the following extract being from the article:

"When the Legislature deliberates upon its choice of Speaker of the House it would be the proper thing for Monroe to second his name for that office. His talents, firmness, address and courtesy would not only endow that body with an efficient presiding officer, but a shining ornament that would adorn the State. As such, we present him with the hope and belief that Mississippi will appreciate his merit and place him in this position to which he is so aptly suited."

MILLER, of the Tupelo Journal, is a hard hitter and sometimes rough in handling a controversy, but the following, from the Journal of July 31st, is gentle and suggestive:

Congressman Catchings has incurred the displeasure of the Vicksburg Post and twelve members of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Vicksburg, by endorsing the application of Mr. Wm. Groome for postmaster of that city. If there was any doubt of Mr. Groome's appointment being the manifestation of said displeasure, there ought not to be any now. The old saying that "young folks should be seen and not heard," applies to politics as well as society.

Burned to the Waters Edge. PEMBROKE, Ont., Aug. 1.—The steamer C. O. Kelly, of the upper Ottawa Towing Company, was burned to the waters edge at the lower town wharf this morning. Four of the crew lost their lives and two others were very seriously burned. Those burned to death were Lewis Richard, Sidney Smith, Jno. Gibson and Angele Hirl. The steamer was valued at \$20,000.

Decision Rendered. NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—Judge Cullen, to-day in the supreme court, rendered decision in the case of the Gypsies who were brought here on a steamer of the Bordeaux line, which they will be compelled to return to France.

THE NEW YORK GOVERNORS

Prospects and Possibilities on the Republican Side of the Fence. Special to the World.

ALBANY, July 28.—Senator Warner Miller having returned from his Western trip, is expected to enliven Republican politics in this State. Before he went away he set the ball in motion by getting himself interviewed, and setting forth his "views"—particularly as to why there should be enlarged representation in the Republican State Convention. The party machinery is not now under his control. He can hope for hardly friendly recognition from the present organization. The only hope for him was in increased representation. It offered him a chance to secure a more friendly State Committee, as the new delegates, amounting to more than half the next convention, would come there through his efforts. All this was preliminary in Miller's plan to his re-election to the United States Senate. The State Senators chosen this year will vote on his successor, and it is becoming evident that unless he can do something he will be shelved, even should his party retain control of the Legislature.

It did not take long for other candidates to discover the bearing of Miller's plans, and therefore his proposition for an enlarged convention is doomed to failure, even if the State Committee had any power to act upon it.

The fight for the United States Senatorship seems to be the only lively contest going on in the Republican ranks. They are measurably certain of controlling the Legislature, owing to unfair apportionment, but they see no fair chance of electing a Governor unless the Democrats nominate a weak candidate; hence the leaders are all maturing plans for securing the nomination of legislative tools. Miller has thus brought out George B. Sloan as a candidate for the State Senate in the Oswego District and Titus Sheard in the Herkimer District and is working in other directions. Sloan deserted his associates at a critical moment in the Saratoga Convention of 1879 and since that time has been distrusted in politics. Last year he tried to deceive the Arthur and Edmunds men at the Utica Convention by working for Blaine under the guise of being for Edmunds. He comes out from his retirement now at the request of Miller, but he stands a poor chance of securing the nomination and even less of an election, were he nominated. As to Sheard, his record as a Miller tool in the Legislature of 1884 is too recent to require repetition.

UP IN ST. LAWRENCE.

In the St. Lawrence district there is a row because of this senatorial ambition. In an unlucky moment the Republican convention of 1881, nominated Leslie W. Russell, of St. Lawrence for attorney-general. He found the office a good one and he does not appear to have lost anything by holding it. He had his cousin appointed receiver for one life insurance company and provided similar places for friends and St. Lawrence county politicians. As a result Attorney-General Russell was able to find work to do as counsel for receivers when he went out of office. Since then he has had what St. Lawrence county men call the "big head," and is of the impression that he can be elected Governor or United States Senator. Speaker Erwin is one of Russell's machines associates—Erwin's unsavory reputation in Albany will winter who gathered the Tontine strike and other similar ventures. Gen. Curtis, of St. Lawrence, and Senator Gilbert, of that senatorial district, refuse to be parties to any schemes to further the Russell-Erwin combination. So Curtis and Gilbert are marked for destruction. One Gleason, who voted for Tweed's tax levy, has been trotted out against Curtis and the combination has fixed up matters so as to control the senatorial convention and defeat Gilbert for re-nomination. The prospect now is that an Independent Republican candidate will be run against Gleason for the assembly in the first district. Other things of political interest may happen in that section of the State, all because Russell and Erwin want votes in the legislature to trade for the United States Senator and other matters.

THE DAVENPORT BOOM.

Tom Platt, ex-Gov. Cornell, Silas B. Dutcher and Sew Payn have fixed up a combination which has for its object the nomination of Ira Davenport for Governor and the election of Cornell for United States Senator. One particular object this clique has in view is the control of the health and quarantine officers in New York City. The health officer is the recipient of about \$60,000 a year in fees. Before Dr. Smith, the present Health Officer, was appointed by Gov. Cornell in 1880, he was a country doctor in Allegany county, said to be in receipt of an income of about \$2,500 a year. The story is now that the combination knows just how these fees are divided and they want a Governor who will keep health officer Smith in his snug berth. He swore before a Senate committee that he contributed \$9,000 to the Republican campaign fund in one year. No wonder that the Republican Legislature has refused to pass a law making his office a salaried one—such a change was effected for the Register and County clerk of New York, both of which positions are held by Democrats and likely to be held by Democrats for years to come.

Tom Platt gets \$2,500 a year as a quarantine officer, a sinecure which he wants to hold on to.

OTHER REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

Other Republican candidates for Governor, as now mentioned, are Judge Noah Davis, Senator Everts, Levi P. Morton, J. W. Drexel, and Gen. Joseph

B. Carr. No doubt Carr is now in the lead, but there are two reasons which seem to insure his defeat in a Republican Convention. Two years ago, taking advantage of the temperance record of Judge Maynard, his Democratic opponent, Carr assiduously cultivated the liquor dealers and ran as their candidate. On that account he is now specially objectionable to the Republicans, who are already threatened with destruction because they refused to carry out their pledge made to the temperance men at the Richfield Springs Convention, when a plank was inserted in favor of prohibition. Carr is a Catholic, and the Republicans of the rural districts, who are fond of dragging the sacredness of religion into the dirty mire of politics, will not support Carr. Leagues have been formed all over the State in the interest of those who opposed the Freedom of Worship bill. Carr would lose all those votes unless he pledged himself to veto the measure if it should pass. If he made such a pledge it would be equally fatal on the other side of the question.

THE DREXEL STILL HUNT.

Albany is the headquarters of a little coterie of politicians engaged in a quiet attempt to secure the Republican nomination for Governor for Mr. Drexel. They are holding him back as much as they can because they think that the Democrats will hold their convention first, and besides it gives Mr. Drexel's boomers a longer time for their "still hunt." This Drexel business has been in contemplation since the Evening Journal was purchased a little over a year ago by the aid of the Wall street banker's money. Several important moves have been made by this coterie within the past few months. First there was the editorial excursion to New Orleans during the Exposition, composed of a number of editors of influential interior papers, as well as a few prominent politicians of means. The expense was paid by the Drexel coterie. Next came the removal of Gen. Grant to the Drexel cottage at Mount McGregor. Then followed the purchase of the Albany Express (as is intimated) by the Journal company, and a transfer of a part of the staff of the Journal to that of the Express. The latter paper has been the Stalwart organ, and has had the State patronage. Then there was the effort to have William J. Arkell, one of the proprietors of the Journal, appointed receiver of the West Shore railroad. His appointment might have resulted in a restoration of rates on the New York Central, Lackawanna and West shore roads, the pool might have been perfected to the satisfaction of the two roads having the greatest influence and everybody knows which roads desire the restoration. With rates once restored the person aiding in this manner would have commanded much influence with the other companies as well as his own. Of course the Vanderbilt deal has put an end to all this.

Morton is another money-bags candidate to whom the Republicans do not seem to warm overmuch. They are afraid of Wall street candidates. Everts has just been elected to a high office and davis is too much of a temperance man and has not enough "hold" on the politicians to hope for success. Altogether the Republicans are having a hard time to find a candidate for Governor. Senator McCarthy, of Syracuse, is working hard for the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor, but "the boys" are said to be fooling him. His record in Albany would bury him out of sight on election day. Assemblyman Hubbell, of Rochester, and ex-Comptroller Wadsworth are talked of for Comptroller. Judge Nutting, of Oswego, seems to be the leading candidate for Attorney-General.

There is apparently a difference of opinion among the Republican bosses as to the time for holding the State Convention. Many of them want it held after the Democratic ticket has been placed in the field.

An Exotic.

San Francisco Chronicle.

A bloated, hideous Chinese leper sat under a bush yesterday afternoon in the grounds of the Hall of Records of Oakland. He was the centre of a group of wondering small boys and curious spectators. A reporter went up and asked: "What is the matter, John?" He answered in a single word: "Leprosy." It seems that he had been brought in that morning from San Leandro and turned over to the Board of Supervisors, then in session. That body did not know what to do with him and he had been deposited on the grass near the receiving hospital pending negotiations. Health Officer Buck refused to assume control of him for the city of Oakland, but offered to send him to San Francisco to ascertain on what terms the Health Officer there would take charge of him. If at all. Subsequently Dr. Buck consented to place him in the Oakland pest-house, the charges to be borne by the Supervisors until his ultimate disposal is determined. Dr. Buck pronounces it an undoubted case of leprosy of an advanced stage.

Asked to be Excused.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Vice Admiral Rowan, being compelled by ill health to ask to be excused from serving as a pall-bearer at Gen. Grant's funeral. The president has designated Rear Admiral John S. Warden to act in his place.

The Building Grant was Born in Sold.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 1.—It is reported that Michael Hirsch, owner of the building at Point Pleasant, in which Gen. Grant was born, sold it for \$6,000 cash. If true, the building, which is of stone, will be removed to one of the New York parks.

JACK'S BILL OF FARE.

DELICACIES AND SUBSTANTIALS OF THE FORECASTLE TABLE.

The Mysteries of Scouse in All Its Varieties—See Doughnuts Fried in Pure Whale Blubber—Ship Bill of Fare.

[New York Sun.]

Two broad-shouldered, swarthy-faced men, with brown beards edged with yellow, stopped before a South street junk store the other day and looked over the odds and ends displayed. When one of them saw a substantial iron spoon among other stuff, he took out some money and paid 5 cents for the spoon. "What did you buy that spoon for, Jack?" said a young man who recognized the two men as sailors.

"Well, sonny, I don't mind givin' you a bit of information. That 'ere spoon is to hist in a scouse. Generally I uses my knife, but my mate here says a spoon is more perlit, and enables a feller to get to windward of the rest of the mess when they hogs it."

"Scouse?" said the young man inquiringly. "Scouse? What's scouse?" "Scouse," said the gray-haired junkman, who had been a sailor for many years in his youth, "is about the most common article of food aboard ship. It is made of biscuit, or what the soldiers call hard tack. The biscuit is broken up and soaked in water. Then whatever odds and ends of meat may have been left over from the preceding meal in the cabin and perhaps an additional amount equal to a pound of meat for ten pounds of scouse, is mixed in. The whole is baked and sent to the men in the forecastle at meal time in the dish it was cooked in. The men scoop it out into little tin pans and eat it with their knives. Some times potatoes take the place of biscuit, and that makes lobscouse. Sometimes beans and biscuit are mixed in about equal parts, and then it is called bean scouse. You wouldn't fancy eating beside a dozen men like those two just now, but after you had got your sea appetite you would call scouse a good dish, especially if two or three onions had been cut in."

"What else do the sailors have to eat?" "Dandyfunk is a common dish. You would call it molasses scouse, maybe, for it is a mixture of powdered biscuit and molasses, baked in a pan. It is not an appetizing dish, but it is a nourishing feed, and that is the main thing at sea. With the solid grub, the men get what is called coffee for breakfast and dinner, and tea for supper. I have never been able to learn just what those drinks were made of, but they are hot and bitter, and serve to warm the men in cold weather, and quell the cravings of appetite. Vinegar is served out also, and when the meat is bad it helps the men to eat it. The vinegar neutralizes the taste of salted meat and beef and the taint of pork. I have seen beef served with the crystals of saltpetre adhering to it. Vinegar is powerless in such cases."

"Don't the men have any dessert?" "Yes, on Sunday. Every one has heard of duff. It is made of flour rolled in a canvas bag. Extraneous cooks put in a little lard and salt. On rare occasions a handful or two of raisins will be added. This is served with molasses. Pumpkin funny is a sea luxury, and it is made of dried pumpkins stewed up into sauce and sweetened with molasses. Ships vary as much as boarding-houses in the matter of grub, but the most of them vary only in the cheapness of the stuff and in its lack of good qualities. I shipped on a bark out of New Bedford once for a cruise in the Pacific. We had a green hand for cook, but after we'd trained him a bit he did pretty well. He was an inventor. He made mince pies for all hands one Sunday after we'd been three months at sea. You will wonder where he got his fresh beef. He didn't have any; he freshened the salt beef, until it was about tasteless. He didn't have any cider, but he had some grog from the cabin, and what with a plenty of chopped raisins and dried apples, it made that good a pie that he could have got the boatsteward to split kindling for him afterward by just saying the word. You see it was getting toward Thanksgiving, when a Yankee sailor bankers for mince pie."

"Did you ever eat any of the whale meat?" "Yes, but sailors aren't partial to it. The rule is to serve out a barrel of four every time a whale is killed. The flour is mixed with molasses into doughnuts, which are dropped into the try kettles filled with boiling blubber."

"In the fish oil?"

"No, never made a bigger mistake in your life than when you imagined it is offensive fish oil. The fresh blubber is as sweet to the smell and taste as any lard you ever saw. Old Yankee skipper who eat both kinds say that doughnuts every day in the year."

"How do they feed you on a fishing smack?" "The grub's all right. We have plenty of meat, bread, vegetables and coffee and tea. Sea pie is a good enough dish for me. It is made of beef and pork hashed up and boiled with a lot of hashed vegetables, and a little powdered biscuit for thickening. When it's about done the cook makes a crust of flour and lard and baking powder and puts it in a pan and pours the stew into it, and covers the whole over with another crust; and when it's baked he sends it into the cabin, and the watch below turns to and scuffs it quick."

The following is the bill of the food consumed on one mackerel schooner between June 20 and Nov. 16: Veal, 10 pounds; pork, 170 pounds; beef, 143 pounds; flour, 203 pounds; meal, 4 pecks; bread (hard tack), 445 pounds; potatoes, 64 bushels; molasses, 50 gallons; rice, 88 pounds; beans, 3 bushels; vinegar, 2 gallons; mustard, 1 can; salsaparilla, 1 pound; peppercorns, 1 bottle; coffee, 35 pounds; chocolate, 1 pound; lard, 84 pounds; butter, 3 pounds.

The quantity and quality of a sailor's food are regulated by law. When the law is obeyed sailors live well, but not so well as mechanics of corresponding skill and intelligence on shore. Here is Jack's bill of fare for one week, as laid down in the act of congress approved June 7, 1872: Sunday, 1 pound of bread, 1/2 of beef, 1/2 ounce of tea, 1/2 ounce of coffee, 2 ounces of sugar, and 3 quarts of water. The allowance of bread, tea, coffee, sugar and water is the same for every day. Monday, 1/2 pounds of pork, 1/2 pound of flour, 1 pint peas. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday he must have the same allowance that he had on Sunday; Wednesday and Friday, the same that he had on Monday. Molasses may be substituted for sugar, and it is almost always preferred. It's cheaper. They are also entitled to rice and barley, but as the quantity is not mentioned, it is frequently infinitesimal.

To Recover Lost Property.

[New York Sun.]

"How is it that Tiffany & Co. so often advertise rewards for the return of stolen property?" was asked of a member of the firm.

"We do it for the convenience of our customers," he replied. "They don't want to have all kinds of people running to their houses. They bring a description of the lost or stolen property to us and authorize us to pay a certain reward. It is impossible to deceive us by the substitution of paste for real diamonds, and we cannot be deceived into taking a fraudulent article of any kind. When the lost article is brought in we examine it to find if it is all right, and if so, we pay the reward without asking a question. It is possible that thieves know this, and have little fear of detection in dealing with us, although we never advertise 'no questions asked.' We have offered rewards of from \$3 to \$1,000, and in nearly every instance we have recovered the property. The average reward is one-quarter of the intrinsic value of the property. That is as much as the thief or finder could hope to sell it for, and by bringing it to us he avoids the danger of getting into trouble. If less is offered, or if the loser waits too long, there is very little chance of recovering lost property. The finder may watch for a reward for three days, but after that he considers it 'findings-keepings.' If a thief, he pawns it or melts it up."

Plithiness of Imported Rags.

[Washington Cor. Cleveland Leader.]

Great quantities of rags are shipped to the United States from all parts of the world. They are used for making paper, and are sent from the seaboard to the various paper mills throughout the country. The annual importation amounts to about 500,000 bales. Each bale contains from 400 to 1,200 pounds of rags. They are tightly pressed together, and come into this country securely bound for shipping. You can have no idea of the sources from which these rags are obtained. A large amount of them come from Japan, and thousands of bales from Calcutta.

The Calcutta rags are the worst. They are made up in a large part from the wrappings of dead bodies. The bodies of the dead are thrown into the river, and when these rags float ashore, or can be otherwise gotten, they are shipped here for the paper trade. Sometimes impurities of different kinds creep into the bales. In one bale not long time ago a dead baby was found, and in other bales other foul matter has been discovered. The Egyptian rags are largely tainted with camel's manure; and those gathered from the gutters and streets of Shanghai are foul beyond description. A great amount of rags comes from Japan to us. I think there are more than 40,000 bales now on the way. Some of the rags sent to this country come from districts in which infectious diseases are raging, and it is a fact worth noticing that all of the vessels arriving here in which small-pox has broken out have been vessels carrying rags.

Careless in Penmanship.

[Chicago Journal.]

The importance of writing distinctly when writing for publication was recently illustrated in a magazine in London. In a clergyman's letter from Asia, he meant to write the "people of Judea," but the printer made it "the people of India." The manuscript was submitted to an expert chirographist, who decided that the printer was entirely justified. The clergyman's "Judea," as written, had an I instead of a J, an n instead of a u, and it was impossible to decide whether the next to the last letter was intended for an e or an i, it being as much like one as the other.

People who write carelessly and indistinctly, when writing for publication, have nobody but themselves to blame when mistakes are made in printing names of persons or places. The printer is usually wonderfully expert in deciphering bad writing, but he can not perform miracles. As an experiment, let the reader hastily write down the words Judea and India, without dotting the i of the latter, and then submit it to a company of friends to decide "which is which and which is 'tother.'"

Dynamite Gunnery.

[Cath. in Cincinnati Enquirer.]

Col. Gabe Wharton told me a few days ago that he had made an excursion to Sandy Hook to see some of the guns firing dynamite against obstacles. He said:

"It is a singular fact that they are digging up the old smooth-bore pieces half buried in the sand, and using them for this new kind of gunnery. Rifled cannon will not do to fire dynamite shells from. Consequently our old smooth-bore pieces are again in request."

Said I: "Do the officers at Sandy Hook say they have got this dynamite and glycerine gunnery down to a perfect point?"

"No, they do not claim that, but they do claim that they are very much encouraged, and they think that in a little while to come they will be able to demolish any sort of thing passing across the bars of New York."

Testing Railroad Employees.

[Logansport Pharos.]

The work of examining the Panhandle employes on color-blindness is interesting to an observer. The men are marched into the armory one at a time, and are first examined on the strength of the eyesight by reading letters and figures. This is quite difficult. The matter of telling colors is tested by showing the candidate a skein of yarn either red, green, or pink, and then after he has told which it is, he is told to pick a number of skeins from a bundle of various colors which will all resemble the color first named. To pick out all the shades that may be found in the bunch is no small task, and very few of the candidates pick them all out. There are no very glaring mistakes made by the boys. The hearing is tested as well as the sight.

New Sort of Peach.

[American Grocer.]

We this week saw a curiosity in the shape of a peach from a plantation in Alachua county, Florida. In form it is like the peach species what the mandarin is to the orange species, viz: Slightly flattened at the ends, and the pit partakes of the form of the fruit. It is produced by grafting the peach on to a mandarin orange stump. It is known locally as the pinto, and we see no reason why it should not become very popular as an ornamental table fruit at this season, the shipping qualities being nearly perfect.

Chicago Ledger: Energy and a boy digging fish-bait both mean about the same thing.

ROMANIZATION IN JAPAN.

Japanese Adopting the Roman Alphabet—A Society of Reform Organized.—[New Orleans Times-Democrat.]

Japan offers perhaps the only historical instance of a nation voluntarily abandoning its manners, customs, beliefs and learning, within the short space of a generation, in order to adopt a foreign civilization, of which it recognizes the overwhelming superiority. "Old Japan"—the Japan of the eighteenth century—has ceased to exist except in fragments of its antique arts, and in such legends as we have charming examples of in Milford's collection. The new Japan is a land of nineteenth-century civilization, illuminated by electricity, traversed by railways, speaking through telephones, guarded by repeating rifles and breech-loading cannon and turreted navies of steel. The medical students of Yokohama; the perfected press prints daily editions of Japanese papers; chemistry and dynamics boast scholars in Yedo. At our own exposition we had some admirable proofs of the high status of education in Japan; and none who viewed the exhibits in charge of Ichizo Hatami, left the main building without a feeling of profound respect for the intelligence and learning of our Oriental brethren.

Since then Japan has made another great stride in progress; she has adopted the Roman alphabet. The old ideographic characters have been a serious obstacle to study, even since their adaptation to cast type, fine specimens of such printing being on exhibition here. As each new word required new signs, and as the number of these were enormously increased by the expansion of learning in Japan, the strain entailed upon the student's memory became something indescribable. An ordinary public school student was obliged to commence his task by loading his memory with at least 4,000 ideographic characters. But if he wished to graduate in a higher college, he had to learn not 4,000, but at the very least 8,000 characters, to familiarize himself with which required six years of constant application.

The reform has begun—not so rapidly, perhaps, as could be wished; but upon a very solid basis. A society has been formed called the "Society of Romanization," with a membership of more than 1,000 persons, many of whom are princes and government officials. A committee consisting of two Europeans and four natives, was appointed to establish the rules for the transcription of Japanese words into Roman characters; and their work was very satisfactorily accomplished. Now the society is at work upon a Japanese dictionary arranged upon this principle; and a special journal is to be founded in support of the undertaking. The government warmly supports this reform.

It is true that in the transcription of various Oriental alphabets, special characters have to be used, as in the system for Persian, Arabic and Sanscrit pronunciation adopted by Max Muller. But these characters are simply Roman letters especially accented, so as to render sounds peculiar to the tongue transliterated. Leon de Rosny, the eminent Japanese scholar, showed long ago in his translation of the Si-Ka-Zen-Yu, that the Japanese language could be well adapted as a whole to the English alphabet.

Cure for the Heartburn.

[Bakely Hall in The Argonaut.]

We went up to see the other man whose speciality is cigars. He is obliged to examine the millions that arrive every week, and he smokes from fifteen to twenty-five cigars a day. He gave a recipe for heartburn which I do not think is generally known. Very many smokers suffer from this distressing form of dyspepsia after having indulged in a cigar or two too many. I have often been very hard myself that way, and have absorbed vast quantities of bismuth, pepsin, baking soda, carbonic water, Rhine wine and seltzer, and the various other remedies which have been suggested from time to time. I asked the cigar man in the appraiser's office if he was ever troubled with heartburn, and he shook his head gloomily.

"It is an awful penalty for too much smoking, and lots of men have it because they don't know of a very simple and pleasant remedy."

"What is the remedy?" I asked.

"This," he said, dramatically: "I am suffering from heartburn, I hold out my left hand thus, knock some of the ashes of the cigar into the palm of my hand, allow it to get cool, touch my tongue to the ashes, and presto! the heart-burn is gone. You look as if you don't believe it, but it is an unflinching and accurate remedy. There is hardly a smoker in Europe who is not acquainted with it, and I have never explained it to an American in my life but that he was surprised."

Artesian Wells in the Sahara.

[Boston Transcript.]

A correspondent of Anusland makes a communication regarding the present condition of the artesian wells in Sahara. It is well known that such wells have been in operation there from a very remote period, and in the Algerian Sahara additional wells have been opened with considerable success by the French. Between Biskra and Tuggurt the 434 old wells yielded in 1879 65,000 litres of pure water per minute, the sixty-eight French ones 113,000 litres. The number of palms had increased from 359,000 to 517,000, that of other fruit trees from 40,000 to 90,000, the population 6,872 to 14,827. In December, 1881, the yield of water from the wells had risen to 200,000 litres per minute.

But this success is confined to a narrow zone within which water can be reached within a depth of 100 metres, and even here the borings that have been made since 1881 indicate a diminution in the yield of water, making it appear as if the limit of production of the underground reservoirs had almost been reached. Many of the French borings, too, are getting stopped up by sand, and are of too small caliber to be cleaned out and restored like the wider Arabic ones. It is believed that it will be absolutely necessary to set about the sinking of new wells with a wider bore.

A Suggestive Vignette.

[Western Letter.]

For its private work the bank of Devil's Lake, Dakota, has adopted a rather peculiar but very suggestive vignette. The base is a sheaf of wheat, on which rests a silver dollar, over the back of which Satan is climbing, holding in one hand the scales of justice and in the other a lance. At his left is a map of the lake, which forms the place for writing the amount of draft or check, on which are the words, "Give the devil his due."

To Be "Cured Patients."

In a recent issue of a well-known French journal appeared the following advertisement: "Wanted, a distinguished and healthy-looking man to be 'cured patient' in a doctor's waiting-room. Address, etc."