

**THE SHORT CROP IN RUSSIA.**  
A late New York paper gives information concerning the probable grain crop of Russia. This information is obtained from an official circular recently issued by the Russian Minister of Agriculture, and, although but partial, is highly important.

From this we learn that the grain crop of Russia, this year, is likely to be very poor. The drought in the south has been much more extensive and severe than was at all imagined. In many districts there will not only be no surplus for exportation, but the yield has been so very poor, that it is feared that the inhabitants will suffer for food before the next harvest.

The importance of this intelligence to Europe, can hardly be over estimated. Southern Russia, the fertile valleys of the Volga, Don, and Dnieper, and the extensive plains watered by their tributaries,—has long been the great harvest-field for all the European nations, and hence the fact that the grain supply from this region is not only cut off, but that its inhabitants must import much for their own needs, becomes a very serious one.

It is a fact that interests America as well as Europe. Plainly, if the margin between European supply and consumption is very close, extraordinary efforts will be necessary to bring forward the surplus from other grain-producing countries to make good the deficiency for France and England. The fact is simply that Europe will require this year fully twice as much breadstuffs as usual, her most important source of supply quite failing her. For the very staff of life she must look abroad, and very naturally her eye will turn to the broad fields of the great west of America. From them she must draw her sustenance for this coming year, without a doubt.

It is a part of the great economy of Nature that all parts of this world shall be mutually dependent, one upon another, and evils which remind us of this interdependence are apparent ills only.

The short crop in Europe, happening when our granaries are full to overflowing, but our credit abroad, and our business at home, suffering paralysis through reckless speculations, may be the one thing needed to set the wheels of commerce again in motion, and to re-assure the world without, that a country with such unbounded resources can never become bankrupt.

It may be that later news from Russia will, to some extent, modify the statements that we have quoted, but hardly to any important degree. The Russian Government must be supposed to be fully certain of facts so vital as these before announcing them to the world. The publication of this news was no doubt determined upon as a precautionary measure, that those persons most nearly affected might have an opportunity for proper and necessary economy and preparation.—*Our Fireside Friend.*

As the most fitting commemoration of the second anniversary of the great fire of 1871, we print this morning a statement of the progress of the past year in the work of rebuilding. The amount of work accomplished is nearly two-thirds as much as that of the preceding year, and statistics will be interested in knowing that 37,013 lineal feet, or more than seven miles of frontage of brick and stone, and iron have been erected within the last twelve months. It is a matter for rejoicing and thanksgiving that, in spite of the sudden and overwhelming losses of two years ago, and the unparalleled strain upon the entire community in supplying what was destroyed at that time, Chicago has been able to pass through the trial of the recent financial panic with less distress than any other important city in the country. It is not alone to indomitable energy of the Chicago people that the credit of this great progress belongs. It belongs to the whole northwest, which by its abiding faith in Chicago's destiny, and through its liberal contributions to Chicago's business, has rendered possible the marvelous resurrection which fills the mind wonder, commands the admiration of the whole civilized world.—*Chicago Tribune.*

**TRAGEDY AT TILLAMOOK.**

A fearful tragedy was enacted at Tillamook last Friday evening, about 7 o'clock, near Miller's store. The parties engaged in the terrible melee were named respectively Drost and Hauxhurst. The result of the encounter was the sudden death of Drost. A gentleman just from the scene, and who saw Hauxhurst a few minutes after the perpetration of the frightful tragedy, gave us the following particulars of the sanguinary affair. Drost kept a small restaurant near the landing, and Hauxhurst is a sort of fisherman and general laborer. It seems that he had been in the habit of making Drost's restaurant a sort of rendezvous. He became such a frequenter of the house that Drost grew jealous of his attentions to Mrs. Drost, and imagined that a too great degree of intimacy existed between the parties. Whether or not their existed such grounds for such a supposition our informant could not state; but the lady in question bears a good reputation, and is a hard woman. At all events Drost was driven by his blind jealousy to a degree of desperation, and forsook Hauxhurst to enter his house. It was stated—as was subsequently elicited at the preliminary examination—that Drost had made frequent threats against the life of Hauxhurst. Last Friday Mrs. Drost learned that Hauxhurst intended to call at the house on the evening of that day. Knowing the feelings of her husband towards Hauxhurst, she sent word to him to stay away. But he did not heed the warning and came to the house a little after dark. Drost was at home and no sooner did Hauxhurst enter the room than he sprang at him, and the two soon became engaged in a desperate struggle. Hauxhurst, although wiry and powerfully built, was unequal to cope with Drost, who was a man of immense physical strength. As a consequence, Drost knocked his antagonist down several times, and was pommeling him severely. In the struggle on the floor, Hauxhurst managed to get possession of a butcher knife. He plunged this terrible weapon into his adversary some thirteen times, literary cutting him to pieces and causing instantaneous death. The terrible affray was witnessed by a man named Bean and the wife of the murdered man. So suddenly was the work of death wrought, that Drost hardly uttered a word. When Hauxhurst arose from his gory labor, he was a most horrible sickening and bloody spectacle at which to look. Immediately after the killing, Hauxhurst was arrested, but at the conclusion of the preliminary examination was discharged, it being shown clearly that Drost had threatened to kill him, and that the stabbing was done in pure self defense.

Hauxhurst is a half-breed, who in general, is peaceably disposed when sober, but turbulent, quarrelsome and desperate when under the influence of drink. He is regarded as a dangerous man and has been engaged in several bloody affrays. Some years ago he had a difficulty with a young man in Salem, in which he stabbed him several times, resulting in death a few days after. For this, Hauxhurst was tried and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years. Subsequently he was pardoned out at the expiration of four years, and has been residing at Tillamook for the last three years. Drost sustained the character of a bully, but was not regarded as a man of violence or of very bad disposition. The sanguinary affair created great excitement in that vicinity.—*Oregonian Oct. 28.*

**STATE ITEMS.**

Wm. Cliff a colored man of Portland was sent to the insane Asylum, Monday.  
About 206,000 bushels of grain has been delivered in Eugene since harvest.  
The fisheries at Ellensburg, in Curry county, have caught and put up 1,700 barrels of salmon this fall.  
Andrew J. Moses, of Portland, has received the appointment of Commissioner of Deeds for the State of New York.

**TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.**

Albany (Ogn.) Oct. 26.—Yesterday two men, named respectfully Van Emerson and Shirts, got in a quarrel over a shooting match at the Buckhead saloon, in Sweet Home Valley twenty-five miles east of this city, which resulted in the death of both parties. Van Emerson stabbed Shirts in the breast, killing him instantly, whereat one of Shirts's brothers struck Van Emerson on the back of the neck, breaking the same and causing instant death. The Sheriff is in pursuit of the murderer.

Albany, October 28.—James Shirts, the murderer of Van Emerson in the tragedy at Sweet Home Valley, a few days since, was arrested near Lebanon day before yesterday, by the Sheriff, and was brought to Albany and placed in the County Jail. The preliminary examination was concluded at a late hour last evening, the prisoner being bound over in the sum of \$2,000 to answer to the charge of manslaughter at the next term of the Circuit Court.

Teno, October 28.—Governor Salmon yesterday completed arrangements for opening and working the coal mines here. The coal is to be shipped to San Francisco. Work commences in a few days.

Austin, October 28.—This morning as the stage from Battle Mountain was approaching Reese River Crossing, a man armed with a shotgun stepped into the road and ordered the driver to halt. This order was obeyed, when the robber demanded and received the treasure box and told the driver to proceed. Sheriff Emery, accompanied by an Indian, started out in pursuit of the robber and search for the box this morning.

Memphis, October 28.—The mortality from noon yesterday to noon today from yellow fever and other causes was eight, an increase of two of fever from the same hour yesterday, but a decline in the number of new cases. There was a hard frost this morning and the temperature is still falling. Mayor Johnson resumed his official duties this forenoon.

Berlin, October 28.—Prince Bismarck has been reappointed President of the Prussian Ministry in place of General Von Roon. It is understood that the restoration carries with it the effectual control of the whole Cabinet, which he demanded previous to his resignation some time ago.

London, October 29.—5 A. M.—Sir William Holland, well known author and physician, is dead.

London, October 28.—The *Tiens* reports, on good authority, that Gen. Sir Garnett Wolseley, in command of the Ashantee expedition, took out instructions to first offer the Ashantees peace on condition that they lay down their arms and withdraw from the territory under British protection.

There was an accident today on the Metropolitan Underground Railway, by which three persons were killed.

Several agrarian outrages have been committed in Ireland during the past week.

Dispatches announce that the cable between Amoy and Shanghai has been repaired and communication restored.

Vienna, October 29.—There is another panic on the Bourse, and the Government is endeavoring to effect a settlement of financial difficulties.

Dresden, October 29.—The death of King John, of Saxony, at Pluitz, is announced this morning.

Albany, October 29.—This afternoon about half past 1, some children playing with matches set fire to a large barn and fifty tons of hay owned by Hurd & Co., totally destroying both. Loss unknown; no insurance. By the great exertions of the fire department assisted by citizens, and owing to the slight wind prevailing, the residences and adjoining buildings, owned by Dr. Rice, J. D. Hurd and others, were saved. had a strong south wind been blowing, as is common this time of the year, the entire northern part of the city would have gone, as the water gave out.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. L. G. Pfunder, of the city floral park, was disturbed by some noise at his door. Going out to discover what the trouble was, he found a lad industriously engaged in pestering one of his parrots. He politely asked the boy to desist, but instead of complying with the request he continued to bother the bird. Seeing that mild measures would accomplish nothing, Mr. Pfunder took hold of the boy and endeavored to pull him away, when he drew a pistol and attempted to shoot. This was taken away from him; but no sooner was he disarmed of this than he drew a knife and tried to use it on the person of Mr. Pfunder. He was also relieved of this and ejected from the premises. These are the facts of the case as we learn them.—*Bulletin.*

**COMSTOCK COAL MINE.**

That Oregon abounds in minerals of much value is now becoming more generally known than formerly. As enterprise, energy and capital are applied to the work of discovering what our mountains and valleys contain, we find that wealth untold lies buried there. Heretofore we have been obliged to obtain many necessary articles from abroad, which only lack capital and enterprise to find and produce in our own State. For one single article of common use the Willamette Valley has been dependent upon Washington Territory, when we have it in great quantities at home. We refer to coal, which is constantly shipped from without the State for use here. This we hope the discovery of the Comstock Coal mines will in a great measure decrease. From Mr. D. McKay, Superintendent of these mines who is at present in the city on business connected with their working, we gain some information of interest with reference to them. These mines are situated on Pass Creek, Douglas county, and are within one thousand and fifty feet of the railroad track of the Oregon and California Railroad Company. There is an easy grade from the mouth of the tunnel to the track requiring no machinery to draw the cars containing the coal to the railroad. To get the empty cars back to the mine require the services of 4 mules. The ledge is six feet in thickness, and it is estimated that there are 720 acres of good coal land. Last Monday Mr. McKay made a test of the coal taken from these mines at the Salem Gas Works with a very satisfactory and favorable result. The quantity of Gas obtained from three hundred pounds of coal, the amount used for the test, was one thousand two hundred and ten feet, or a little more than four feet to the pound; which is something more than can be obtained from Nanaimo coal, coal, which produces only one thousand two hundred feet of gas to three hundred pounds of coal, and is of a superior quality. This coal produces some coke, and all makes good fuel after the gas has been extracted. In other respects this coal is thought, upon examination by experts in this line, to be equal to any now in use.

A quantity of the coal was also left at the plow factory in Salem to be tested, the result of which had not been ascertained at the time of Mr. McKay's departure yesterday. He expects to receive a report from there to day. It has also been in use some time up at the railroad machine shop above East Portland, and is pronounced to be of a superior quality, and as good as the English coal. The company have at present ten men employed at the mines and are pushing the work as rapidly as possible. As soon as the tunnel shall have been extended a little farther more men will be set at work, and the coal will be dug out and shipped to market. Some of the coal from these mines is now in use by various parties in this city, the result of whose test will be known in a few days.—*Bulletin.*

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