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GENERAL EASTERN NEWS.

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

Damage by Ice.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—The heavy ice, over twenty inches thick, in the bays and harbors about Long Island has done much damage. Wharves have been swept away and vessels injured.

Fatally Burned.

DANIELSONVILLE, Conn., Feb. 16.—Three children were fatally burned to-day by pouring kerosene on a fire. Their mother was seriously injured in trying to save them.

Smallpox at Cuba, Ill.

CUBA, Feb. 16.—Smallpox, which prevails here at an epidemic extent, has caused complete stagnation of business. There are to-day twenty-six cases of smallpox and varioloid in Cuba and its vicinity. Six deaths have already occurred and some of the sick are very low.

Smallpox Increasing at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—Smallpox is increasing here quite fast. Yesterday's reports showed eleven new cases, while there were only sixteen during the whole of last week.

Grant's Opinion of the Coming Exposition.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Gen. Grant said to the international commission to-day, that the exposition of 1883 would be a great success, and subscribers would receive back their investments with premium. The attendance will be four times larger than at the centennial.

The Opium Trade.

In a letter written by W. H. Pethick, secretary of the United States commission to China, to the commissioners, he says: "The total quantity of foreign opium imported during the year 1879 reached a figure never attained before, namely, 82,050 piculs (11,073,333 pounds—over 5,000 tons), representing a value of 36,536,617 taels, or about \$51,000,000, and this formed very nearly one-half of the whole foreign import trade. The amount imported has steadily increased from 52,000 piculs in 1864 to 82,000 piculs in 1879. In 1879 the import was 11,000 piculs (one picul, 133 1/2 pounds) more than the previous year. This will show that the use of foreign opium is steadily and rapidly increasing in China. To this is to be added the amount consumed in Hongkong, and the amount exported thence for the use of Chinese in California, Australia and elsewhere; and estimating 21,919 piculs as smuggled from Hongkong into China, the customs authorities state that the total importation of opium into China would, therefore, appear to have amounted in 1879 to 104,970 piculs, (13,995,000 pounds—over 6,000 tons.) This single article, opium, equals in value all the other goods brought to China from foreign countries. Its value is greater than all the tea sent out of China, or all the silk. For the 265,000,000 pounds of tea China sends abroad she is given 11,000,000 pounds of opium, and still has \$5,000,000 to pay for this opium in other goods, the opium being worth nearly \$51,000,000, and the tea \$46,000,000. These figures establish quite enough for my purpose, which is to show that the black stream of pollution which has so long flown out of India into China has been increasing in volume and spreading its baneful influence wider and wider. If this stream be not checked, the world may soon despise China as a nation of opium-smokers, even as Judah was reviled by the prophet for her abominations."

Suicidal Mania.

Suicides are annually becoming more common, not in America only, but all over the civilized world. During the last two years there have been special causes at work—failures in trade, agricultural depressions, and commercial losses—which have tended to drive men to suicide in ever-increasing numbers.

Men are everywhere becoming more weary of the burden of life. Authorities on sanitation and vital statistics tell us that, of late years, life, the average human life, has been considerably prolonged by greater attention to the means of preserving health; yet, concurrent with this improvement, there is a greater impatience of life itself, and a greater desire to escape its burden.

Women are less prone to commit suicide than men, and extensive investigation on the subject shows that the tendency to suicide increases with age more strongly amongst the unmarried and widowed than amongst the married of both sexes.

From an interesting article on the subject in the Contemporary Review we extract as follows:

The following advertisement appeared in Le Petit Parisien last month: "Suicidal.—A young man, to whom life is a burden, has resolved to put an end to himself, but wishes to accomplish his death in the most advantageous manner possible. He places, therefore, the sacrifice of his life at the disposal of any person who, for a suitable sum, would wish to intrust him with an enterprise the issue of which would be necessarily fatal. This offer is very serious. Write to the initials K. R. V., 48, Poste Restante, Anvers." There is no punishment in the French code for attempt at suicide.

It is not many months since the French papers reported the case of a bonne in Marseilles, who wanted, during the severe frost, to go skating one day, as she had done on former occasions, with her master's daughter. But her master refused, and said they should both remain at home that afternoon. Next morning the bonne and her little mistress, who slept in the same room, were both found dead, suffocated by the fumes of charcoal. A note was found on the table in the handwriting of the bonne—"You would not let us go out together yesterday. I have taken your daughter with me to a better world." Seeing that the daughter was fourteen years of age, it was rather hard of the bonne not to have asked her consent before carrying out this desperate measure of revenge.

Nor is it in France only that passion thus vents itself in the most dreadful crimes. A married woman at Mellenbergo, in Hesse Cassel, last year had received an order, through the police, to bring her child, an infant of eight months old, to the public vaccinator, in order that it might be vaccinated. She refused. Another order was sent to her, admonishing her that she would render herself liable to fine and imprisonment if she neglected it. "The child and I will both die together rather than I shall have it vaccinated," said she. And she kept her word. Two days after the lifeless bodies of both were found in the Fulda. She had murdered her child and taken her own life by drowning rather than obey the order.

Few have adopted a more original remedy for unrequited love than Carl Hassa, of Mecklenburg. He had been from home for some time, and, on his return, found his

brother engaged to his lady-love. She would have nothing to do with Carl. "I will put an end to myself," said he at length to her, "if you treat me thus." She laughed, telling him, as she tripped off, that she did not believe he had the courage to put an end to himself. The method he adopted was at once terrible and grotesque. He prepared a slow match, tied himself firmly and securely to a young horse on the farm, and then put the lighted match securely into the horse's ear. The poor animal, maddened with pain, rushed violently and frantically about the farm, dragging the unfortunate Carl after him. It must have been a terrible spectacle. At length, frenzied with the torture of the lighted match, the horse dashed into the adjoining river, where the water was deep and the current rapid. Both horse and man were found drowned there. I suppose the weight of the unhappy man had prevented the horse saving himself by swimming. But so it was. Both of them perished in the Warnow.

The Italian papers of November last report a tragedy that was recently enacted in Rome, somewhat similar to that of Romeo and Juliet, but in low life, in which two suicides resulted from inordinate grief. Moretti, a tailor by trade, was sent to prison on a charge of fraud. His sweetheart called upon the police-officer to ask how long Moretti was likely to be confined. Urged thereto by the girl's mother, who did not favor the match, the police-officer replied that, in all probability, Moretti would be imprisoned for many years. Overwhelmed with grief, and driven thereby to despair, the poor girl put an end to herself by poison. A few days after Moretti was discharged from custody, the accusation made against him having been proved false. He returned home to find his affianced bride a corpse. Frenzied at the sight he too destroyed himself. The lie worked out a double tragedy.

"Beware of desperate means. The darkest day—Wait but to-morrow—Will have passed away."

The motive which led Marie Speiz, of Braun, to put an end to herself was peculiar and original, although the method she adopted, simple drowning in the Danube, lacked the strangeness of that adopted by Carl Hassa. Marie Speiz was a retailer of sausages in the Krautmarkt. She was an orphan, but an orphan of portentous dimensions. Nor did she, like the fat boy in Pickwick, rejoice in her superiority to the rest of mankind in size. In short she was abnormally fat. It might have been constitutional. It might have been the sausages. But, whatever it was, she lost her life because Banting and his philosophy were equally unknown to her. Her sister was the only relative she had in Braun. Marie left her native town, telling her sister that she had got service in the Kaiserstadt, in Vienna. But this was only a pretence. A few days after her departure her sister got a letter from Marie through the post. "I can no longer endure it," wrote the poor girl. "Wherever I go, whatever I do, I am always laughed at on account of my corpulence (Fettersheit). Nobody thinks of me except as an object of ridicule. I cannot endure it any longer dear Gretchen. My body will be found in the Danube." And so it was, near Klosterneuburg. There is something pathetic in the fate of poor Marie Speiz, and yet, if one were to write seriously about it, the reader would probably only laugh, as an un-

mannerly world in Braun laughed poor Marie out of existence.

That suicides are annually increasing in number, in greater proportion than the population of the United States, appears to be proved by the statistical tables recently published. The population, however, is increasing so fast in the states that it is not easy to form accurate comparisons. One would think it ought not to be so—that in a country of promise, where food and labor are abundant, the suicidal frenzy ought to be diminishing annually instead of increasing.

The Peruvian syrup has cured thousands who were suffering from dyspepsia, debility, liver complaint, boils, humors, female complaints, etc. Pamphlets free to any address. Seth W. Fowle & Sons, Boston.

The Astorian job presses will fit you out with your winter supplies of letter heads, bill-heads, cards, envelopes, etc., etc., at astonishingly low rates, and in exquisite style. Call and see samples of work done for others.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Machinist Wanted.

APPLY AT THIS OFFICE.

Wanted.

15,000 POUNDS BAGS OF ALL KINDS, clean and dry, at the Umbrella shop, Main street, by J. JOPLIN.

\$80 Reward.

TWENTY DOLLARS WILL BE PAID for the recovery of each of the bodies of four Chinamen drowned in Columbia river near Rockfield on Wednesday last, while going from Pillar rock, to Rockfield. One was twenty-one years of age, and had on his person at the time a check of \$200 and seven dollars in silver. The second was twenty-three years old and had a pistol and seven dollars in silver. The third was twenty-four years old and had three twenty dollars gold pieces, a twenty-five cent piece, and a silver watch. The fourth was twenty-eight years old and had \$12 in gold. The above rewards will be paid by the undersigned.

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Hardware, Brass Goods, Lead and Iron Pipe, Pipe Fittings, Engineers Supplies, Sheet Lead, Iron Copper, Brass and Zinc.

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LUBRICATING OILS, COAL OIL, PAINTS AND OILS.

Sheet, Round, and Square Prepared Rubber Packing.

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The New York Oyster Saloon

Will serve to their customers from this date as follows:

TEA, COFFEE, CHOCOLATE.

Eastern Oysters Always on Hand.

And will be kept as a first class Oyster Saloon, in first class style.

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On the roadway, opposite the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co's wharf.

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