That Russlan Prison Ship.

Hitherto I have only forwarded to you reports of the voyage of the Nijni Novgorod as they appeared in the Russian press from time to time. I could not guarantee the accuracy of any of the statements published. and, indeed, the minimum amount of sickness mentioned by the Captain seemed remarkably small -something like the "one man wounded" in the reports of war skirmishes. In any case these reports were utterly irreconcilable with the astounding statements published in England. I stated that I was endeavoring to gain further information to help to elucidate the question in the absence of information from the Foreign Office from English sources. I have not yet obtained the information desired, but I have seen letters of an entirely unofficial character, written by an officer of the ship to his family in all the freedom of unrestrained intercourse. Two, which bear internal evidence that they were never intended for publication, satisfy me that the entire statement respecting the mortality on board the vessel is a fabrication without any foundation whatever to sustain it. The letters are in the form of a diary. They narrate that shortly after leaving Odessa the fetters were removed from all the prisoners. Each day's incidents and the cases of illness which occurred are also narrated. At or near Alexandria one case of mortal sickness is mentioned. It is not stated subsequently whether the prisoner died. Several suffered from sunstroke in the Red Sea, and a large number from tropical rash, not one case as stated by the Captain. A contemporary converts 34 lation would be 110 Fahrenheit. If it be asked how could persons endure and survive such heat in the hold of the vessel, any one knowing the habits of the Russians, sleeping huddled together by their stoves in winter, or in summer enjoying their midday sleep by the roadside under the blazing sun, or in the unwholesome atmosphere of the habited houses, would find it possible to believe in their great power of enduring heat and close sir. From the frank and detailed nar-

rative already mentioned it is quite clear that except in the case of mortal sickness, the case of angina pectoris and a few cases of sunstroke, there had been no serious amount of illness up to the arrival at Aden after passing through the Red Seathe worst part of the voyage. Yet Increase of Chinese in Eastern Cities. it has been circumstantially narrated in England, and too readily believed, that 250 persons died on board and that 150 were landed in a dying condition where no English agent could report such an occurrence.

the prisoners, I have information from an equally reliable source which leads me to believe that there was not a single woman prisoner on board, much less any woman of education. The male prisoners were criminals convicted by the ordinary tribunals. I am informed from independent sources that it is extremely improbable a single political prisoner was on board the ship. I believe, also, that there is no foundation whatever for the statement respecting the 250 deaths and the 150 persons landed in a dying state, except the prophecy of some person said to have boarded the vessel in the Bosphorus, who appears somehow to have ascertained that not one-third could reach their destination, and forthwith telegrams were fabricated to meet this statement, quickly disposing of 400 out of the 600 on board .- St. Petersburg Corr. London Daily News, August 6th.

His Wish.

He stepped into a green grocer's with a vacant, weary, careworn look on his

"Do you want some potatoes?"
"I never eat them. I can't remember exactly what I came in for."

'Perhaps you want some coffee?" "Ain't it funny I can't remember?" remarked the stranger, as he scratched his chin with the back of his hand, and scanned everything behind the counter in a wild but ineffectual effort to brush

up his memory.
"Do you want milk?"

"No, that ain't it." "Is it macaroni, mustard, chow-chow, soap or wine jelly?"
"None of them, sir."

"Possibly you want a small measure of "Indeed, I do not." Then his eves sparkled, and he said: "I have it now. I remember what I

came in for; it all comes back to me like "What do you want?"

"Well, now, it's as plain as day. Wasn't it funny I didn't think of it "It was rather strange; but what will

you have?" 'You won't get mad, will you?"

"No. sir. "Well, then, I'll tell you. I just stepped in here to ask you if you'll scratch my back a little for me, I have prickly heat."

TRANSATLANTIC PASSENGER TRAVEL IN
1879.—The New York Shipping Gazette
publishes detailed returns which show
that fifteen thousand five hundred and that fifteen thousand five hundred and fifteen cabin passengers sailed from that port during the present season; which number does not include those who patronize the steamers of the Guyon, Wilson and Bristol lines—the addition of which would increase the total to upward of sixteen thousand persons. During the season of 1878, more than twenty thousand cabin passengers sailed from the point where the bottles were launched.

A Wyoming man won \$10 in a wager by eating twenty pigs' feet. This was a season of the season thousand cabin passengers sailed from

When an artist deserves a round of applause for an especially good perform-ance, we are glad to see him get it, especially when this sign of public approval is spontaneous and general, and not the studied freak of an insidious claque. But encores should be abolished. They are both unreasonable and inartistic. A programme is drawn up and printed to tell the audience what, and now much musical entertainment it may expect to receive. Yet, at the concert some unreasonable people set to work and demand twice or thrice their money's worth. How well the concert manager could turn the tables on them by calling upon the members of the audience, after they had assembled in the hall, to repeat the payment of their admission price. Then the encore might be made to work both ways. As it is now, it is all one-

The performer in search of a reputation has a relish for encores. But he may satisfy himself with the truth that they are not so potent a testimony of public approval as downright, hearty applause. Some people encore because they want to have the concert prolonged, and hear a maximum amount of music for a minimum price. Many encore merely be-cause others do so. Numerous people have not yet decided why they encore at all. Quite a number of respectable concert-goers are not in favor of encores, Very rarely is an audience unanimous in

demanding an immediate repetition of any part of a musical performance.

The artistic effect of a good performance is usually spoiled by its immediate repetition. Too much of a good thing is apt to cloy the refined taste. An artist is not always at his best, and it is a dangerous thing for himself when he repents good, soulful performance. while he may temporarily ingratiate him-self with the audience by conceding to its caprice, he is to a certain extent belittling and endangering his artistic

reputation. If by an encore, an audience demands that the artist should sing or play a com-position other than that which he has just interpreted, the artist cannot flatter himself that he thus is the recipient of a compliment. It is virtually demanding something else from the artist in order to test his strength. He responds to such an encore at his own risk, insomuch degrees of heat Reaumur into 79 as the next piece he may perform is not Fahrenheit. A more correct calcu- likely to dispel the favor which has already been accorded him by the audience for his previous performance.

Speaking upon this subject, the Musical Times says: All artists should stoutly refuse to respond to encores. Fortu-nately, the public itself is beginning to be convinced of the absurdity of the encore nuisance. The most enlightened concert-goers are not those who are given to encores. The hearing of a good musical performance gives a good taste in the mouth., and excites an appetite for more, which they are contented to remain unappeased until some future time. Be sides, it is unfair for one-half of an audience to demand the repetition of a performance which the other half does not care to hear. It is the duty of artists and the intelligent portion of our concert audiences to exercise their influence towards the abatement and the consequent utter annihilation of the encore nuisance. The thing can be done.

The New York Herald of the 15th inst. has an article on the Chinese in that city. from which it seems there are ber les 300 laundries, 50 Chinese grocers, 20 to-bacconists and 10 druggists, with enough Mongolians in other callings to demon-As to the number and character of strate the adaptability of the race. From the article itself, the following is extracted: "For the past two years the Chinese population of New York has shown a remarkable increase. With cause for dreading supremacy of the workingmen's party in San Francisco, and having an unfavorable opinion of the new Constitution of California, they have been emigrating to Eastern cities, principally to New York, Boston and Philadelphia, in large numbers. In 1875, there were only 157 Chinese in New York, but the census next year will show many thousands, most of whom have been exiled by the brutality of California mobs. In 1875, Chinese were scattered here and there throughout the city, having no particular place of rendezvous. Since that time headquarters have been established. which now assume the dimensions of a good sized colony. This is mainly due to the efforts of some leading spirits, who persuaded the Chinese residents of San Francisco to establish a branch of one of the famous Six Companies in Mott street. It duced all arriving 'heathen' to rally in this neighborhood, which is known as 'New China.' In Jersey City there are three factories which employ Chinese labor alone. One of them is a shirt factory, another a shoe factory, and the last an establishment for the manufacture of cheap cutlery. It is said that a beer saloon has been opened in Hobo-ken by two Chinamen. In Brooklyn there are about fifty laundries, six cigar stores and one grocery. From statistics furnished by the most intelligent and best informed of these people, the population of New York has received an addition of upward of 2500, including two females. The Chinese residents of Brooklyn number over 250, and two females. Jersey City and Hoboken have about 200. About ten per cent. of these are arrived in the city from Havana, the rest came overland from California. Over 95 per cent. of the total Chinese population are regularly engaged in an honorable business. Every few days the San Francisco companies send out a batch of about 100 Chinamen. About 50 of these come to New York, 20 to Bos-ton and 20 to Philadelphia. The rest scatter to other cities." The article further declares that the Chinese have purchased lots in several cemeteries, including Greenwood. They are marrying extensively, generally Irish women, and a Chino-Celtic generation is springing up.

HOW SOME KENTUCKY GIRLS OBTAINED THEIR HUSBANDS.—Three romantic Kentucky girls recently hit upon a better device for securing husbands than by advertising. They lived on the banks of the Ohio river, and agreed each to set a bottle afloat containing a paper on which

The History of Petroleum.

In 1844 petroleum was used as a medicine. At that time and up to 1853 it was known as "Seneca Oil," probably on account of its having been tound on the surface of Seneca Lake, and having first been used by the Seneca Indians as a medicine. The mode of obtaining this oil, at that period of its history, was by throwing blankets on the surface of still water, where the oil was wont to accumulate, and after they had become saturated to remove them and extract the oil by ringing the blankets. From this primitive beginning has grown one of the leading industries in the State. It was not, however, until the years of 1853 54 that petroleum began to be valued as an illuminator, and this only in a limited way, for it was then burned in its crude state in old lard-oil lamps, which were liable to explode at any time. Between 1854 and 1857 moved by subjecting it to a process of distillation, and from that time the value began to be recognized. Here a difficulty arose. The oil could not be gathered in sufficient quantities to supply the demand, and something must be done, or the new industry would fall through. Accordingly, in the year 1858, a joint stock company was organized for the purpose of boring into the rock in quest of the now valuable oil, and Colonel E. L. Drake was put at the head of time were exceedingly limited. The derricks used were only thirty feet high, and the drilling tools only weighed in the neighborhood of 250 pounds, and the old "horse power" was used for running the machinery. With all these difficulties to contend with, the work progressed slowly, and it was not until August 28, 1850, that the drill struck the shale rock, at a depth of seventy-one feet, and the well immediately filled up within five inches of the surface. A small pump was inserted and the production was found to be about forty barrels per diem, which rate it kept up for several months. This well was located in Cherry Tree township, Venango county, about two miles from what is now the city of Titusville, on the banks of Oil Creek. Other wells soon followed and people began to flock to this new field of excitement, ready to tap the viens from which the liquid wealth poured

Texan Society.

A journey of several weeks' duration in the Lone Star State, revealed the fact that in the eyes of every true Texan, the particular location cal attraction, the garden center of the earth, while the next town is the antipodes of all that is good, great and prosperous. The native, and the man who came down in '46 as a soldier, remaining in the State through its short lived era as a Republic, and ever since, hold themselves as a sacred aristocracy, and however kindly their sentiments toward later occupants of the soil, they cannot refrain from frequent allusion to the peculiarly constructed laws, such as the "Homestead Act," which makes Texas a desirable refuge for those who cannot afford to live in a State where creditors can squeeze hapless deptors between the jaws of the legal

are accepted as prima facie evidence that he, too, has bolted. It must be inferred from this that all who have northern and central portions of the State, many well-to do farmers and merchants are found to have migrated from the frost lands of Minnesota and Wisconsin to a region which, at of society of which they are justly proud, and jealous lest the sins of the frontier, which have too often made the name of Texas a synonym of lawlessness, be brought to their door. In the cottage homes of Dallas, Austin, Houstin and the Metropolis of the Western Gulf, Galveston, the chance guest will find scattered about the current literature of the two words. Libraries will be replete with the more erudite forms of publication, and the daughters of the family may treat a friend to selections from the newest operatic compositions of the season. In point of fashion, the ladies costumes conform quite as closely to the edicts of the modistes as do those of their metropolitan sisters. The richly stocked shelves of the merchants in wearing apparel prove that the finest produc-

Growth of the Hotel System.

The people of New York have always been noted for doing things with a rush. Late in the "forties" they found that they had no hotel worthy of the name; that they had no house fit to entertain strangers, or worthy of what was des-tined to be one of the great cities of the world. Two or three years afterward, in great drops down his face, and he 1851 or 1852, the demand was more than supplied by the opening of the magnifi-cently appointed St. Nicholas and Metropolitan. Then began the new era of extravagance and wastefulness which has since ruined many an American hotelkeeper. Up to this time, it had not been fashionable for private families to live in hotels, but little by little, a certain class of lazy and fashionable women, discovering that their delicate organizations could no longer withstand what they called the drudgery of housekeeping, gravitated toward the new hotels, and soon the St. Nicholas, the Metropolitan and the New York, which had meantime become prominent, were well patronized by families. With this increase and turn in the character of their business, the New York hotel-keepers found themselves forced to make radical changes in their housekeeping. Instead of an hour it became known that the explosive for breakfast, they were obliged to set apart four hours, and instead of the old chaffing-dish system to introduce a new one, under which every "guest"—they had now ceased to be "boarders"-should have a meal freshly cooked to order. The dinner hour and the dinner bill of fare were extended in proportion, and everything went swimmingly until it was proposed by the St. Nicholas proprietors to increase their rates to \$3 and \$3 50 a day. Their patrons strongly objected to the increase, and some of them, having been abroad, began to talk loudly of the "European plan;" but when the aristocratic Breevort was opened, many of them discovered that even at a cost of this company with full power to \$3 50 a day the old system was the cheappush the enterprise. The work proved to be full of difficulties. The facilities for probing the hard rock at that the supply became greater than the demand, and very few of them made money. Indeed, when the splendid Fifth-avenue was opened, in 1859, every one predicted its speedy failure. But the war and flush times came, and carried it and other leading hotels into a haven of great prosperity. In 1863 the price of board advanced to \$4 and \$5 a day, and for a time to keep a hotel was to make a fortune. But, of course, this phenomenal and unhealthy prosperity could not continue. The crash came, the names of nearly all the great hotel men figured prominently in the bankrupt courts, and the proprietors of to-day have to suffer for the short-sightedness of themselves and their predecessors. The fact is that one class of Americans who live in a hotel expect too much for the price they are willing to pay. They expect even greater attention, better service, and better fare than they received just after the war, but still insist that they shall be accommodated at from 25 to 50 per cent. less than war prices. They are so accommodated. The hotel-keepers lose money on them, and their more liberal, or, in most cases, it would be better to say, their foolishly extravagant neighbors in such profusion.—Corr. Philadelphia are actually fleeced to help pay for their support.—N. Y. Times. A Stilt Race.

Six men and four women were "entered" as the horsey men would say. At Arcachon the women share the exercise of the in which he has taken root is the fo- men. There were then on the beach of Eyrac ten tchankas. In the patois of the Landes, which might be tempted to con-found with the Japanese or Chinese idioms, a tchanka is a person mounted on stilts, and se tchanker, means to mount upon stilts. These ten tchankas had all the same traditional costume, without distinction of sex, that is to say, a beret on the head, a mantle of wool over the shoulders, a buttoned doublet, and legs enveloped in a camano or fleece. fixed by red garters. These stilts raised them five or six feet from the ground. A pole served them as a third point of sup-port. Seen from a distance they looked ike gigantic grasshoppers. The tchanka, however, is seen to perfection on bare lands, motionless and fixed like a solitary triangle, at sunset, or else when he leans against a pine tree, silently knit-ting stockings and guarding a black and vise. It is true that on account of lean flock. Stern and mute in the midst such laws, the modern population contains a large percentage of men who have tasted of the bitterness of debt, of seizure and distraint, and, not liking the flavor, have sought the friendly shadow of Texan stat-(Gone to Texas), inscribed on the bolted door of an involved merchant, are accepted as prime feet. that you were present at an Arabian fantasia. Their evolutions were the same, accomplished with the same Lone Star, are to be suspected of financial shortcomings. Through the Their mantles streaming in the wind, like those of Arabian cavaliers. they ran and pivoted round as deftly as if they had been on foot. The women were by no means inferior to the men; one of them, in fact, came in second, and the worst, knows but a few days of cold and snow in a twelvemonth.

Such men have built up a condition of society of which they are justly order to provoke the generosity of the spectators. They jumped, they sat down and rose up again, and they picked up as they ran pieces of money that were thrown to them. This spectacle was not thrown to them. This spectacle was not the least extraordinary. Bouncing for-ward at full speed, the man was suddenly seen to stop, the stilts bent, fell, as it were, to pieces, then something was seen moving between three pieces of wood, like the body of a spider in the middle of its long legs. The whole per-formance was done with lightning rapidity, the stilts rose again, and the man reappeared on the top of them and resumed his course.—From the French of Charles Monselet.

At Williams' drug store, corner Third and Jefferson, is a clerk, whose modesty might be shocked if his name were mentioned. A countryman approached him the other day, took a wrapped-up bottle from his pocket and asked that it be filled with whisky. When this was done the marry whomsoever should find the bottles. One of the girls has married recently the man who found her bottle far down the river, the second is engaged to him who found hers at Natchez or Grand Gulf, the third is in correspondence with the finder of hers, who also lives a great distance from the point where the bottles were launched.

Instructors in German, after astonishing the division by the announcement that the German words for "heaven" and were launched.

Myoming man won \$10 in a wager by eating twenty pigs' feet. This was a pigs' feat, indeed.

Instructors in German, after astonishing the division by the announcement that the German words for "heaven" and words for "heaven" and pigs' feat, indeed.

Wyoming man won \$10 in a wager bottle as active demand bere as in the East.—

Harwer's Magazine.

Instructors in German, after astonishing the division by the announcement that the German words for "heaven" and while the same root—"Mr. X., hour having nothing else to do passed also. The countryman, however, didn't coursed down his cheeks, "Darn yer, ye doubled-tailed fool, give that back here bottles, and found that it contained—pure water. The rustic had two of them.

Facial Peculiarities.

Monthly tells the following: was kept busy with his handkerchief till at last he found relief in the exclama-

I watched him attentively as he called for a cool drink, for I expected every moment that he would fall from his seat in a fit of apoplexy. The man must have noticed that I was observing him, for he turned toward me suddenly, saying:

"Because I perspire wholly on the right side.' And so it was; his right cheek and the right half of his forehead were as hot as fire, while the left side of his face bore not a trace of perspiration. I had never seen the like, and, in my astonishmen was about to enter into conversation with him regarding the physiological curiosi-ty, when his neighbor on the left broke in with the remark:

"Then we are the opposites and counterparts of each other, for I perspire only

on the left side." This, too, was the fact. So the pair took seats opposite to each other and shooks hands like two men who had just found his other half.

"Well, this makes an end of natural

ter, and involuntarily I exclaimed: natural history, for nature has many strange caprices even as regards her

I then mentioned the case of a man I had known in my boyhood, who, Janus-like, had too totally different faces—on one side laughing, on the other crying. Naturally, I dreaded this strange double face, with one side smooth, plump and comely, like a girl's cheek, while the other was all scarred by the smallpox This side of the face denoted churlishness; and, while the other side wore smile, this boded mischief. In this instance disease had been unsymmetrical

There was a redoubt in front. Whe Brevet Major Lindsay "stood firm with colors, and by his example and energy greatly tended to restore order.—[Tinsey's Magazine.

Stands to reason-a woman. "Beats the world"-a tramp. It is all very well to talk about "plowing the water," but they oftener use hose for water.—| Boston Com. Bul.

Just wet a' day, wi' showers between."-[Punch.

ton Post.

"Beauty and booty," says a Whitehall young man, "is all right, except when the daughter's beauty is accompanied by

the old gentleman's bootee. A circular has been issued by the Life saving Service containing rules and regu-lations adopted by the board for examination of plans, devices and inventions

"Do not betray by any gesture that you are hungry." Certainly not. For, of course, no one is supposed to go to the

Alfred? You look uneasy." "Well, my wife, who is fond of swimming, dived off the boat some time ago, and has not come to the surface; I am affraid that some thing must have happened her." "How long has she been under?" "About two hours."-[French Newspaper.

ered within the past two weeks comets with tails, too. Some people wouldn't be satisfied if you were to discover three new comets and a new moon every night in the week.—[Norristown Herald.

A writer in the Popular I was once sitting in a cool under-ground saloon at Leipsic, while without people were ready to die from the heat,

"Fearfully hot!"

"I am a curious sort of a person, am I

"Why?" I asked.

history!" exclaimed another guest, who hitherto had quietly gazed on this strange performance as though it were a play, and every one who overheard what was said came to look at this novel "This makes an end of natural wonder.

This expression excited me to laugh "No, sir; this is just the beginning of

symmetry.

STANDING BY THEIR COLORS.-Two in stances occurred at the battle of the Alma wherein the Victoria cross was earned-pas role-by devotedness to the colors, saving them in the true military sense of the word. The Twenty-third Fusiliers of Brown's division went forward on the left, with the Scots Fusi-liers of the Duke of Cambridge's division in support. They effected the passage of the Alma, mounted the rugged and broken banks, pressed through vineyards and felled trees, and advanced under a galling fire of grape and musketry. near the redoubt the colors were made the object of particular attention. Luke O'Connor was one of the center sergeants I remember particularly a certain stilt Lieutenant Anstruther was mortally wounded and dropped his color. O'Conwounded and dropped his color. O'Conwounded and dropped his color. nor was struck in the breast at the same moment and fell, but, recovering himself, snatched up the color and carried it until the end of the action. Color Sergeant Luke O'Connor, of the Alma, is now, I am proud to say, Lieutenant Colonel Luke O'Connor. The other instance happened in the supporting regiment. The Scots Fusiliers were thrown into momentary disorder-one of the accidents of war; the Twenty-third were confused, as well they might be with eleven officers and over two hundred men knocked over, when a voice shouted, "Fusiliers, retire!" and the guardsmen, fancying the order was addressed to them, hesitated. At this critical moment

SCISSORS AND PASTE.

A writer states in a recent obituary notice that "the deceased was born in his native town, where he has ever since re-

From the moors. Sportsman—"Much rain, Donald?" Donald—"A bit soft.

A correspondent wants to know what to do when a dog shows signs of hydro-phobia. We should climb a tree.—[Bos-

A man is always wanting some one to tell him how handsome he looks. A woman will just stand before a glass and

intended for use at life-saving stations. Harper's Bazar, on table manners, says:

table to satisfy his appetite; it is a mere form. Any indication that you go there because you want something to eat is very ill-bred.—[Boston Post. On the river: "What's the matter

The Greenback party still howls about hard times, and this despite the fact that two brand new comets have been discov-

when a new guest entered and took a

shaking from time to time until dissolved; then strain and apply with either a cloth or a stiff brush. Try a little first, and if the stain be too dark, thin it with turpentine. If desirable to bring out the grain still more, give a coat of boiled oil and turpentine. When the wood is thoroughly dry, polish with a mixture of two parts shellac varnish and one part boiled oil. Apply by putting a few drops at a time on a cloth and rubbing

briskly over the wood. Conjugal affection depends largely upon mutual confidence. "I make it a rule," said a wiseacre to his friend, "to tell my wife everything that happens. In this way we manage to avoid any misun-derstanding." Not to be outdone in generosity, the friend replied, "Well, sir, you are not so open and frank as I am, for I tell my wife a great many

things that never happen.'

HALL'S

STAINING PINE. -- The Northeastern

Lumberman recommends the following

manner of staining pine to represent black walnut: Put pulverized asphaltum into a bowl with about twice its bulk of

turpentine, and set where it is warm,

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