NEWS OF THE WEEK.

WASHINGTON.

BELMONT'S VIEWS

Representative Belmont, of New York, informed the Secretary of the Treasury that his report respecting the frauds in the importation of Hawaiian sugar was based on statements made before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and that unless the statements were absolutely false they are quite sufficient to warrant an investigation of the subject.

HORR WAS SUCCESSFUL.

Michigan's representative, Horr, has taken a very active part in the debate on the tariff bill, and when the question of placing hemlock bark on the free list was under discussion, so forcible were his arguments in opposition to such a step, that he was successful in having the duty retained. Mr. Horr took the ground that among small farmers in thickly wooded sections the gathering of bark for tanning purposes was a great industry, and should be protected.

EXONERATED.

Long, the pilot of the steamer Lomas, which ran into and sunk the steamer Scioto on the Ohio river in July last, has been exonerated from all blame, by the board of steamboat inspectors, and his license restored. His license was revoked at the time of the disaster, by the local inspector.

A FAT OFFICE.

The bill introduced by Mr. Belford to promote commercial relations with Central and South America provides for the appointment by the President of a commissioner at a salary of $10,000 a year to visit the principal Central and South American independent countries and collect information as to the efforts those countries are making or are desirous to make to secure increased commercial facilities with the United States and appropriating $26,000 for the purpose.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The Supreme Court has decided invalid the act of the New York Legislature imposing upon steamship companies a tax of $1 for every alien passenger brought from a foreign port to New York.

A GOOD SHOWING.

The issue of standard silver dollars for the week ending Feb. 3, was $198,000. For the same time last year the amount was $117,000.

CONGRESS.

SENATE, Jan. 30.—Mr. Logan presented a petition in favor of the passage of the bill for increasing the pensions of the one-legged and one-armed soldiers.... The usual number of petitions in relation to the tariff was sent to the clerk's table. Mr. Cockrell reported adversely from the committee on military affairs the resolution authorizing the secretary of war to loan tents.... Mr. Morrill, of the committee on finance, reported favorably the house bill to ratify the issuance of duplicate checks in certain cases by the superintendent of the mint of the United States.... On motion of Mr. Hale the calendar was postponed to take up the joint resolution for an appropriation of $100,000 to continue the census work. A long discussion ensued on the resolution, during which the conduct of the census bureau was severely criticised, but it finally passed without division.

HOUSE.—In the House Mr. Calkins of Indiana, introduced a resolution to pay the contestant and contestee in the third Missouri election case their expenses incurred in the contest. The bill gives Mr. Sessinghaus $16,640 and Mr. Frost $10,816. Referred to the committee on elections. Mr. Caswell, of Wisconsin reported the postoffice bill, with 11 Senate amendments. The House concurred in the amendments increasing amounts for compensation of postoffice clerks $75,000, and non-concurred in the amendment striking out the clause authorizing the postmaster general to fix compensation of subsidy railroads, that inserting "for necessary and special facilities on Trunk lines" ($1,875,000), and the third section authorizing the commission to examine and report upon fast mail transportation by railroads.

SENATE, Jan. 31.—Mr. Miller, Cal., from the foreign relations committee, reported favorably a bill to incorporate the maritime canal company, Nicaraguan company.... Mr. Hawley of Conn., introduced a bill to retire Quartermaster General Rufus Ingalls with the rank of major general.... The bill providing for holding a centennial cotton and industrial exposition in 1884 was called up and after some discussion passed.... The tariff bill was then taken up for consideration. The discussion was confined to the sugar question.... After adopting resolutions on the death of Representative Orth of Indiana, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The speaker laid before the House a resolution of the board of trade, Portland, Oregon, thanking Commander Merriam for his prompt action in punishing insubordinate Indians of Alaska, thus rendering life and property secure.... Mr. Valentine of Nebraska, introduced a bill for construction of a bridge across the Missouri at Omaha.... The chemical schedule of the tariff bill was then considered, at the close of which the House began to eulogize the late Representative Orth of Indiana, and adopted resolutions of respect.

SENATE, Feb. 1.—The President presented joint resolutions of the Legislature of Illinois in relation to the Yellowstone National Park.... Messrs. Blair of New Hampshire, and Mahone of Virginia, presented petitions for national aid to common schools.... Mr. Ingalls of Kansas, presented petitions of citizens of Dakota against the division of the territory, and asking its admission with its present boundaries.... Mr. Morrill of Vermont, offered a resolution suspending so much of the act of February 28, 1878, as authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase silver bullion at market price, not less than $2,000,000 nor more than $4,000,000 worth per month, and cause the same to be coined into dollars as fast as purchased.... Also a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Committee on Education and Labor to inquire into the expediency of providing by law against the employment of convict labor by the United States.... The Senate then resumed consideration of the tariff bill, and continued their discussion of the sugar question. The discussion became very animated, the southern senators, and more particularly the Senator from Louisiana, protesting against any tax on sugar that would interfere with the prosperity of their constituents.

HOUSE.—Mr. Kelley of Penn., asked that an agreement should be entered into whereby the House should sit until 6 o'clock every day that the tariff bill was under consideration.... Mr. Morrison of Illinois, regarded the request as a proper one, and a tacit agreement was entered into as suggested by Mr. Kelley. ...The House then in committee of the whole resumed consideration of the tariff bill.

SENATE, Feb. 2.—A number of petitions were presented relating to the tariff.... The New York chamber of commerce presented a memorial urging the discontinuance of the standard silver dollars.... A bill was introduced to amend the national bank act. After some debate, the bill was referred to the committee on finance.... The tariff bill was taken up after routine business.

HOUSE.—Mr. Lynch of Mass., reported a bill, which was passed, returning the thanks of congress to John F. Slater of Conn., for his generous donation of $2,000,000 for the education of the colored people of the south, and directing a gold medal to be presented to him. .... After some other routine business, the consideration of private business was set aside, and the House went into committee of the whole on the tariff bill.

SENATE, Feb. 5.—After receiving a number of memorials and petitions, concerning pensions for one-legged soldiers, and for the flood sufferers, and other matters of minor importance, the Senate devoted a long session to discussion of the tariff bill. The usual debate followed the announcement of this measure, but aside from this no important action was taken in the matter.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced by Mr. Cobb of Indiana, to prevent the Secretary of the Interior from issuing patents to land grant railroads where such roads have not been completed within a specific time, and by Mr. Belford of Colorado, to promote the commercial relations with Central and South America.... The legislative appropriation bill was brought up, but when a motion was made to discuss the bill, it was defeated.... Considerable time was devoted to discussing the advisability of admitting Dakota. The bill is regarded purely business in its inception, and upon that ground its admission was strongly urged. The question was debated at length, but the bill finally went over without action.... Mr. Kelley of Penn., moved to suspend other rules and adopt the following resolution: That on February 12, or on any day thereafter, the committee of the whole on the State of the Union having consideration of the House Tariff bill, is hereby empowered to order the bill and amendments thereto, to the House for its action with such recommendations as may be determined upon by a majority of the votes of said committee, and on February 12 a motion made in the committee of the whole to rise and report the bill to the House shall take precedence of motion and amendment. The resolution called forth an animated discussion, which soon became personal in its nature, and the House adjourned amid much confusion.

NEWS NOTES.

BROTHER FRANK AGAIN.

Brother Frank, director of St. Joseph's Catholic college, order of christian brothers, Buffalo, N. Y., who was charged with outraging a little girl of seven years a few weeks ago, was arraigned in the court of sessions in that city on the morning of Jan. 30. He pleaded not guilty. He appeared calm and self-possessed in court. An effort will be made to show that the charge against him is an after-thought to cover up the real assailant.

A SAD CASE.

Mrs. Melville, wife of engineer Melville, is in greatly reduced circumstances. Her children are all ill, and she has been obliged to borrow money to procure medicine for them. A movement is on foot to start a popular subscription for her benefit.

ANOTHER CASE.

Isaac H. Vincent, state treasurer of Alabama, has absconded, leaving a shortage of $200,000 in his accounts. Nothing is known of his whereabouts. Rewards are offered for his apprehension.

THEY WANT A BETTER LAW.

After a hearing given to the clergymen representing the different religious denominations, of Augusta, Maine, petitioning for a change in the divorce law, the judiciary committee of the legislature of that state, has decided to prepare a bill, doing away with the discretion allowed the grand jury hearing the case and obviating the present law, to provide specific causes for which divorces shall be decreed.

A CONFLAGRATION.

A dispatch from New York, dated Feb. 1, 2:50 a. m., says a heavy fire is raging at the docks near Canal street. Sheds, stores and shipping are all a blaze. The ships spars bear the blaze from one vessel to another, and it will be very difficult to save anything. From the remotest part of the city fire apparatus has come to the scene of the disaster. Explosions are constantly occurring, making the work of the firemen very hazardous. All property there has been abandoned to the flames. The loss will reach up into the millions. The fire is in the Inman steamship dock.

MASKED BURGLARY.

At Kingsville, Ont., on the night of Jan. 29, as the clerk in Smart's bank was locking the bank door at 11 o'clock, he was pounced upon by three masked men, gagged and dragged into the bank. The key of the vault was taken from him and the safe cleaned out. They then locked the clerk up in the vault and left. The amount stolen is not made public as yet, but is supposed to be considerable. The burglars took a northerly direction and cut the telephone wire leading north, so as to prevent being tracked. Smart's bank and the postoffice were together, and both were cleaned out.

A TERRIBLE SNOW-SLIDE.

One of the most disastrous snow-slides ever known in the Rocky Mountain region occurred three miles from Crested Butte, on the 31st ult. A house in which 30 miners were sleeping was crushed to atoms and the human occupants rolled down the mountain side. Seven of the occupants were killed and the others seriously, some fatally, injured.

IT ISN'T SO.

The statement made a few days since that a fast train was to be run between New York and San Francisco, is officially denied. Vanderbilt says the trains are now being run as fast as it pays to run them.

AN EXPLOSION.

A terrible explosion occurred near Acton, Mass., in the American powder company's works. Fortunately no lives were lost, though much damage was done to property. Friction the cause.

NASH'S OPINION.

C. D. Nash, president of the Newhall house association, in the Milwaukee inquest, gave it as his opinion that the fire was incendiary, and left room for the inference that Scheller was the party. He first refused to give information on the latter point, but being pressed said: "Well, sir, I have no confidence in a drunkard and gambling man who goes home at 4 o'clock in the morning and cannot give a satisfactory account of himself."

WINDOM'S SUCCESSOR.

D. M. Sabine was elected United States Senator from Minnesota on the 29th ballot.

SECRETARY CHANDLER'S OPINION.

Concerning the recent troubles at the military academy at Annapolis, the nature of which is hardly understood, Secretary Chandler expresses himself thus: The disturbances and insubordination at Annapolis will doubtless subside if the superintendent is allowed to work out a result without interference, but if the cadets are encouraged to resist by their parents and friends the dismissal of 40 or fifty may result. The great difficulty in the management of the academy is that the boys and their relatives fail to recognize that the school is not an ordinary seminary of learning like that where students pay for education. This is an institution of military discipline where boys have their expenses paid by the United States, in order that they may be thoroughly educated and trained to a life of self-denial and self control and fitted for the restraints and duties of the military profession. If boys expect the same privileges, liberties and easy life which they may have in an ordinary academy they should resign and let their places be filled by young gentlemen who are willing to commit themselves to the privations and labors of the academy in order that through its discipline as well as the instruction they may become qualified to command naval vessels of the United States. So far as the department now understands the difficulties at the academy, it will sustain the superintendent, even to the extent of dismissal of the larger part of the classes.

A JEW-HATER'S PLAN.

Forster, a celebrated Jew-hater and chief promoter of the celebrated petition to Bismarck against Jews, with a small band of adherents, has started for Paraguay to found New Dutchland, where synagogues are to be forbidden and bourses unknown.

WANT TO HELP THE BOYS.

A committee of Irishmen has been formed in London for the purpose of raising funds to help the prisoners charged with conspiracy to murder officials.

THE NEW YORK FIRE.

The fire on the New York piers on the morning of February 1st, was the most disastrous known along the river front for over five years. The loss will reach over $1,000,000. No loss of life has been reported as yet, but it is feared that several longshoremen were at work on some of the vessels who have not yet reported.

THE HISTORIAN GREENE IS DEAD.

Prof. Geo. Washington Greene, LLD., the renowned historian died Feb. 2, in East Greenwich, R. I. Prof. Greene was a grand son of Gen. Nathaniel Greene, of Revolutionary fame. He was a man of brilliant attainments, being for some years instructor in modern languages in Brown university, his *alma mater*, and latterly non-resident professor of history at Cornell university. He was the author of several prominent historical works, including the famous "Views of the American Revolution."

FIRE AND EXPLOSION.

The town of Kirksville, Mo., was almost wiped out on the 24 inst. by fire, which started in a grocery store in the main business square. A driving wind soon spread the flames to Willard's drug store on one side and the Ives hotel on the other. While large numbers of citizens were fighting the fire a series of explosions occurred in the drug store and numbers of people were injured, several being carried away on litters. Among the injured was the telegraph operator, which accounts for lack of particulars.

ANOTHER STEAMSHIP DISASTER.

News has just been received from Portland, Oregon, that the steamer Tacoma went ashore on the 29th ult. four miles north of the Umpqua river. The cause of the accident is a mystery. The ship was supposed to be well off shore, and the only theory advanced in explanation of the disaster is the possible disarrangement of the compass. The ship was so badly broken up that nothing can be saved from the wreck. It is not yet definitely known how many were on board the ill-fated vessel. Five bodies have already been recovered.

A SNOW BLOCKADER.

The storm which began on the 3d inst. was general throughout the entire country. Railway travel in all sections was seriously hindered and in some cases entirely abandoned. Telegraph wires in all directions are broken down, so that the full extent of the embargo cannot be ascertained. At Toledo great fear is felt of a repetition of the disastrous flood of 1881. Merchants have removed all of their goods to a place of safety, and every precaution has been taken to avert the disaster, which, unless a freeze-up occurs soon, is unevitable.

BIG BLAZES.

Oil leaking from one of the stills at the oil refinery of Thurmer & Teagle, on Kingsbury run, at the Wilson avenue crossing, Cleveland, Saturday, while the water of the run was very high, came up to the boiler house, where it ignited and exploded, firing the still, the contents of which went into the run and in a few minutes covered its surface with flames. Along the center of the stream the blazing oil ran from Wilson avenue to Broadway, directly toward the works of the Standard oil company, causing a slight blaze at the paraffine works of Merriam & Morgan en route, which was promptly extinguished, however. By this time the oil and water had risen to such a hight as to cover the alarm box at the Standard works and render it useless. The Standard people were ordered by the fire officers to extinguish every fire about their works. Notwithstanding this precaution about 12:30 p. m. three heavy and successive explosions scattered as many of the Standard tanks into fragments, and spread oil in every direction. Ten minutes later a gasoline tank containing 3,000 barrels exploded with a report that was heard for miles. Instantly a number of wooden structures caught fire, and a moment later the newly built summer-house, costing $8,000 was ablaze. From that time till nearly 9 p. m. the fight went on, the firemen doing what they could to save property in the yards, while the Standard employes were fighting fire away from the river. At 9 p. m. one of the largest tanks exploded with terrific force. Instantly flames shot up and lighted the city in every quarter. Engines were playing upon the storage houses at the east of the yard, while workmen were rolling away barrels of oil to places of safety. Sunday morning the fire had about exhausted itself, leaving a scene that resembles chaos. At Thurmer & Teagle's works and the Republic works the losses will reach $6,000 in burned oil, while it is believed at least 50,000 barrels of oil were destroyed at the Standard works. The aggregate loss will reach $300,000 at a modest estimate, though Col. Payne, treasurer, says the exact loss cannot be told until the water subsides and a careful examination is made. It is thought, however, that two years will be needed to restore the works to the condition of Friday last. The fire was still burning in spots on Sunday, disclosing the wrecks of 10 receiving tanks, 20 to 30 stills and other smaller works.

FLOODS AT PITTSBURG.

The water in the Allegheny river has been rising rapidly for several days, and a tremendous amount of wreckage has passed down the river with heavy masses of ice. Cities all along the river are inundated, and the damage to property is very great, reaching over $100,000 in Allegheny City alone. No lives have been reported lost as yet, though it is feared that when fuller reports are given much disaster to river people and residents in bottom lands will be shown. Trains from the west were delayed over 36 hours. At last accounts the river had ceased to rise, and was slowly falling.

HAVE RENDERED A VERDICT.

The coroner's jury returned a verdict in the investigation of the Newhall house disaster on the afternoon of the 5th inst. The jury find that the proprietors of the house were guilty of culpable negligence in not employing a sufficient number of watchmen to guard the house against fire and to awaken the inmates to save all lives possible. They also found the house easy of egress and devoid of intricate passages, with two outside escapes, ladders, etc. Nevertheless they found the owner of the Newhall guilty of negligence in not having provided more escapes in case of fire. They also found fault with the net-work of telegraph wires surrounding the hotel.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

ABOUT THE EXPULSION BILL.

The question as to what shall be done with the expulsion bill is still troubling the ministry of France. There is at present every probability that the senate will reject the bill, and so precipitate a conflict with the chamber of deputies. Such a conflict would end in a dissolution, which politicians here who are closely watching the situation say will strengthen the republic. A disposition now exists to promptly settle this question, that the best interests of the country may be promoted.

THE FRENCH PREMIER IS SICK.

M. Fallieres has been ordered by his physicians to take at least one week's rest. The prime minister is in an excited and nervous condition, but it is thought that a few days quiet, free from the turmoils of state, will restore him to good health.

ANOTHER MANIFESTO.

A report is current in Paris that the Orleans Princes have drawn up a manifesto in which they protest against the charges made against them, and declare their readiness to sacrifice personal interests for France. It is stated that should the necessity arise they will publish a manifesto and at the same moment quit the country.

THE PREMIER IS IMPROVING.

Gladstone is rapidly improving, and will be able to return to England and his duties in a short time.

A LITTLE UNEASY.

Public uneasiness is increasing in France. The impression prevails that the army does not like the expulsion bill. An intimation to this effect was conveyed to President Grevy.

BITS OF NEWS.

Gilbert, the actor, who was injured in the Milwaukee fire has again become deranged. He regained consciousness, but the news of the horrible death of his wife proved too much for him.

British sentries at all the Cairo palaces have been removed, and Egyptian soldiers are now guarding them.

The mysterious persons who committed the double murder in Phœnix Park so long ago have at last been discovered at Kilmainham jail.

The adjuster of insurance swears that the appliances in the Newhall house for extinguishing fires were more numerous than is usual in hotels.

A prisoner was publically whipped in Baltimore recently for whipping his wife. This is the first instance, since 1819, where corporeal punishment has been legally administered in Maryland.

All telegraph wires in Chicago are hereafter to be placed underground.

Heavy losses are reported from all the great cattle ranches of the northwest, as a result of the recent cold weather.

Toledo, Ohio, has raised nearly $4,000 for the relief of the German flood sufferers.

In New York, special teachers and colored schools are to be abolished.

One hundred vessels loaded with potatoes are frozen in Halifax bay.

The Sultan wants to know all about the condition of affairs in Egypt, and has ordered a full report to be made to him.

Mrs. Mary Brown, a colored woman in Brooklyn, N. Y., died in that city recently, aged 105 years. "Aunty" Brown was spry to the time of her death, and could thread her needle without the aid of spectacles.

The reduction in the public debt for January amounted to $13,653,882.87; since June, 1882, $95,007,660.75.

Emperor Francis Joseph is the richest man of Europe.

Montreal is enjoying a temperance revival under the leadership of Father Martineau. Already over 6,000 signatures have been received to a total abstinence pledge.

Out of 57 petitions presented to the United States Senate for national aid to common schools, only one was from a northern state.

The French chamber has adopted Fabre's proposal prohibiting Orleans princes from holding civil or military office.

The state treasurer of Texas has joined the army of absconders. Amount of defalcation not yet known.

The officers charged with wrecking the City Bank of Jersey City, N. J., pleaded not guilty on 26 indictments.

Inflicting blows upon convicts by keepers of prisons, except in cases of self-defense and riot, is prohibited until the conflicting laws of New York upon the subjects are reconsidered.

A bill introduced in congress compels banks to close where the reserve falls below the amount provided by law.

Gen. Pope has been ordered to take vigorous measures to prevent Capt. Bayne and his followers from entering the Indian Territory.

Alabama offers $5,000 for the return of the runaway treasurer.

A political prisoner in Siberia has written a letter detailing in a graphic manner the sufferings of prisoners in the province beyond Lake Baikal. They are beaten in a cruel manner and badly fed.

Seven refractory cadets at Annapolis are in solitary confinement. The trouble has not yet been settled.

The United States supreme court has adjourned till March 5.

Earthquakes.

New York Sun.

The Province of Murcia, in Spain, had a pretty lively shaking up recently. Twenty-two successive earthquake shocks were felt there, several houses were destroyed, and consternation prevailed among the inhabitants. The day before there was a heavy earthquake shock in Bohemia. Last week Southern Illinois and Western Kentucky were shaken. Since the beginning of the year there have also been shocks in New England and Canada.

These disturbances of the earth's crust, occurring in rapid succession, attract attention to the theory that earthquakes are sometimes, at least, the result of causes affecting a large portion of the earth or perhaps the whole globe. Various so-called earthquake cycles have been pointed out, but it cannot be said that any one of them has been satisfactorily established. It is impossible to predict earthquakes, and the utmost that careful observation has so far proved is that there are certain periods when earthquakes are unusually numerous. All sorts of theories have been invented to account for these periodic disturbances of the earth. Some have ascribed earthquakes to the influence of comets, although the idea is about as well founded as that of the astrologers that comets foretell wars and famines. Others have thought that earthquakes may result from the varying force of the attraction of the sun, the moon, and the other planets upon the earth. There is, at least, some appearance of plausibility in this theory, but the whole question is yet open, and a great deal more information is needed before it can be in any degree settled.

There is, perhaps, no other display of natural forces, not even excepting volcanic eruptions, so frightful as a great earthquake. Earthquakes have destroyed many thousands of human beings and laid waste whole cities and provinces. They are entirely beyond human control, and experience has shown that they are just as likely to occur now as they were centuries ago. The questions what cause them, and is there any means of foreseeing their visitations, are therefore of great interest, and we have reason to be thankful that in this part of the world the solid ground is not often shaken, and that when the earthquake shock is felt it does little damage.

The tensile strength of glass has been shown to be between 2,000 and 9,000 pounds per square inch, and the crushing strength between 6,000 and 10,000 pounds per square inch. By trials a short time ago, M. Traulionie found that flooring-glass one inch square and one foot between the end supports breaks under a load of 170 pounds.

Russia is to send M. Sholtz Ragozinsky with an expedition to explore Central Africa next year. At first land will be bought and a meteorological station built on it at Cameroon Bay, and this will form the basis of the work. Germany is to give $25,000 for scientific exploration in Africa and other countries during the financial year 1883–4.

The Yellowstone Park.

New York Tribune.

The Great Northern Wonderland is just now exciting a lively public interest. Hemmed in by mountain ranges whose crests glitter with perpetual snow, the marvels of this volcanic basin were unknown until within a few years, and although Congress wisely set it apart and dedicated it to the people as a park forever, it has been so remote and inaccessible that comparatively few visitors have yet explored it. Last autumn, however, General Sheridan reported that too many tourists and hunters had been there already, and that the work of defacing the park and murdering the game had been most industriously prosecuted. It was recommended that an added area of forest land should be embraced within the park boundary as a game preserve, and that the whole be policed by the army to prevent further depredations. General Sheridan's report occasioned some discussion and people began to think how their priceless possession might be preserved.

The resolution of enquiry now before the Senate in regard to leasing certain hotel and other privileges in the park has again brought the matter before the people. A company of gentlemen including Mr. Rufus Hatch and Roscoe Conkling has been incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, with its principal office at the city of Elizabeth, under the style and title of the Yellowstone Park Improvement Company. By the terms of its charter this company is organized for the purpose of keeping hotels and running stages in the park—as well as of raising cattle and hogs and making itself active in a good many directions. This company claims already to have a lease from the Secretary of the Interior. Messrs. Hatch, Conkling & Co. agree with General Sheridan that tourists have wantonly disfigured and mutilated some of the most beautiful features of the park, and that the butchery of elk and other game in this region has been frightful. The company covenants in its proposed lease to protect the Park from marauders and murderers, and its friends assert that General Sheridan's troopers were themselves flagrant offenders in this regard. It is alleged that thousands of acres of forest were then burned over, and that the General's camp-fires kindled the conflagration. The soldiers, too, it is stated, cut down trees and used them as battering rams to break down the geyser cones, so that the crystals could be carried off as mementos.

General Bristin is another citizen who is deeply interested in the park in general, and the navigation of Yellowstone Lake in particular, which privilege for ten years he estimates as worth $1,000,000,0000. He naturally objects to have anybody else "hog the whole park."

Now it is certain that within a short time a branch road will run southward from the Northern Pacific, while another will extend northward from the Union Pacific to the park. As soon as visitors can reach the confines of this basin, with its gloomy canons, and rivers plunging into their depths, its boiling springs and mud volcanos and spouting geysers, without leaving their parlor cars, the region will be thronged. Some provision for their comfort and entertainment will be needed. Preparation for this purpose must be made too, within the park, for its present boundaries contain some 2,500 square miles. But of course great caution should be exercised in granting exclusive privileges. The first thing to be cared for is the park itself. The elemental forces which made the world here display themselves as they are not manifested in any other part of the earth's surface. The scenery, too, has a unique impressiveness, as if some distinct preparation had been made for this heart of the Continent, from which water flows to the Gulf of California, the Pacific, and the Atlantic through the Gulf of Mexico. The preservation of this wonderland as it is, in all its original grandeur, should be the prime condition exacted from any or all who are granted privileges from the Government. And this protection should mean more than simply guarding the forests from fire and the geyser cones from being battered down. The danger from "improvements" is quite as serious as any threatened by the wantonness or thoughtlessness of visitors. The most sublime scenery, when sacrificed by a brutal engineer, may lose all its impressiveness, and the obstrusive ugliness of some misplaced hotel can disfigure the noblest landscape. Not a road should be graded for a single structure erected in Yellowstone Park until plans have been submitted to some artist of recognized taste. Provision against the vulgar intrusion of distracting and incongruous objects should be another condition in any lease of park privileges.

First Use of Anthracite Coal.

Pittsburg Commercial.

Anthracite coal was discovered in Pennsylvania soon after the settlement of the Wyoming valley, but its first practical use was by Obadiah Grose, in his blacksmith's shop, in the year 1768. In 1791 Philip Ginter discovered anthracite coal on the Lehigh. In 1802 Robert Morris of Philadelphia, formed a company and purchased 6,000 acres of the property on which Ginter discovered the coal. The company was called the Lehigh Coal Mine. This company opened the mine and found the vein to be 50 feet thick, and of the very best quality of coal. The company made every effort to secure a demand for the coal, but without success, and having become thoroughly disgusted with their speculation, leased the 6,000 acres of this mammoth coal-field to Messrs. White & Hazard of Philadelphia for 20 years, at an annual rental of one ear of corn. Messrs. White & Hazard tried to use the coal in the blast furnace in 1826, but failed; the furnace chilled. In 1832 Neilson conceived the idea of hot blast for saving fuel, and in 1833 David Thomas adopted the idea of the hot blast and anthracite together. White & Hazard had previous to this formed a company and bought the property. In 1839 David Thomas made the use of anthracite for making pig metal a success, by which the 20 ears of corn were transferred into $20,000,000. And this is the early history of the great Lehigh coal mines of the present day. At a banquet given Bard Batterson and Nicholas Biddle, at Mount Carbon, in 1840, William Lyman, proprietor of the Pioneer Furnace, was paid $5,000, the premium they had offered for the first successful use of anthracite coal as fuel in the blast furnace. But David Thomas was the lion of the day.

EDISON SAYS.—In the course of an interview recently Edison gave the following result of a long extended series of observations on the ways of mankind: There is nothing succeeds in this world unless it is awful, awful practical—so practical that a mule can run it. I remember once going into a printing office and seeing a case which had been carefully distributed by a compositor. Some of the boxes were heaped up too full—while others did not seem to have enough in them. I thought I would equalize the distribution; but I soon found out what a mess I had made of it and that my theory of equalization was not in accordance with the practical workings of a printing office. Since then I have been very careful to keep my fingers out of other men's cases.

SCIENCE NOTES.

Prof. Whitney maintains that the earth is gradually drying up—a process which commenced in cretaceous times. The increasing dryness, within the historical period of Persia, Arabia, the countries around the Aral and Caspian, North Africa and Greece, is proved by abundant facts.

A new process called "Similigravure" has been invented by M. Charles Petit by which photographs are reproduced on metals so that prints may be taken from them in the ordinary way. Quite successful proofs have been obtained in this way, though the process is regarded as still admitting of great improvement.

A preparation of kaolin, consisting of a mixture of two parts kaolin and one part plaster of Paris in water, with jute fibre, is now being used as a covering for locomotive boilers. The cement thus formed is spread on the boiler in two coats, each coat being dried slowly by filling the boiler with water and heating it to the boiling point.

The twinkling of the stars is generally admitted to be due to moisture in the upper air. M. Montigny, in a paper published in Les Mondes, holds that a very pronounced twinkling of the stars indicates either commotion in the upper regions of the atmosphere or a sudden fall of temperature there thus denoting the conditions of an early appearance of bad weather.

M. Tissandier, the French aeronaut, is projecting the manufacture of an elliptical balloon, which is to be driven by a dynamo machine and storage batteries. The balloon will be 131 feet long, and will have a capacity of more than 100,000 cubic feet. It is calculated to give a lifting power of 3½ tons, which will, when the machinery is in place, allow for a ton of passengers and ballast.

Dr. Carl Himly and Herr L. von Frutzschler-Falkenstein have invented a new explosive compound suitable for mining purposes and for firearms. It is a mixture of saltpetre, chlorate of potash, and a solid hydrocarbon. If ignited in the open air it burns slowly, but under pressure it manifests remarkable rending powers. This new explosive has been patented in this country by Dr. C. W. Siemens.

A doe has recently been killed in a wood near Aachen, in Rhenish Prussia, having horns so prominent and well-developed as to give it, at a little distance, all the appearance of a buck. Does advanced in years frequently show rudiments of horns, but the cases are very rare in which they have attained such size as in that reported. The longer of the horns in this instance was nineteen centimetres in length.

The giraffe has the power, according to Dr. H. W. Mitchell, of so closely mimicking the appearance of a dead and blasted tree-trunk, as to deceive the most practised eye. This is its mode of protecting itself from its two most dreaded enemies, the lion and man. It is even said that a lion has been known to look long and earnestly at a giraffe, in evident doubt as to whether it was a tree or not, and then skulk away as if ashamed to put the matter to a test.

Incombustible writing and printing-paper may be made, according to the *Chemiker Zeitung*, by treating the best asbestos with a preparation of permanganate and potash and then with sulphuric acid, and then mixing it with wood-pulp in water containing borax and glue, in the proportion of 95 per cent. of asbestos to 5 per cent. of pulp. A fire-proof writing-ink is made by mixing India ink and gum with chloride of platinum and oil of lavender; for printing-ink lampblack and varnish are to be substituted.

The mysterious and terrible explosions which have occurred in flour-mills are due, according to Professor Tobin, to the presence in the dust on the outside of wheat grain of organic spores, which are highly inflamable, rendering the dust-shaft and the dust-room the most dangerous places in the mills. He proposes, as a remedy, that mills must be provided with wet-bulb thermometers, and that when the air becomes abnormally dry, steam be injected from the boilers into the mill. This, it is thought, will remove all danger from this cause.

The discovery of a hatchet made of pure copper in the ruins of one of the pre-historic lake dwellings at Zurich has caused some excitement among archæologists, and thrown dust on some pet theories. It isn't quite safe to construct a theory till you have got all the facts in the case, and that is just where some too sanguine archæologists make a mistake. The theory of the "stone age," the "bronze age," the "iron age," and so on, is a very pretty one on paper, but so many awkward discoveries are constantly popping up to unsettle it that its unfortunate supporters have rather a hard time trying to keep the theory neatly fitted to the facts.

A curious observation regarding hailstorms has lately been brought before the Swiss geographical society at Geneva by Herr Riniker, the chief forester of Canton Aargau. He maintains that hailstorms do not occur where there are forests, and instances the case of a small chain of mountains in the south of Aargau known as the Lindenberge which are normally completely covered with trees. About twenty years ago, the forest was divided into two places by wide gaps, and immediately afterwards the valleys were visited by frequent hailstorms. Fourteen years ago the larger of these two open spaces were planted with firs, since which time the hailstorms have entirely ceased. Herr Riniker is inclined to attribute the phenomenon to electric action, suggesting that the hail and trees being charged with opposite kinds of electricity, their union gives rise to sufficient heat to prevent congelation of watery particles.

The Tall Sycamore of the Wabash.

The special correspondent of the *Indianapolis (Ind.) Journal*, embodied in a recent communication in the following from Hon. Daniel W. Voorhees: I consider St. Jacobs Oil a splendid remedy. I suffered from an affection of the back and kidneys, with some rheumatism—in fact, it was rheumatism of the back. I used St. Jacobs Oil, and found it very efficacious. It gave me instantaneous relief, and finally cured me completely.

The impressions of religion are so natural to mankind, that most men are necessitated, first or last, to entertain serious thoughts about it.

It is claimed that *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* is almost infallible in the cure of diphtheria, pneumonia influenza, bronchitis, congestion of the lungs, and hard dry coughs. This may all be true. We know it will prevent diphtheria and that it will cure the croup instantly.

A good wife is like the ivy, which beautifies the building to which it clings, twining its tendrils more lovingly as time converts the ancient edifice into ruins.

We will wager a year's subscription that a 25-cent package of *Sheridan's Condition Powders* contain more pure ingredients and cost more money than a bushel of any kind put up in *large* packs. Sheridan's Powders are absolutely pure.

Conscience and covetousness are never to be reconciled. Like fire and water, they always destroy each other, according to the predominancy of either.

He who reigns with himself, and rules passions, desires and fears, is more than a king.

"SIGH NO MORE, LADIES!"

for Dr Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" is a prompt and certain remedy for the painful disorders peculiar to your sex. By all druggists.

ADVICE TO CONSUMPTIVES.

On the appearance of the first symptoms, as general debility, loss of appetite, pallor, chilly sensations, followed by night-sweats and cough, prompt measures of relief should be taken. Consumption is scrofulous disease of the lungs; therefore use the great anti-scrofulous or blood-purifier and strength restorer, Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery." Superior to cod liver oil as a nutritive, and unsurpassed as a pectoral. For weak lungs, spitting of blood, and kindred affections, it has no equal. Sold by druggists. For Dr. Pierce's treatise on Consumption send two stamps. WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

The very nature of love is to find its joy in serving others, not for one's own benefit but for theirs.

WOMAN AND HER DISEASES

is the title of a large illustrated treatise, by Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., sent to any address for three stamps. It teaches successful self-treatment.

Idleness is the dead sea which swallows up all virtues, and is the self-made sepulchre of a living man.

Palpitation of the Heart.

J. M. Might, Syracuse, N. Y., writes: "When I first commenced using your BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS I was troubled with fluttering and palpitation of the heart. I felt weak and languid, with a numbness of the limbs; since using, my heart has not troubled me and the numbing sensation is all gone." Price $1.00.

Pity is as sworn servants unto love, and this be sure, wherever it begins to make the way, it lets the master in.

Magic in the Nineteenth Century.

N. McRea, Wyebridge, Ontario, writes: "I have sold large quantities of Dr. THOMAS' ECLECTRIC OIL; it is used for colds, sore throat, croup, etc., and, in fact, for any affection of the throat, it works like magic. It is a sure cure for burns, wounds and bruises."

If you let trouble rest upon your soul like a hen upon her nest, you may expect the hatching of a large brood.

Despised.

By the unthinking, Burdock has been considered a weed, and its luxuriant growth, unpleasant smell, etc., has rendered it, to those "not knowing its virtues," a nuisance, and yet the root has long been acknowledged by savants as most invaluable as a diuretic, aperient and blood purifier. BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS embody all its good qualities. Price $1.00.

How many waste their mornings in anticipating their afternoons, and their afternoons in regretting their mornings!

There was a young lady quite fair,
Who had much trouble with her hair,
So she bought Carboline
And a sight to be seen,
Is the head of this maiden, I declare.

When we record our angry feelings let it be on the snow, that the first beam of sunshine may obliterate them forever.

TO ALLOW VIRILE POWER to ebb slowly, imperceptibly away, is madness; check it with that never failing remedy, Allen's Brain Food. $1.—At druggists and at Allen's Pharmacy, 315 First Ave., N. Y.

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A Good Offer.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company has just issued an illustrated treatise, "The Heart of the Continent," describing the wonderful growth of the Six Great States. The book is beautifully printed, and numerous engravings of high merit adorn its pages. Any one sending their name and address, with two three-cent postage stamps, will receive a copy by return mail, by applying to Perceval Lowell, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.

A promise should be given with caution and kept with care. It should be made by the heart and remembered with the head.

NOTHING is uglier than crooked boots, straighten them with Lyon's Heel Stiffeners.

When will water stop running down hill? When it gets to the bottom.

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To Union soldiers reported on rolls as deserters. Act of August 7th, 1882. Increase of Pension. Thousands entitled under new laws which are more liberal. Send stamps for blanks to Stoddart & Co., 413 G street, Washington, D. C. Pension and Bounty Claims a specialty.

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Cleanse the Vitiated Blood whenever you find its impurities bursting through the skin in Pimples, Eruptions or Sores; cleanse it when you find it sluggish and obstructed in the veins; cleanse it when it is foul—your feelings will tell you when. Keep the Blood pure, and the health of the system follows. SAMARITAN NERVINE purifies the Blood and resolves away the effects of the inflamation and the tubercular deposits. The affected parts receive health and a permanent cure is effected.

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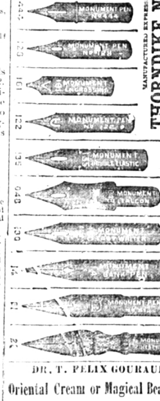
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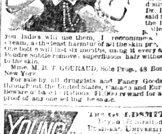
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