Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

TERSE TICKS FROM THE WIRES

An Interesting Collection of Items From the New and the Old World In a Condensed and Comprehensive Form The sultan is negotiating for the building of a first-class armored

The steamer Concho has arrived in New York from Havana with 968 bales of Cuban tobacco.

The English engineers anounce that they have plenty of funds and intend to continue their strike.

It is reported that the Afridis are assembling in tribal council, with a view to concluding peace.

Eight of the principal buildings in Lebanon, Tenn., were destroyed by fire Thursday night, with a loss of \$75,000.

The death rate of Chicago for the year was 14 in the thousand, the lowest recorded for any city of over 200,000 in-

The British bark Taymount, bound from Liverpool for San Francisco, is now 224 days overdue, and her owners have given her up.

John Williams, at Marseilles, O., attacked Mrs. Flint and cut her so badly with a knife that she is not expected to live. He then fatally cut himself.

British bark Samaritan, from San Francisco, arrived in Liverpool considerably damaged from a hurricane which she encountered December 22.

Walter Gregory and Philip McNelly were instantly killed by a switching engine on the track in the yard of the Murden Boiler Works at Philadelphia.

A thief stole \$4,000 worth of jewelry from the house of Volney Mallett, president of the Indiana National bank, of Indianapolis, while the family were at

Joseph Lockley, clerk of the manager of the McHenry Estate Association, has disappeared from New York, after securing several thousand dollars by raised checks.

A fortnightly steamer service between this coast and Australia will commence in February, the Canadian Pacific line and the Oceanic line alter- dren. nating their sailing dates.

French bark Lombard, from Mobile, Ala., sunk while entering the port of Cette, France. Five of the crew, including the captain, were drowned, and eight were saved.

Mrs. Sarah McGovern, wife of one Friday night, and her husband has been arrested for murder.

A new law went into effect on the first of the year in Massachusetts, providing that not over 30 per cent of the inmates of any penal institution in the state shall be employed in any one industry.

Ballie and Waldo Orem, children, were asphyxiated by coal gas at their home in Leipsic, O.

The barge Canistee, which went adrift off Cape Cod, has been found in Barnstable bay, with all the crew well. The Auditorium at Kansas City, recently burned, will be rebuilt at once, and will be ready for occupancy Sep-

In a saloon row between Kentnoky mountaineers at Manchester, Will Burdy, James Philpot and Bob Gregory were killed.

Veins of gilsonite of sufficient size to warrant development have been discovered on Willow creek in the Middle Park, Colorado.

M. Tunakoshi, Japanese vice-consul at San Francisco, has been hurriedly recalled to Tokio. It was thought he would be secretary to the legation at Washington.

The French embassy at Washington denies that M. Maillard passed through Washington en route to Cuba to investigate for his government the conditions on the island.

Jacob Stryer and wife were cremated in their burning farmhouse in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, Within 48 hours, six others burned to death in that county.

Frederick Walsen, state treasurer of Colorado, was married to Miss Emma Storck, aged 25. After the war, Walsen's broken health was nursed back by the bride's mother.

Fire destroyed the large pipe organ in the Great Northern hotel, Chicago, entailing a loss of \$20,000. Although the fire was confined entirely to the organ, it sent out such clouds of smoke that many of the guests became alarmed, and a serious panic was narrowly averted.

The burgomaster of Wieschowitz, a suburb of Prague, has been arrested. Many compromising papers concerning the recent riots in Prague were found in his possession. It is alleged that he assisted in placing the bomb under the German schoolhouse at Wieschowitz, which the Czechs attacked and attempted to demolish recently.

Katherine Kidder's father says she will retire from the stage.

Countess Castellane, formerly Anna Gould, has given birth to a son. The British cruiser Leander and the torpedo-destroyer Virago have left San

Diego for Esquimalt. O. H. McBra, Southern express agent at Brunswick, Ga., embezzled \$14,000.

He stood high socially. Rosa Medici, aged 9, was burned to death near Los Angeles. A spark from

a grate ignited her dress. Ed L. Parker tried to kill C. J. Sheets and wife, in Los Angeles, and then committed suicide. Parker was infatuated with Mrs. Sheets.

John Bergman, who lost his money on the Chicago board of trade, committed suicide in New York, leaving his body to a medical college.

Leutgert's attorneys, unable to secure a stenographer at state expense, are taking down the trial in long hand, which may continue it for months.

Sam Turner, a dying negro, was lynched at Kingstree, S. C. He killed Deputy Poston Christmas eve, and during the shooting received a mortal wound.

Gladstone celebrated his 88th birthday. He received many congratulations at Cannes. His health is improving, though he is suffering from neuralgia.

Henry Oliver Goldsmith, a Wallstreet broker, is wanted for stealing a \$3,000 check, belonging to Oscar Weis- 79.5 per cent December 21. ner, of Brooklyn. His victims are said to be many.

Many collieries in Silesia are provided with bombs filled with compressed oxygen for use in cases of accident or entrance into old galleries, where the air is foul.

Lee Fat cut the throat of Lee Tong, in San Francisco's Chinatown. The murderer was caught in the act by an officer. Passengers on a street car witnessed the crime.

The 10-year-old daughter of Simon Barringer was accidentally killed at Glenbair, Cal., by her brother, two acre, indicating an aggregate winter years older, in a playful struggle for possession of a gun.

By the will of Mrs. Henrietta R. Files Baker, \$2,000,000 is bequeathed to the Pennsylvania hospital, contingent upon the death of the son and daughter of the testatrix without issue.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellidge, aged 83 years, is dead in Breckinridge, Mo. She was the mother of 12 children and had 87 grandchildren, 40 great grandchildren and 50 great-great-grandchil-

An imperial decree has been gazetted in Vienna, authorizing the government during the prorogation of parliament to levy taxes and provide for state expenditures from January 1 to June 80

Miss Jennie Edwards, aged 19, and Pa., was shot and killed at her home families residing near Hopkins, Mo., export during the ensuing six months after the cases whose business it would were killed in a runaway. Miss Edwards' skull was crushed by striking a June of 145,000,000 bushels.

Judge Woffard, of Kansas City, stopped a tilt between lawyers by remarking: "Hereafter when lawyers China Said to Be Negotiating in London talk about fighting in this court, I shall adjourn court, and let them fight it out.

An engine and a caboose on the Chicago, Hammond & Western left the today that since Thursday last importtrack while crossing a bridge over Salt ant negotiations have been proceeding creek, two miles north of Legrange, Ill., and plunged into eight feet of water. Six men were injured.

Farmer Lawrence Walters, of Cass county, Mich., buried \$2,500 in greenbacks and \$4,000 in government bonds. notes, mortgages, etc., beneath the floor of his barn some months ago. Robbers dug up the treasure and disappeared.

Professor Willard B. Rising, dean of the college of chemistry, university of California, has been appointed member of the American committee for the third international convention of applied chemistry, to be held in Vienna

Gustav Thelan, president of the El Reno, O. T., Stock Exchange bank; Michael Eschoff, cashier; Charles A. Newman, assistant cashier, and Louis Eschoff, a member of the board of directors, were arrested for receiving deposits when the bank was known to be

Nellie Johnson, a Kansas City negress, was chopped to death with a hatchet by her husband. Near by stood a horse and an express wagon, in which were ropes tied to a heavy stone. It had been the intention of the murderer to throw his victim into

The San Francisco Miners' Associaof the creation of the cabinet office of secretary of mines and mining for adoption by the American institute of mining engineers and federations of miners The Government Compelled to Retire throughout the East. Representatives Loud and Newlands favor the scheme.

Abe Balm and his two brothers, well-to-do farmers, lived near West Point. When their father died, a few days ago, it was claimed be had starved to death. The sons refused to pay the in this city during the past two weeks. expenses of his burial. Last night a This latest discovery has created quite mob marched to the home of the brothers and called for Abe. The brothers opened fire. The mob returned the fire, and Abe was mortally wounded. cial circles to bring to light all of the he would endeavor to return all the The farmers will not countenance the arrest of the mob leaders.

Winter Wheat Promises a Bountiful Harvest.

AHEAD OF LAST YEAR'S ACREAGE

Best Showing Is Made by Pacific Coast States-Available Surplus Now on Hand, 315,000,000 Bushels.

New York, Jan. 6.-The special crop eport of the New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says: Final returns make the area of winter wheat 26,663,000 acres, as compared with 23,930,000 acres harvested

last year, an increase of 11.4 per cent, The increase in California, Oregon and Washington is 45 per cent, the approximate acreage being 3,969,000, as against 3,789,000 acres last year.

There has been a material increase in wheat seeding in the Southern states, due to the low price of cotton. Favorable weather during December improved the condition of wheat. The present average is 87.8 per cent, as against 84.1 per cent last month. In the six principal states east of the Rocky mountains the improvement has been more noticeable. The condition in those states now is 84.8 per cent, as compared with

On the Pacific coast plant life is in nearly perfect condition. The average for Oregon is 99; Washington, 98, and California, 96. The average for the three states is 96.6 per cent, as compared with 94.8 last month Unfavorable results of drought and late seeding have been partially counteracted by favorable weather during the past two months. The temperature has been below the normal, and there has been no urgent need of snow protection. No damage is reported from ice or freezing.

The condition at 87.8 per cent is equivalent to about 14.6 bushels per wheat yield at date in the neighborhood of 890,000,000 bushels.

According to the January returns, there are 240,000,000 bushels of wheat held on farms, which is 41.4 per cent of last year's production. On the corresponding date last year there were held in the same position 190,000,000 bushels. Of this total six principal winterwheat states east of the Rockies have 83,000,000 bushels, or 44.4 per cent of the last crop; Minnesota and the Dakotas, 59,000,000 bushels, or 41 per cent, and the Pacific coast 30,000,000 bushels, or 38.9 per cent.

The present estimated supply of wheat in all positions is 315,000,000 bushels. Domestic requirements for and liability to frauds in issuing penbread to next July are 150,000,000 bushels, and for spring seeding, say, Under government supervision, the 20,000,000 bushels more—in all 170,-000,000 bushels, leaving a surplus for the persons appointed to look and for home reserves at the end of

APPEALS TO ENGLAND.

for a Loan.

Berlin, Jan. 6 .- The Cologne Ga-

zette, on authority from the best-informed quarters in Paris, announces in London for a Chinese loan, the attempts made in Paris and St. Petersburg to arrange for a loan having failed. China has offered to contract for £16,000,000 in London, at the same time asking the good offices of the British government in her present extrem-

China, it appears, contemplates offering as security the land tax, under control of Englishmen, and that furthermore an Englishman shall succeed Sir Robert Hart as director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs. In addition Great Britain will insist upon

a concession of territory, relative to which secrecy, according to the informant of the Cologne Gazette, must be temporarily observed.

The Cologne Gazette adds that it is understood Russia has renewed her offer to China to conclude a loan in Germany on more favorable terms than are obtainable in Paris or London.

London, Jan. 6.-There is good reason to believe the British government considering the subject of assisting China to raise a loan. The Chinese proposals on the subject are generally supported by business men interested in China.

The evening News says it is reported in the city that the negotiations for a Chinese loan of £16,000,000, guarantion will prepare resolutions in favor teed by the British government, are practically concluded.

ANOTHER COUNTERFEIT.

Philadelphia, Jan. 6.-There was discovered in one of the largest banks today another counterfeit \$100 silver certificate, making in all six of these worthless notes which have been found a sensation among the cashiers and other banking officials here, and there same recalled, as he was not entitled to has been an industrious search in finanspurious notes which may heretofore money drawn since 1895, when the penhave escaped detection.

READY TO MEET HIS DOOM.

Durrant Rehearses the Scene of His Own Death.

San Quentin, Cal., Jan. 6 .- Durrant has rehearsed the scene of his own death. At his own request, made absolutely without emotion, he has been told every incident that will mark the minutes of his last hours of life. From the moment that he awakens next Friday morning until Warden Hale gives the signal to spring the gallows trap, Theodore Durarnt knows what is ex-

pected of him. A book and several papers on religious subjects were received at the prison yesterday for Durrant. They were offerings from a woman who resides in Francisco three years ago and has displayed an interest in Durrant's affairs since his arrest for the murder of Blanche Lamont. Deputy Warden Edgar made a thorough inspection of the book and papers and then permitted

Durrant to have them. The authorities suspect that some of Durrant's legal advisers may attempt some play at the very moment of the execution. Durrant may invite five of the 50 people who will be present, but Warden Hale will revise the list, so it is unlikely that any of his attorneys will be seen beside the gallows.

The condemned man made the fol-

lowing requests: First, that the rope used to hang him shall be destroyed immediately after his death, that no person can say that he holds a piece of it as a memento; second, that none of the spectators shall be allowed to gaze upons his features after he is executed; third, that no autopsy shall be held after death and that no physician be allowed to examine his body; fourth, that after he pronounced dead his remains shall be delivered to his parents as soon as pos-

PENSION ATTORNEYS.

Commissioner Evans Has a Plan for Do ing Away With Them.

Washington, Jan. 6 .- Commissioner of Pensions Evans has been giving some attention to a proposition whereby the services of pension attorneys engaged in the prosecution of claims before the office may be dispensed with, their work done by officials under government supervision. Informally, he has been discussing the matter with members of the house committee on invalid pensions, but is not yet prepared to outline the details of his plan. The present system, he says, is wrongful and should have been done away with long

Discontinuing the services of the attorneys would result in a great saving to both pensioners and the government. sions would be reduced to a minimum. pension bureau would have direct conbe to see that all honest claims were promptly and intelligently presented. The commissioner notes the fact that \$13,500,000 was paid out during the past 15 years to pension attorneys by applicants for the prosecution of their claims.

MAY BE EXTENDED.

Benefits of the Mail Delivery Service to Be Enjoyed in Rural Districts.

Washington, Jan. 6 .- The benefits derived from the rural delivery of mail matter, it is believed, will be extended as soon as authority can be obtained from congress on the subject.

At the request of the house postoffice committee, First Assistant Postmaster-General Heath is preparing amendments to the appropriation bill, giving carriers in rural districts authority to receive money orders from patrons and to receipt for and deliver registered letters. The additional duty can be readily performed by the carriers, who will, if the scheme is put in operation, become "the traveling postoffices."

Country people will have, therefore, nearly all the benefits enjoyed by residents of the city in this regard, as the carriers now are permitted to carry postal cards and stamped envelopes for sale. Should the proposition work well, the department will be enabled to abolish many of the small postoffices along the star routes.

Engineer Was Asleep.

Kansas City, Jan. 6 .- While James Scott, a Santa Fe engineer, slept in his engine cab this morning, his engine, drawing a long string of freight and stock cars, bore down upon another freight train moving in on a sidetrack in the Santa Fe yards in Argentine, Kan. A collision followed, Charles K. Landers, a stockman, aged 40, was killed, and M. L. Mears, A. C. Olin, John C. Myers and J. W. McAdow were injured.

Too Much Agitation.

Washington, Jan. 6 .- Since the agitation concerning the publication of the list of pensioners has commenced, Commissioner Evans has received several letters from persons requesting a cancellation of their pensions. One pen sioner in Michigan enclosed his certiff cate, and stated his desire to have the the government's bounty. He added sion was granted.

Herald of Trade and Finance Reviews the Season.

AHEAD OF LAST YEAR'S PACK

Nearly Three Million Cases Put Up During the Year-Fine Showing by the Columbia River Canneries.

San Francisco, Jan. 4.—The Herald of Trade and Finance prints the follow-Toronto. She was a resident of San ing review of the Pacific coast salmon pack for the season just closed:

The total pack of canned salmon on this coast is not so large as late estimates made it, but it comes up to the early estimates. While Alaska pack is not up to last year's, those of British Columbia, Puget sound, Columbia and Sacramento rivers are larger; but those of the outside streams and bays in Oregon are not up to 1896. The Alaska pack is somewhat a surprise, for it had been claimed with considerable confidence that it would aggregate fully 1,000,000 cases. It is stated that the run of fish did not come up to expectations. This also explains why the British Columbia pack fell below estimates before the season opened. While the runs on Fraser river were fairly large, there were light runs on the northern rivers and inlets. The Puget sound pack of sockeyes came fully up to expectations, but the run of silversides, a little later, was a disappointment, and out the estimate very materially.

The Columbia river pack, it was thought, would not be over 400,000 cases, but the exceptional size of the chinook salmon made a much larger pack than had been estimated even during the fishing season. It is rather singular that the pack of this river was in 1883 and 1884 over 800,000 cases, and in 1885, 553,000 cases; but from 1888 to 1893, inclusive, the pack varied from 325,500 cases to 479,000, with one year, 1892, 520,880. Since 1893 the pack has been over 500,000 cases each year. This is convinieng evidence that the Oregon and Washington hatcheries have proven a success.

The very low prices that ruled for salmon this year must have caused outside packers to reduce their output, for by no other reason can so large a falling off be accounted for. The pack on the Sacramento river was largely in excess of last year, notwithstanding a strike of fishermen lessened the total

The total pack in cases, for the Pa-

ritish Columbia

TO RECLAIM OLD FARMS.

Philanthropy United With Business in New England.

New York, Jan. 4 .- New England farms are to be reclaimed, restocked and reoperated on a plan that is primarily philanthropical and secondarily com-A corporation has formed, with the secretary of the New York wool exchange at its head, to purchase arable land and farm buildings in the states of Masaschusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont, and to resell both on such terms as will attract purchasers in large cities, and so relieve the congested centers of population.

The plan is indorsed by John Wannamaker, Mrs. Ballington Booth, Nathaniel S. Roseman, manager of the Hebrew charity fund, and William R. Sessions, secretary of the Massachusetts state board of agriculture. Officers will be appointed here today. It is estimated that more than 200,000 acres of rich fallow land, under cultivation 20 years ago, lies idle today in the New England states, and it is the intention of those who have associated together for the purpose, to secure options, and, by outright purchases, all or nearly all of this vast territory and to populate it with material drawn from the crowded cities. Missionary work will be begun in the large cities, principally New York and Brooklyn, and the assistance of all organizations interested in bettering the condition of society will be involved.

President Lightburn says of the cheme: "Our organization, while a business enterprise, is founded on a basis of pure public spirit, and its incorporation under the laws of the state of Maine is hailed with delight throughout New England, for our scheme is the putting of new life and new blood into a territory whose fruitfullness should produce millions of revenue."

Electric Road Over Chilkoot.

San Francisco, Jan. 4 .- W. A. Burkholder, of this city, has gone to Alaska to erect an electric transmission plant to operate an electric road over Chilkoot pass. Electricity will be generated at Dyea and transmitted 20 miles to her against Nicaragua. Salvador, howthe point where it is to be used. In addition to the electric line, the poles will support the cables from which heavy cars will be suspended. The motors will be stationary, and the cars cables on a drum.

A STATEMENT BY EARL LI.

German Occupation of Kalo Chou a High-Handed Outrage.

New York, Jan. 5 .- The Herald today publishes the following copyrighted letter from its correspondent in Peking: "Peking, Jan. 5 .- According to instructions received from the Herald, I requested an interview with Li Hung Chang, and informed him that the New York Herald offered the publicity of its columns for any statement that China

East. "The great statesman replied that China was anxious that the Western people should understand thoroughly matters as they were. His excellency's views are given herewith in the fol-

desired to make to the Western world

in respect to the actual crisis in the

lowing interview, which he approved: "The forcible occupation of Kiao Chou by Germany is a direct violation of existing treaties and of international law. The pretext made to this act of war was the murder of two missionaries by robbers in the interior of the province of Shan Tung. The Chinese government offered immediate and full redress for this outrage, punishment of the criminals, dissmissal of the local officials and large compensa-

tion for all losses. " 'Anxious to avoid hostile acts, the Chinese troops were withdrawn from Kiao Chou when the Germans landed, and, despite strong public feeling pre-vailing throughout the country for the defense of Chinese territory against aggression, my government has not sent reinforcements to Kiao Chou.

" 'Outlaws exist in China, as well as in all countries. Neither treaties, law nor religion can entirely suppress crime anywhere in the world. There are places in every country where lawlessness abounds, and to such a place in Shan Tung the German missionaries determined to go, knowing that the natives themselves were often victims of these bandits.

" 'Unfortunately China has not yet recovered from the effects of the late war, and the country requires a period of peace to carry out the work of reform lately begun.

" "Of late years, from instruction and observation, the Chinese have come to regard the countries of the Western world as models even greater in justice than in arms. Is it right to oppress. us while we are struggling to emerge from the restraints of our ancient civilization, while improvement and progress steadily continue? Should China be distressed by having her shores invaded and her territory occupied because of an occurrence which Western countries would deal with by law and not by war-an unexpected incident. deplored by my government and fol-lowed by full redress?

" 'Our desire is to preserve our territory intact and to steadily improve it as a field open to all countries equally for the development of commerce.' "

THE BREACH WIDENING.

A War Between Costa Rica and Nicaragua Imminent.

New York, Jan. 5 .- A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: The trouble between Costa Rica and Nicaragua has taken a new phase, according to advices from the Herald correspondent in Managua. The Costa Rican consul at Managua has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and has

The Cost Rican consul at Managua. Senor Eduardo Beeche, was arrested in that city on September 17 last year and imprisoned. The charge against him was complicity in a revolutionary movement against President Zelaya. Senor Beeche's exequatur was canceled at the time of his arrest. He was in prison for several weeks, despite the representations made by the Costa Rican government to Nicaragua to secure his release. Costa Rica demanded that proofs against her consul be produced, but the demand went unheeded, though finally he was released on bail, Considerable friction between the two governments was caused, and this was followed by the interchange of several sharp notes. There were reports that both Nicaragua and Costa Rica were quietly preparing for war, and these reports were not altogether unfounded.

Finally, despite protests from Costa Rica, the trial of Consul Beeche by court-martial began. President Zelaya swept aside Costa Rica's demands, and a few days ago the court-martial sentenced the prisoner. The sentence was kept secret until vesterday. Senor Beeche in some way learned of this sentence about a week ago, and immediately left Nicaragua, though there was a report that he would be pardoned.

It was supposed he went to Costa Rica. This has aroused new friction between the governments, and the end cannot be foretold. War it is believed in many quarters will result.

Nicaragua is threatened from another source. Believing that war between that country and Costa Rica is probable. Costa Rica is going to Salvador to induce President Guiterrez to aid ever, is in great danger of revolution. so President Guiterrez in the present case is an unknown quantity.

An outbreak in Salvador is imminent. A correspondent telegraphs that the will be propelled up the inclines by situation, financial and political, could not be worse.