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CURRENT NEWS.

WASHINGTON.

Postmaster-General Key, accompanied by several friends and other officials of the Department, has started on a two-months' tour of inspection through the West and as far as California.

WEST AND SOUTHWEST.

The official report of the New Orleans Board of Health on the 18th, gives the number of deaths from yellow fever for the preceding 24 hours at 47; new cases reported, 115; total number of cases reported, 1,090. The Howard Association are furnishing physicians and nurses to the destitute, and have also sent assistance to Port Eads and Grenada. They have published an appeal for contributions, stating that they have not a dollar in their treasury.

At Memphis, on the 18th, there were nine new cases of yellow fever reported for the preceding 24 hours, with 13 deaths. The disease had not extended below Jefferson Street, and the authorities were sanguine that it could be confined within its present limits. A camp had been formed six miles below the city, tents for which were furnished by the War Department, into which many of the poorer people had been removed. There is considerable suffering among the latter class, and the Citizens' Committee solicit contributions in their behalf.

At Grenada, Miss., 65 deaths from yellow fever had occurred up to the 18th, 14 of which were during the preceding 24 hours, and there were 100 cases under treatment. The greatest destitution and suffering existed in the town, and piteous appeals were sent forth for assistance from abroad.

At Vicksburg, on the 18th, there were some 40 cases of yellow fever under treatment, and the disease was extending rapidly, causing great apprehension. The Howard Association solicit funds in aid of the destitute sick.

Cincinnati, Louisville, Pittsburg, St. Louis, and other places, in communication with the fever-infected ports, have established quarantine regulations more or less stringent in their operations.

A daring and successful express robbery was perpetrated on the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad, about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 13th. Soon after the south-bound train left Winthrop Junction, at about the hour mentioned, Conductor Brown started from the baggage-car to go though the train as usual to collect fares. As he stepped out on the platform he was confronted by four men, two of whom held the muzzles of revolvers at his head and ordered him to throw up his hands, which request he speedily, if not cheerfully, complied with. He was then backed into the baggage-car, the baggage-man and express-messenger quietly covered with the muzzles of two more revolvers before they were aware of the situation, and one of the gang then speedily transferred a number of valuable packages from the express safe to a sack, and ordering the conductor to pull the bell-rope and stop the train, they backed out of the car behind their revolvers and disappeared in the darkness. The train was filled with passengers, none of whom knew of the occurrence until the robbers had escaped. The thieves were cool and collected, showing no signs of timidity, and went at the work like old, experienced hands. None of them were masked. The amount of their capture was $5,100, nearly all of which was consigned to the Missouri Valley Bank of Kansas City.

A portable saw-mill blew up near Bloomfield, Ohio, on the 13th, killing Charles Wallace and C. M. Jones and injuring several others.

Official information is received that Lieut. Wallace, of Fort Missonk, has overtaken the marauding band of Nez Perces, numbering about 20, who have been plundering their way from Canada to Idaho, and has punished them severely, killing six, wounding three, and killing or capturing most of their ponies. He had only a handful of men in his command, but used them to excellent advantage.

The Michigan Prohibitionists have nominated a State Ticket headed by Watson Snyder, of Ypsilanti, for Governor.

Mrs. B. J. Sweet, of Chicago, widow of the late General Sweet, Pension Agent, on the 14th was struck by the locomotive of a train on the Northwestern Railroad, thrown several feet, and instantly killed. The accident occurred near her residence, in the suburbs of the city.

Miss Addie Coleman, an estimable young lady of Lacrosse, Hancock County, Ill., daughter of the Postmaster, died on the 11th in great agony, five hours after kindling the fire with kerosene. Her brother was badly burned in trying to extinguish the flames.

Tray Dye, Public Administrator of Sacramento County, Cal., has made a blood-curdling confession regarding the murder of O. M. Tullis, of Grand Island, who he says was killed by one Anderson, a Swede, and another man, at his (Dye's) instigation, in order that he might get control of the estate of the murdered man. The murder of other wealthy citizens of the county had been discussed, but fortunately not attempted. Anderson has also confessed.

The National-Greenback party of Colorado have nominated a State ticket headed by R. G. Buckingham for Governor, and adopted a platform denouncing both the old parties and advocating strong Greenback measures.

The description of the train-robbers at Winthrop Junction, Mo., it is said, suits that of Henry Underwood, Frank Jackson, Billy and Henry Collins, survivors of the Bass gang.

The Nebraska National-Greenback State Convention nominated L. G. Todd for Governor and J. W. Davis for Congress.

Katie Hopkins, aged 18, a servant in the employ of Mr. W. B. Thompson, of St. Louis, it is supposed undertook to kindle the kitchen fire with kerosene, on the 14th, and was fatally burned, dying a few hours afterward. The house was also burned to the ground.

C. B. Clark, a prosperous farmer of Lagrange, near Chicago, was shot and killed on the night of the 14th, it was at first thought by horse-thieves, but as subsequent developments indicate, by one St. Petrie, a former employee of Clark's, and a suspected paramour of Mrs. Clark, who is believed to be equally implicated. Both are under arrest.

A sample-trunk of jewelry was plundered of its contents at the Palmer House, Chicago, on the 16th, while its owner, Mr. Henry Freund, of New York, was at dinner. The stolen goods were valued at $15,000.

Wm. Wilson, alias Patterson, was hanged at San Bernardino, Cal., on the 16th, for the murder of one Barrett Jeffreys.

A dispatch from Malheur Agency, 16th, says 77 Indians, including 60 warriors, surrendered on the previous day. This leaves but very few hostile Snakes unaccounted for. The surrendered Indians say the Bannocks did all the murdering and the Snakes the stealing.

At Versailles, Ky., on the night of the 16th, Sam C. Field, editor of the Woodford *Sun* and County Attorney, was instantly killed by the discharge of a revolver which fell from the pocket of Joseph C. Bailey, Town Marshal, while the two, with others, were scuffling in sport to secure the possession of a watermelon.

The sample-trunk of jewelry stolen from the Palmer House, Chicago, has been recovered, and one of the thieves is in custody.

At Roseburg, Oregon, recently, William Daly quarreled with his wife's brother, J Woodward, over family matters, when Woodward stabbed Daly twice and Daly shot Woodward, both falling dead.

Josiah P. Colcord, a well known St. Louis lawyer, on the 17th shot and killed his mistress, Lillie G. Gibbons, and then killed himself. Colcord was a talented, but dissipated, man, about 35 years of age. Some five years ago he became separated from his wife and soon after formed a connection with the woman whom he murdered. She had led a somewhat adventurous life, and it is said that Colcord was intensely jealous of the supposed attention paid her by other men, which was doubtless the cause of the tragedy.

Charles W. Angell, of Chicago, Secretary of the Pullman Palace Car Company, has absconded with about $120,000 in cash and convertible securities, and is now supposed to be luxuriating in Europe.

Judge Albert S. Marks, of Franklin County, is the Democratic candidate for Governor of Tennessee. The platform adopted by the State Convention favors the unconditional repeal of the Resumption act.

Charles F. Hane, Cashier of the Canton (O.) Exchange Bank, committed suicide by poison on the 19th. He was 30 years of age and had become despondent on account of ill health.

The First National Bank of Quincy, Ill., closed its doors on the 19th. The Quincy Savings Bank, a collateral institution, also shares in the default. The depositors of both institutions are assured that all their claims will be paid in full. The insolvency of the large tobacco-house of Harris, Beebe & Co., is the cause assigned for the Bank's suspension.

John Tynans and Wm. Dorin, laborers in a stone-quarry near Pacific Junction, 20 miles south of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the 18th were found dead alongside the road to their home, literally riddled with shot. A fellow-workman named McCreery is under arrest, charged with the murder, robbery being the incentive. Dorin was known to have $100 in his posession on the previous day.

Four young Swedes, named John Pierson, Swan Johnson, Andrew Bloom and Frank Westbury, were drowned by the capsizing of their boat near Davenport, Iowa, on the 18th. Three of their companions reached the shore.

Capt. W. H. Coates, a well known resident of Saugatuck, Mich., on the night of the 18th shot his wife fatally and then killed himself. No cause known.

EAST AND SOUTHEAST.

At Edgefield, S. C., on the 13th, Brooker Toney shot and killed Thomas and James Booth, and was then himself killed by a friend of the Booths. Several others were wounded mortally. The trouble grew out of a family feud.

Austin W. Knight, a well known New York oil merchant, was forced into bankruptcy on the 14th, and three days afterward he committed suicide.

James H. Smith, a Chicago leather commission merchant, was accidentally killed by a train on the New York Elevated Railroad on the night of the 14th.

At Melrose, Mass., on the night of the 14th, Pelatiah R. Waitt, aged 65, killed his wife by beating her over the head with an iron bar, and then shot out his own brains with a revolver. The cause of the tragedy is unknown, further than that the couple were engaged in an angry controversy during the evening.

Rev. Dr. Wade Hill, a prominent Baptist minister of Rutherford County, N. C., on the 14th shot and instantly killed his son-in-law, Maj. Andrew Scroggins. Both men were armed when they met, and as Scroggins had openly threatened to shoot his father-in-law on sight, the latter is considered justified in "getting the drop" on his would-be murderer. A domestic quarrel was the cause of the tragedy.

Prof. Baxter, of Harvard College, was drowned off Cape May, while bathing, on the 14th.

John Ten Eyck, colored, was hanged at Pittsfield, Mass., on the 16th, for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. David Stillman, in November last.

Susan Walters, a colored nurse, is under arrest at Fayetteville, N. C., charged with the murder of the infant child of Capt. Helling. She grew tired of nursing the baby, and poured a vial of laudanum down its throat, from the effects of which it died in a few minutes. Capt. Helling was in the act of drawing a pistol on the nurse to kill her, when he was prevented by a member of the family.

The powder-magazine of H. A. Weldy, near Pottsville, Pa., containing 1,100 kegs, was struck by lightning on the 17th and a terrible explosion followed, making a gap in the neighboring woods 50 feet wide, and killing three of a picnic party and more or less injuring several others. Many houses in the neighborhood were badly damaged, and several cattle were so badly injured that they had to be killed.

John A. Leete, a witness before the Potter investigating Committee, was taken from the Astor House, New York, on the night of the 18th, while in a frenzied condition, and safely locked up. He labored under the delusion that he was being pursued by poisoners and assassins, and fired several ineffectual shots at the officers who were trying to capture him before he could be secured.

GENERAL.

The August returns to the Department of Agriculture show an average condition of the cotton crop in the 10 cotton States of 95 per cent—a decrease of 4 per cent. The following are the State averages: North Carolina, 82, a gain of 1; South Carolina 97, a loss of 7; Georgia 92, a loss of 13; Florida 99, a loss of 1; Alabama 98, a loss of 4; Mississippi 92, a loss of 6; Louisiana 90, a loss of 5; Texas 108, a gain of 2; Arkansas 98, a gain of 7; Tennessee 92, a loss of 6. The condition of the crop is somewhat better than in August, 1877. In the northern portion of the cotton belt many counties complain of extreme heat and drought, causing the plants to shed, and the balls to open prematurely. Farther south the rainfall has been excessive, causing rust. Insect injuries at the date of correspondence were inconsiderable, but later reports to Prof. Riley, the entomologist, show considerable local injury from this source.

The annual report of the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company states that 444 miles are operated; gross earnings for the year ending May 31, $2,331,310, working expenses $1,448,139; increase compared with previous year, $378,857.

Murat Halstead denies all knowledge of any bargaining or other arrangement between Gov. Hayes and certain Southern Democrats regarding the Presidency.

Gen. Mackenzie, with a force of abou 1,000 troops from Fort Clark and Fort Duncan, on the 16th crossed the Rio Grande in pursuit of Mexican raiders and stolen American cattle. Every man was supplied with 10 days' rations and 140 rounds of ammunition, and a lively brush with the Greasers was fully expected.

Additional Congressional nominations: Illinois—Fourth District, Augustus Adams, National-Greenback; Fifth District, J. M. King, National-Greenback; Sixth District, C. W. Dunham, Democrat; Seventh District, Philip C. Hayes*, Republican; Eleventh District, J. W. Singleton, Democrat, W. H. Pogue, Prohibition; Twelfth District, William M. Springer*, Democrat; Rev. John Mathers, National-Greenback; Thirteenth District, A. E. Stevenson, Democrat; Fourteenth District, Jesse Harper, National-Greenback; Sixteenth District, Jas. Creed, National-Greenback; Nineteenth District, Robert Bell, Republican, S. J. Crews, National-Greenback. Missouri—Twelfth District, John M. Glover*, Democrat, William H. Hatch, Democrat (Convention split). Kansas—First District, John R. Anderson, Bepublican; Third District, Thos. Ryan*, Republican. Ohio—Fifth District, H. Wilson, Republican; Seventh District, Frank Hurd, Democrat; Tenth District, V. B. Horton, Republican; Twelfth District, H. S. Neal*, Republican; Seventh District, James Monroe*, Republican. Texas—Fourth District, Roger Q. Mills*, Democrat. Georgia—Eighth District, Alexander H. Stephens*' Democrat. (Those marked * are renominated).

A Vienna dispatch of the 18th says that Gen. Phillipovich had routed the insurgents from a strong position near Buzovoca, capturing their entire camp equipage and a large quantity of ammunition, although they succeeded in getting away with their artillery. Gen. Szapary was still confronting the insurgents at Dobsj on the 17th inst. It is said that the Christians in Bosnia are flocking to arms, in consequence of the heavy fines imposed upon them by the Austrians.

It is rumored at Paris that a French protectorate over Tunis has been sanctioned by England and Turkey, it being stipulated that France should not interfere with the regency of the Bey.

A dispatch from Constantinople reports an attempted assassination of Gen. Todleben, of the Russian army, during a review of the military. A young Greek advanced towards the General as the latter was reviewing the troops, and, drawing a pistol, discharged its contents when quite close to his intended victim. Gen. Todleben escaped unhurt, and the would-be assassin was immediately arrested.

FOREIGN.

Of the eleven objects of art offered by the Agricultural Society of France for exceptional merit in agricultural machinery in recent field trials, eight have been awarded to American inventions, and independent of the medals of the Exhibition proper the United States Agricultural Exhibit has received a Diploma of Honor, and the United States Educational Exhibit a gold medal.

A convention between Austria and Turkey, relative to Austrian occupation of the Turkish Provinces, has been concluded. The duration of occupation has not been fixed, but several articles recognize the sovereignty of the Sultan. The military situation meanwhile is very embarrassing for Austria, her army of occupation being met with resistance at nearly every point, and rendering necessary the further mobilization of troops. A Vienna dispatch of the 16th reports that 30 Turkish battalions in Bosnia have joined the insurgents, five of which are regular troops.

Emil Hoedel, who attempted to assassinate the Emperor William on the 11th of May last, was beheaded on the 16th. He was only 21 years of age. He protested on his trial that he had not intended to take the life of the Emperor, but numerous witnesses testified that he leveled his gun directly at his Majesty.

Gen. Mezentzkow, chief of the Emperor's private police, was assassinated on the public street in St. Petersburg on the 16th. One report says he was shot, another that he was stabbed. The assassin escaped.

THE ELECTORAL INVESTIGATION.

The Potter Investigating Committee resumed its session at New York on the 12th. The Chairman reported that Stanley Matthews had been again summoned to appear before the Committee, but had again refused to present himself for examination. Gen. Butler moved the facts be entered upon the minutes and reported to the House. Two of the Committee being absent no vote was taken, and the Committee adjourned.

Wm. H. Roberts, editor of the New Orleans *Times*, was examined on the 13th. After the election and prior to the meeting of the Returning Board, he was selected by a number of Louisiana Democrats to go to Ohio, see Gov. Hayes, and ascertain his views and what policy he would adopt in the event of his election to the Presidency. Witness bore a sealed letter from Murat Halstead, the contents of which he did not know. His interview with Hayes was of an exceedingly pleasant character, and he learned that the Governor entertained a most friendly feeling toward the South. The witness told him the State must be saved at all hazards to the Democrats, and that whatever they threw over would in that respect be of least value to them. He also told the Governor that they could establish or show a vote of 13,000. Gov. Hayes told the witness that he had no desire for the Presidency, unless he were counted in fairly. He spoken very kindly and courteously of the South. The witness detailed at length conversations he had had at various times before the matter was definitely settled with Mr. Lamar and others. The witness said from conversations with various Republican leaders he understood if Louisiana and South Carolina were counted for Hayes the Governments of those States would be given to the Democrats. They proceeded on this assurance and the assurances were carried out. Gen. Butler observed such assurances seemed to be of much the same nature as a bargain. Witness replied that Mr. Hayes made no pledges of any kind, and the witness was left to infer what his words meant. Gen. Butler tried to show they implied a bargain. The witness admitted that when relating his talk with Mr. Hayes to his friends he accompanied the information with the statement that he understood Louisiana was to be saved.

Col. Roberts's testimony was continued on the 14th. He explained that his visit to Gov. Hayes was made without consultation with the so-called visiting statesmen. The Democrats considered that they had carried the State fairly, but were apprehensive that they would be counted out by the Returning Board; it was therefore determined to ascertain precisely what course Hayes would pursue should he become President. Witness understood Hayes to mean by "fairness and justness," that the Returning Board should not be allowed to count in the defeated Republican State officers; thought that the Returning Board would not dare to do so without the moral support of the visiting statesmen; understood that the military would be withdrawn after the 4th of March and the Nicholls Government would then take possession; received assurances of this subsequently from Messrs. Matthews, Foster, Garfield, Dennison, and, he thought, Evarts. The McVeigh Commission was sent down, as he undestood it, for the purpose of inducing the Packard Government quietly to yield to Nicholls; it was well understood that they (the Commission) were acting under official instructions from the President.....A letter from P. B. Darrall to James E. Anderson, dated May 12, 1878, was identified by Anderson. The writer speaks of Anderson's letters and evidence implicating Sherman, Matthews and Harlan as valuable, and calls him to spare them, as, "excepting Matthews, they are all unmitigated scoundrels," etc.

The examination of John A. Leete was continued on the 16th, but no new facts were developed. Some correspondence passing between Leete and Gov. Kellogg was read, showing the intimate personal and political relations existing between them. The committee adjourned till Monday.

The Potter Committee, on the 19th, received a telegram from Gov. Kellogg, denying several statements made by Leete, a former witness, who testified that he (Leete) had been in the confidence of the leading Republicans of Louisiana. The Committee was informed that Leete had been taken to an insane asylum, there being no doubt as to his insanity. It was stated that his wife and children were sick with fever in New Orleans, and this, coupled with the excitement of testifying, is supposed to have caused a derangement of mind. Gen. Butler's resolution, to report Stanley Matthews to the House for contempt, was adopted. There being no other witnesses present, the Committee adjourned.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

—Mr. J. W. McDonald has nearly completed the statue of Gen. Custer for West Point. The attitude chosen is that of the soldier at bay, surrounded by Indians.

—Mr. Ruskin never advertises any of his works and never sends any copies out for review. The result is that many who want his works have difficulty in finding them.

—Among the other journals of that polyglot city, New York, is one in the Catalan dialect, called La Llumanera. Ith as reached its third volume, though it seems odd that so limited a tongue should furnish patrons for it.

—Among the attractions of the Paris Exposition is noted a microscopic edition of Dante, bound in red velvet with silver clasp, and small enough to be worn as a "charm on the watchguard," sent by an Italian publisher.

—The artistic sensation of Paris is an artist named Andre Gauthier, who draws nightly large audiences to see him paint a landscape in five minutes, a portrait in six, and two different pictures simultaneously, one with each hand.

—Mr. Bryant's first collection of poems did not fill his youthful pocket. A gentleman who not long ago purchased for $5 a copy of this first edition, now very rare, took the book to the venerable poet, asking that he should write his autograph therein. Mr. Bryant complied, saying "Five dollars is more than I received on that whole edition."

—Mr. James Whistler, the American painter, so long resident in London, is a Marylander, and still in his English life preserves some of his American tastes. It is said of him, in regard to his pleasant Sunday breakfasts, that "the most courteous and vivacious of men, he is only a dogmatist on one subject—he insists on his guests eating buckwheat cakes."

—Although Victor Hugo is now 76, he is as hale as ever, in the full vigor of his mental and bodily energies. As it is well known, the poet is an early riser, and his habits are of the most sober and well regulated description. He has just been revisiting as a tourist, in the full enjoyment of his glory, as the patriarch and father of the French Republic, the little channel island Guernsey, where he spent the long, busy years of his exile.

—Rev. George Gilfillan, a Scottish clergyman, whose biographical sketches of English and Scotch poets and other literary works have obtained a large circulation in this country, died recently. He was born in 1813, in Perthshire, Scotland, and was a most indefatigable and agreeable writer. He contributed very largely to the periodical press, and devoted the latter years of his life to the preparation of a series of biographical sketches of the English poets.

Science and Industry.

—Good bones, when dried, yield about 4½ per cent. of ammonia.

—A cow giving 4,000 pounds of milk in a year exhausts the soil of 28 to 30 pounds of mineral matter.

—There is no egg of a bird known which is not good food, or which could not be eaten by a hungry man.

—Signor Cozzi, of Verona, claims to have discovered a powder removing all explosive power from petroleum.

—An egg weighing 1¾ ounces consists of 120 grains of carbon, and 17¾ grains of nitrogen, or 15.25 per cent. of carbon and two per cent. of nitrogen.

—Nearly one-half of the industrial class of the United States is engaged in agricultural pursuits; hence any movement tending to benefit farmers must of necessity be a national blessing.

—According to a Paris journal, the locks displayed in the American Department at the Exhibition are incomparably finer and more perfect in every way than any thing of the kind ever before seen in Europe, at any rate in Franse.

—The carbonate territory in the region south of Pike's Peak, over the Arkansas River, is lengthening out. Some of the thoroughly worked mines are turning out rich beyond calculation, the ore proving a thick chloride. Excellent hard carbonates and high-grade chloride ores are brought to light every day. There are crowds of people in the region, yet it is hard to get the right kind of men to work for good wages.

—The town of Tula, or Niello, in Russia, has for centuries been the seat of the manufacture of articles of great beauty in what was known as Tula silver—an alloy the composition of which has until lately not been well understood. It is now stated that this consists of nine parts of silver, one of copper, and one of bismuth. Saturated with sulphur, this produces that beautiful blue shade erroneously considered to be steel blue.

School and Church.

—The foundation for a $500,000 Jesuit College in San Francisco has been begun. It will be, in every respect, an institution with all the requirements for modern education.

—Brother Kimball worked from 10½ in the morning until midnight in a Providence (R. I.) Congregational church, and secured pledges of $12,000 toward the payment of the debt.

—Four lady students, having passed a very satisfactory examination in medicine and surgery at Madras, India, have been granted certificates to practice.

—For several months the Louisville (Ky.) School trustees have been fighting over the adoption of some geography as the standard for the city schools. At a recent meeting of the Board it was publicly stated that different members had been approached with bribes of $75 and $200 to vote for this or that book.

—Rev. Mr. Mackonochie, incumbent of St. Albans, Holbron, London, having been suspended from his clerical functions for three years by sentence of Lord Penzance, Dean of Arches, for contempt of Court in refusing to obey a decree prohibiting his ritualistic practices, has appealed his case from the Court of Arches to the High Court of Justice.

—Mr. Sankey has accepted an invitation to go to England, and will sail in the latter part of September. It is expected that he will remain there for some months, holding services of song. On his return he will join Moody, who will meanwhile spend the time as quietly as he can in Baltimore, giving himself principally to study, but occasionally holding services in the churches of that city.

—The actual gain in church membership in Illinois for the past year has been 986 among the 22,714 members of 240 churches. The average membership in each church is 95 and the average increase 6. The contribution for benevolent purposes averages $2.37 a member for the year. The largest salary is nominally $7,000. The smallest in a self-sustaining church for full service is $350.

Haps and Mishaps.

—A 2-year-old daughter of Florian Schmitt, of Evansville, Ind., was fatally scalded by a boiler of hot water falling upon her while her mother was washing.

—A young man, named J. E. Ellison, shot off Jesse Steads's leg near Winchester, Ind., with a revolver. He did not know it was loaded.

—Bert E. McIntyre, of Neilsville, Wis., was seriously injured by the explosion of a can of dynamite which he was carrying to the river for the purpose of killing fish.

—A young child of Mr. John McCabe, of Shelbyville, Ind., was accidentally dropped from the wagon in which the family were riding; the wheels passed over it, causing fatal injuries.

—A young son of Hendrick Haol, near Pella, Iowa, fell into an unused well. His father went to his rescue and was bringing him up, aided by a windlass turned by his wife, when the rope broke and both went to the bottom. The mother gave the alarm and the boy was drawn up insensible, but finally resuscitated. The father was dead.

—Two sons of Mr. A. B. Garnett, of Madisonville, Ky., one Sunday recently, after a hearty dinner, ran about a mile to a pond in an open field, went in bathing, and remained in the water all the afternoon, their heads being exposed to the intense heat of the sun. Both died a few days afterward from the effect of their imprudent exposure.

—Daniel C. Lord, of Moodus, Conn., was fatally poisoned while applying a well known fertilizer to a field, and died after a few days. Two of his sons who were working with him were seriously affected by the poison, the symptoms exhibited in each case being a swelling of face and limbs and general numbness of the body. A third son, who was working in the same field, but did not come in contact with the fertilizer, was not affected.

—John Cook, of Allegan, O., had a tame fox which developed a passion for chickens, and he therefore determined to kill it if he caught it in its thieving operations. So one morning before daylight Cook went out with his gun and secreted himself in the bushes, waiting for the predatory animal to make his appearance. Unfortunately Cook's son had also got up for the same purpose, and seeing a movement in the bushes which he naturally supposed to be caused by the fox, he fired at the unseen object. The whole charge of his gun took effect in the side of his father, who died in about two hours.

Foreign Notes.

—Among the Communists who are proclaimed as coming within the recent amnesty is M. Reclus, the eminent geographer, who was exiled for complicity in the outbreak of 1871. He may now return to France.

—The 200 addresses sent to the German Emperor on his escape, together with thousands of telegrams, are being exhibited at the old Palace at Berlin. Most of the former are bound in blue (the Emperor's favorite color) velvet.

—The names of several London public houses have been changed to "The Beaconsfield," as has also that of Alexandra Music Hall in South London. The latter circumstance is not exactly complimentary to the Princess of Wales."

—At a recent "concours de piano" at the Paris Conservatory the jury unanimously awarded the first prize to the little Mdlle. Kleeberg, a child of 12 years who played like an artist, reading her music at sight without the least hesitation. She is a pupil of Mme. Massart.

—Since the attempted assassination of Emperor William by Dr. Nobling there has been 563 arrests for insulting the Emperor. Of this number 521 have been convicted, including 31 women. The aggregate of sentences of imprisonment were 811 years; five of the accused committed suicide before trial.

—Upon the death of his Queen rumors were set afloat throughout Spain that King Alfonso intended to abdicate the throne. His Majesty was greatly offended thereat, and ordered his Prime Minister to deny them publicly, and, if possible, bring the original rumor-monger to severe punishment.

—King Humbert's likeness will appear on 20 franc gold and 5 franc silver pieces, for the first time during the present month; their circulation, however, is to be limited, as the royal treasury is over-burdened with paper money, and has no definite intention of resuming specie payments.

—Prince Bismarck's *mot* on the Congress of Berlin: "Italy and France are growling because they get nothing, and behaving very much like two persons invited out of politeness to spend the evening, who would claim a share in the winnings at the whist-table without having played a card or betted a penny."

Odds and Ends.

—The people who never make enny mistakes nor blunders have all the necessarys ov life, but miss the luxurys.—*Josh Billings.*

—"How greedy you are!" said one little girl to another who had taken the best apple in the dish; "I was going to take that myself."

—A doctor went out for a day's hunting, and, on coming home, complained that he hadn't killed any thing. "That's because you didn't attend to your legitimate business," said his wife.

—If there is one person who is more false and hollow than she who says, "You must come and see me again," it is she who replies, "Thank you, I shall be pleased to."—*Danbury News.*

—The next invention Edison is to attempt is a machine that will keep a woman's eyes closed during prayer time in church when a friend in the pew in front has on a new frock.—*Kingston Freeman.*

—The barber is an independent chap, and, like all strapping big fellows, can always hold his hone—*Alta California.* Great fellow, though, for gitting into scrapes.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

—Two lawyers, while bathing at Santa Cruz the other day, were chased out of the water by a shark. This is the most flagrant case of want of professional courtesy on record.—*San Francisco Post.*

—A little daily paper about six inches long has been started at Union, Broome County. The publishers announce a design to continue if they get sufficient "encouragement." Bless your souls, boys, you can get encouragement by the acre, but where do you expect to get your cash?—*Elmira (N. Y.) Advertiser.*

Edison and the Unseen Universe.

Hitherto man's knowledge of the extent of the universe has been bounded by the limits of vision. During the day, when the range of sight is narrowed by the sun's excessive brightness, we see but a minute fraction even of the little world we inhabit. At night a wider reach of vision is possible, and some thousands of stellar and planetary bodies are added to the domain of positive knowledge, thus enlarging enormously man's idea of the magnitude of the universe. But the increase of knowledge which darkness reveals is almost infinitesimal compared with the wider view of the universe opened up by the telescope; and every addition to the telescope's penetrative power brings a larger and larger universe within our ken.

That the most powerful of telescopes enables us to reach the limit of the universe no one imagines. See as much as we may, more—perhaps infinitely more—lies beyond. So, at least, all experience leads us to infer; but our positive knowledge ends with the limit of vision.

Must this always be so? Hitherto science has given no hint of the possibility of exploring the vast and mysterious beyond, from which no visible ray of light has ever been detected, or is ever likely to be detected, by the most far-reaching and sensitive of optic aids. But now there comes a promise of an extension of positive knowledge to fields of space so remote that light is tired out and lost before it can traverse the intervening distance. A new agent or organ of scientific sense for space-exploration has been given to the world in the tasimeter, by which it is possible not only to measure the heat of the remotest visible stars, but, Mr. Edison believes, to detect by their invisible radiations stars that are unseen and unseeable! Mr. Edison's plan is to adjust the tasimeter to its utmost degree of sensitiveness, then attach it to a large telescope, and so explore those parts of the heavens which appear blank when examined by telescopes of the highest penetrative power. If at any point in such blank space the tasimeter indicates an accession of temperature, and does this invariably, the legitimate inference will be that the instrument is in range with a stellar body, either non-luminous or so distant as to be beyond the reach of vision assisted by the telescope; and the position of such body can be fixed and mapped the same as if it were visible. Seeing that the tasimeter is affected by a wider range of etheric undulations than the eye can take cognizance of, and is withal far more acutely sensitive, the probabilities are that it will open up hitherto inaccessible regions of space, and possibly extend the range of our real knowledge as far beyond the limit attained by the telescope as that is beyond the narrow reach of unaided vision. Possibly too it may bring within human ken a vast multitude of nearer bodies—burnt out suns or feebly reflecting planets—now unknown to us because not luminous.—*Scientific American.*

Longevity that Doesn't Pay.

The question as to the length of human life is recalled anew by a statement of the Superintendent of the Mongomery County Infirmary. Within a term of management extending over ten years there have been five well authenticated cases of the inmates in that institution passing their one hundredth birthday. It is accounted for by the Superintendent in the fact that these aged people have no care of themselves, nothing on their minds to worry or annoy them; their meals and habits are regular, and with not a cause to induce surplus energy, the light of life flickers gradually down till almost imperceptible, and then dies out. Whether such a life as these last days afford is desirable, is also questionable. It is "sans teeth, sans taste, sans every thing." It is a mere glimmer, a spark of life generally without intelligence, wrapped up in a cage of bones.

Two of the cases above referred to are still to be seen at the infirmary. One, Henry Croley, a man whose hundredth anniversary occurred the 8th of last month, is a native of Maryland, and his father and two elder brothers were in Washington's army. He has occasional flashes of remembrance and reason, but is a pitiful, blear-eyed reechy old man, who will not keep his clothes upon him. The other is a still more remarkable picture of wretchedness. It is a figure like a mummy, that was once a woman. The skin is brown and dirty, and bruised blue in places, stretched so tight the bones seem bursting through; mattery, sightless caverns for eyes, a driveling mouth that will scarcely open wide enough for food, or to emit an inhuman grunt, and long, coarse and unsightly hairs, growing like rank weeds from the unhealthy looking skin. This is the remains of one Mary Wambler. For ten years "Old Mary" rambled about the town subsisting on charity, till the Infirmary was established and she was the first to avail of its privileges. That was in 1837, and she was then seventy-six years old. She is blind, deaf and dumb, idiotic with age. When she attempts to walk she falls down, but life still clings to her rickety frame. Once or twice within the past few years she has been sick, and it was thought would die, but has recovered, and since the last illness seems to have renewed some of her former vivacity. It may be, if she can pass a particular period of second childhood, she will begin life anew with a fresh lease. It will be an uncertain advantage if the progress of civilization increases the number of such wretched beings for their posterity to support.—*Dayton (O.) Letter to Cincinnati Commercial.*

A Tree-Toad at Home.

Mrs. McKay, on Centre Street, has a beautiful fuchsia, which has on it at this time over 200 blossoms and buds. Among the foliage of her plants on the veranda, snugly ensconced in a geranium leaf, is a diminutive specimen of the little batrachian commonly called the tree-toad. The leaf unaccustomed to its strange burden has changed its hue from green to pale yellow, and the little animal has changed its color to correspond with that of the leaf. We never knew one to leave the trees or bushes before. This one sings his monotonous song every evening.—*New York Suspension Bridge.*

—Capt. Frederick G. Burnaby, who is the son of a Leicester parson, devoted the first years of his discretion to feats of activity and endurance with so much success that he soon won the repute of being the strongest man in the British army. He went to Khiva, by way of spending the leave which the Household Cavalry commonly give to shooting in England or to amusement on the continent. His "Ride to Khiva" brought grist to the mill.

A FRENCHMAN'S WOOING.

The Cold-blooded Way in Which Courting is Carried on in France.

[From the London World.]

The Frenchman, when he has made up his mind to marry, is really lovable, if not exactly by the object of his choice. It brings out all the hidden frankness of his nature. There is no beating about the bush with him; he announces his intention to all the world, at least to all whom it may concern, to-wit, the old ladies. He lays his situation before them with a modest confidence, and, in doing so, of course, gives the personal attractions on which he must necessarily be silent an opportunity of speaking for themselves. He is explicit as to his age, his family, his means, particularly as to his means. He has so much, and he wants so much to add to it, with all the youth, beauty, wit and good sense that can be thrown in by way of bonus. Will the old ladies be good enough to bear his case in mind, and to look out for him among their numerous acquaintances? Of course they will; they could not have a more agreeable commission. It is a deed of mercy that will be twice blessed—to the girl that wants a husband, to the man that wants a wife. They tell him he may consider the matter as settled; it is in their hands.

After that he has only to show a proper assiduity in calling—to look in upon these honorary commission agents from time to time for the "tip," while they proceed to pass all their eligible feminine acquaintances in review. They make all the requisite inquiries as to means, and connections, and contrive accidental meetings, at which he may have a view of the wares. "Bon jour, Monsieur! j'ai songe a votre petite affaire." When you hear that said at a morning call you know what it means. The hurried colloquy in the back drawing-room that follows is likewise no mystery; the good old creature is giving him a few main particulars, and "the office" for to-morrow night. There is to be a little soiree, and he is not to fail to be there, for she, the candidate, is invited. In plain terms, he to come and see if she will do. It is an inspection. All that can be learned by mere report he knows—the candidate is up to the mark in family and fortune; other needful particulars as mind and manners can only be obtained at the interview. She, on her part, or rather her mother for her, has likewise had the tip from the same friendly quarter. Are they not the most methodical people in the world?

She either pleases or does not please. In the former case, the fathers call on one another, and then the notaries; in the latter there is no harm done. Nothing has been said to compromise them before each other or before the world. If they met, "'twas in a crowd," and he did no more than ask her opinion of a picture or of the new tenor at the Italiens. He is expected to divine from her monosyllabic answers to these questions what kind of a companion she would make for a life-journey, how she would stand by him in sickness and in health, in riches and in poverty, until death do them part. No; not in riches and in poverty, though; he obtained satisfactory assurances as to that part of the prospect before he ran the risk of falling in love. They are a practical people to the last.

When all is arranged, they begin to make love, with a mother or some elderly friend to keep them company. They must not be left alone—what would people say? Worldly minded mothers find this *tete-a-tete* of three a great nuisance; it keeps them at home, and they will often complain that the young fledglings talk an unconscionable time. There can be nothing else to censure; it is the discreetest billing and cooing ever witnessed since birds were birds. In its wildest excesses it never goes beyond a giggle; and if hands do meet occasionally, it is only under the cover of a book, which perhaps, if we come to the strictest necessities of the case, one might hold as well as two. Mothers have been known to leave the room for a moment on pretense of looking for a letter; but in theory, at least, they are always there. All is in consequence fair and above-board in French courtship. You may "assist" at it if you are a friend of the family. It is enough to leave a corner sacred to the lovers; they are not like our unreasonable young people at home, who require a whole forest to themselves and a new moon to light it every night. They are simply two in a drawing-room, and it is, of course, a polite fiction to consider them but as other two. If the onlooker be a philosopher, the situation is not so dull for him as might