

NEWS NOTES.

Nine hundred lawyers, "may it please the court," in Chicago.

Warren Hastings' elephant, which is a hundred years old, is being fed up to be ridden by the Prince of Wales when he visits Lucknow.

Mr. Pointer, of Michigan, has a spider in his cellar which makes a point of catching and killing half-grown mice.

The pullest-backest of pull-backs is worn by Mrs. Oates in "Girofio-Girofia." It is a great deal puller-backer than May Saville's in "Our Boys."—*Phila. Press.*

Two children have been poisoned at Youngstown, Ohio, by eating a fungus growth which they found on stumps—one of the poor things fatally.

Sharley, the murderer, says he could blind his eyes, tie his legs together, get into a sack and then escape from a New York detective in broad daylight.

Two young women of Newport, Indiana, have just finished the erection of a summer kitchen. No man's hand touched a board of it after the lumber was delivered.

A French scientist has invented a new fish bait. A bottle is lowered into the water and lighted by electricity, and the fish follow it into a net. It's a scaly trick, however.

Note received by a San Francisco editor: "Sir. You reported me as heading a certain procession on Monday evening. Retract the malicious lie or prepare yourself for a first-class cowhiding. A. WASON."

The Chinamen smile scornfully at the idea that a telegraph wire can convey messages a thousand miles in a few seconds, but are ready enough to believe that the telegraph poles bring pestilence and death.

Wendell Phillips credits Horace Greeley with having said to a lecture committee, who paid him in Western bank bills, that if convenient he would prefer to have a well-executed counterfeit on some Eastern bank.

A man nearly seventy years old, blind and infirm, has been sentenced to death for murder in Red River county, Arkansas. His crime was committed twenty-two years ago, but he was not until recently brought to trial.

Mr. Torr, of Aylesbury, England, recently sold eighty fine cattle for \$214,650, being an average of \$2,525 a head. The highest-priced beast, Bright Express, brought \$10,800; the other cows sold at \$5,000, \$7,500, \$6,000, two at \$5,000, and heifers at from \$4,000 to \$6,000.

A tramp called at a house at Norwich, the other day, and, after being fed, asked if the man of the house was at home. "No," replied she who had served him, "but I'll let you know mighty quick that the woman of the house is at home," and, taking down an old sword she started for him, but he escaped.

A remarkable article called fish flour has been brought forward in the last few years. It is not as yet manufactured in any great quantity, as the article is still new in the market, and consequently there is no great demand for it. The flour is prepared from dried fish of the first quality; it is thoroughly dessicated, and then ground in a mill.

Corn cobs are extensively used in Europe for fire lighters. They are first steeped in hot water containing two per cent. of saltpetre, and after being dried at a high temperature, are saturated with fifty per cent. of resinous matter. These lighters which are sold from three dollars to four dollars the thousand, are employed with advantage and economy in private houses and for lighting furnaces.

The soundings for the submarine tunnel between England and France are being carried on actively. They are directed to the part of the straits near the English coast, at a few miles from the shore. Each evening the vessel which carries the commission returns to Dover, Calais, or Boulogne, and work is recommenced the next day. The engineers, MM. Larousse and Lavallee, are perfectly satisfied with the results obtained, and so far nothing has occurred to destroy their previous relative to the depth.

The *Coventry* (England) *Standard* tells the following interesting story:—In the spring of the present

year one pound each of the Snowflake and Eureka potatoes, two new American varieties, were planted in the gardens at Capesthorpe, the seat of Mr. Bromley-Davenport, M. P. On the 18th of last month the Snowflake was lifted, when it was found that one pound had produced the surprising weight of 688 pounds. A week later the Eureka was lifted, and it was ascertained that the pound of seed potatoes had produced 1,082 pounds, the largest yield on record. Three hundred of the tubers weighed 369 pounds.

Judge Lynch in Ohio.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 24.

The *Gazette's* Bellefontaine special says—"Mrs. Schell, wife of the man arrested yesterday for the murder of Miss Laughlin near Belle Center, on Thursday, was arrested and testified before the coroner to-day that her husband had told her that he intended to outrage Miss Laughlin and kill her afterwards; that their ride on Thursday was planned for that purpose, and that her husband threatened to kill her if she followed him when he went into the bushes with Miss Laughlin. She says he returned in about two hours, stating that Miss Laughlin fought so hard he did not succeed in outraging her, although after he had stabbed her she said: 'Don't kill me, Jim, I won't resist any more.' But he feared she would tell and so killed her, threatening also to kill his wife if she told of it. Mrs. Schell also testified to other crimes committed by her husband. The affair causes the most intense excitement. Business is suspended, and it is reported several hundred citizens of the surrounding country are coming in to Bellefontaine to-night determined to lynch Schell. Many wagon loads have already arrived. The sheriff has summoned a strong posse, who are guarding the jail, but trouble is expected before morning."

CINCINNATI, Sept. 25.

About three hundred men attacked the jail at Bellefontaine, Ohio, about half-past 12 o'clock to-night, battered down the doors, dragged Schell out and hung him to a tree. The guards made no resistance. Schell protested innocence of the crime.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

Summer Amusements in Washington.

Speaking of foreign affairs reminds us of another of our summer amusements. The great sensational preacher—the Rev. Newman, chaplain of the Administration—has been trying to impress it upon his hearers that he has been sent from heaven to convert the Mormons, the Greenlanders, the Consultates and the Japanese. What makes it amusing is that no one who appreciates the Rev.'s religious qualities would ever dream of his possessing more Christian virtues than those he claims as his converts. Love of money, reverence for position and this world's honor are among the choice articles of his religious faith.

We have religious picnics or camp meetings. The people take their baskets and their tents and camp out in the woods where they dance and shout and sing. Our sensational preacher leads the hosts, politically and religiously; in sermon, in prayer and song. The burden of his prayer is like unto this, "O Maker of the universe look down upon the heathen, the Mormons, the Catholics, the Greenlanders, the Japanese, the Democrats and all other outcasts, with the poor and the needy; place them all under our footstool. Bless the President of the United States and make Ulysses again ruler of the nation, that thousands may be added to our religious and political church, and that your honorable and mighty follower may be honored by the highest gift in the grasp of nations. We care not if it be Chaplain of the Senate, a bishop's position, or Pope of the holy church of Rome, if we do only obtain honor, riches can pawn er, amen."—*Washington Cor. Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

If every man had a torpedo planted in his head that would set itself off whenever he attempted a downright criminal act, what a blessed thing it would be for the age! But then, with such a thinking out among our sensational preachers, Congressmen, Government architects, judges and the like, how could we get along?

Sun-Spots and the Price of Corn.

The "influence of the sun-spot period upon the price of corn" formed the subject of a paper read at the meeting of the British Association by Professor W. Stanley Jevons, F.R.S. After alluding to the attempts made by Mr. Carrington to trace a connection between the price of corn and the variations in the sun-spots during portions of the last and present centuries, the professor said that Mr. Schuster has pointed out that the years of good vintage in Western Europe had occurred at intervals approximating to eleven years, the average length of the principal sun-spot period. The elaborate collection of the prices of commodities in all parts of England between the years 1259 and 1400, published in Professor J. E. T. Rogers's "History of Agriculture and Prices in England," appears to afford the best data for deciding whether the sun-spot period influences the price of corn. For this purpose, tables of the average price per quarter of wheat and other grain, expressed in grains of pure silver, were used. Each series of prices was divided into intervals of eleven years, which were ranged under each other and averaged, so as to give the average of the first, of the second, of the third, &c., years, the commencement of the period being arbitrarily assumed. It is found that the prices of each kind of produce examined rises in the first four years, but afterwards falls. It is further shown that the maxima prices are found to fall into the tenth, eleventh, first, second and third years of the assumed eleven-year period. These results are to be looked upon as only preliminary, and need further investigation. It is also pointed out that commercial panics have tended to recur during the last fifty-four years in a distinctly periodic manner. The average length of interval between the principal panics is about 108 years, nearly coinciding with 11.11, the length of the solar-spot period. If Professor Balfour Stewart be right in holding that the sun-spot variation depends on the configuration of the planets, it would appear that these configurations are the remote cause of the greatest commercial disasters.—*Ec.*

Blowing a Cure For Consumption.

Under the head of "Pulmonary Gymnastics," Dr. Burg, of Paris, has published the following curious dissertation, which contains advice which may be useful to such persons as are afflicted with weakness in the chest. He begins with stating the question fairly: "Are declamations, singing and, above all, wind instruments dangerous exercises for persons of weak or delicate constitutions, and more or less predisposed, by birth, to serious diseases of the respiratory organs?" Most physicians, he observes, will answer in the affirmative; he takes the contrary ground, supported by what we deem startling evidence. Dr. Burg, it may be remembered, was the first who proposed copper as a specific in cholera, on the ground that workmen constantly handling that metal had traversed the epidemic of 1849 with impunity. In order to establish this fact he had visited a variety of large workshops, and among others those of manufacturers of wind instruments. On one of these occasions M. Sax gave him the following information, which we here repeat almost word for word:

"Beside choleraic immunity, our workmen enjoy another—they are free from consumption. Many philanthropists on seeing our young military musicians wield the enormous instruments we make have sorrowed over the few years those poor fellows would have to live. Well, they are mistaken. All men who make it their profession to try wind instruments made at the various factories before sending them off for sale, all without exception, to my knowledge, are free from pulmonary affections. I have known many such who, upon entering upon their profession, were very delicate, and who, though their duty obliged them to blow for hours together, enjoyed perfect health after a certain time. I am myself an instance of this. My mother died of consumption; eight children of hers fell victims to the same disease, and only three of us survive, and we all three play on wind instruments. The day is not far distant, perhaps, when physicians will have recourse to our dreaded art in

order to conquer pulmonary diseases."

After this we shall have everybody blowing his own trumpet, loudly and persistently, to ward off consumption and all lung disease.

"What's your business?" said the magistrate of a police court the other morning to a prisoner. "I'm an observationalist, your worship." "An observationalist! What is that?" "One who looks around in the daytime to see what he can steal at night, if it please your worship."

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