Farm Notes.

Agricultural Possibilities.

Prince Kropotkin wrote in his famous article "The coming reign of plenty," to this effect:

If we want to know what agriculture can be we must apply for information to the market gardeners in the neighborhoods of Paris, Amiens and other large cities of France; also in Holland. There we shall learn that each hundred acres, under proper culture, yield food not for forty human beings as they do on our (English) best farms, but for 200 and 300 persons; not for 60 milch cows as they yeild in the island of Jersey but for 200 cows. They (the gardners there) have created a totally new agriculture. They smile when we boast of the rotation system having permitted us to take from the eld one crop every year because their ambition is to have six, nine and twelve crops in twelve months They do not understand our talk about good and bad soils, because they make the soils themselves. They aim at cropping not five or six tons of grass on the acre, as we do, but from fifty to one hundred tons of various vegetables. That is where agriculture is going now. In such culture the primitive condition of the soil is of little account, but with the help of glass forcing bells, fertilizers and hot beds, they are able to grow $1000 worth per acre, and in some cases double that. Let me add also that all this wonderful culture is of yesterday's growth. Thirty years ago this kind of culture was quite primitive. He not only defies the soil, he defies climate; through the agency of wind breaks, glass protectors and hot beds he has made a real southern garden of the suburbs of Paris. He has given to Paris the "two degrees of latitude" after which a French scientist was longing.

Beware of the Yellows.

Dr. E. F. Smith, the specialist of the United States department of agriculture, made the following statement in regard to the "yellows" in one of his reports: "It is proper to state, however, that the losses continue in the infected districts; that the disease has appeared in new localities and that regions now healthy are also threatened. The yellows are certainly as far south as Southern Virginia and probably as far west as Arkansas and Northeastern Texas. Peach growers are earnestly advised to stamp out the disease upon its first appearance and are warned against the importation of trees from infected districts. These remarks apply with especial force to the Pacific coast, and in this connection it is well to remember that apricots and almonds are also subject to the yellows. It would be much safer for the Californians to grow their own peach trees than to introduce any from the Eastern United States. If trees are imported it should be known beyond question that they are from regions where this disease does not occur. The mere fact that the nursery stock is healthy at the date of shipment is not a sufficient guarantee that it will continue so."

The vigor of the fight Californians are making against the introduction of the orchard pests so destructive in the east has aroused the eastern sellers of trees and seeds and they threaten if the restrictions are not removed to unite in asking congress to remove the duty from foreign fruits. This need not alarm California fruitgrowers nor cause them to open their doors and welcome all the bugs and hoppers and other varmints that are said to inhabit eastern trees. The eastern fruitgrowers are not going to invite free foreign competition with their fruit simply to spite Californians who refuse to buy their trees. And the Californians could as well afford to sell fruit in an unprotected market as to have imported pests destroy all they have.

Plowing Under Corn Crops.

Seven years ago, says Mr. O. C. Wiggin in the Country Gentlemen, I turned under a thin sod in an old field. I put on each acre 200 pounds of dissolved bone and sowed two bushels of corn broadcast. By th first of July the corn stood a perfect swamp, two feet high. It was plowed in and immediately sowed again. On the first of September it was again over two feet high, and again plowed in, two hundred pounds of dissolved bone being again worked in. The field seeded to grass, after four years' mowing, 300 pounds of bone meal was applied, and the lot turned to pasture, which is excellent to this day.

In general farming Mr. Wiggin believes it is more economical to produce one's nitrogen and humus than to buy them.

Another way of getting nitrogen besides that above mentioned is by stall feeding young cattle. By buying highly nigrogenous foods like cottonseed meal and bran, he has found a profit in the feeding alone, and gained the nitrogen as a gift.

The Gas Treatment Commended.

Professor D. W. Coquillett, John Scott, horticultural officer of Los Angeles county, Emmett Watson, a large orange-grower of Duarte, H. B. Muscott, horticultural officer for San Bernardino, and Local Officer Dr. N. H. Claftin have been examining the orange trees of Riverside. After a close inspection of all the trees to which the gas treatment has been applied no scale of any description was found. This decision establishes the fact that scales will not withstand the gas treatment.

Living near Waynesville is a family named Yeazel, who lately moved there from Clinton county. Recently the head of the family entered a hardware store at the above-named place and called for seven hoes. The clerk was astonished, whereupon the farmer explained that he had brought but four hoes with him from Clinton county and wanted seven more to keep his sons and himself busy. He is possessed of eleven children, the mother and only daughter having six fingers on each hand, two of the boys six toes on each foot. The family cultivates tobacco, and is regarded with much curiosity by the neighbors on account of the extra supply of fingers and toes.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Woman's World.

Make the Living Room Pleasant.

It is woman's duty to make nome as cheery, cosy and lovely as she can and the first requisite for this is that she herself be as happy, hopeful and contentedly agreeable as possible. A plain room, plainly furnished and scrupulously clean is far more bright and beautiful than a more pretentious ne with costly furniture that is soiled, mutilated and always in disorder. A few thrifty, nicely kept plants are a great addition to a living room.

Rooms have just as much expression as faces. They produce a gloomy or a pleasant impression at first sight. The instant we cross the threshold of a room we know certain things about the persons who live in it, whether they are neat and orderly, or disorderly, and more than all whether they are of a cheerful and sunny temperament or gloomy and sad.

I have been in rooms where you could not help having a good time even if there was nothing special going on in the way of conversation or amusement.

This has been called an age of overdecoration, and judging from some rooms we are called on to admire—rooms crowded with brackets, banners, lambrequins, cat tails, milking stools, Japanese fans, peacock feathers, placques, cheap chromos and the vast assembly of objects which exist under the name of bric-a-brac fearfully and wonderfully arranged; the phrase does not seem altogetner misplaced or uncalled for. But few of us can furnish a room at once in accordance with any set plan. We can only add a little now and then and here and there as time and purse will allow. There are pretty things which may be made useful in a room and useful things which may be made pretty.

Is there anything which can make a room more attractive to us than the feeling that it is a room to be used and enjoyed in the using?

We have all seen that best parlor into which are crowded all the prettiest things in the house without regard to harmony, fitness or any other reasons, except that they are pretty and so must be put in the parlor. And we well know that nothing would tempt any one in the family or out of it to spend one afternoon alone there. It is a show place, the door is opened, and we are allowed to look in, then we take our way to other quarters.

As to outside adornment I think some women have rather more than their share of it to do.

It is just as natural for some men to have everything neat and orderly about the farm, as for some women to be good housekeepers.

Most men have the habit of clearing up in the spring, to remove the rubbish accumulated about the house during the winter; rake over the yard, make snug the woodpile, or place it under cover, repair fences, and generally to improve appearances by the exercise of a little good taste and labor. But don't forget to cut the brush and briers by the road side. There is nothing which improves the the looks of a farm so much.

And there is that back yard. What a blushing of faces there would be in some houses if the house was suddenly turned around, with its filth and disorder opened to the view of the passers by. The outlook from the rear windows of a house should be as gratifying as from the front.

One who has the skill to manage a farm has skill enough to adorn the surroundings of the house. Many, however, will say they have not the time. Can this be so with farmers or mechanics?

We have rarely known one that did not find time to attend an auction, when the cast-off trumpery of several generations was to be sold, or to bring home a wagon load or two of the rubbish to increase that already about the door, or to torment the women by adding it to the stock in the attic.

The pleasure of making our houses attractive should be a gradual one. A little should be done and well done each year, and whatever is done carefully attended to afterwards.

Suppose such had been the practice for the last fifty years in any of our New England towns, would not such a town now be more attractive than any that can be found in the country?—Corr. New England Farmer.

A Plucky Girl's Victory.

In Roseburg, Or., Mary Harris, a plucky school teacher, took up land and built a house and cleared away the timber with her own hands. She worked continuously on the place, but occasionally slept at her father's house near by, deeming it unsafe to remain at home. W. E. Hartley broke through her fence, built a house and did a little work, and one day threw all the ex-teacher's furniture out of the house and nailed up the windows, at the same time telling her not to return. But she did return, and, more that, she secured possession of her house, defied Hartley, who would not move off, and now will have the satisfaction of obtaining a patent to the tract she improved, for the interior department has just decided the case in her favor.

Currant Tartlets.—Line patty-pans with thin pie-paste and bake. Fill them with currants stewed with one-fourth their measure of raspberries and well sweetened.

Sour Orange Salad.—This salad is especially nice to serve with assorted wild duck or woodcock. Peel and cut in slices four sour oranges, arrange on lettuce leaves, cover with Mayonnaise dressing and serve.

Musical Fish of Ceylon.

Every bay and inlet on the coast of Ceylon abounds with musical fish. Their song, if it may be called a song, is not one sustained note like a bird's, but a multitude of tiny, soft, sweet sounds, each clear and distinct in itself, something like the vibrations of a wine glass when its rim is rubbed with the moistened finger. In the harbor at Bombay, India, there is a fish with a song like the sound of an Æolian harp.

And They Are Very Numerous.

Many of the fools think they can beat the lawyer in expounding the law; one-half think they can beat the doctor in healing the sick; two-thirds of them think they can beat the minister preaching the gospel, and all of them know they can beat the editor in making a newspaper.—Phrenological Journal.

Current News.

Labor Union Notes.

Near Butte, Mont., 200 railroad graders struck for a raise to $3 a day from $2. Another 200 men were imported, but 1000 union men met them at the depot and initiated them into the union. The contractors will import more men. Trouble is feared.

The Jackson brewery, San Francisco, refused to discharge employes for not paying an assessment of $20 a head levied by the union. The union and the federated trades ordered a boycott on the brewery. The Brewers' association, backed by the Manufacturers' association, Feb. 1, thereupon posted notice that from that date union rules would be disregarded in San Francisco breweries. A hard struggle between employers and employes will probably be the result.

Nine of the Edison Illuminating company's men in New York struck because of the employment of a non-union man. The company refused to reinstate them and 200 other employes struck Feb. 2.

The Union Pacific trainmen threaten a general strike.

The Rio Grande railroad is preparing for an expected strike for higher wages.

The girls in Cahn, Nickelsberg & Co.'s shoe factory in San Francisco struck Feb. 3 on account of a reduction of wages and the Shoe Manufacturers' association resolved to refuse to use the union white labor stamp or be governed by union rules in the five factories it controls hereafter.

A car run by non-union men was blown up with dynamite at Pittsburg Feb. 4. People in adjoining houses were thrown from their beds but nobody was seriously hurt.

The Paris omnibus drivers sued the company for failing to fulfill its agreement, made with the driver's union, and the court gave judgment for 100 francs a day in favor of the union.

The Adams express company is discharging all members of the Express Messengers' brotherhood.

Congress.

Some of the Farmers' Alliance congressman will vote with the Democrats in congress and some refuse. Those who do so will favor the placing of articles considered necessary to the farmers on the free list.

The senate has passed the bill for the relief of purchasers of land within the limits of the Umatilla reservation, Oregon, in regard to taking proofs.

The house committee on postoffices and post roads recommends the r peal of the mail subsidy act.

The People's party in the House of Representatives is intact as a political organization and united as to the party measures it is to press. In the caucus which met before the organization of the House nine independent representatives decided to preserve their political autonomy on all questions to the end of the session.

The committee on foreign relations reports as a substitute for all the Chinese restriction bill an extension for ten years of the present law.

Sentence in the Baltimore Cases.

Judge of Crimes Foster of Valparaiso has passed sentence in the long-pending and much-discussed Baltimore assault cases. His sentence is subject to review by the court of appeals.

Carlos Arena, alias Gomez, is sentenced to 540 days' imprisonment for wounding William Turnbull, a coal-heaver of the Baltimore, who died of his injuries; 300 days for public disorder, 60 days for carrying a knife and 20 days for giving an assumed name. This makes a total of 920 days. Jose Ahumada is sentenced to 320 days' imprisonment for injuring Turnbull; Frederick Rodriguez is sentenced to 140 days' imprisonment for wounding Boatswain's Mate Charles W. Riggin, for public disorder and for carrying a knife.

It is held by Judge Foster that the evidence does not show that Rodriguez killed Riggin. On the contrary, it is claimed that Riggin's death was caused by a shot which was fired by some unknown person. Gomez and Rodriguez, under the Chilean penal code, must pay the families of Turnbull and Riggin damages. These damages are recoverable by civil suit.

The Chilean congress will meet again in April.

Coast News.

CALIFORNIA.

The boards of supervisors of river counties are appropriating money to pay the expenses of the miners' and farmers' delegates who are to appeal to congress for aid to impound debris so that hydraulic mining can be resumed.

Governor Markham has pardoned Louis Bates, sent to San Quentin prison for a year from Stanislaus county for burglary. He is only 14 years old and the governor thinks he ought to have been sent to the reform school.

Joseph Betancue of Oakland has been arrested at Sacramento for a burglary committed at Stockton. He is only 15 years old.

Harry Miller, son of Joaquin, has been indicted for robbing a mail stage.

The citrus fair for northern California, held at Auburn, was a grand success.

ALAMEDA COUNTY.

Mrs. Hattie A. Moore, to whom Moses Hopkins paid $50,000 to settle a breach-of-promise suit, married John W. Morris at Piedmont the other day.

COLUSA COUNTY.

The supervisors are asking the return of $1000 presented to the Anti-Debris association on the ground that the association has changed its policy since the money was appropriated.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY.

C. Tiffe, a barkeeper at Martinez, quarreled with Joseph Fitzgerald about $1 and shot him in the shoulder.

John Donlon of Antioch, who attempted to kill his rival in the affections of a fair damsel of that place a short time ago, has been fined $200.

Charles W. Hogan has been sentenced to ten years in San Quentin for stealing the horses of Mrs. Aguiar of San Pablo last fall.

FRESNO COUNTY.

At Fresno, W. D. Mandich, for causing a fictitious death notice to be published, has been held to answer for criminal libel in $500.

Professional burglars make nightly predatory visits to farm-houses about Fresno.

James Beuso narrowly escaped death from poison placed in a bottle of beer at Fresno. He blames a family and they say he poisoned the beer for them and drank it himself by mistake.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

Ontario has passed a rigid prohibitory liquor law.

Two men hired a team of Constable Pardee of Newhall Jan. 31 to go five miles in the country. Pardee sent a man on horseback to watch them. They drove nine miles to San Fernando, sold the rig for $50 and were promptly arrested.

The owners of the Los Angeles water works want to sell their plant to the city for $2,500,000. The water right reverts to the city in a few years.

Conductor W. H. Gier was caught between two electric cars going in opposite directions at Los Angeles Jan. 29, one car being on a switch, and his left shoulder and two ribs were broken and he was badly bruised.

MARIN COUNTY.

A tramp arrested at San Rafael for robbery is beleived to be one of those who murdered a comrade near the Donahue railroad recently.

PLUMAS COUNTY.

Thirty-one saloon-keepers have taken out licenses for a year under the ordinance of last year. This was done to get ahead of the new ordinance, which raises the fee, but which has not yet gone into effect.

MARIPOSA COUNTY.

A vein of gold of fabulous richness is reported in the Tyro mine, near Coultersville.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY.

The Sacramento board of education threatens to sue the city trustes to compel them to increase the school appropriation.

Pasqual Moresi stabbed A. Gibson in the neck at Sacramento Feb. 4 because one of Gibson's children had thrown a toy cannon into Moresi's yard. Moresi thought it was a dynamite bomb.

William Wohl of Sacramento took water from a bottle labeled "poison" and chewed soap to see if his wife Assemblyman Ellwood Bruner escaped indictment for bribery.

William Bell got into jail at Sacramento Jan. 30 by pretending to be a rich rancher and hiring men to work for him, requiring deposits of from 50 cents to $2 from each as an evidence of good faith.

Wesley Sullivan had both legs cut off by a train at Sacramento Jan. 30, and was expected to die.

A well-dressed man calling himself Leopold Stein took a room at the Ebner hotel, Sacramento, Jan. 30, got the landlord to cash a bogus check for $18 and disappeared.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.

G. F. Sattler has been convicted of stealing raisins from growers at Riverside. Three of his brothers await trial for the same offense.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

The county voted not to bond for a roadbed for a railroad across the county.

The San Diegans in mass meeting have adopted resolutions denouncing the Pacific Coast steamship company for making a compact with the Pacific mail that the latter shall do no business at San Diego and trying to carry out that compact.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY.

Levinson Beauchamp, who seduced Lena Vallandt, was followed to Stanlaus county and arrested.

Harrry de Greayer, a contractor and Miss Annie Dolan, a school teacher who was engaged to marry De Greayer, were driving in Golden Gate park Jan. 30 when Park Policeman Samuel W. Harper charged De Greayer with fast driving, and, on the latter remonstrating, shot and killed him.

The body of a four-day-old baby with its throat cut was found in the western part of the city Jan. 28.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY.

Almer Drullard, who killed an employe on his ranch near Stockton, has been discharged on the ground that he acted in self-defense.

Almer Drullard, a farmer near Stockton, stabbed and killed John Bangerter, an employe, Jan. 30, in a quarrel about Bangarter's abuse of horses.

SAN LUIS OBISBO COUNTY.

Ramon Feliz, an old rancher on Morro creek, got tired of life and blew his brains out Feb. 2.

San Luis will have a union high school.

SAN MATEO COUNTY.

An ordinance has been passed by the supervisors for the suppression of the Dr. Whitwell private insane asylum at San Mateo, the previous one having been ineffective. The present ordinance becomes effective fifteen days after its passage.

Deputy Constable Mike Soto and Acting Jailor William Wyman of Redwood City are accused of arresting a man named Gardner, robbing him of $124 and letting him go.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

The two railroads, both owned by the Southern Pacific, will build a fine depot at Santa Cruz.

The Watsonville beet sugar factory made 2200 tons of sugar last year.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY.

E. Knickerbocker put up a twenty-foot fence on his property in San Jose to shut the light out of the Western Granite and Marble company's building adjoining. The court was appealed to and Mr. Knickerbocker has been ordered to cut his fence down to the legal limit of ten feet.

Alton H. Gould and Edward Bell have been indicted for robbing the postoffice at Wright's.

SHASTA COUNTY.

Abe Jones, accused of complicity with Howard in stage robbery, escaped by the disagreement of a jury in the federal court at San Francisco.

SONOMA COUNTY.

Twenty-five thousand tons of stone for the fortifications at Fort Point are to be taken from the basalt quarry at Mays landing, near Petaluma.

The Bloomfield dairymen will build another creamery.

George Peters of Vallejo township dropped dead while milking a cow Jan. 17.

STANISLAUS COUNTY.

Engineer Schussler of San Francisco condemned as unsafe section 2 of the Modesto canal wall and the irrigation directors refuse to pay for it. Winningstadt, the district engineer, has resigned, and the contractor will will sue for his money.

TULARE COUNTY.

W. B. Tucker is in jail on a charge of robbing a Chinese resaurant keeper at Traver.

The supervisors disregard the decision of the supreme court that they are not allowed by law to pay deputies and have authorized the assessor to employ fourteen.

Austin Cole disappeared from Pixley and James Search and Frank Talmage were arrested for murdering him. He came home in time to save them from going to trial.

YUBA COUNTY.

The Marysville Appeal won its libel case.

On the night of Jan. 31 two men went to a cabin occupied by Night Watchman William Conway, on a bridge about two miles north of Marysville, and after making inquiries of the time at which the night trains passed there, left. Conway, who is an old man, thought they acted and talked rather queerly, and a few minutes afterward decided to again cross the bridge and see that everything was all right. He had not gone very far when he discovered two giant powder cartridges to which were attached long fuses. He threw them over into the river and started back to arm himself and prepare to patrol. He reached an uncovered portion of the trestle, when he was seized, and after his captors had satisfied themselves that the cartriges were missing they threw him to the ground sixteen feet below. The old man was found there next morning unconscious.

PACIFIC COAST.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Sunday closing law against saloons in Victoria, B. C., is enforced, after a hard fight in the courts.

MONTANA.

The Northern Pacific enters Butte and Anaconda over the Montana Union's tracks. The present management will expire soon and the Northern Pacific has begun action to compel the Montana Union to continue the same or a similar one.

Horse thieves in Montana are so troublesome that the people have organized to hunt them in the neighborhood of Helena and four were killed a few days ago.

NEVADA.

The Southern Pacific compromised Asa Hamilton's damage suit by paying $15,000.

OREGON.

The British ship Ferndale was wrecked off Gray's harbor Jan. 30 and twenty men perished, including Captain Blair.

Eugene's electric light works were burned Jan. 30, leaving the city in darkness until new dynamos could be ordered from the east.

UTAH.

Ogden offers land valued at $50,000 to whoever will start a first-class seven-day paper there.

Utah expects to be admitted to statehood upon the passage of an amendment to the federal constitution forbidding polygamy.

Gas is to be bored for at Ogden. The borers will go 3000 feet if necessary.

WASHINGTON.

James Evans of Franklin, the negro wife slayer, has pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree.

C. P. McKenzies perished in a snow storm near Granite Falls. His body was found within twenty yards of his brother's camp.

GENERAL.

The Congo anti-slavery act has at last been ratified by the United States.

Italy expects Blaine to grant indemnity for those of the lynched at New Orleans who were Italian citizens.

The relatives of Riggin, the American marine who was shot and killed by two Chilean soldiers during the row in Valparaiso, have presented a claim for damages to the United States government.

UNITED STATES.

The London government board has been testing canned goods and found chloride of tin, a poison, in all of them except condensed milk.

The iron beam pool has collapsed.

Masked men called Iber Anderson to his door in Chicago Jan. 4 and shot him but did not kill him.

A mail wagon was robbed of half a dozen bags of mail in the street in New York Feb. 3.

Two families, Watkins and McGuffy, who started to Oklahoma from Cedar Glades, near Hot Springs, Ark., were frozen to death in the recent blizzard. Their bodies were found on the prairie near the Arkansas line.

The 8-year-old son of Charles P. Waterbury of Long Ridge, Conn., who was kidnaped by unknown men who threatened to kill him if they were not paid $6000 ransom, returned home without the ransom being paid. His cousin has been arrested.

Five men who participated in the lynching of J. O. Shields at Shelbyville, Tex., are in jail. There is fear that the accused will be lynched and the jail is guarded.

The Louisana lottery announces that, the federal anti-lottery law having been declared unconstitutional, it will not accept a renewal of its charter.

Five persons have recently been murdered and robbed at Johnstown, Pa. It is believed that the same man committed all the murders.

Anthony Brown of Pittston, Pa., and Miss Harriet Rutledge of Duryea went to Wilkesbarre to get married Feb. 2. They got a license but, failing to find an alderman to marry them, they took a room at a lodging-house. Here they blew out the gas and the girl was found dead and the man nearly dead in the morning.

The next national miners' congress will meet at Helena July 12.

Alice Mitchell, who murdered Freda Ward at Memphis, pleads insanity. Lillie Johnson, who accompanied Alice in a buggy when the crime was committed, has been indicted as accessory.

The little daughter of W. D. Hinrichsen of Jacksonville, Ill., was stolen while on her way to Sunday school, but her abductor got drunk and fell asleep while they were stopping to rest in a field and the girl escaped.

A child without eyes or cavities where they should be has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Jaglar at St. Joseph, Mich.

The supreme court has rendered a decision upholding the clause of the law opening Oklahoma, providing any person who entered land before the hour of opening should lose all rights to obtain title to any lands whatever.

The electric companies of the country are trying to unite in a gigantic trust.

Carlisle Harris, a young New York libertine who boasted of his conquests of young girls, and who married a schoolgirl in secret and then gave her morphine, from which she died, has been convicted of murder in the first degree.

The cordage trust made $1,406,000 last year.

David Porter, deputy collector of the port of Savannah, Ga., was shot dead by his son Feb. 2 while beating his wife.

A five-story tenement house in New York burned on the night of Feb. 1 and a number of people were killed while others broke limbs in jumping to the ground, some of them from the roof.

The federal supreme court affirms the constitutionality of the law making it a crime to send newspapers containing lottery advertisements through the mails.

Governor Flower of New York said "Rats" when asked to favor the appropriation of half a million dollars by the state for the world's fair.

The federal supreme court has overruled the decision of the Nebraska supreme court and declares Boyd a citizen and therefore properly governor of that state. The state courts had seated Thayer on the ground that Boyd was not a citizen, having no proof of the naturalization of his father, who brought him to the United States an infant.

The Louisana delegates to the national Republican convention are instructed for Harrison. The convention declared against the lottery.

The Minnesota Farmers' Alliance demands the submission of the prohibition question to a popular vote.

The Democrats in Iowa have introduced a bill repepealing prohibition and substituting local option.

Rev. George E. Andrews has been convicted of burning his store at Essex, Mass., for the insurance.

The sheriff of Davidson county, Tenn., has been sued by the United States for $25,000 damages for having let a federal prisoner escape.

The police broke up another meeting of socialists in Chicago Jan 31.

Three women are sueing James McDonald of Logansport, Ind., for breach of promise.

Three of the men who lynched John Shields in Nacogdoches county, Tex., have been arrested and the sheriff is after the fourth.

Dalton, who came from Jersey City to San Francisco after Embezzler Hyer and went on several sprees while San Francisco lawyers were trying to get Hyer free, lost his man from a train in Western Pennsylvania and went home empty-handed. He had Hyer's clothes but the latter stole them in the night, put them on and jumped from the window of a sleeping-car.

The new quarters are being plated and passed for $10 gold pieces in Chicago.

FOREIGN.

Morell McKenzie, the most famous physician of our day, died of the grip in London Feb. 3, aged 55.

The Chinese rebellion has been stamped out. Two thousand of the rebels were killed.

The Chileans are pleased with Blaine's note accepting that country's apology and promises.

American grapevines are in great demand in Italy, being considered proof against phylloxera.

The Samoans are peaceable again.

Officers in the army of Saxony torture privates and exposures have been made which caused a great sensation.

Salvador is massing troops on the Guatemalan border.

The czar proposes to revive serfdom.

The Salvation Army was mobbed in Eastbourne, Eng., and in Paris Jan. 31.

Emperor William's new education bill aims to compel all parents to send their children to either Catholic or Lutheran schools. The German parliament will not pass it.

Enormous damage has been done by floods in Spain.

Spurgeon is dead.

The Mexican General Hernandez has been shot for suspected sympathy with Garza, the ubiquitous revolutionist.

Chile wants to borrow £5,000,000 to build a railroad from Valparaiso to Iquóque.

United States Minister Smith officially writes from St. Petersburg: The pestilence is decimating the people. In an official estimate the number of those without food or means of support who require aid is given as 14,000,000 persons and this is probably below the true number. The loss to Russia by famine is estimated at $500,000,000. Up to the present time there have been few contributions from abroad, but the Government and people of Russia are deeply sensible of the spontaneous offers made in various parts of the United States.

Gen. Butler's Midnight Ride.

An old Washingtonian tells of a thrilling midnight ride by Gen. Ben Butler Baltimore to Washington to carry the news of the capture of Fort Hatteras to President Lincoln. After the fort had been occupied by Butler's troops the General started on a transport for Washington by way of Annapolis. At the latter point a locomotive and a passenger car were found, and the General was whirled to Annhpolis Junction, where he was stopped at 11:30 at night by an officer of the road, who said his train could not proceed until the regular express from Washington to Baltimore had passed.

"Has the train left Washington yet?" asked Butler.

It had not.

"Cannot this train run to Washington before the express will leave?"

The officer replied that it might, but it was contrary to the regulations of the road.

"Then," said Butler, "we will do it."

"But it is contrary to the regulations," insisted the railroad man.

"No; it is not," quickly replied Butler. "There are new regulations in force now," and ordering the passenger coach to be cut off he sprang upon the engine and gave the engineer the word of command: "Go through!"

The engineer hesitating, the General seized the throttle, remarking, "I know something about a locomotive myself." Without further remonstrance the engineer started the locomotive, and the big iron horse was soon speeding down the track at a tremendous pace. Butler standing watch in hand timing the distance between the mile posts.

It was a terriffic pace for those days and the run was made in total darkness. Just before midnight the lights of the Capital were discerned in the distance, and two minutes later the engine came shrieking into the station, just five minutes before the time scheduled for the departure of the Baltimore express.

"Well done, my man," said Butler, as he slapped the engineer on the back and jumped upon the station platform. "The new regulations are revoked and the old ones renewed."

Butler sprang into a waiting carriage and was quickly whirled to the White House. President Lincoln was aroused and Montgomery Blair and Capt. Fox, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, were speedily summoned. Mr. Lincoln appeared in long white night shirt, and upon hearing the news seized Fox, a short stout man in his arms and the two danced around the room, the President's long naked legs cutting the wildest capers.—New York World.

Perpetual Lightning.

The United States Consul at Maracaibo, Venezuela, has described some singular natural phenomena of an uninhabited forest region, rich in asphalt and petroleum, between the rivers Santa Ana and Zulia and the mountains of the Colombian frontier. One of these, near the Rio Oro, is a horizontal cave constantly ejecting thick bitumen in large globules, which explode with considerable noise and fall into a large deposit at the water's edge.

At another spot, some miles from the confluence of the Tara and Sardinete, is what the few who have seen it call the "inferno." It is a sand mound 25 to 30 feet high, with an area of 8,000 square feet, from which innumerable streams of petroleum and hot water are constantly being forced, with the noise of the blowing-off o several steam boilers. One stream is said to have yield four gallons of excellent petroleum in one minute.

The inflammable gases from this region may give rise to the appearance of constant lightning, without thunder, which has long been witnessed from the entrance to Lake Maracaibo.

Jelly and Starfish.

The jelly-fish hasn't any teeth, but uses himself just as if he were a piece of paper when he is hungry, getting his food and then wrapping himself about it. The star-fish, on the contrary, turns himself inside out and wraps his food around him, and stays that way until he has had enough. The prongs of the starfish look like teeth, but in reality they are not, being nothing but ornaments to his person.

A very good waterproof blacking is composed of the following ingredients: Two ounces of beeswax, two ounces of tallow, two ounces of spermaceti, one tablespoonful of lamp black. Mix all well together and stir well. Apply warm with a brush and when cold polish like ordinary blacking. Broken ends of candles will do for the spermaceti.

After much reflection, the Griffith News has arrived at the following rhymed conclusion:

"Whatever our purpose in life may be—
Whatever our earthly station,
We ought to try, thermometer-like,
To rise to the situation."

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Testing Diamonds in the Dark.

Stories of diamonds shining in the dark have always been familiar, but few persons have ever seen this mysterious light of the king of gems. Lately Mr. George F. Kunz, the New York expert in precious stones, has discovered not only that diamonds really do shine in the dark, but that this property may be used as a test of the genuiness of a diamond.

In order to make the gems shine it must be rubbed on wood, cloth or metal. Some diamonds exhibit light after having been exposed in the sunshine, or to a strong electric illumination, and since all are not thus affected, it was formerly supposed that the property belonged only to particular diamonds.

Mr. Kunz, however, finds that all diamonds, of every grade as to color, possess this phosphorescent power, while other kinds of precious stones lack it.

It is accordingly possible to tell whether a gem is really a diamond or not by observing whether it can be made to emit light in the dark. The cause of the phosphorescence of the diamond remaids to be explained.—Youth's Companion.

Electricity in Tooth Extraction.

The extraction of teeth by electricity has excited a good deal of interest and some curiosity. When the patient takes hold of the handles of the battery the current is gradually increased in intensity until the patient can bear no more; then, while the forceps are being introduced, the current is turned off for a second, and on again. The rest is the same as without electricity. The question: "Why is it that electricity prevents pain?" was recently ingeniously answered by Dr. Arthur Harries. He said: "Electricity travels over the nerve at the rate of 420 vibrations a second; pain travels from the tooth to the brain in one-sixteenth of a second. My theory is that the electricity, being so much quicker and having the greatest force behind it, gets to the brain first, and then keeps the line for itself, crowding out the pain."

Ella Wheeler Wilcox says: "Men want their sweethearts to be brilliant and showy and their wives to be domestic and practical. The girl who understands how to sew, cook and nurse a sick child does not attract the single men, and the superficial belle does not satisfy her husband after marriage. Hence the prevalence of divorce."

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