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The Eaton Democrat.

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FRESH TOPICS.

THE Detroit *Free Press* says Helmbold's insanity is a fearful warning to the bankrupts in whose liabilities the unpaid bills of the printers make a disproportinate show.

ANOTHER blasphemer has been brought to grief by his wickedness. Louis Burke, of Burkesville, swore fearfully because the storm destroyed his crops. His tongue clave to the roof of his mouth, and he died the next day.

HERE is another illustration of the truth of the old proberb that "honesty is the best policy:" A Rhode Island farmer went to Newport the other day and confessed to a grocer with whom he had been dealing for years that he had cheated the latter to the extent of $5 by short count on eggs. He was rewarded for his honesty by the grocer's admission that he also had been cheating, having at one time passed a counterfeit $10 bill on the farmer.

THIS is the nineteenth century, and this the land where education is free as air, and where the groundless superstitions of the old world are considered proper subjects for merriment or derision, but still the people in the neighborhood of Wells Beach, Vt., harbor the notion that any one who will take a dip in their river, on June 26, will be exempt from sickness for one year, and on that date hundreds of the credulous lave themselves in the magic waters.

A GENTLEMAN in India invited a number of friends to dinner, and they accepted the invitation, but none of them appeared, and the dinner was spoiled. Accordingly he sued them for the value of the viands wasted through their lack of courtesy. The lower court gave him judgment for the amount claimed, but the superior tribunal reversed the decision, remarking that if the principle first affirmed were correct the risk of accepting invitations would be very serious indeed.

"PHOCION" has written a letter to the Milwaukee *Sentinel* eulogistic of the editors of Chicago. According to "Phocion," Mr. McIlil, of the *Tribune*, is "the greatest living editor in the United States;" Mr. Storey, of the *Times*, is "the ablest newspaper director," while Mr. Sullivan, of the *Journal*, is "by ar the most practical editor in Chicago," and has succeeded in making "the best evening paper in the country." All of which blarney shows that "Phocion" must be exceedingly anxious to secure the patronage of one of these editorial prodigies.

A SINGULAR attachment has long existed between Joseph Hines, of Rock Wharf, Va., and a valuable horse of which Hines, who is a negro farm hand, has the care. Hines always slept with the animal, and was unwearying in his attention to its comfort. Recently this feeling of love between man and brute culminated in an extraordinary manner. The horse was so badly injured by collision with a gate that it was necessary to kill him. The negro protested, and vowed that if the horse was killed he would die, too. Without paying attention to the threat, the horse was taken to the edge of the wharf and shot. At the discharge of the gun the negro jumped into the river, and although aid was instantly thrown to him, he would not avail himself of the opportunity to save his life, and was drowned.

THE ex-Presidents of this generation have not been remarkable for longevity. For the first time in nearly a century there is no ex-President living. Except Fillmore and Buchanan, no one of our Presidents for thirty years has reached the allotted threescore and ten. Before Polk and after Washington not one, except Harrison, who died aged sixty-eight, left the world at less than seventy-three. The series is noteworthy. Washington died at sixty-seven, but John Adams lived to ninety-one, Jefferson to eighty-three, Madison to eighty-five, Monroe to seventy-three, John Quincy Adams to eighty-one, Jackson to seventy-eight, and Van Buren to eighty. At this point a signal change occurs. Polk died at fifty-four, Taylor at sixty, Fillmore at seventy-four, Pierce at sixty-five, Buchanan at seventy-seven, Lincoln at fifty-six, and Johnson now passes away at sixty-seven. The first ten of our Presidents averaged 77.8 years of life; the next seven average 64.7 years.

THE recent agitation in the English Parliament over Plimsoll's shipping bill was occasioned by the bold and fearless manner in which that gentleman made charges against the British maritime community. His persistence is finally rewarded by the passage of the bill framed to remedy the evils he alluded to. Mr. Plimsoll says that the losses of Great Britain exceed those of any other maritime nation, and are in a great part due to what is known as "club insurance," that is, a number of maritime insurance companies club together and take extra marine risks, principally on what are known as "unclassed" vessels. It seems that for the last three years and a half there have been 4,012 vessels which have stranded, foundered or are missing. Of these, 1,149 were regularly classed in Lloyd's Register and 2,863 were unclassed. This is the exhibit for three and a half years ending the 30th of last June, and it is a fearful one. These losses are generally in the coasting and lumber business, and there is no resisting the conclusion, from the facts given the public from official sources by Mr. Plimsoll, that the great majority of these vessels are sent to sea with a full equipment of crews, with the deliberate purpose of being sent to the bottom in order to secure the insurance. The ship owners of the United States, upon finding vessels unseaworthy, have been in the habit of sending them to Great Britain for sale; but as Plimsoll's bill has now rendered England a very poor market for rotten ships, it will be well for our insurance companies to keep their eyes open, or urge upon Congress the passage of a bill similar in its provisions to that of Mr. Plimsoll's for the protection of their interests and those of the hardy mariner.

OHIO NEWS.

THE grocery store of Henry Kooken, at Pikeville, was recently robbed and fired by burglars.

THE fall term of Heidelberg College commences with an enrollment of 150 students.

MR. JAMES E. MURDOCK proposes, it is related, to settle permanently in one of the suburbs of Cincinnati.

THE physician of the Cincinnati workhouse, in order to make a prisoner who feigned sickness enter the labor-gang applied a red-hot iron to his bare flesh.

DR. HERMAN GROESBECK, son of the Hon. Wm. S. Groesbeck, of Cincinnati, has been made a Fellow of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, Scotland.

FORTY Germans of Cincinnati have formed themselves into an anti-treating society. They pledge themselves neither to pay for any other person's drinks nor allow others to pay for theirs.

BODY-SNATCHERS made an attempt to steal the remains of General Sherman's father the other night—not for dissection, but in the hope that a reward would be offered for their recovery.

THOMAS and Nicholas Moran, who kicked their brother William to death at Cincinnati the other day, have been released on bail of $2,000 each, although charged with murder in the second degree.

DANIEL R. GROOM, a well-known farmer residing near Groveport, Franklin county, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn, last Monday. Groom's mind had been seriously affected for some time.

A LAD 13 years of age, named Frank Barnhart, residing with his stepfather, Jacob Oberlightner, a farmer, living one mile south of Deshler, committed suicide last Monday, by hanging himself. Ill treatment by Oberlightner is assigned as the cause.

A SPECIAL meeting of the City Council was held at Tiffin last week, to discuss the waterworks question. Mr. Bickford was present, and gave figures for the Holly system, at $10,000 per mile; total cost, $120,000. That system will probably be adopted.

WHILE James Black, of Bellefontaine, and Charles Perrin, of Urbana, both young men, were bathing in Silver lake, three miles west of Bellefontaine, on Monday afternoon, Black strangled, and threw his arms around Perrin, when they both went under, and were drowned.

H. P. BOYDEN, for the last seven years a member of the Cincinnati *Gazette* staff, and the last four years assistant managing editor, has resigned to accept an editorial position on the *Times*, with greater emoluments. His place is filled by the promotion of J. H. Brown from the local staff.

OHIO postal affairs: *Discontinued*—Tiltonsville, Jefferson county. *Postmasters Appointed*—Carrollton, Carroll county, William H. Tripp; Kennard, Champaign county, Joan B. Thomas; Locust Grove, Adams county, John D. Platter; West Jefferson, Madison county, Albert D. Burnham.

AT Columbus, a few days ago, James Dunn (Catholic) and Robert Coulter (Protestant), both employed at the rolling mills, became very much heated over a discussion of religious matters, and very angry. The affair culminated by a renewal of the discussion and the shooting of Dunn by Coulter. The ball, from a revolver, entered Dunn's side, and it is quite probable that he is fatally injured. Coulter has not been seen since the shooting.

LAST Wednesday night, as Mr. Isaac Williams, of Shadeville, was returning home from Columbus in a carriage, accompanied by his wife and young child, his horse became frightened while crossing a bridge, and plunged down an embankment to the river a distance of fifteen feet. The waters swept the child from its mother's arms down the stream some distance, where it was found dead several hours aftewards, lodged in the limbs of a fallen tree. After much difficulty both Williams and his wife were extricated without serious injury.

GUSTAVE HUMBER, of Jamestown, Greene county, while intoxicated, one evening last week, made an attempt to kill his wife. She fled across the street to the house of a neighbor. Humber followed and made an unsuccessful effort to get into the house by breaking the windows. He then threatened to return to his house and kill his child, which was about 18 months old, thinking his threat would induce his wife to come out, but it failing to have the desired effect he returned to his house, procured a table-knife, sharpened it upon the stove, took the infant from the arms of his little girl, 12 years old, laid it upon the floor, and deliberately cut its throat from ear to ear. He then threw the child and knife upon the bed and went back and told his wife what he had done. He was afterward arrested. He still regrets that he did not kill his wife.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The East.

The news of the collapse of the Bank of California caused considerable excitement in Eastern financial circles, but its effects were only slightly felt.

Col. Edward Longstreet, of the suspended firm of Longstreet & Durinson, heavy leather dealers at Syracuse, N. Y., has followed the example of Ralston, and committed suicide.

The well-known Boston publishing firm of Lee & Shepard has failed.

Union Adams & Co., heavy wholesale dealers in men's furnishing goods, New York, has suspended.

A laborer named Davis was recently murdered and robbed by tramps in the woods near Danville, Vt.

Patrick Reardon, of Saxonville, Mass., last week shot and killed his wife and then shot himself dead.

A singularly tragic suicide was enacted at New York the other day. Signor Pietro Vianni, a prominent Italian artist, while reciting a poem at a picnic of his fellow-countrymen, suddenly drew a revolver from his pocket and shot himself through the temple.

The Congress Hotel, at Sharon Springs, N. Y., a popular summer resort, has been destroyed by fire. Loss, $100,000.

There was a high-toned wedding at Newport, R. I., last week. Charles Joseph Bonaparte, grandson of Jerome Bonaparte, was married to Miss Day, of Boston.

The West.

The Canadian steamer Manitoba collided with the propeller Comet, on the evening of the 27th of August, near Whitefish Point, Lake Superior, and sank her instantly. Ten of the twenty persons on board the Comet perished. No one on the Manitoba was injured, and she continued her journey. The Comet was bound down, heavily laden with ore, while the Manitoba was bound up, light.

An express car on the Union Pacific railroad was robbed of several packages of money, near Table Rock Station, Utah, a few days ago. The robbers got on top of the cars and climbed through a window while the train was in motion.

A San Francisco dispatch announces the temporary suspension of the National Gold Bank and the Merchants' Exchange Bank.

A female forger was captured at St. Louis, the other day, in an attempt to defraud the Broadway Bank out of $8,000. She presented a letter of introduction, and what purported to be a certified check on a Chicago house; but he bank officials suspected a swindle, and the woman and a confederate were taken into custody.

The large four-masted steamer Persian, bound from Chicago to Buffalo, with 67,000 bushels of grain and other freight, was lately burned on Lake Erie. The vessel was valued at $125,000.

A malignant and fatal plague has broken out among the cattle in the vicinity of St. Louis.

W. C. Ralston, on the day of his death, deeded all his property to William Sharm in trust for the benefit of the creditors of the Bank of California. Public opinion in San Francisco is divided regarding the cause of the great banker's death, some people believing that he died of apoplexy. The majority, however, adhere to the theory of suicide.

The crops in Kansas pan out immensely. he Secretary of State estimates that the State will have 55,000,000 bushels of surplus corn for exportation.

The funeral of William C. Ralston, at San Francisco, was one of the most imposing pageants ever witnessed on the Pacific coast. Among the mourners were delegations from all the military and civic societies of the city, as well as representatives of all the manufacturing concerns in which the deceased was interested. The entire city was draped in mourning as a token of respect for the late princely banker. The Board of Supervisors of San Francisco refused to pass resolutions of respect o his memory.

Sixty-three Chicagoans died during August under circumstances sufficiently suspicious to require Coroner's inquests.

Thieves entered the residence of Gen. Anson Stager, in Chicago, at mid-day, bound and gagged the servants, broke open the silver-chest and carried off its contents.

The Bank of California has been reorganized, with D. O. Mills as President, and will immediately resume business. Seven million dollars have been subscribed to tide the bank over its present difficulties, of which Senator Sharon, D. O. Mills, Michael Reese, E. J. Baldwin and J. R. Keene contributed $1,000,000 each.

George A. Smith, Brigham Young's chief lieutenant, is dead. He was Second President of the Mormon church.

Col. C. B. Wilkinson, editor of the St. Joseph (Mo.) *Herald*, and Internal Revenue Collector, who was arrested some time ago and placed under bonds of $15,000 for embezzlement, has not been heard of for some time, and it is said he has fled to Canada or Europe. Creditors have attached all his real estate.

The wheat crop in Minnesota, Iowa and Western Wisconsin was badly damaged by the recent heavy rains.

An excursion train of six cars on the Atchison and Nebraska railroad was thrown into the ditch near Brenner Station, Kan., and three persons killed, and eight or ten badly wounded. The accident was caused by the spreading of the track. The train was conveying persons to Atchison to attend the bridge celebration.

The South.

A duel was fought the other day at Waco, Texas, between Charles Carrick and J. M. Turner, the result of a trivial quarrel. It took place in the dark—distance, four feet; weapons, six-shooters. Three shots were discharged, and Turner was killed.

The *Republican Banner* and the *Union and American*, of Nashville, Tenn., the two oldest daily papers in the Southwest, have been consolidated.

Louisville enjoys the luxury of a penny paper.

Four children of Mr. Mier, of Ascension parish, La., were recently poisoned with French worm lozenges, and died in a few hours.

Louis Rehm, Teller of the Planters' National Bank of Louisville, a few nights ago stole $110,000 in cash and bonds from the vaults of the institution, wrapped it in a sheet and buried it. He then inflicted several wounds upon his person and represented that burglars had done the job. Upon being calmly questioned he confessed to having committed the deed, and assigned as a reason that he had recently lost heavily in speculations and wanted to make his losses good.

Dispatches from Yazoo City, Miss., give brief and imperfect accounts of a riot between negroes, at a political meeting in that place, on the 2d inst. One of the speakers denounced some one as a thief, the lie was given and shooting commenced. Fifty shots were fired. Several were wounded, and Dick Mitchel', late Republican candidate for Mayor, was killed, and W. H. Foote, a prominent colored politician, was mortally wounded. The dispatches state that no whites were engaged in the affair, but it is added that they were arming.

Washington.

President Grant has appointed Edwin B. Smith, of Massachusetts, First Assistant Attorney-General.

The Assistant Treasurer in New York has been directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to sell $4,000,000 in gold during the month of September, as follows: $1,000,000 on the first, third and fifth Thursdays each, and $500,000 each on the second and fourth Thursdays.

There will be another trial of the safe-burglary case of Harrington and others, new and important evidence having been discovered.

The Treasury Department has declined to transfer any more gold to California, as it has sent all it can spare.

J. M. Thatcher, Commissioner of Patents, has resigned.

The government has paid the Elgee cotton claim, amounting to $266,000.

The following is the statement of the public debt for the month just closed:

Six per cent. bonds	$1,063,845,500
Five per cent. bonds	683,052,700
Total coin bonds	$1,708,898,200
Less'ill money debt	$ 14,656,000
Matured debt	17,961,320
Legal tenders	374,318,965
Certificates of deposit	31,780,000
Fractional currency	41,127,018
Coin certificates	17,618,500
Total without interest	$ 497,851,804
Total debt	2,239,368,644
Total interest	26,219,783
Cash in Treasury:	
Gold	$71,115,522
Currency	4,602,363
Special deposits held for redemption of certificates of deposit	64,780,000
Total in Treasury	$ 140,499,631
Debt less cash in the Treasury	$2,128,868,799
Decrease of debt during August	1,885,049
Decrease since June 30	2,870,996
Bonds issued to the Pacific Railway Companies, interest payable in lawful money: Principal outstanding	$ 64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid	646,235
Interest paid by the United States	28,202,807
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, etc	6,564,047
Balance of interest paid by United States	21,894,760

The Secretary of the Treasury is sanguine that the Syndicate will take all the remaining 5 per cents. by the 1st of next November. In case they do the negotiations of the new 4½ per cents. will be at once begun.

General.

The Chicago papers publish a detailed statement in reference to the fast mail train to be run between Chicago and New York. A train will leave Chicago at 8 p. m., arriving in New York about 12 o'clock at night of the next day. There will also be another train leaving New York at 1:15 a. m., of the same day, arriving in Chicago at 6:30 the following morning, making the trip in about twenty-six hours, a gain of fourteen hours over the previous running time.

The suspension of the Bank of California was brought about by a fight between some of the speculative managers and another set of capitalists and mining speculators, who had organized the Bank of Nevada, having a cash capital of five million dollars in gold. The subject of the fight was in regard to some of the "big Bonanza" mines, which the Bank of California people had secured control of some time ago, when prices were very much higher than now. The well-known speculative operations of the Bank of California managers, coupled with the decline in mining stocks, so impaired confidence in the bank that depositors began a run on the bank which compelled it to stop payment. Ralston, the President of the institution, has lost $6,000,000 in mining speculations within a few months.

The assets of the suspended Bank of California are less than $6,000,000, while the liabilities are about $14,000,000. No wonder the "magnificent" Ralston went and drowned himself. The affairs of the bank have been put in the hands of an executive committee, consisting of William Alvord and George H. Howard.

Advices have been received at Washington from prominent officers on the Rio Grande, to the effect that cattle stealing and murders of peaceable American citizens are still perpetrated by Mexican marauders, and in all probability they will continue in spite of the forces our government can send there, unless they can break up the bands of assassins and thieves on either side of the river, and as far in the interior of Mexico as may be found necessary.

Our Canadian neighbors have not escaped the effects of the prevailing depression of business, and numerous failures are announced in Montreal, Toronto and Quebec. A recent telegram from the first-named city says fourteen dry goods firms had come to an arrangement with their creditors within a week.

A San Francisco telegram says it is probable that the Bank of California will soon resume business again. The stockholders of the institution represent upward of $150,000,000.

The explorations of Prof. Hayden's surveying party in the far west, as detailed in his report to the Interior Department, show how little even our best geographers know of the prominent features of the great territory lying nearly due westward of Chicago. A canon some 3,000 feet deep, through which a mighty river flowed, was discovered, and the remains of an ancient civilization that were found are said to be truly remarkable. The records of these surveys will no doubt prove highly interesting, not only to scientists, but to people at large.

The reports of disasters on the great lakes for the present season show that they already outnumber the unusually disastrous season of 1874, and are largely in excess of the wrecks reported on the ocean.

Political.

The New York Liberal Republican State Convention will be held at Albany Sept. 22.

The campaign in Ohio waxes warm.

A dispatch from San Francisco, dated, Sept. 3, says: "The election returns come in very slowly, but it is sure that the Democrats have carried the State by a plurality of nearly 20,000, and a majority of about 10,000. The city government is mainly Democratic.

Foreign.

A Madrid dispatch announces that Seo de Urgel, which has for some weeks been in a state of siege, has capitulated to the Alfonists. The garrison were made prisoners of war.

Late advices from Tripoli state that ample apology has been made for the insult offered to the American Consul, and the sloop-of-war Hartford had left for home.

The Herzegovinian difficulty with Turkey is still the leading topic in European dispatches. The cable tells us that seven thousand women and children have fled into Croatia for safety, while the insurgents have burned and sacked two small towns. Turkey has a pretty big job on hand to subdue the turbulent spirits in that insignificant but almost impregnable mountain region.

The cattle plague is spreading in England.

San Domingo is in the throes of another revolution. The revolutionists have proclaimed Baez President, but the leading cities remained loyal to their legitimate ruler, Gonzales.

The price of grain continues to decline in the European markets.

Mohammed Ali has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Turkish forces in Herzegovina and Bosnia.

Six of the Editors of the *Zeitung*, a newspaper printed at Frankfort, Germany, are in prison for refusing to disclose the authorship of certain articles. One of them, Leopold Sonneman, is a member of the Prussian Parliament.

From cable advices from the seat of war, the disturbances in the Turkish provinces seem to be spreading. The province of Albania has caught the infection and is in open revolt.

Spain has decided to send 22,000 more troops to Cuba.

The recent pleasant weather in Great Britain and on the continent has enabled the farmers there to gather their crops with but little injury. The yield, however, is deficient, both in quantity and quality, especially in Great Britain and France. In other parts of Europe there will be but little deficiency over last year.

A Berlin dispatch says that all of Northern Bosina is in full rebellion against Turkey. The fugitives who have sought safety on Austrian soil number 80,000, and are mostly the wives and children of rebels, who have deserted their villages and made for the hills. In Herzegovina, the insurgents have formed a national government under Lythobratich. The insurgent leaders have been informed by their Montenegrin friends that, very shortly, all Montenegro will come to their assistance. In Servia, military preparations continue.

News has been received from the English polar expedition, at Disco, West Greenland. All well. Preparations were being made for pushing north as far as possible.

The Carlists, in Spain, are greatly discouraged at the reverses they have recently encountered, and it is said Don Carlos may disband his forces and await a more favorable period to renew the struggle.

The reported revolution in Hayti turns out to be a hoax.

THE TURKISH REBELLION.

The Causes that Have Produced the Outbreak which Threatens the Peace of Europe.

[From the St. Louis Republican.]

Until the outbreak of the rebellion which now promises to give the Turkish government considerable trouble before it is permanently suppressed, comparatively few persons had ever heard of Herzegovina. Nor is this popular ignorance at all surprising. A small territory hidden away among the mountains, sparsely settled by a poor population, lying entirely out of the route of ordinary travel, it has hardly succeeded in attracting the attention of the compilers of geographies and cyclopedias, and very little information concerning it is attainable from any source. All that is known can be summed up very briefly.

Herzegovina is the name of a province belonging to European Turkey, situated between Croatia, Bosnia Proper, Montenegro, and Dalmatia. It was originally one of the possessions of Venice, and was then called the dukedom of St. Saba, and at a later period the county of Chulm. In 1326 it was again made a dukedom by the Emperor Frederick III. About one hundred and fifty years afterward—in 1466—it was conquered by the Turks, and for the next two centuries was the chosen battle-ground where Cross and Crescent struggled for supremacy. But by the treaty of Carlowitz, in 1697, it was formally ceded to the Ottoman empire, with the exception of the town of Castelnovo and its environs, which still owe allegiance to Austria. In the earlier history of Hungary, Herzegovina is frequently mentioned; it then being, in connection with Bosnia and Bulgaria, for some time under the dominion of the Hungarian Kings.

The people are decidedly mixed, being Turks, Jews, Christians and Gypsies; but all save the former, who constitute the minority, are bitterly opposed to the rule of the Sultan.

The chief cause of the rebellion is the outrageous oppressions of the "agas," or government tax-gatherers. The London *Spectator* thus describes the operations of these petty tyrants:

"From village to village, and from farm to farm the agas extend their sinister march, assessing the imposts by a calculation of the tax-payer's resources under pressure, and enforcing their payment on the spot. When the cultivator is unable or unwilling to meet the exigencies of the aga, he is summarily bound to a post and beaten until he finds some means of appeasing the justice or cupidity of the aga. If he continues to prove recalcitrant, his harvest is cut down and carted away, or his cattle driven off by the zapticin. This time the tax collection was both more difficult and more burdensome than on recent occasions, in consequence of the agas endeavoring to make the remaining inhabitants pay up the contributions alleged to be due by the 2,000 Christian families who, ever since the sanguinary outbreak of Moslem fanaticism last year, have been refugees in Montenegro, Servia, and the Austro-Hungarian border-lands."

What renders the burden still harder to bear is the fact that the harvests lately have fallen far below the average, and the cattle-plague has raged fearfully the past season, decimating the herds and thus reducing the scanty wealth of the people until they can barely find means to support their families. Rendered desperate by misfortune, aggravated by tyranny of the meanest and most vindictive kind, the peasants of Herzegovina have risen in revolt; and they certainly deserve the sympathy of the world in their unequal struggle against overwhelming odds.

Military Strength of the Disaffected Provinces.

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

Apropos of the present revolt of Bosnia and Herzegovina against Turkey, and the by no means impossible event that the other Sclavonic provinces may yet take the field against the Sultan, the New York *World* has compiled some valuable information touching the military strength of Sclavonic Turkey, which embraces those provinces north of the Balkan Mountains. The principal of these are Montenegro on the Adriatic, Servia on the Save, and Roumania, which controls the outlets of the Danube. Montenegro, although a very diminutive province in area, can put into the field, beside the regular paid guards of the Prince, two regular bodies of troops 800 strong, a registered militia of eight battalions numbering 4,800 men; and the *landsturm* of 15,000 men, for whom the government has arms. Servia has a very complete military organization, and can put in the field 92,300 men belonging to the first *ban*, with 192 guns; and of the second *ban* 40,020 more men, in eight brigades of infantry and thirteen squadrons of horse, armed with the Gruner muzzle-loaders. Roumania has remodeled its army upon the German fashion. The permanent army consists of 45,130 men, armed with the Prussian gun and Krupp steel cannon. The reserve consists of 89,870 men, giving an effective military force of 135,000 men, while the principality has military stores and arms sufficient to equip double this number of men. The total shows that these Sclavonic provinces can put into the field against Turkey 291,720 men, in addition to the forces of Herzegovina and Bosnia already in revolt.

"DEAR and Honest Sir," is how one of his constituents, with unconscious sarcasm, began a letter to a Chicago Alderman.

ANOTHER FINANCIAL CRASH.

The Greatest Banking Institution of the Pacific Coast Gone Under—A Wild Panic in the Golden City.

[San Francisco (Aug. 26) Cor. Chicago Times.]

Had an earthquake struck the city of San Francisco, or had waste the Pacific coast, there could not possibly be any greater excitement over the destruction of material interests than there is here to-night over the terrific blow that has been struck at commercial and financial relations. The suspension of the Bank of California, the great money center and moving lever of the business of the slope, has come so unexpectedly and it is believed has involved so many people in irretrievable ruin, that it may well be likened to one of those natural convulsions which here so often lay desolate whole areas of country. Nothing like this has ever before occurred on this side of the mountains, and at the present writing it is impossible to estimate the actual extent of the loss that has been sustained. It has long been the familiar proverb on this side of the continent that the Bank of California was the back-bone of financial interests here, that it was the mainstay, the bulwark, so to speak, of California's commercial relations; and that it influenced, controlled, and swayed all things of a monetary character, not only in this State, but along the whole line of the United States on the Pacific coast, and held within its grasp the auriferous and argentiferous wealth of the back country far over into the mountains of Nevada, Idaho, and Montana. Headed by wide-awake and progressive business men, imbued with all the enterprising instincts of the farseeing Californian, this bank has won a position which was recognized as eminently leading, and which has made of it an institution which was looked up to as the very Gibraltar of institutions, of its class. There was scarcely an interest in the State which did not feel the fostering hand of the bank. Its money was injected into innumerable undertakings, from factories to silver mines, from printing offices to palace hotels. With the view to build up and maintaining the commercial dignity of the State, the bank lent its aid to such ventures as promised substantial returns. Having been successful in the past it came to be looked upon as unquestionably sound for the future.

There was not the least intimation this morning, at least so far as the general public was concerned, that the bank was treading over treacherous ground. There was the customary feeling of security in financial circles, and nothing unusual was noticed at the noon call of the stock board. Shortly before 3 o'clock, up to which hour the bank had been meeting its obligations, the doors were closed. This was the signal for an unusual excitement. California street, which is at best little less than a Babel, became in a few moments the center of a perfect pandemonium. From Battery to Montgomery street the scene was one of indescribable tumult. It did not take many minutes for the news to become noised throughout the city, and the result was that the thoroughfares leading to the bank were soon fairly impassable. Excited brokers stood upon the pavements frantically canvassing the situation, while staid bankers, whose interests were more or less involved in the cause of the excitement, were hurrying to and fro, seeking vainly to gain admission to the rooms of the directors of the collapsed institution. Business men with deposits, which are supposed to be swallowed in the general ruin, added their share to the hubbub, while the noise was heightened by the newsboys who were soon crying the fact, which was blazoned in flaring headlines upon the pages of the afternoon papers.

As soon as the doors of the bank were closed and a sufficient guard of police stationed to protect the premises, a meeting was held in the Trustees' room. This conference was held in the presence of representatives of the press of this city. The capital of the bank was $5,000,000, and it is presumed that the failure will exceed this amount many times.

Suicide of W. C. Ralston, President of the Bank.

A San Francisco dispatch of Aug. 28 gives the following particulars of the suicide of Ralston, the President of the suspended bank:

At about 10 minutes past 5 a close carriage drove rapidly to the side door of the Bank of California, a gentleman jumped out in a state of excitement, and ran into the bank. In response to inquiries, the hackman said he had just left the body of Ralston in charge of an officer on the beach, near the smelting works, in the south part of the city. It was quickly learned that Ralston rode to Selig's smelting works wharf and jumped off the dock.

From the best information, it appears he went to a sea-bathing establishment at the north beach, about 3:25 p. m., undressed, went into the water, swam about 200 yards, and disappeared behind a vessel. Soon after, his body was discovered floating by the Selby Lead Works, and brought ashore, still alive. A physician was summoned, but efforts to resuscitate him failed, and he died at 10 minutes to 5 o'clock. A boy named Festus Mazzle, states that he saw Mr. Ralston before he reached the bath-house; saw him sit on the clay bank near the smelting works; saw him tear up several papers and throw the scraps into the water. A close search was made for pieces, but none could be found. He is also reported to have been seen to drink the contents of a phial before going into the water. The general impression is that he took poison before entering the water. The board of directors of the Bank of California held a meeting to-day. Ralston was requested to resign as President and Director, which he did.

THE BEST TEETH.—The London *Medical Record* says: "It has long been noted in this country that in those districts where the use of oatmeal (in place of wheaten flour) prevails, we find children and adults with the best developed teeth and jaws; and so well recognized is the influence of oatmeal upon the teeth that many practitioners order its use as an article of daily diet for children, in cases where dentition is likely to be retarded or imperfect."

IN ONE week of last month a firm near New York received orders for 445 miles of pencils. To make these only 83,000 feet of cedar lumber are required, and after they are made they will load six freight cars. This immense consumption of lead pencils is doubtless caused by the attempts of women to sharpen them with a pair of scissors or a dull case-knife.

THE fallacy of the statement that animals prefer green food was abundantly shown at Chicago when a hungry horse bit a large section out of the Panama hat of a succulent young man who was sitting on the taffrail of a street car and did not harm a hair of the wearers' head.

Six Hours of Horrible Torture.

Mention was made the other day of the accident at Big Bend Tunnel, on the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, by which the engineer, Mr. John Quincy Adams Wilkins, formerly of this city, was injured. The "Big Bend" is what is known in railroad parlance as a "dirt tunnel," being very liable to cave in, and therefore the engineers are more careful to look out for "danger ahead" in passing through them. It was the exercise of this care that probably saved an immense loss of life, as the train had been brought down to a very slow rate of speed on approaching the tunnel. It seems that an end of one of the large timbers supporting the roof had become detached and fallen to the track a few feet within the tunnel, and the pilot of this engine striking it, the jar loosened the other timbers and a large quantity of earth and stones, and the whole mass came tumbling down upon the locomotive, breaking it to pieces. The fireman, who was standing close to Mr. Wilkins, was smashed to a jelly and could not have lived a moment, while Mr. Wilkins was thrown forward in a standing position, with his throat across the reverse bar, and a large timber fell across the back of his neck, rendering it impossible to move. He had a quid of tobacco in his mouth at the time, and so tightly was he caught that he could not expectorate, and could only swallow with difficulty; indeed, he could scarcely raise his voice above a whisper. There he remained for six hours in the pitchy darkness, while every second or two small pieces of dirt and gravel from the roof would fall down by his side, conveying the impression momentarily that another mass was about to fall and crush him completely.

All the time the shouts of those outside could be heard, as with shovel and pick they forced their way to his rescue, which, however, seemed to him beyond all hope. When they finally reached him he was more dead than alive, and, being completely exhausted, lost consciousness in a swoon, which lasted several hours. His broken arm was set, and he was brought to his home at Orange Court-House, where he now is, and improving very fast. Mr. Wilkins describes his sufferings during the six hours he was in the tunnel as horrible beyond measure, and says that to survive through another such ordeal were impossible. As the train was going so slowly when the accident occurred, the cars were not damaged at all, and the passengers only experienced a slight shock.—*Alexandria (Va.) Sentinel.*

How Thimbles Are Made.

The manufacture of thimbles is very simple, but singularly interesting. Coin silver is mostly used, and is obtained by purchasing coin dollars. Hence it happens that the profits of the business are affected instantaneously by all the variations in the nation's greenback promise to pay. The first operation strikes a novice as almost wicked, for it is nothing else than putting a lot of bright silver dollars, fresh from the mint, into dirty crucibles, and melting them into solid ingots. These are rolled out into the required thickness, and cut by a stamp into circular pieces of any required size. A solid metal bar of the size of the inside of the intended thimble, moved by powerful machinery up and down in a bottomless mold of the outside of the same thimbles, bends the circular disks into the thimble shape, as fast as they can be placed under the descending bar. Once in shape, the work of brightening, polishing and decorating is done upon a lathe. First the blank form is fitted with a rapidly-revolving rod. A slight touch of a sharp chisel takes a thin shaving from the end, another does the same on the side, and the third rounds off the rim. A round steel rod dipped in oil and pressed upon the surface, gives it a lustrous polish. Then a little revolving steel wheel, whose edge is a raised ornament, held against the revolving blank, prints that ornament just outside the rim. A second wheel prints a different ornament around the center, while a third wheel, with sharp points, makes the indentations on the lower half and end of the thimble. The inside is brightened and polished in a similar way, the thimble being in a revolving mold. All that remains to be done is to boil the completed thimbles in soap-suds, to remove the oil, brush them up, and pack them for the trade.

Peppery Castorgation.

Says the Denver *News*: "The guests at one of Denver's most quiet and respectable hotels were astonished at the dinner-hour yesterday by a disturbance at one of the tables, in which one of the boarders avenged an imaginary insult in a unique and very summary manner. Coming in a little late, he found his seat occupied by another party. Smarting under the indignity, he sat himself down opposite and began making preparations to punish the rash intruder upon his sacred rights and privileges without going through the formality, it is reported, of entering a complaint or even intimating that anything was amiss. Taking a glass nearly full of water, he stirred into it some miscellaneous condiments from the well-filled castor in front of him, and when the fiery decoction was complete, dashed it, without a word of warning, full into the face and eyes of the luckless offender. Nearly blinded and in an agony of pain, the victim staggered to his feet and demanded an explanation, when he was coolly informed that he could have 'satisfaction' by coming out on the sidewalk. With admirable pluck, worthy of a better cause, he accepted the challenge; but in the unequal contest that followed he was again worsted, having little or no use of his eyes. The valliant Sir Knight of the pepper-castor having vindicated his honor to his satisfaction, doubtless, by whipping his man, regained his 'reserved seat,' and proceeded with his dinner."

Col. Anthony.

A Leavenworth (Kas.) dispatch says: "Col. D. B. Anthony, who was shot in the opera-house on the 10th of May last by W. W. Embrey, made his appearance on the street for the first time today, after having been confined to his room for 104 days. The case has baffled the efforts of all the medical fraternity both East and West, and they are both loath to know what technical term to apply to the wound. Col. Anthony will make a visit in a few days to Rochester, N. Y., where he goes for further medical treatment."

A PARIS paper states that the Sultan of Zanzibar astonished amateurs and professors, who were present at his visit to a piano-forte maker's, by playing one of Thalberg's fantasias with the skill almost of a virtuoso.

THE White Sulphur Springs Hotel, Va., will be pulled down next year. It cost $1,000,000, and has paid no dividends.

SOME DAY.

"Some day" we say, and turn our eyes
Toward the fair hills of Paradise.

Some day, some time, a sweet new rest
Shall blossom, flower-like, in each breast.

Some time, some day, our eyes shall see
The faces kept in memory.

Some day their hands shall clasp our hands
Just