Birmingham Eccentirc.

WHITEHEAD & MITCHEL, PUBLISHERS.

BIRMINGHAM, - MICHIGAM

MICHIGAN.

R. G. Peters, of Manistee, has built quite a town of his own at East Lake on account of his extensive mills and salt blocks. He owns over 100 of its dw llings there. He knows personally every one of the 500 or more men in his employ, and can call each one of them by name. His salt block will ultimately have a capacity of 1,000 barrels a day.

A bear and two cubs were seen within a mile and a half of Farwell, Clare county quietly helping themselves to blackberries from a patch where a family of pickers were also busy.

Bay City officers think they have a clue to the clothing thieves of last spring, and have gone to the southern part of the state after certain men who are selling clothing very cheap.

Alvin Finch is unable to furnish bondsmen for liquor selling, and will therefore give up running the Greenbush, Alcona county, hotel.

Grand Rapids' panel and veneer works will cost $25,000, and be finished in two months.

During his 15 years' collectorship at Grand Rapids, S. S. Bailey turned over to the government $1,970,954 46.

Lewis Hart's partly finished dwelling at Grand Rapids burned recently; loss $1,560, insurance $1,000.

Kalkaska, Kalkaska county, is seeking incorporation as a village.

Four Kalamazoo horses sold for $1,800 and shipped to Buffalo.

The team of Thos. Underwood, living four miles from Adrian, ran away, and in some way the neck-yoke was driven into one of the horses, killing him instantly.

The body of Richard Egan has been found in Manistee river. Egan was intoxicated when last seen alive.

A burglar entered the residence of L. R. Damon, a merchant of Adrian, and took a gold watch valued at $250, also some change. Damon while the burglar was in the room, and a tussle ensued in which the burglar escaped. It is thought that a band of burglars are now operating in that section.

Portland is now free from small-pox and business looking up; have been 80 cases in all in Ionia county and 10 deaths; Orange township now has only one or two cases, and Berlin three new ones.

Henry Smith, farmer, while going to Grand Rapids with a load of produce, was thrown from the wagon and so injured that he died; leaves a widowed mother.

Fred. Reed, West Cooper, Kalamazoo county, went in bathing while perspiring, and has not been able to walk for several weeks in consequence.

Louis White, teamster at Chapin mine, Menominee county, had his back broken by a runaway team; his life is despaired of.

Eight charcoal kilns building at Sears, Osceola county, with capacity of 10,000 cords a year.

Benjamin Gardner, aged 90, Mexican war veteran, Dalton, Muskegon county, died recently.

Mrs. Sullivan, formerly Miss Maggie Buchanan, of Detroit, is said to have been the first woman who made journalism a profession and began as a man would have done, by doing the work at the office instead of at her home. She began on the Chicago Times, and had a room to herself.

Rev. Daniel Ide, father of City Marshal Ide, Coldwater, and for 40 years a preacher in the M. E. church, died of paralysis, recently, aged 93 years.

William Parr, a wealthy farmer residing about three miles south of Charlotte, committed suicide last week. Cause of the act unknown.

Pete Cevalia, charged with the murder of young Hahn, and who was in jail at Lansing, succeeded in escaping by digging a hole through the iron floor of his cell. A reward of $100 is offered by Sheriff Call for his recapture. He is of sallow complexion, has gray eyes, is 29 years old, weighs 135 pounds, is five feet five inches tall, and is miserable looking generally.

Two trains on the Jackson, Lansing & Saginaw railroad collided near Jackson. A special freight and an incoming freight met on a single track; but the engineers saw the danger and reversed in time to prevent a serious accident. The engines were injured somewhat, and four cars of the incoming train were piled on each other. Otis Hidden, the fireman of the incoming train, was injured, his foot being crushed between the platforms of the cab and tender.

The body of Rev. J. B. Logan, colored, who was drowned in Pugsley's lake, has been recovered.

A big day's work was done on the Au Sable river one day last week by Capt. Owen and a crew of nine men. Three hundred and twenty-one thousand feet of long timber was taken from the pockets, securely rafted with chain and delivered to the tug.

The Republican congressional convention for the seventh district was held at Port Huron, full delegations being present. The Hon. John T. Rich was renominated unanimously.

At the Republican convention, Paw Paw, for the nomination of a candidate from the first representative legislative district of Van Buren county, Robert L. Warren, editor and proprietor of the Decatur Republican, was nominated.

Off Thunder Bay light house, last week, the machinery of the Canadian propeller Glenfinlas became disabled, and the life-saving crew went to her assistance, staying by her all night. The life-boat went to Alpena for aid, and the tug Golden Eagle left to take the Glenfinlas to Alpena for repairs. She was laden with railroad iron.

O. G. Whitmore & Co, have transferred the base of their lumber busi ess, with capital of $2,000,000, from Chicago to Cadillac.

It is said that the new Neebish channel is well marked with buoys and targets, and has a good 17 feet of water all the way.

A dispatch announces that John Henig of Galesburg, Ill., formerly of Adrian was killed recently on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad in a collision. Henig was well known in that section and was a promising young man.

The badly decomposed body of a man has been found on the lake shore three miles above Fort Gratiot. A Port Huron justice impanelled a jury and a verdict was returned setting forth that the cause of death was unknown. There were no marks of violence upon his body, and nearly all the flesh had fallen from his face. A linen handkerchief with the initials "C. G." marked in one corner was found in his coat pocket.

The Michigan team at Creedmore are getting in good work on the practice range. They scored 908 points recently, which is above the winning scores of the two years past.

Peter Potts, a poor farmer living near Bronson, had his entire crop of wheat destroyed by fire, caused by two small boys and a box of matches.

A driveway is to be laid out around Pine grove park, Port Huron. It will be 45 feet wide, three-fourths of a mile long, and will be paid for by private subscriptions.

Beeman's store at Clio was robbed last week of about $300 worth of silks, gloves, boots, shoes, etc.

The Osceola county fair will be held at Evart, Oct. 4, 5 and 6. There is a good premium list and well arranged programme.

There are many complaints about the imperfect mail arrangements to and from Cheboygan and St. Ignace.

There are over 1,600 children of school age in Alpena, and about 750 of them are in the schools.

Levi Clark, an old settler of Farwell, died recently. He was 78 years old and a veteran mason.

Rev. George Ransom begins his nineteen year as pastor of the Muir Presbyterian church.

G. R. & I. road settles suit of Mrs. Geo. Harum, Fife Lake, for injuries, by paying $1,000.

L. H. Colton's night blooming cereus at Ionia, has blossomed 11 times in two weeks.

A large number of residences are being built at Bay City, costing $5,000 to $6,000 each.

The grape crop on the islands of Lake Erie is an unusually large one this year. Shipping has commenced.

Rev. Thomas Stalker, pastor of the M. E. church, Port Huron, has been presented with a gold watch and chain by the church board.

There is a dispute between Port Huron parties and the city about possession of some property.

City Attorney E. G. Stevenson and Chief-of-Police Graves shouldered a pick and shovel and boldly marched to Tenth street and demolished certain fences built across the street by Messrs. Vanderberg and Chadwick.

The new dining hall of the Flint & Pere Marquette railway company at East Saginaw has been opened for business, and is certainly one of the most handsome and best fitted out institutions of the kind in the Northwest. It is more like the dining room of a first-class hotel, and all its appointments and accessories are of the best that experience could suggest and money procure. Farnham Lyon of the Bancroft house, is manager. The new depot building, in which the hall is situated, is an elegant one, and does credit to the company and to East Saginaw.

A Bay City paper complains that the electric light wires in that city are put up in such a manner as to touch telephone wires, run streaks of lightning into the telephone office and set fire to it, and ring the gongs in the fire department.

L. H. Salsbury of Ashland, Newaygo county, was assaulted by Winfield Scott and perhaps fatally injured. They quarreled about school district affairs.

A mill employe at Muskegon, named Peterson, had his leg and ankle crushed by a bull wheel and chain. Amputation was performed at the knee.

Our Michigan militia boys won prizes in the Creedmore rifle contest Sept. 13th.

American History on the Stage.

BY R. FELLOW.

In needs no special insight to see that the one subject which lies at the heart of our history since the Revolution is the one subject in which dramatic incidents are imbedded. Slavery and its extinction constitute the theme of our history since the Union was reached; and because the extinction of slavery has made possible a nation no longer divided by irreconcilable differences, there is always in every drama based on the slavery contest, however tragic may be its incidents, the possibility of a triumphant conclusion, accordant with history and the prophecy of history. The conflict for freedom is so large and so moving in its nature, and has always been so dramatic in its incident; its roots lie so deep in the moral nature, where only the great drama thrives; and it is so involved in national development, that all other subjects in our history are weak and insignificant before the possibilities of this theme. We stand, perhaps, too near the scenes of the late war, and are too much a part of the conflict, to be able to bear the spectacle of that drama reenacted on the stage; but in due time the events not so much of the war as of the moral and political conflict will find adequate presentation, when the vast proportions of the theme will be reduced in epitome and made vivid in action, which concentrates the thought of the historic movement into a few characters and situations.

A great drama is not to be had for the ordering, and more than a great work of art of any kind, but the chances for it are increased by the gradual recovery of the stage to wider relations. The hope of good drama does not lie in the repetition of old plays; it is not a dead power; its life is in the present, and there can be no real vitality in the drama in any country unless it takes root in the soul. The drama is still a foreign thing with us,—foreign from our traditional tastes, and foreign in its appointments. To my thinking the chance for greater things lies through historic scenes rather than through social contrasts. It is significant that Tennyson, an Englishman through and through, expressed his political feeling in Queen Mary. It was not a success, because people are not yet accustomed to go to the theatre as they read the newspaper, and Tennyson shares in the disadvantage of taking up the drama as something foreign from English literary culture. His assumption of archaic forms of speech was an indication of his effort to bring his play into relation with the older English theatre; it suffered from its excess of antiquarianism. But Tennyson's failure points toward a change, and it is not impossible that in America, where prejudice sits more lightly on its throne, we may witness an increased consciousness of national being through the presentation of history in dramatic form, as well as through other forms of literary art, which have hitherto been more familiar to us. There has been gathering a delightful moss of legend and romance to cover the stony facts of our history. It may well be that the reader of Hawthorne and Irving will yet have the pleasure of seeing the historic life of America epitomized on the stage in dramatic action.—*September Atlantic.*

In the Engineer the following note occurs: "The death-rate of Nantes is singularly low, and, as a cotemporary remarks, appears to upset all saniiary theories. Mantes is probably the dirtiest large city within the limits of Christendom. No pen, no language, can describe the state of filth in which the town is allowed to remain—not an angle, not a corner, not a dead wall without defilement of the vilest description. The stench which arises under certain atmospheric conditions can be imagined, but not put in words. Yet the death-rate is only a fraction over 23 per 1,000. The poulation seem happy with their filthy lot, and no pressure seems to be put upon the municipalities to establish a better order of things.

A gentleman who, in a public meeting, was telling that he was eighty-one years old and had not been an abstainer from liquors, was interrupted by the remark: "You would have been a hundred by this time if you had."

A meeting was held at Philadelphia Tuesday to make arrangements to give Chief Engineer Melville, of the Jeannette, a proper reception on his arrival.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

WASHINGTON.

TO TAKE A REST.

Gen. Sherman has asked the war department to order Major Gen. Schofield to San Francisco to relieve Major Gen. Irwin McDowell, and that the latter be ordered to his home in New York preparatory to retirement in October.

STAR ROUTE BRIBERY.

After the jury in the star route cases had been excused for the day on the 7th, Judge Wylie said it had come to his ears that members of the jury had been approached in a most disgraceful way in attempts to influence their action. He had first heard of it about a week ago, when he had received most direct and positive information of this character. He had then advised the jurymen to say nothing about it as he did not wish to stop the progress of the case. Within the past twenty four hours, however, these wolves that surrounded the jury had become fiercer and bolder, and upon hearing of one attempt more brazen and villainous than others, he had felt such indignation that he had nearly advised the juror to shoot down such a man on the spot. He had thought that, had not advised it. He now adjured the jurymen to spurn such men with the toe of their boot, to turn from them with scorn. He wished to warn these men that they were not to commit such outrages without punishment After this trial perhaps an investigation would follow. Gen. Henkle immediately rose and said with much feeling that in the interest of his client he should demand an immediate investigation. The court said perhaps he would have it.

THE STAR ROUTE JURY.

Judge Wylie delivered his charge to the jury in the star route trial on the 8th commencing at the coming in of court. After the conclusion of the charge proper, which seems to have been a very fair and plain one, counsel for defendants urged many prayers for further instruction, most of which the court declined to grant. The jury retired a little before 3 o'clock P. M., and court took a recess until 6. Shortly after 6 o'clock the jury reported to the court that they had agreed upon a verdict as to one defendant only. They were sent out again with instructions to come to an agreement, if possible, as to all.

CROP REPORT.

The September report of the Department of Agriculture on the condition of cotton shows an improvement since August 1 in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and Texas, and some deterioration in South Carolina, Georgia and the states of the Gulf coast, Louisiana inclusive. The corn crop in all the region south of Pennsylvania and the Ohio River is in a high condition. Every state except West Virginia is represented by 100 or higher figures. In many districts of the south the crop is reported the best in twenty years. In the New England states it is from 81 to 75 in Maine, 95 to 62 in New Hampshire, 87 to 60 in Massachusetts, 93 to 70 in Rhode Island and from 96 to 65 in Connecticut; a decline of 8 points in New York and New Jersey and 4 in Pennsylvania is indicated. In the corn-growing states of the Ohio Valley the general average of condition is 83, the same as in August last year. There was a decline from 77 in August to 60 in September. In 1880 the September average was 91. If the early frosts do not injure the crop the product will be materially larger than last year, but the heavy production of 1879 and 1880 cannot be approached under the most favorable circumstances. The oats crop when harvested was in an unusually high condition, yielding heavily in threshing. The general average is 100, very few states falling below that figure, among them New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. The rye crop is also above the average in nearly all the states, and harvested in good condition.

THE STAR ROUTE TRIALS ENDED.

The last of the great frontier mail route robbery trials has come. Brady, Dorsey, Turner and Peck were acquitted, while Miner and Kendell must go to jail. It is common talk that almost every one of the jurors were corruptly approached by defendants, who to break the force of the charges, are making similar ones against the government counsel. Counsel for the convicted defendants gave notice of a motion in arrest of judgment. It is probable an appeal will be taken to the court *en banc.*

A STOLEN BOND.

A United States registered bond of the denomination of $5,000 was stolen from the office of the Register of the United States Treasury ten days' ago. The secret service force thus far have failed to recover the bond, or discover the thief. The robbery was kept quiet in the hope that a clue would be found. The bond was one which was exchanged from three and one half to three per cent., and is complete. To negotiate it, however, the thief will have to forge the name of the person in whose favor it is issued. The leading banks of the country have been informed, however, of the theft and given the name of the person to whom the bond was issued. Should the bond be fraudulently negotiated, neither the government nor the rightful owner will lose anything, for the United States will not redeem it, and it will issue a duplicate to the person entitled to it. A number of employes of the Register's office have been subjected to examination, but nothing definite learned.

THE ATTEMPTED STAR ROUTE BRIBE.

Foreman Dickson, of the jury that sat in hearing of the star route cases at Washington, has disclosed a startling affair. Says he! "The first personal knowledge I had of the presence of the jury fixer, was when Henry A. Bowen made a proposition to me to convict the defendants, and promised me $25,000. His cool audacity was charming, and he unhesitatingly exhibited to me his letters of appointment as special agent of the Department of Justice. He (Bowen) wanted me to meet the Attorney-General and said he had been telegraphed for and he was expected in Washington the next day, Thursday, August 24, 1882; that we could meet at Wormley's Hotel undisturbed, and he would satisfy me that what he promised was correct. He further said: Well, you are a man of the world and know when you are in a fight you must use every means in your power to win. This is now the Attorney-General's fight, and he must succeed. It is political life or death with him. He does not regard Judge Wylie as friendly to the prosecution by his contrary rulings." Mr. Dickson said the counsel for prosecution did not know that Bowen had made the offer or intended to. Dickson also discloses that attempts were made to bribe jurymen to acquit Dorsey. An investigation will undoubtedly commence before long.

NEWS NOTES.

TEMPERANCE IN NEW YORK.

A convention has been called at Syracuse, New York, October 4th, to take steps to secure the submission to a popular vote of a prohibitory amendment to the constitution.

THE VERMONT ELECTION.

It is thought the Republican state ticket has been elected by from fifteen to twenty thousand majority. For the house of representatives 166 towns give 135 Republicans, 31 Democrats and four no choice. This gives the Democrats nearly double the representatives they had in 1880, with more towns to hear from. For congress, Poland, (Rep.) in the second district had a majority over all on the 7th of only 500, and grave doubts of his election were expressed by friends, who feared additional returns would lose the office for him.

NEVADA DEMOCRATS.

The state convention was held at Eureka. The last national platform was reaffirmed. Jewett W. Adams was put in nomination for governor amid applause. The nominations were closed and Adams declared nominated by acclamation. Hon. George W. Cassidy was nominated for congressman. Col. M. N. Stone, of Virginia, was nominated for justice of the supreme court by acclamation.

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The Democratic State Convention met at Springfield recently. About 500 were present. Hon. W. A. J. Spark was made temporary Chairman and Jno. Hise Secretary. with a long list of assistants. The usual committees were appointed and a recess taken til 2:30 p. m. Upon reassembling ex-Gov. John M. Palmer was elected permanent Chairman. His speech was an arrignment of the Republican party, President Arthur and Jay Hubbell. The members at large are W. J. Mlz, Jno. H. Oberly W. H. Green, J. W. Coppenger, S. Corning Judd and Herman Lieb. Hon, Alfred Orendorg, of Sangamon County, was nominated for State Treasurer; Henry Raab, of St. Clair, for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

CALIFORNIA GREENBACKERS.

California Greenbackers have nominated a full state ticket, including Mrs. Marian Todd for attorney general, and Messrs Stephen Maybell and Warren Chase for congressmen at large.

VICTORIOUS SPRAGUE.

Sprague holds the fort at Canonchet. The supreme court of Rhode Island has refused to oust him from possession.

YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC IN FLORIDA.

The Pensacola Board of Health has declared yellow fever epidemic. They had in 24 hours 16 new cases and three deaths. A terrific storm prevailed, having continued for a night and a day, which threatened fatal results. One of the greatest burdens inflicted by the epidemic is the inability of merchants to collect money due, all the country places having quarantined, necessitating a general suspension of business.

WORK OF THE UTAH COMMISSION.

Utah commissioners have rendered to the secretary of the interior a detailed repor of their doings up to date. In conclusion they predict an honest registration and a satisfactory election.

FOR GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Samuel W. Hall, of New Hampshire, has been chosen by the republicans as their candidate for governor. The Committee on Resolutions reported reaffirming the faith of New Hampshire Republicans, in those principles which have given liberty, peace and prosperity to the whole country; lamenting the death of Garfield and expressing confidence in his successor. Edward J. Tenney, Benj. W. Hoyt and Sullman Humphrey were nominated for Railroad Commissioners by acclamation. The convention adjourned.

LATER RETURNS FROM MAINE.

The Lewiston, (Me.) Journal has returns from 294 towns, which gives Robie 61,495; Plaisted, 51,863; Robie's plurality, 9,632.

ILL.

Thurlow Weed is very ill in New York City. The old man has passed beyond a period in life that would aid him in bearing up against severe sickness, and his death may be heard of any time.

CRIME.

MURDER OF AN OLD MAN.

Andrew Wittig, an old man of 74 years, keeper of a small grocery in East St. Louis, was brutally murdered at an early hour the other morning. It is not known exactly how the act was committed, but circumstances show that the grocery was entered between midnight and daylight by burglars, and the supposition is that that the old man, who resided in the uppdr part of the building with his family heard a noise, got up, went down stairs, was assaulted by the robbers and dragged into the adjoining alley. At all events, his dead body, the skull smashed in with bricks, was found there by his wife about 6 o'clock. A clue points to a white man and a negro, who left for Cairo on the steamer Continental early in the morning, as the murderers, and measures have been taken to have them arrested at the first point the steamer lands.

A FIGHT AND A MORTAL WOUND.

John H. Johnston, mayor of the city of Danville, West Va., shot John E. Hatcher, late chief of police, inflicting what is believed to be a mortal wound. The parties met casually in the evening and Hatcher demanded an apology for a statement of Johnston that Hatcher had not accounted for fines be had collected. The apology was refused, a scuffle ensued and Johnston shot Hatcher. Johnston surrendered himself and was admitted to bail for $5,000.

MAINE ELECTION RETURNS.

Unofficial returns from the Maine election indicate that Robie's plurality will be 8,759. The Republican Congressmen are all four elected by nearly the same plurality, a gain of two Congressmen, or a net gain of one, allowing for one lost by the new apportionment. The returns for the Legislature show a net Republican gain of six Senators and fourteen Representatives, giving the Republicans nine majority on joint ballot.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE GREEK PLOT.

Tricoupio, the Greek Prime Minister, has telegraphed to the Greek Consul at Alexandria for information in regard to Antono Paulo, arrested for connection with the rumored conspiracy of Greeks in Egypt. The Consul replied the object was to massacre the Khedive and the Christians and to attack the forts; that Antono Paulo was the only Greek implicated, and that he was appointed Consular agent to Stoutt, but was never formally installed.

STEPS TO INDEMNIFY SUFFERERS.

The Egyptian Council of Ministers is now engaged with the question of indemnifying inhabitants for losses sustained by incendiarism or pillage. It is almost a certainty that the Ministry will propose to the powers to appoint an international commission to settle the claims, the decisions of the commission to be final.

THE NAVY TO BE GLORIFIED.

Gen. Wolseley has requested the presence of the naval brigade in the army in order that the navy may share the honor of the advance. In compliance with this request a brigade consisting of 100 blue jackets, ten officers and a battery of four Gatling guns will leave Port Said for Ismailia.

ARABI'S STRENGTH.

A correspondent of the News has obtained from a most reliable source the exact strength of Arabi Pasha's army. The grand total is as follows: Infantry, 446,000; cavalry, 18,000; guns, 143; rocket tubes, eighteen; Bedouins, 305,000.

ENGLAND TO HAVE HER WAY.

The London Times, in a leading article, says: "The government in concluding a military convention with Turkey, is persuaded that the sultan has seen the folly of trying any longer to thwart the policy of England. Two European powers at least, have intimated at Constantinople that England would be perfectly justified in breaking off negotiations which have been so wantonly prolonged."

BACK TO THEIR BEATS.

Earl Spencer, in reinstating the dismissed policemen granted them a free pardon, but expressed regret and surprise that they should have been induced to take the step they did.

STILL UNSETTLED.

Notwithstanding the report that Turkey and Greece had arrived at an understanding on the frontier question, the matter seems to hang in the balance yet. A dispatch from Athens, Sept. 7th, said: Nothing has been decided in regard to the Turko-Greek frontier question. It is said that M. Condouriotis, Greek Minister at Constantinople, will have a further conference Saturday with Said Pasha, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and is believed if no decision is then reached hostilities will be resumed. It is understood M. Condouriotis has been instructed not to yield any of the five points in dispute.

KILLED IN REBELLION.

A telegram from St. Petersburg published here says that convicts in the prison a Khokan revolted recently and the guard was called out to suppress them. A struggle ensued and 40 convicts were killed.

AN ENGAGEMENT AT KASSASSIN.

An official report from Gen. Wolseley, dated September 9th, gives an outline of the engagement at Kassassin: "The enemy reconnoitered our advanced posts with considerable force of all arms at daybreak this morning. Gen. Willis advanced and attacked them driving them back with loss. We have taken four guns. Our loss is very trifling. The enemy have retired into their works, from which they are now firing at 5,000 yard range. I shall return to camp at Kassassin shortly with all the forces. I have removed my camp there as the railway, canal and telegraph are now working fairly. We have found and buried the body of Lieut. Gribble." Another report says 100 English soldiers were killed and that the loss to the enemy was heavy. There were 13 000 men with 12 guns in the engagement under Arabi, and 5 guns and many prisoners were taken.

INDIGNANT ARABS.

The sultan's proclamation against Arabi Pasha has caused considerable agitation among the Arabs who feel that Arabi is the savior of Islam, and it is thought Arabi will issue a counter proclamation against the sultan. It is reported that Arabi has expelled all Turks and Circassians from his camp.

BACK TO HIS THRONE.

Through the intervention of China. the king of Corea has been reinstated to his throne. The Chinese authorities seized the king's relative, who was the criginator of the insurrection and usuper of the throne, and took him to the Flowery kingdom to be dealt with as his case may merit. It does not appear that all the excitement has subsided in Corea, but it is probable no further outrages will occur, since the leader of the anti-foreign element has been taken from the province.

A BONANZA FOR THE CANAL COMPANY.

One hundred English men-of-war and transports were used in the Suez Canal between August 20 and September 6. The Canal Company realized from tonnage and passenger dues £96,000.

WHAT EGYPT WILL LOSE.

A prominent financier estimates that Egypt will lose nearly £70,000,000 by the war. The cotton crop, which is entirely lost, would have been worth nearly £40,000,000. There is little hope of saving any of the sugar crop. If the country is not in a settled condition within two months it will be too late for sowing next year's cereals. Several large failures are anticipated shortly.

DETROIT MARKETS.

Wheat—No. 1, white	$1 06¾ @ 1 07
Flour—	5 00 @ 5 15
Corn—	73
Oats—	40
Apples—℘ bbl	1 75 @ 2 25
Peaches—℘ bu	1 25 @ 2 25
Pears—℘ bu	1 75 @ 2 75
Plums—℘ bu	2 25 @ 3 00
Grapes—℘ lb	7 @ 8
Butter—	19 @ 22
Eggs—	17 @ 18
Potatoes—℘ bu	30 @ 35
Sweet Potatoes—℘ bbl	3 00 @ 4 50
Hay—	13 00 @15 00
Straw—	7 00 @ 9 00
Pork, mess—	22 25 @22 50
Pork, family—	25 50 @26 00
Beef, extra mess—	13 50 @14 00
Wood, Beech and Maple	$6 75
Wood, Maple	7 50
Wood, Hickory	7 50
Coal, Egg	6 00
Coal, Stove	6 25
Coal, Chestnut	6 25

Fruit in Michigan.

Secretary Garfield of the state horticultural society gives the following report of fruit prospects in this state:

About the first of August I sent 100 postal cards in envelopes to the most prominent fruit growers in Michigan, asking them to return the percentage of an average crop that the orchards and vineyards promised for the crop of 1882, with such remarks as would naturally be suggested by the questions enclosed.

Nearly all of the returns have been made at this writing, August 14, and I am quite surprised at the results. Only one correspondent puts the apple crop at a full average, while 34 place it at less than one-fourth of a crop. 50 reports make it less than one-half a crop, and 75 less than three-fourths of an average yield. The following localities have the most promising show of apples: Ingham, Bay, western Muskegon, Manistee, Genesee, Allegan, Macomb and Lapeer counties; western Cass, western Kent, central Barry and eastern Ottawa all unite in the statement that the fruit will be imperfect, scabby and badly injured by insects.

The crop of pears promises better than apples, and unless some new difficulty arises there will be 75 per cent. of a full yield. There is less blight this season than for several years, judging from reports to date.

Peaches in unfavorable localities for this fruit are a complete failure. Upon high ground in the interior there will be above half a crop, and upon the reliefs of Washtenaw county even better than this; while upon the lake shore to the north there will be a light yield, of say 40 per cent. In Allegan, Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon there will be two-thirds of a crop and the fruit very fine. In Van Buren and Kalamazoo about half a crop.

The most prolific fruit in Michigan this year is the grape. There are promises of a very full yield if the season is prolonged so the clusters will ripen. Many of the first setting were killed by frost. There is some mildew appearing in several localities, and the recent wet weather has developed some tendency to rot in places where this disease has appeared years before.

The plum crop will be a good average where persistent efforts have been made to fight the curculio.

The peach yellows are gradually working northward. A few "sporadic cases" have been announced as far north as northern Ottawa and Kent; but there is a united feeling among peach growers that every case must be stamped out of sight.

There are great many theories concerning the cause of failure in apples. It is laid to east winds, frosts, moist weather at time of blossoming, etc. The most common explanation seems to be that the continuous frosts through May weakened the vitality of the young fruit so that it dropped through June. The varieties of apples that have as yet hung on the trees best, are Baldwin and Golden Russet. Fall apples seem to be almost a dead failure. The Northern Spy, which is a great favorite in our state, will be represented by very small quantities in the fruit cellars next winter. Cider, apple jell, and evaporated apples will be reduced to a minimum.

To the lovers of apple sauce I would counsel the selection of the best substitute in the way of canned fruit that is possible, and begin early.

Over 11,000 men have been out of employment on account of the strikes in the rolling mills and nail works in the Pittsburg district, and about $1,700,000 have been lost in wages.

"I can marry any girl I please," he said. "Can you give me the name of any girl that you please?" she icily inquired. A great gulf separates them now.

Serious Collision.

SAULT STE MARIE, Sept. 17.—The most serious collision that the Sault river has had for several years occurred Thursday at 4 P. M. The tug William Goodnow, bound down, towing the schooners John O'Neil, George D. Russell and Kate Winslow, met the steamship Northerner of Ward's line, bound up, a little below Little Lake George, at Garden river, nearly abreast of McClellan's saw mill, the tow and steamer passing on their proper sides. The steamer, through some unaccountable cause, sheered into the tow and struck the George D. Russell, the middle vessel, in the bluff of her port bow and entered her clear to her foremast. The Russell sank in from two to three minutes in not less than seven fathoms, with but two spars above water. The sinking of the vessel was so sudden that two and perhaps three lives were lost, one of them being a woman. The steamer Northerner sustained comparatively little damage, her false stem being carried away from above water to the fore-foot, and her upper bulwarks carried away by the falling spar of the Russell up to her pilot house. The George D. Russell was loaded with Republic ore from Marquette, and had a cargo of 1,276 tons; her government tonnage 658, and port of hail Buffalo. Capt. Shepard of the Northerner was very reticent about the collision, but from what could be gleaned his steamer sheered into the tow; he being on the watch himself assisted the man at the wheel to put the helm over to avoid a collision. The tow-line between the John O'Neil and the Russell was an unusually long one, and the Northerner was close to the Canadian bank. Capt. Shepard states that his boat became unmanageable and sheered into the Russell as above stated. The vessel lies sunk in almost mid channel, being a little closer to the American side, and is a serious impediment to lake navigation as the channel is narrow and the current extremely rapid. The Kate Winslow passed the wreck safely and was picked up by the tug Goodnow and proceeded down the river.

Apple Crop in Michigan and Elsewhere.

Post and Tribune.

The yield of apples this season will not be a large one, and not what was expected early in the season. It is generally admitted that New York and Canada will have a light crop. Michigan will vary from a quarter to a half crop, while Illinois and Missouri will probably have the largest and best crop of apples gathered for many years. While the east may have only a light crop, it must not be presumed that there will be no apples to ship from those states, as a short crop in nine cases out of ten is greatly underestimated. However, allowing there will be a short crop, the liberal crop in Illinois and Missouri will no doubt make up the deficiency in the east. Besides, other western states which do not ship apples will have a good crop for their own use, and there may not be so urgent a demand from interior points as usual, and the present outlook warrants dealers in making the statement that the public need not fear very high prices for apples the coming winter.

The foreign crop of apples is reported as almost a failure, and reports from abroad intimate that large importations of American apples will be required. This will tend to enhance the value of apples to some extent and a good trade will no doubt exist during the fall and winter months at reasonable prices.

Fooling a Quiet Man.

A day or two ago a man wearing a look of doubt, and having the air of one carrying a great mental burden, made up to a citizen who was seated under one of the City Hall porticoes, and softly began: "I'm green. I live out here about ten miles, and I never read nor hear anything until it's a year old. I want to ask you a question." "All right, sir." "What is the Oscar Wilde style?" "Well, there is a chap named Oscar Wilde. He's a cross between a fool and a lunatic. He dresses like a child, and sees more beauty in an old brick-yard than the rest of us can find in a botanical garden. Anything outrageous, ridiculous or absurd is called after him." "Is that it? Well, that settles me!" "What is your trouble?" "Well, you see, I have a wife and two daughters. About six months ago I caught one of the gals a-kissing a carpenter, and she said it was the Oscar Wilde style. Then I ran on to the other with her head on the hired man's shoulder, and she said the same thing. I didn't know, you know, and I had to let it pass. I didn't want my gals to be behind the age, you see, and so I didn't kick. Then I caught the old woman feeding caramels to a house-painter, and that was the Oscar Wilde style once more. It's been going on all over my farm ever since—moonlight walks, kissing under the apple trees, hugging on the veranda, and calling each other darling all over the dooryard. And now it wasn't the Oscar Wilde style after all?" "Hardly." "That settles me some more! I'm going home! I'm going at the rate of six miles an hour! I'm going to bounce in on 'em in the midst of their hilarity, and if I don't mangle and pulverize the whole caboodle I'll come back to the kicked! Oscar Wilde! Why, I'll slam 'em and bang 'em and mop 'em to flinders! Oscar Wilde! Why, I'll——!" And he went away on a trot with a glare in his eyes and his fists doubled up.

Charles Reade at Work.

In the airy—and dusty—region of the Uxbridge Road, a little way beyond Shepherd's Bush, Mr. Charles Reade has pitched the tent removed from Naboth's Vineyard, where, during his absences from Oxford, he abode for several years. It is characteristic of the owner that his house is absolutely unpretentious in appearance. Its only noticeable feature is a large lawn and narrow flower-beds, the latter protected by wire network from the hares Mr. Reade has resolved to domesticate, after the manner of Cowper.

The inside of the house is also characteristic. It is a strange mixture of the purely individual and the conventional commonplace, as if mind had encountered matter offering resistance to theories of decoration. When it is considered how long and how justly Mr. Reade has occupied a high rank in the English literary hierarchy, it seems absurd that the walls of his dining-room and drawing-room should be unadorned by first-class paintings or etchings. If he had been lucky enough to be born a Frenchman, instead of an Englishman, he would probably be living in a marble hotel, enriched with paintings and sketches by the most prominent artists of the last thirty years; but there is no air of art in Mr. Reade's house. The few pictures he has, however, are fairly treated. According to his principle that decoration should not be put upon decoration, just as heralds disallow metal on metal and color on color, his drawing room walls are painted white and those of his dining room mauve. All who know Mr. Reade are assured that paint, be the same mauve or white, is a mere concession to the condition of his house. For his own part he abhors paint, having a keen appreciation for "the beauty of God's woods as He has made them;" a theory fully carried out in old days at Oxford, and in the snuggery actually occupied by the master of the present house himself. Wood is in itself so highly decorative, in the opinion of Mr. Reade, that it needs no paint, as good wine needs no bush. This opinion—quite at varience with that of the late Mr. W. Burges, A. R. A., who could have painted the finest wood in the world—is quite irrespective of the fancy woods specially used for decorative purposes. In maple or in red deal there is enough and to spare of beauty, if they be only planed, not sand-papered, to a proper surface. It may be recollected that Mr. Reade, in his rooms at Oxford, was one of the first to relieve his walls of the coverings imposed during many tasteless years. Strata of paper and paint were stripped away until the original paels appeared, with the accurate mouldings, long disguised by paint, graining and varnish. In his new writing room everything is of red deal, and the effect is undoubtedly handsome, or rather would be so if any attempt at ensemble were made.

To the mind of the literary workman there are few more interesting places than the writing room of Mr. Charles Reade. The occupant is unquestionably a handsome man, with clear-cut features, bright eyes, and gray hair longer than present fashion admits; the beard is cut to a sharp point in Louis Treize fashion, and frames the pale face admirably. A certain grace of manner recalls the gentleman of the old school, and terse, pungent phrase displays the philosopher as well as the literary workman. If it were sought to express the salient peculiarity of Charles Reade's talk in a few words, it might be said to be the curious faculty of accurate condensation—that condensation which attains brevity without sacrificing clearness. He is able to find words which express with precision ideas such as the law involves, with its barbarous unscientific terminology, in profound confusion.

In the course of one of his stories Mr. Reade thought fit to tell his readers, between the lines, how he did his work. He pictured a man who referred for everything to his "Tizer," a pet name for the Morning Advertiser, a newspaper remarkable for the variety of information which it contains. His imaginary personage thought everything worth knowing gravitated to the "Tizer," and would be found in its clearly-printed pages. Now Mr. Reade does not confine himself to the Morning Advertiser, but skims a vast amount of journalism. His method is exactly the opposite of that approved, if not practiced, by Theophile Gautier and Jules Janin, who protested that the accumulation of facts paralyzed the brain and annihilated the faculty of invention. Their plan was to distribute what my Lord Foppington called the "sprouts" of their brain, while Mr. Reade's apparently is to converge human experience upon his. His shelves and bookcases of red deal are filled with almost innumerable volumes of newspaper and other cuttings and extracts, all duly classified and indexed. In this idea of classification Mr. Reade is akin to the Astronomer Royal, who under one heading has grouped evidences of contemporary superstition in which it would be almost impossible to believe with ocular demonstration. Mr. Reade has gone on collecting and classifying until he has found it convenient to print a key to his curious collection. In his "Miscellanea Classificanda" one finds the most curious headings; for instance, "Kiss, Price of," the same supported by a long list of the penalties and circumstances attending the capture of a kiss from unwilling maid or matron. Under the heading, "Crushed Ribs—Madhouse," is a number of cases by which it was once shown by Mr. Reade that a mad patient cannot break several ribs by a fall, unless something or somebody fall upon him. He succeeded in establishing that even if a man fall from a considerable height it is the tones of the limbs, and not the ribs, which are broken; and that, therefore, if a patient died of broken ribs, it was because his nurse or warder crushed them with his knees. His accumulation of evidence on this point is curiously complete. All this fondness for facts arises from a firmly grounded belief that similar cases produce similar effects, and that any incident drawn from actual history must be true, and may be repeated by nature to the great increase of the writer's reputation. In one instance this theory received singular confirmation. When it occurred to Mr. Reade to employ the incident of the Sheffield inundation, he went to the spot, and in the course of collecting all the evidence at hand, came on the fact that a man rode in front of the water down the valley. The water, albeit its speed appeared tremendous, went no faster than eighteen miles an hour, and the man, for the distance he went, could gallop at the rate of twenty. So he kept well ahead of the flood; but it was always at his heels. Mr. Reade used the incident in the magnificent chapter in "Put Yourself in His Place," and was much gratified to find that a year or two ago, when a similar reservoir burst in America, a horseman rode on ahead of the flood to warn the inhabitants. The pace of water down a straight or zizzag valley would naturally vary; but Mr. Reade's incident had recurred, and the fact made him—as an old student of Aristotle—very happy. On this and a thousand other subjects, Mr. Reade is the most charming of conversationalists. There is not merely manner, but matter, in his stories and remarks. It is to be doubted, however, whether the system of convergence or the "Tizer" method has paid in the long run. Its inventor, who is the most candid of men, admits that it has not answered "proportionately" to the trouble and boredom it has caused. The experience has proved rather curious than valuable. It is the old story of the camel, and the way in which a Frenchman, an Englishman and a German would write about that animal. As the celebrated Rigolboche is said by her biographer to have remarked, "Everything depends on temperament." To this it may be added that good horses run in all "forms," and that every good writer has his own way of doing his work.

On one of the main streets of Council Bluffs, Ia., two houses stand on either side of a tombstone establishment. Each house is occupied by a doctor, and directly opposite an undertaker plies his trade. Next door to the undertaker lives a third physician, whose home adjoins a livery stable on the other side, and until recently a hospital was the next building but one. The Council Bluffs Nonpareil wants to know if any city in the United States can beat that combination.

If we were all permitted to put our own valuation on ourselves there would not be a low-priced man in the world.

THE FARM.

Is Horse-Shoeing Useless?

Sir George W. Cox in *Frazer's Magazine* estimates that the English custom of horse-shoeing costs the nation annually as much as $42,000,000, which might be saved if the horses were allowed to go unshod. He quotes authorities from Xenophon, who marched his horses unshod from Cunaxa over the Armenian Highlands to the walls of Trebizond, down to the "free lancers" of the present day, and contends that it is safer, cheaper and better to let the horses go unshod over the hardest roads, and especially in streets. He estimates that over twelve million dollars would be saved in the farmer's bills alone; and he calculates further that the working life of a horse would be trebled by the change, so that a horse which is now worn out at twelve years would live to twenty-six. The figures seem somewhat startling, and have hardly been sufficiently proved to be trustworthy. Meanwhile, it is said that a medical man in Waterbury, Conn., has not put shoes on his horses for two years, driving them winter, summer, spring and autumn with bare feet without any trouble. The doctor's theory is that nature has provided for the horse; that a horse can travel over all kinds of roads; that the hoof will be moist, and keeps the hoof properly spread, and free from founder and other diseases.

Value of the Wren in Destroying Insects.

The observations I have been able to make during a residence of several years on a farm have convinced me that the common house wren is really one of our most valuable birds, not perhaps, from what they have done, but from the possibilities wrapped up in their diminutive bodies. They are quite as social as the purple marlin or the bluebird, and greatly surpass either of these in the rapidity with which they increase. I began several years ago to provide them with nesting places in the vicinity of my buildings. Sometimes I fastened the skull of a horse or ox, or a small box, in a tree top. But latterly I have made it a practice every spring to obtain thirty or forty cigar boxes for this purpose. If the box is long and large, I put a partition across the middle, and make a hole through into each apartment. It is very seldom that these boxes are not occupied by one of these little families. In most instances two broods are annually reared in each nesting place. One of my boxes last season turned out three broods of young wrens—six little hungry birds each time, or eighteen in all. I think a cigar box never before did better duty. The lamented Robert Kennicott stated that a single pair of wrens carried to their young about a thousand insects in a single day. Like all young, rapidly growing birds, they are known to be voracious eaters, living entirely upon insects. The point upon which most stress may be laid is this: That by providing them with nesting places in our gardens, orchards or grounds, and not allowing them to be caught by cats or scared away by boys, we may have scores, if not hundreds of them about us during most of the time in which insects are destructive. They undoubtedly return to the same localities year after year. Last season I had about thirty of these nesting boxes, and all but two or three, which were not favorably located, were occupied. My crop of wrens could scarcely have been less than one hundred and fifty, and the old birds filled the air with music when they were not on duty in building their nests or feeding their young. I intend to put up at least a hundred of these nesting-boxes in my orchards and groves, and I have no doubt I shall be repaid a hundred thousand fold for the little labor it costs. As long as they come back so regularly every year and in constantly increasing numbers, and serve me so well, I shall do all in my power to protect and encourage them. And I am of the opinion that when one species of social, useful birds can be made to congregate in such unusual numbers others will come also. But the hardiness, sociability, love of the locality where it is reared, and wonderful fecundity of the house wren, render it in my judgment one of the most valuable of our insectivorous birds.

Robins and Strawberries.

The robin gets its name from its relation to the strawberry bed. We believe the naturalists and philologists are agreed upon this point. Some very earnest champions, not only of the theory of design in everything, but also of a man's ability to discover every time what the design is, contend that the red breast of the bird is given it as a protection, like the white of the snow ptarmigan or the autumn brown of the partridge, so that when at work among the red berries its color will prevent its detection.

This works up neatly, but we doubt it. It is the theory of the philosopher in his closet, not of the gardener in his paradise. The fact is, there is a certain previousness in the temperament of the bird that prevents it from waiting for the red berries, which has a tendency to weaken this otherwise clever conclusion. The owner of the strawberry plants, as the crop approaches maturity, surveys the bed with no little pride, notes the earliest and most promising plants, and decides that the next day he will pick a cupful for a taste. But that very day the robin drops down among the immature fruit, regardless of any question of the fitness of colors, and clears off everything that has any show of ripening about it. If the supply is a little scant he eats off some of the entirely hard ones and throws them about, "just for greens," as they say. On the other hand, if the supply is too liberal, after he has eaten his fill he goes about puncturing the rest, slashing them to pieces with his beak.

On the first day this is a disappointment to the cultivator; by the third day, it is a real annoyance; oh toward the middle of the second week it is an unbearable outrage, and he buys a shad net for protection. A shad net is very different from a robin. A robin takes only the strawberry, whereas the net takes everything. Before you get it all spread out, it has caught around coat-buttons, sleeve-buttons, scarf-pin, and shoe-buttons, and anything else it can grab, and the first result of your experiment is to find yourself considerably involved, as they say when a man runs away. In this case, however, you are so involved that there is no running. When it is unwound, you finally do spread the net over your plants preparatory to stretching it on a frame. It settles quietly down and the work is about done. At last you give a hearty pull and lift the net off the ground. It comes, but it still has the same characteristics that made it grab every button you had. In each mesh is either a berry or a blossom. Thinking they will shake out you pull still harder. Suddenly they start, and before you realize it, you have stripped the whole of them off your vines. There they lie, from red berry to white flower, the whole harvest cleaned right off. Thus the net is more thorough than the robin, but they each work to the same result.

For us in the city, therefore, it is a choice of evils. If we insist upon pretending to raise berries, we must decide between cultivating shad nets or robins. The berry business is a mere disguise for these other industries. There are reasons why it is better to let the net alone and attend only to robins. The former are rather rank in flavor. The more you handle them the more the unpleasant side of the fish business suggests itself. Not so the robin. It is a real delicacy. The thing to do is to realize the true worth of the bird. We must dispose of sentiment as the robin does of the berries—swallow it. The fact is there is nothing better on the table than a good plump robin, and there is no more reason why we should rebel against killing robins, than telephone to the market for a pair of "broiled" chickens. A bird's a bird for a' that. We must come to regard the berry crop as a means to an end. It is like grain on a stock farm. It fattens the animals. That is the whole of it. There is no call to worry about lost fruit, if only by and by we rejoice over birds that are gathered. The time will come when people will realize this, and one robin pot-pie will balance a good many lost strawberry shortcakes. So long as we try to raise trees and birds and berries, one of the crop is doomed to fail. Our duty is to harvest what is left.—*Charles Dudley Warner.*