

paid by each for the room she calls her own, and the rest has to find dress and food. They get only their tea at the place of business. At 9, 10 or 11 on a winter night, they go home to their cold garrets, light a fire if they can afford fuel, and cook the scanty meal that is the only real meal of the day; or, if they cannot light a fire, go to bed cold, supperless, perhaps, and often thinly clad. There is one house thoughtful enough to keep a servant who cooks for these poor girls at midday the little dinner they may bring—their chops and sausages, potatoes, or batter in gallipots. Many, says their cook, bring meat only now and then—some never—but eat instead of it bread and butter or bread and pickles. A pennyworth of bread and a pennyworth of pickles is a common dinner of the poorer needlewomen. The pieces of meat when brought are often so small as hardly to be worth cooking, often coarse little scraps, and even tainted. This represents, be it understood, the condition of the middle class of needlewomen, in the prime of life. What becomes of them when they are old? As a common rule with, of course, many exceptions, a dressmaker as old as thirty-five can hardly get employment in a fashionable house, for she is prematurely aged, her fingers have lost their suppleness, her jaded mind has lost the interest in dress that keeps up what is called taste among women. What becomes, then, of the old dress makers?

THE MURDER AND STARVATION POLICY.—From the commencement of the war the rebels have starved Union prisoners, and placed them in pens, and on islands, depriving them of fire, clothes and shelter, as a means of killing them off; and by these means they have murdered thousands, and made it certain they could never be exchanged, or again enter the Union army!

From the beginning until now, they have amputated the arms and legs of all Federal prisoners, who had any sort of wound that afforded a pretext for this course. The patients have protested—alleged that they would get well if let alone. But no, the order was to amputate, and they were forced to submit. The object was to either kill the patient by the operation or render him forever unfit for the service.

Hell is too comfortable a place for such men, but as we have no power to send them to a worse place, we ought to see that they go there upon short notice, and by the most direct route!—[Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig.]

THE PUBLIC DEBT.—The statement issued from the Treasury Department this evening exhibiting the condition of the public debt, shows a considerable increase within the past month, which is mainly due to the fact that the Secretary of the Treasury has thought it right and just that the entire arrearage due for military service in the army and navy should be paid up to the beginning of the month. Some of these payments have been long delayed, and they involved an expenditure of about \$75,000,000. The whole amount being provided for and included in this statement, future ones will consequently show a comparatively small increase of the debt. The recapitulation on the 30th of September, is

Debt bearing interest.....	\$923,085,941 80
Interest.....	54,608,445 70
Debt bearing interest in lawful money.....	464,585,870 56
Interest.....	271,170,197 42
Debt on which interest has ceased.....	356,970 09
Debt bearing no interest.....	467,944,929 71
Making the amount outstanding and the interest.....	\$1,955,973,716 46
both in coin and currency, \$81,778,643.12. The above statement as contrasted with that exhibiting the public debt on August 30th, shows an increase of the principal of about seventy-seven and a half millions, and of interest, \$4,301,531, making a daily increase of about two and two thirds millions.—[N. Y. World.]	

GREAT torrents have carried havoc and devastation over innumerable homesteads in the province of Smyrna, where several hundred *hormans*, the fruits of a year's toil, have been swept away during the past week. In many parts the floods swept over the country in the night, and the peasants awoke to find their all gone. Besides the heaps of grain, many have lost their oxen.

GREAT preparations are making in Sweden for the rejoicings that are to take place to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the union between Sweden and Norway. In these the Queen Dowager of Sweden, the daughter of the late Eugene Bonaparte, takes a great interest, as she has always been very popular in Norway.

THE CYCLONE IN INDIA.—Later accounts from the country districts in India which were desolated by the cyclone in October, show that the loss of life was very large. A Calcutta paper says: "Every day brings intelligence of fresh misfortunes. In one district alone (Diamond Harbor,) and the country between it and Calcutta, it has been computed that not less than five thousand souls have been drowned by the land flood of the storm waves. Great exertions are made by the Calcutta community to organize a system of relief for

the survivors of this dreadful visitation. A steamer had been chartered to convey medicines, blankets, rice and water to the Diamond Harbor districts.

"The following statement of the destruction to life and landed property in the town and suburbs of Calcutta is gleaned from reports submitted by the superintendents of the different divisions to the deputy commissioner of police, Captain Reveley: Casualties—Natives killed, 41; ditto wounded, 12; pookah houses occupied by natives damaged, 1,383; ditto destroyed, 18; katcha ditto destroyed, 89,412; Europeans killed, 2; ditto wounded, 5; ditto houses damaged, 2,299; ditto destroyed, 92.

"The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was to leave Darjeeling on the 16th, for Calcutta, when it was hoped that no time would be lost in organizing a strong establishment, placed under efficient supervision, for the removal of the carcasses of men and cattle, which are scattered all over the portions of the southern part of Calcutta visited by the gale; and for the removal also of the dead contaminating the air on the banks of the river and on its waters.

"Of the 32 inland steamers and flats at Calcutta, 19 are complete wrecks, and the remaining 13 seriously injured. Of the 30 tug steamers, 10 are completely destroyed, 2 very seriously injured, and the remaining 18 at work as before. Such a destruction of shipping property, we believe, has never before been equalled."

THE SERFS IN RUSSIA.—Late Russian journals contain details of the progress of the emancipation of the serfs up to the month of August last, at which date there were only eight regulating charters still uncompleted, while 111,568 had been already brought into execution, referring to estates on which reside 10,010,220 people. As many as 2,133,43 persons have come into complete possession of their plots of land, and of this number 430,702 have required no assistance from the state. In the nine western provinces all the country people, without exception, have become proprietors, which fact is to be attributed to the particular condition attending the situation of these provinces.

Of the rest of Russia, the province of Kharkof holds the first rank as regards the progress of the reform. The number of its country people entirely freed, and to whom territorial property has been given, represents 72 per cent. of the total of its former serfs. Next follow the provinces of Beathernoslaf, of the Tauride of Voroneje, Kherson, Kazan and Tchernigoff, where the number is from 51 to 62 per cent. At Ornburg the number is 49 per cent. At Saratoff, Simbrisk, Poltawa, Don, Samara, Perm and Viatka it is 34 to 44 per cent. At Pezuza the number is 32 per cent.; at Koursk and Iambof more than 22 per cent., and at Smolensk 19 per cent. In the other provinces of Russia the number of country people who have become absolute proprietors is below 15 per cent. In the governments of St. Petersburg and Moscow it varies between 10 and 11 per cent. This is considered to be a very satisfactory result after three years trial of the system.

NEARLY all the most celebrated hot springs of Europe, such as those of Aix-la-Chapelle, Baden Baden, Naples, Auerne and the Pyrenees, have not declined in temperature since the days of the Roman; for many of them still retain as great a heat as is tolerable to the human body; and yet, when employed by the ancients, they do not seem to have required to be first cooled down by artificial means. This uniformity of temperature has been thus maintained for some two thousand years.

A WEEKLY paper in Hartford suspends publication once in a while, on account of the high price of paper. The editor says the subscribers prefer an occasional week's suspension to an increase of subscription price.

A MIRACLE OF INGENUITY.—A miracle of ingenuity was brought to our office yesterday. It was a glass bottle, eight inches high and four inches wide, with a mouth less than an inch in diameter, and it was full of machinery, all fastened together and in good order. A small hole in the bottom of the bottle gives an opportunity for winding up the machinery, which includes more than a dozen cogwheels, a music box, and half a dozen dancers who revolve and rotate so long as the wheels turn. The cogwheels are mostly of brass, and one of them is two inches in diameter, made of several pieces riveted together. The stopple is made of bone, and it projects down into the bottle, and through the lower end there is a cross piece of bone two inches long, so that the stop-

ple cannot be taken out. The bottle, with its internal machinery, is the greatest curiosity of the kind we have ever seen, and no description can convey an idea of its wonderful character. The puzzle was made by a Danish sailor named Chris. Hansen, during a fit of sickness.—[Alta California.]

BABES IN THE WOOD.—The following touching story is told by the Melbourne (Australia) correspondent of the London Times:

"Some weeks back, at the station of Mr. Dugald Smith, at Horsham, two boys and a girl, aged respectively the eldest boy nine, the girl seven and the youngest boy five, the children of a carpenter named Duff, wandered by themselves into the bush and were lost. They had been sent out by their mother, as they had often gone out on the same errand before, to gather broom, and not returning before dark the parents became alarmed, and a search commenced. The father, assisted by friends and neighbors in large numbers, scoured the country in every direction for nights and days in vain. At length, in despair, the assistance of some aboriginal blacks was obtained, these people possessing an almost bloodhound instinct in following up the very faintest tracks. The blacks soon came upon the traces of the little wanderers, expatiating, as these trackers always do, at every bent twig, or flattened tuft of grass, on the apparent actings of the objects of their search. 'Here, little one tired; sit down. Big one kneel down, carry him along. Here travel all night; dark; not see that bush; her fall on him.' Further on, and more observations. 'Here little one tired again; big one kneel down; no able to rise, fall flat on his face.' The accuracy of these readings of the blacks was afterwards curiously corroborated by the children themselves.

"On the eighth day after they were lost, and long after the extinction of the faintest hope of their ever being again seen alive, the searching party came on them. They are described as having been found lying all of a row on a clump of broom among some trees, the youngest in the middle, carefully wrapped up in his sister's frock. They appeared to be in a deep and not unpleasant sleep. On being awoke the eldest tried to sit up, but fell back. His face was so emaciated that his lips would not cover his teeth, and he could only just feebly groan 'Father.' The youngest, who had suffered least, woke up as from a dream, childlike demanding, 'Father, why didn't you come for us sooner? we were cooeing for you,' the sister, who was almost quite gone, when lifted up could only murmur, 'Cold, cold.' No wonder, as the little creature had stripped herself of her frock, as the elder boy said, 'to cover Frank, for he was crying with cold.'

"The children have all since done well, and are rapidly recovering. They were without food, and by their own account, had only one drink of water during the whole time they were out, and this was from the Friday of one week until the Saturday of the next week, in all, nine days and eight nights."

FRESH BEEF FROM SALT JUNK.—If a piece of salt meat be put in water either in a vessel the bottom of which is made of a bladder, or in a bag made of untanned skin, and this placed in another vessel of water, the salt will be gradually drawn out of the meat, and pass through the parchment or skin, but the juices of the meat will be left behind in the first vessel. Brine in the beef barrel contains a considerable portion of the juice of the meat, which may be saved by filling the inner vessel with it; the salt from both brine and meat will pass through the membrane. The process is to be continued until salt enough is extracted to leave the meat and liquor palatable. This method is known and practiced upon by sailors in the Mediterranean Sea, who inclose their salt junk and a portion of the brine in a "water skin," that is, a bag made of goat skin for holding water. This is attached to a line, thrown overboard, and towed through the water, until the meat and liquid are freshened to the same degree as sea water. The liquid is then used for soap, and the meat cooked as wanted. A similar operation may be made very useful by soldiers in camp where fresh meat is unobtainable, and in families where salt junk forms the staple diet several months in the year. This curious phenomenon was discovered by Thomas Graham of London, who found that organic (animal or vegetable) membranes will separate crystallizable bodies in solution from those of a glutinous character. Thus, if the

inner vessel contain a solution of sugar or salt mixed with gum arabic, the crystallizable sugar or salt will pass through the membranous skin, and leave the gum behind. The process is called *dialysis* and the apparatus for effecting it, a *dialyzer*. It is of service in chemical and manufacturing operations.—American Agriculturist.

COTTON IN EGYPT.—The *Constitutionnel* of Paris gives the statistics of the cotton crop of Egypt for the present year, amounting to ten million pounds, valued at \$50,000,000. This is from a country having less than three and a half millions of people, and is the result of the wise measures of the Pasha in liberating the Fellahs from slavery, and giving facilities for procuring safe titles to real estate by foreigners with security for the products of industry as well as for life, under protection of law.

AN ORGAN IN THE CHURCH.—One of the latest ecclesiastical sensations in Scotland is the introduction of an organ into Dr. Lee's church in Edinburgh. For a considerable time Dr. Lee had a harmonium in use to supplement the congregational music. He had also introduced a ritual of devotion, modified, we believe, from the Book of Common Prayer.

WHAT IS WANTED.—We want in you a Christianity that is Christian across counters, over dinner-tables, behind the neighbor's back, as in his face. We want in you a Christianity that we can find in the temperance of the meal, in moderation of dress, in respect for authority, in amiability at home, in veracity and simplicity in mixed society. Rowland Hill used to say he would give very little for the religion of a man whose very dog and cat were not the better for his religion. We want fewer gossiping, slandering, gluttonous, peevish, conceited, bigoted Christians.

"CIVILIZATION AND PROGRESS" IN NEW YORK.—The increase of crime in this city has been of so marked a character as to excite the attention even of the authorities. Recorder Hoffman, in his charge to the Grand Jury on Monday, alluded to the unpromising fact, and stated that one hundred and thirty men are now in prison awaiting indictment for trial. During the past month the record of metropolitan crime has been simply hideous. All manner of infamy, all grades of brutality—in short the whole gamut of wickedness seems to have been run through persistently, villainy thrumming especially upon the murder string. To the cases which comes before the public must be added those the records of which lie only in the offices of referees, and never meet the public eye save in the merest allusions. Interminable divorce cases, involving the vilest turpitude, are heard by the score in dingy Wall street and William street offices, and yet of these the Grand Juries are in blissful ignorance. Be it remarked, also, that scandal was never so rife and society never so thoroughly polluted by social sins. It would appear as though we had indeed fallen upon evil days when the evil passions grow strictly dominant, "and will not down."

A new substitute for cotton is thus referred to by a Paris correspondent:

Great excitement prevails in those manufacturing districts of France where cotton is most used, on account of the discovery of a substitute for the now-throned king. This substitute is the China grass or white *urtica* (nettle weed,) which may be cultivated cheaply in all parts of France. The experiments with this new textile fibre have been going on for a year or more under the direction of a competent committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, and this committee, with the weed, the raw fibre, and various specimens of woven, and colored and uncolored cloths in hand, have shown the Chamber, beyond all question, that the substitute is a genuine one in every point. They declare, without reservation, that none of the qualities of the cotton are wanting. I commend to your attention the lengthy report as published in two late numbers of the *Moniteur*. The Minister of the Interior is furnishing seed, obtained from China, to agriculturists, and the speculation is going to assume at once colossal proportions.

REMEDY.—Pouring cold water on the face, head and neck, it is said, will destroy the effect of narcotic poisons. A girl poisoned with laudanum, was lately saved in that way after all other remedies had failed.

—A lady in Berkshire was delivered of her twenty-first child last week. Her husband is as well as can be expected.