

GALILEO AT ROME.

A correspondent of the Scotsman has the following account of the trials of Galileo, as derived from the original documents at the Vatican:

"Galileo's discovery of the satellites of Jupiter had been hailed with delight, but the inference their movements suggested caused his perdition. The astronomer was first attacked by a Dominican preacher at Florence, who accused him of throwing doubt on the authenticity of the miracles performed by Joshua. Galileo replied that the Holy Scriptures could not err, but that they should not be literally interpreted. Another Dominican, called Nicholas Lorini, then denounced Galileo to the Holy Office, and the closest watch was kept on his words and acts by the Inquisition. He went to Rome in the hope of being able to prove his innocence, and of being allowed to continue his pursuits without interference. The Holy Office, however, unanimously declared it to be an absurd heresy to pretend that the sun is motionless and that the earth turns, and the Pope directed Cardinal Bellarmine to inform Galileo that he must no more teach the doctrine condemned or he would be thrown into prison. Galileo promised to obey. He was received with kindness by the Pope, and was treated with kindness. He was neither punished nor molested.

"No, long after this a new Pontiff was elected—Urban VIII. of the House of Barberini. He was a Florentine as well as Galileo, and a lover of letters. Galileo had six long audiences with the Pope, but what passed between them is not known. The astronomer now thought himself at liberty to write his dialogues, in which the system of Copernicus, without being defended, was expounded. The Pontiff had no sooner received a copy of this work than he showed himself violently irritated, and but for the supplications of the Tuscan Ambassador he would have at once sent him before the Holy Office. As it was a commission was charged to examine the 'Dialogues,' and shortly afterward the Inquisitor of Florence delivered Galileo, a formal order to appear before the dreaded tribunal alluded to above. Galileo, who was then seventy years of age, and ill, implored pity. The Grand Duke of Tuscany interceded in his behalf. The Pope would hear of no delay. He gave orders that the culprit should be seized and brought to Rome in chains, if he was able to support the journey. Galileo, half dead, reached Rome in January, 1633, and in April he was interrogated by the Holy Office. For ten months he supported in anguish of mind, the threats and ill-treatment to which he was subjected, and then he confessed that he had gone too far in advocating the system of Copernicus. He was called upon to give a more explicit denial of the truth of what he had advanced, or the Judges were to proceed to a rigorous examination, which in the language of the Holy Office, means 'torture.' It is urged, but not by Signor Berti, that Galileo was actually tortured, and that the document giving a description of this scene was suppressed at the suggestion of M. Guizot, (a Protestant), and Rossi. On the other hand, it is asserted that when the Pope directed a rigorous examination, if it could be supported, he knew very well that Galileo could not support torture, and that torture would not be inflicted. It is clear, however, from what Signor Berti says, that the Pontiff showed neither compassion nor indulgence toward his old friend. Even after his abjuration, Galileo was kept in a state of semi-confinement, and was only permitted to see a few friends. He went blind—then died."

A SUBLIME FLIGHT.—The reporter of an interior Michigan town paper ought to be on hand when the world is burned up. Who knows what he might not then accomplish in description? Hear him: "And now appeared one of the most terrible and magnificent spectacles it was ever our lot to witness. The whole broad and high front of the International Hotel was wrapped, as in its winding-sheet, in one lurid mass of flame, which, seemingly as in mockery of the puny powers of man and his appliances to stay its course, stepped toward the earth in the eddy of the wind with a huriling sound as of demonic laughter, and then swerving and veering, as if in disdain, tossing its head, it arose towering almost to the very clouds, and—ah, it needed no fervid Dantean imagination than to discover within the fringes of that gilt-edged hell the glaring eyeballs, yes, the very claws and bloody bar of the demon of the flames—with one fell swoop it hurled itself across the broad street over upon and wound itself around, fastened its fearful clutches in, took possession of and invested the whole immense building known as the Harris block."

A correspondent of an exchange says: If the crown in cattle is high up, it is an indication of a fractious disposition. I have seen cattle with the crown two or three inches above the line of the eyes, and others two or three inches below. Thirty years experience has confirmed me in the belief of the correctness of this test, although it may not be infallible. It is generally believed to be correct by all who have observed it. It applies equally as well to cows as to oxen. I would not buy cattle with the crown two or three inches below the eyes on any consideration."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Gen. Crook, in his annual report says, the miners in the Black Hills did not violate the Sioux treaty until the Ludians had ceased to regard it; also, he calls attention to the fact that his command of less than 1000 fought and defeated Sitting Bull's band on Rosebud one week before the Custer massacre. He thinks the government has treated the Sioux with unparalleled liberality, which they have repaid by raids along the borders of reservation.

Notes on Mohair.

We find in the Santa Barbara Press some letters from H. M. Farr, of the Alpaca manufacturing company, Holyoke, Mass., to A. C. Gould, assistant secretary of the National wool growers' association. We take therefrom some points of interest. Mr. Farr writes:

I enclose samples of goods made from Angora hair. Owing to the limited supply of the article we have not been able to obtain much of the pure breed, and this sample is not the best that might be made from pure stock. I have had some correspondence with breeders and growers in California, and am satisfied that this industry will reach very large proportions in the near future. In another letter, Mr. Farr writes: I am not aware that there are any goods made exclusively of mohair, that is, mohair for both warp and weft; certainly there are no goods so made consumed to any extent in this country. Mohair is principally used as weft in cotton warps, generally fine warps, and woven into plain and figured dress goods, coat linings, etc., which go by the names of "mohair lusters," "brilliantines," "mohair serges," "Siellian cord," etc. In fact the variety of goods in which the weft is composed wholly or in part of mohair is very great. In all classes of goods in which luster is an important feature mohair enters to a greater or less extent.

Ordinary long luster wool is frequently mixed with mohair to cheapen the stock. Owing to the first cost of good mohair being high, and to the heavy loss in combing (a large percentage going into noils), the cost of yarn made from it is very high, hence its adulteration with wool, China grass, etc. Mohair is also used in connection with silk, but in this class of goods I am not posted. The sample of Angora hair you send me is very nice; the quality is extraordinary for so long a staple, but it is not so bright as some of the California articles. Hair like this is sure to command a high figure in any market where such materials are sold. I enclose a small sample of coat-linings of our manufacture, well made of California hair, from the clip of Messrs. Landrum & Rogers of Watsonville.

Scab in Sheep.

The following remedies for cure of scab in sheep, we take from the Texas Farm and Fireside:

Youatt gives this as a cure: Take common mercurial ointment; for bad cases, rub it down with three times its weight of lard—for ordinary cases five times its weight of lard. Rub a little of this ointment into the sheep; dart the wool so as to expose the skin in a line from the head to the tail and then apply a little of the ointment with the finger the whole way. Make a similar furrow and application on each side, four inches from the first, and so on over the whole body. The quantity of ointment (after being compounded with the lard) should not exceed two ounces, and considerably less will generally suffice. A lamb requires but one-third as much as a grown sheep. This will generally cure, but if the sheep should continue to rub itself, a lighter application of the same should be made in ten days. Randall thinks this would be best if, as claimed, effectual: Take of lard or palm oil two pounds, sulphur one pound. Gradually mix the last two, then rub down the compound with the first. Apply in the same way. Others prefer the following: Take corrosive sublimate, one-half pound; white hellebore, powdered, three quarters of a pound; whale or other oil, six gallons; rosin, two pounds; tallow, two pounds. The first two to be mixed with a little of the oil, and the rest being melted together, the whole to be gradually mixed. This is a powerful preparation, and must not be applied too freely. Preparations of carbolic acid have been introduced as remedies, which are doubtless superior to any of the above.

The political muddle is treated facetiously by the Detroit Free Press: "At 3 o'clock yesterday morning the proprietor of a small saloon on Beaubien St., put down the curtains, locked the door, and was walking off, when he was hailed by a policeman. The saloonist crossed the street to the officer and said: 'Dot blame is glosed up for von week? What's the matter?' asked the officer. 'Well, I can't stand such foolishness any more. In the first place, a man comes in and says, 'Well, Dilden is elected,' and he kicks over the chairs. Poorly soon comes another man in and he says, 'Hooray! Hayes has got'em now!' and he kicks over a dable. Another man in a little while comes in and he says, 'Nobody is elected any more!' and he breaks some glasses. Shuts like dot has been for a week, and I am glosed discouraged. If sompody says Dilden is elected, I pelief dot; if sompody says Hayes is elected, I pelief dot; if sompody says nobody is elected, I fell like dis gountry vash going to some dogs right away. Yes, it does bother one,' concluded the officer. 'All der boys dot I have glosed up for returns and dot sompody gan't get in,' replied the man, and he turned his face homeward."

A new trade has recently sprung up between the La Plata region of South America and England. We refer to the shipments of alfalfa hay, of which the English Consul writes as follows: "The quality of lucerne produced here is good, and it can be placed in England at a cost of about 45 per ton. If it can be there sold at an advance of 19 shillings per ton, it would leave a fair remuneration both to the producer and shipper, and this department alone could ship a hundred cargoes annually, which could be indefinitely multiplied in the course of a very few years, as the land once prepared and sown requires no further preparations or sowing for from fifteen to twenty years, and the yield is from five to six crops, or cuttings in flower annually." Why would not this industry pay our farmers to embark into?

When swimming a horse never touch the bridle, as a horse is easily drowned when checked up or otherwise interfered with about the head. Sit well back and guide the horse with the hand, gently slapping him on either side as required; thus a horse will swim a mile or more with a full-grown man on his back and suffer but little. Or better still, throw yourself from the horse on the down stroke, and with the right hand grasping the mane at the withers, aid the progress of the horse with the other and feet as in swimming.

It is expected the telegraph line between Baker City and Walla Walla will be working in order during the week.

Effect of Feed on Wool.

Many farmers have been annoyed, when selling their wool, to find that the acute and practiced eye of the wool buyer had detected the fact that the sheep had been allowed to run down in condition at some time during the growth of the fleece. They are half inclined to think that the buyer is merely trying to depreciate the price. As a matter of fact, there is nothing which renders wool so useless for certain kinds of manufacture as unevenness or break in continuity of the thickness of fiber; and there is no defect more common, and nothing that, year by year, touches the sheep-grower more severely on that tender part of his anatomy—the pocket. However good the wool in all other respects, the keen eye of the buyer singles out the defective wool, and down goes the price of it. And it is not mere fancy that regulates the prices, for the uneven wool will break at the weak places during the first process of manufacture. Some persons suppose that this unevenness of fleece is hereditary in certain animals, and perhaps unevenness might be made hereditary by generations of ill-usage and neglect.

But as the wool of an entire flock is found to be uneven one year and not so in another, it shows that management has more to do with it than descent. If sheep are allowed to get into a low condition, are neglected, underfed, or not sheltered properly, the pores of the skin will contract, and the wool that issues will be of very fine fiber. As soon as the animal recovers a vigorous condition, the pores again open, and a longer and stronger fiber grows. The wool is thus weaker in one place than places at each side of it, and breaks at the weak place on the slightest strain. Nothing induces unevenness more easily and surely than want of water. It is a common notion that sheep can do without water or a very little. If supplied with roots daily they will not want much water; but it is well and humane, too, that water should be always within their reach. Not only is it important that the fibers should be even, but the fleece throughout should be even as regards length, softness, and density firmness.

The Seven Wise Men.

Most people have heard of the "seven wise men of Greece," but very few know who they were or how they came to be called so. Here is the story of them, and the moral of it is worth remembering if their names are not:

The seven wise men of Greece are supposed to have lived in the fifth century before Christ. Their names are Pittacus, Bias, Solon, Thales, Chilon, Cleobulus and Periander. The reason of their becoming called "wise" is given differently by others, but the most approved accounts state that some Coans were fishing, and certain strangers from Miletus bought whatever should be in the nets without seeing it. When the nets were drawn in they were found to contain a certain golden tripod which Helen, as she sailed from Troy, is supposed to have thrown there.

A dispute arose between the fishermen and the strangers as to whom it belonged, and as they could not agree, they took it to the temple of Apollo, and consulted the priest as to what should be done with it. She said it must be given to the wisest man in Greece, and it was accordingly sent to Thales, who declared that Bias was wisest, and sent it to him.

Bias sent it to another one, and so on, until it had passed through the hands of all the men afterwards distinguished by the title of the "Seven Wise Men," and as each one claimed that some one was wiser than he, it finally was sent to the Temple of Apollo, where, according to some writer, it still remains, to teach the lesson that the wisest are the most distrustful of their wisdom.

The following is a very pretty and romantic story if not a true one. Thirty-eight years ago the 19th of November a terrible fire broke out at a convent school for young ladies in the town of Limoges. At the last moment it was perceived that one of the pensionnaires had been left in her room. There appeared to be no hope of saving her, with a handsome girl, with floating locks and disheveled array, rushed through the crowd, crying, "Let me do it." She dashed into the flames, and reappeared carrying the child. A few days afterward Louis Philippe sent the heroine a gold medal, and a captain in the French army who had witnessed her courage asked to be presented to her. That captain is now President of the French Republic, and the heroine is his wife.

Mrs. Elizabeth Coxter has just died in England at the age of 102. She was the widow of the merchant who, many years ago, accomplished the feat of shearing the sheep, manufacturing the wool into cloth, and making a coat between the hours of sunrise and sunset. This event occurred at Greenham Mills, Newbury, and the achievement was celebrated by rejoicings in which 5,000 persons participated. The old lady retained her mental faculties until quite recently, and on her 100th birthday repeated the Old Hundred Psalm to several members of her family. She heard John Wesley preach in her childhood.

Jacob Beede, of Oakland, Susquehanna county, Pa., cast his first vote for Thomas Jefferson, and has voted for every Presidential candidate since that time. Mr. Beede was born May 20, 1777, and is consequently nearly one hundred years old. The old gentleman walked four miles on the 7th inst. to cast his ballot. If, as is here stated, he has voted for every Presidential candidate, he must have been an awful repeater. There have been at least two candidates, sometimes four, at an election.

Harness, and other articles of leather that are injuriously acted upon by the ammonia-ical exhalations common in stables may, according to Professor Arns, be thoroughly and effectually protected by the addition of a little glycerine to the oil or blacking with which the surfaces are treated.

The Annual Register.

We are in receipt of a copy of the ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS for 1877, published at Albany, N. Y., by LUTHER TUCKER & SON, and mailed to any address for the nominal sum of 30 cents. It is the oldest (and now the only) publication of the kind, and contains 150 pages of practical matter, interesting to every resident in the country, illustrated with no less than 140 beautiful engravings, almost all original. We notice particularly a capital article on "Practical Ventilation," which discusses this all important topic in a clear and at the same time scientific manner, giving fully illustrated descriptions of all the improved systems. Elaborate almanac pages are prefixed, and a very useful feature is the "Farmers Register," which gives the addresses of all the reliable dealers in everything a farmer needs to buy—live stock of all kinds, seeds, implements, nursery stock, &c., &c.

THE POPULAR VOTE.—On examination of the records we find that it has been one of the commonest things in our history for a President to be elected who had only a minority of the popular vote. Mr. Lincoln had only forty per cent. of the popular vote in 1860. Mr. Buchanan only forty-five per cent. of it in 1856, General Taylor only forty-seven per cent., Mr. Polk a trifle less than fifty per cent.

The New York Herald speaking on this subject says: "The popular vote is not to be considered at all if the Presidential electors have been legally chosen. If they have not been legally chosen in any State the popular vote in that State becomes a legitimate question, but not otherwise or elsewhere."

NOTE ON FROST.—General Naglee, of San Jose, has made the discovery, which no doubt other vinticulturists and horticulturists have made for themselves, that frost is more severe on vines and plants near the ground than a few feet from it. For that reason he trims his vines so as to bring the fruit three or four feet from the ground. Of course a severe frost will affect all foliage, but observation has shown that fruits a few feet from the ground will escape a light frost that would kill those lower down.

The great 100-ton gun of the new Italian iron-clad Duilio, carries a shell weighing 2,000 pounds, and moving at the rate of 1,374 feet per second—much faster than sound travels through the air. With a charge of 330 pounds, the 2,000-pound projectile moved even faster than this, having a velocity of 1,450 feet per second, giving a blow equal to the force required to lift 29,400 tons a foot high.

At Grayville, Ill., a few days since, a five-year-old child, left alone by a fire, got too near the flames and its clothing became ignited. The house dog, a common cur, sprang on the child, threw her down and actually stripped off the burning clothing, burning himself severely. By the time the parents had arrived the noble dog had saved the child's life, the dog being the worst-burned of the two.

A Stafford (O.) Republican family has a little bright-eyed who has a knowledge of the political situation. Being on a visit the other evening with her mamma, at her uncle's, she said, "Please I want to go to bed," to which her mother replied, "Well, wait till uncle has prayers!" exclaimed the child, "Why, I thought he was a Democrat!"

The total number of vessels that have passed through the Suez Canal during the first nine months of 1876 is 1,118. In the corresponding period of the previous year the number was 1,123. The receipts have been 22,520,120 fr., in 1876, against 21,422,003 fr. in 1875.

Mr. Tupper says he is "struck by American good manners, as observable in railway travel." It is disagreeable to think what kind of manners he must have been used to in England, to make such a comparison.

It is now stated that the biggest tree in California is not in the Yosemite Valley. Kings River valley in Fresno county is 5,000 feet above the sea, and its walls, which are about 3,000 feet high are very precipitous. In this valley a new grove of colossal redwood trees has been discovered. One of them eclipses all that have been discovered on the Pacific coast. Its circumference, as high as a man can reach and pass a tape line around, is a few inches less than 150 feet. The height is estimated at 160 feet; and a part of the top lying on the ground is over 100 feet in length.

The next exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at Liverpool in July, 1877, and for the purpose of inviting Americans to return the visits of Englishmen at the Centennial, the Society has decreed the expenditure of £50 for advertising the exhibition in the United States. The gold medal of the Society will be offered as a special prize for an efficient grain binder.

An English paper, the Builder, has the following, on housekeeping wisdom, and easily try the experiment: A correspondent states that he has made the simple discovery that hard waters are rendered very soft and pure, rivaling distilled water, by merely boiling a two ounce phial, say in a kettleful of water. The carbonate of lime and any impurities will be found adhering to the phial. The water boils very much quicker at the same time. The knowledge of this fact will prove a boon to housewives and laundresses.

"To determine the age of eggs," says the London Live Stock Journal, "dissolve about four ounces of common salt in a quart of pure water, and then immerse the egg. If it is one day old, it will descend to the bottom of the vessel; but if three days; will float in the liquid. If more than five days old, it will come to the surface and project above in proportion to its increased age.

MINING NEWS.

LUCKY QUEEN. The most encouraging news has been received from the Lucky Queen mine. After months of labor and the expenditure of an immense amount of money, the ledge is found to be not only rich, but one of the most permanent on the Pacific coast. A private letter received from Superintendent Assell, to a prominent citizen of this city, contains a full account of the last strike, and we give it in full. "Today I have the lower level completed, and am going ahead on quartz. It is nearly as good as that in the winze. The distance that I have to go before I get to the winze is 200 feet. It has taken labor and patience, but at last we have got through; and to-day the mine is worth millions of dollars. If it were in Virginia City stock would be worth \$100 per share. I would not take one cent less than \$10 per share for mine. From now on I will be taking out quartz every day, and will be able to do so for the next ten years to come from this level. From top of air shaft to bottom of winze, 127 feet in width, I have to drift 200 feet before I get to the winze, but every lick that is done, or will be done, is on quartz. There is no more 'dead work,' as you may call it, to be done. All the work from this on will be on quartz, and the chances are for still better than we have had. The ledge has been tested up to this day in length 198 feet, and in depth 207 feet. So far we have good, well defined walls, and all goes to show that we have a permanent ledge, and from now on she will prove herself."

THE TELEGRAPH. Mr. I. N. Muncey, the Superintendent of this mine, came to Roseburg from Canyonville, last Thursday, and brought with him several fine specimens of ore from the mine. One specimen of the ore is nearly pure silver, while in others silver predominates, free gold is plainly visible to the naked eye. The ore shown us will go from \$30 to \$5,000 per ton, and comes from a ledge with clearly defined walls, and averaging three feet in width. Operations on the tunnel now being run in to tap the ledge 300 feet below the surface was discontinued during the holiday week, but will be resumed immediately after New Year.

ESTHER MINE. The miners in the lower tunnel of the Esther mine struck a living stream of water in pursuing the main vein of that mine, last week. With all miners the appearance of water in a mine is proof of a positive vein when the water ceases to run off on its own accord. It is held that the water level has been reached, and all precedent has established when water is found under the circumstances we mention, the ledge and its continued worth is certain. The rock found on the water level has been assayed, and the result is \$23,000 to the ton in silver, and \$20 in gold.

CAPITAL MINE. This mine is rapidly growing in the estimation of dealers in mining stocks. Since our last report about 100,000 shares have been sold. Dr. J. Lindsay Hill, of Albany, representing a pool, has taken 90,000 shares. Work on the tunnel is progressing, and will be kept up during the winter, and will be pushed when spring opens.

JOSEPHINE MINE. Articles of incorporation were filed with S. F. Chadwick, Secretary of State last week by J. W. HARRIS, A. F. ANKENY, J. F. SALMON of the Josephine Gold and Silver Mining Company. The enterprise, business, pursuit, occupation in which this company propose to engage, is to mine for gold and silver and other metals, in the State of Oregon. The principal office will be located in Portland. Capital stock fixed at \$250,000; amount of each share, \$1. It is generally understood that the claim owned by this company lies near the Lucky Queen, and that it has shown rich prospects.

GOLD DISCOVERY. One of Mr. D. Cooper's sons the other day found a piece of gold quartz in the LaCreole river, at Dallas. The gold is visible with the naked eye and is pronounced to be good gold, too. It is supposed this has been washed out of the bank of the creek, somewhere, not far distant, and that a ledge is likely to be found on the LaCreole not far from Dallas. Mr. C. will prospect this matter before a great while.—Itemizer.

The Oldest and Best. These are the claims which the publishers of the New York Observer make for their paper in their prospectus of the fifty-fifth volume. And, while history bears them out in the first, an undeviating course in sending out a large, full, fresh, readable family newspaper, gives them at least a right to the second. In the great multitude of papers that are published, the Observer holds its own position, and an enviable position it is. No paper reaches us that we can recommend more heartily. It is published at \$3.15 a year, post-paid, and the premium picture and chromo lumbags are left for those who have nothing better to offer. S. I. Primo & Co., 37 Park Row, New York.

Howe's Stealer. On Monday night, from a post where it was fastened, in Silverton, Mr. King L. Hibbard had a valuable horse stolen, with a saddle and cloak. The horse was found on Mr. May's premises, near Lake Labish, yesterday, where the thief had left it, with the saddle. The cloak and thief are still missing, but strong hopes are entertained that the thief will be brought to justice.

MINING NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 23, 1876.—The Chronicle this morning publishes a lot of interviews with leading stock brokers and operatives as to the cause of depression in the market and the probability of Consolidated Virginia passing the January dividend. The general result seems to be that none of them know anything about it. The bulls claim that the depression is the result of a conspiracy on the part of the Bonanza firm, Sharon and others, to break the market and gather in the stock, while the bears assert that the mines are in a bad way. Others again say the decline is solely due to the necessities of marginal holders. Flood and O'Brien say nothing. Experts who profess to know the actual condition of the Bonanza mines vary as much in their views as operators. The report on the street that the Nevada Bank had changed the amount of its loans per share on California and Consolidated Virginia is emphatically denied at the bank counter, money being loaned on either at the rate of \$25 per share, as heretofore. Other banks deny the correctness of the report, and say they refuse even ten per cent. of the market value on account of distrust of the state of affairs, alleging they are still loading as usual to about one-third of the market value.