A few figures :- During the Democratic Convention 2,151,791 words were sent from St. Louis over the Western Union wire.

The Hebrews are returning to Jerusalem. The recent Russian persecutions have led thousands to take up their residence in the ancientcity, the Hebrew population of which has increased from 5,000 to 30,000 since 1888.

The greatest feat of baptism in the history of the Baptist Church in modern times was that performed in July, 1878, by J. C. Clough, a missionary, who, with the assistance of five native preachers, immersed 2,222 persons within six hours.

The largest ocean steamer is the City of Rome, which consumes about 270 tons of coal a day. The Umbria and Etruria of the Cunard line, although each about 100 tons smaller than the City of Romein actual tonage, nevertheless consume from 325 to 350 tons of coal daily.

ous year. It will be seen that the value is more than that.

way, the Czar's Government has determined to build a transcontinental road across been cajoled or wrested from the British to exercise justice, to collect revenue, Siberia, with a terminus on the Pacific Crown, so that no foothold should be left to deal with refractory subjects "by ocean. The whole length of the road will be for British loyalty on the continent of force of arms"; in short, to wield all about 5,000 miles, and it is estimated that North America. The party was forever on the powers of semi-independent governit will cost 400,000,000 roubles. The first the look-out for opportunities of attacking ment. In the absence of fuller information section will be about 2,800 miles long, and will soon be begun.

Lunacy in England is still an increasing factor. There were no fewer than 82,643 lunatics registered at the beginning of the year. Of these only 37,601 were men and 45,042 were women. 74,171 are supported in pauper asylums. Though there are more female than male lunatics, there are fewer supported out of private fund s, the figures being 3,974 to 3,821.

Since the last Presidential election there has been an increase of 7,000,000 in the population of the United States. This will give at least an additional million of voters, making 11,000,000 votes to be cast. Over 40,000 of these new votes are in New York State, where the Democratic majority last election was only 1,200. It will be seen that there is a good deal of margin to play upon, but there is no reason to suppose that the united Democracy has not made as many friends among the young voters as have been made by the distracted Republicans.

The important roles which cavalry and artillery play in the art of modern warfare make it interesting to know the total number of animals which the leading countries of the world can throw into the field of battle. Here, according to the latest statistics, is the list: Russia, 21,570,000 horses; America, 9,500,000; the Argentine Republic, 4,000,000; Austria, 3,500,000; Germany, 3,350,000; France, 2,800,000 horses and 300,000 mules; England 2,790,000 horses; Canada, 2,624,000; Spain, 680,000 horses and 2,300,000 mules; Italy, 2,000, 000 horses; Belgium, 383,000; Denmark, 316,000; Australia, 301,000; Holland, 125, 000, and Portugal, 88,000 horses and 50,000 mules. It will be remarked that Russia heads the list by an enormous majority.

Unhappy Mediums.

The spirit mediums are having an awful hard time of it lately. A large number are languishing in jails throughout the country, charged with being No. 1 all-wool-and-a-yardwide frauds, and, sad to relate, the spirits that condescended to bob around at their beck and call seemed to have retained enough of their human characteristics to desert the but in the meantime, and all the time, the goddess, who is supposed to hold in her tries which felt themselves called upon and from the reports that are coming in from districts where mediums most abound even the spirits themselves are having troublous

times. At Chicago, a few evenings since, a medium had succeeded in bringing enough spirits out of a cabinet, that if formed into a procession might have taken twenty minutes in pagsing a given point. The lower jaws of the audience were resting in their laps with run under the spirit's drapery?" Then the suddenly grabbed for the bottom of her skirts with all the hands she had, and gath." audience out of their seats. The girlish spirit still further surprised the audience by making a break for the interior of the cabiclean over, and when the lights were sudspirit of Joan of Arc was seen sprawled the weight of the cabinet across the small of also came to grief a few days ago. The medium had won considerable fame and dollars by causing spirits to come out of her cabinet and float in the air above the lady in the audience declared to be that of her grandmother, was sailing gracefully and the heavy weight spirit fell down into the pale upturned faces of twelve old gentlemen of strong characteristics but weak necks, and knocked them silly. The heel of the motherly old spirit also struck her tion of 8,000,000, and that the 25,000 reguself-confessed grandchild in the mouth and lars of the United States would very speedknocked out four of her front teeth. The ily demolish the 5,800 men of all arms on old gentlemen were pulled from under the whom the young colony had to depend for spirit and sent home in carriages, in a more or less dilapidated state, while the spirit of frontier. The inexorable logic of stern still lies in a hospital suffering from three facts has demonstrated how completely the broken ribs and a badly skinned shin. war party was astray in its calculations; the Spirits cannot be too careful nowadays how they come back and cavort about on this mundane sphere. They will be fooling rice end aggression. around until some one of them breaks a leg if they keep on.

"This is about the slimmest dinner I

The War of 1812.

Seventy-six years ago - on the 19th States declared war against England. A first sight it might seem a plucky, almost a chivalrous thing for a people numbering eight million souls to beard the British lion, to dare to attack the only power that was able to hold its own against the military genius and all-mastering ambition of the great Napoleon. But a closer scrutiny dispels all the illusions of the chivalric character of the deed, removes the glamour of romance and heroism from all concerned in carrying the measure, and reveals the transactioan s the declaration of one of the most wicked, wanton wars of aggression that have ever been forced on an infant community by a powerful neighboring nation in its mad lust of conquest and of unrighteous territor-

ial aggrandisement. From the days of the War of Independence there has existed in the United States a turbulent party, composed of the meaner and less reputable class of American citizens, and augmented from time by considerable accessions of immigrants of the baser sort-The total out-put of coal from all mines | Socialistic propagandists from the slumsof n the United States in 1887 was 129,925,- German cities, red republicans who had be-557 short tons, valued at \$182,491,837, an come discredited in France, the sans culottses increase of 14,129,403 tons over the previ- and in short, the riff-raff, scum and offset down at \$1 50 per ton, but it is almost eral-and this party, steadily increasing ate company is said to be "peopled by some certain that some consumers have paid in numerical strength from these more seventy millions of industrious and relative-Not content with the Transcaspian rail- held to one idea in its political African Company is not only authorized creed, namely, that Canada should have to take possession of this vast area but England; it had adopted a motto by an in regard to the necessity for this movement unconscious plagiarism from Demosthenes, and the end in view, extended criticism "and England's difficulty is the United | would be out of place. It is perhaps scarce "States' opportunity," became the unwrit- ly possible in these days that the despotic ten law by which their policy was guided. sway and unjust extortions for which such The leaders of the party thought that the companies made themselves badly famous in opportunity had now come. England was earlier days should be repeated. But if engaged in a Titanic struggle in behalf of reasons, either State or of philanthropy, the liberties of Europe, and these professors | rendered annexation, on a scale almost conof the doctrines of liberty were not ashamed | tinential, desirable or necessary, most perto countenance and aid to the utmost of sons will be inclined to regret that the their power the efforts of the great despot British Government did not at once, in its of the Old World to crush the only Cham- own name, assume the responsibilities rather pions of liberty who were now able to oppose | than hand over the people and all their indecrees of the Corsican usurper were or given, to the tender mercies of a trading replied to by the "Orders-in Council" of company. the British Government; the French and English marine policy alike told Social Reform Before Home Rule with disastrous effect on the commerce of neutral States, but the blame was fairly chargeable on the Imperial decrees in which the commercial troubles began. Napoleon was the prime cause, and on him alone should have been laid the blame of all the disasters that befell the mercantile marine of the United States in consequence of the restrictions imposed upon the shipping trade of neutrals by the English as well as the French. But this view did not suit the anti-British party of the States. Mr. Jefferson hoped to fan the mean spite of a small faction into a blaze of national hostility; he refused to ratify the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation that had been agreed upon by the American Minister to the Court of S James and the British Government; and in an angry message to Congress he furiously inveighed against the "Orders in Council while he had not a word to say against the Berlin and Milan decrees of the would-be despot of Europe and the world. This was followed by the suicidal policy of the "em bargo," whereby Mr. Jefferson's friends did an immense injury, as it was probably in tended should be done, to the commerce of the New England States, then and ever the most ardent advocates of liberty, and for that reason the most strenuously opposed to a war with England, from which the only conceivable advantage would accrue to Napoleon, the greatest enemy of liberty then alive. The "embargo" was withdrawn; But the strong hand of the law is not ture of the claims on which England steadall that mediums have to fear. Judging fastly insisted, namely, that she, as mistress of the seas, had the " right of search" in all vessels in which she had reason to believe that deserters from her service were being concealed. The affair between the Leopard and the Chesapeake neither re flected credit on the English captain for good sense, nor on the American for

personal courage, honor or veracity; but it served to increase the tension of the al ready strained relations between the peoples awe, and all went well until the spirit of of both countries, and the war party in the Joan of Arc appeared, and a fresh young States made all the capital that could possiman fractured the icy stillness by blurting bly be made out of the incident. From out in a hoarse whisper: "There's a rat just month to month and . . . om year to year this party was steadily gaining the ascendancy, spirit of the valorous and heroic Joan of Arc | till at length in January, 1812, Congress by a vote of one hundred and nine to twentytwo, resolved to increase the regular troops ering her feet together, jumped fully four to 25,000 men and to raise an immediate loan feet in the air with a shriek that startled the of ten millions of dollars. What this portended required no political Zadkiel to predict; and accordingly no person nor party was very much surprised when the same net with so much enthusiasm as to kick it Congress declared war against England on the 19th of June, and decided that the brunt denly turned up the unfortunate materalized of the war must be borne by the mere handful of settlers, only 300,000 all told, who had out on the floor and groaning dismally with then made Canada their home. The obnexious Order-in Council were removed about her back. One of the spirits playing a the same time, so that no decent pretext for week's engagement with a western medium | the war existed; all the best and most honorable politicians in the United States denounced it as unjust, ungenerous and impolitic; Randolph, of Virginia, opposed it Congress in one of the best speeches ever heads of the audience. One evening when delivered in that hall of oratory, and a particularly big spirit, which a young a special convention of delegates met in the fall of the year at Albany on purpose to denounce it. But it was all of about in mid air, the wire suddenly broke no avail; the war party thought they would make an easy conquest of Canada, and that was all they wanted ; they, perhaps not unnaturally, supposed that a population of 300,000 would fall an easy prey to a popula-

Bobby (whose uncle has given him a dolever sat down to," he said as he surveyed | lar)-"I wish you would give me a nickel, the table ; "but I s'pose I ought to make Uncle James, instead of a dollar." Uncle certain allowances." "Yes, John," replied his wife, "if you would make certain allowise is better than a nickel." Bobby—"That's ances you would have no occasion to quarrel the trouble; if it's a dollar, pa'll want it; if settle in her own mind as to which of the despair. -" Fifty Years Ago," by Walter it's only a nickel, I can have it."

the protection of more than a thousand miles

War of 1812 was one of the most scathing

rebukes ever administered to a party of ava-

The East African Company.

awakened a singularly small amount of in-

terest in comparison with its intrinsic importance, is that concerning the powers and prerogatives granted by the b. it in Government to the East African Company. We had supposed that the days in which civil and military rule over immense tracts of country and millions of people could be entrusted to private companies were at an end. If the meagre cable reports can be relied on, this is far from being the case. royal charter based on the lines of that of the old East India Company is said to have been granted to an association of English capitalists, incorporated under the title vast domain handed over to this company extend, it is said, from Zanzibar northward as far as Abyssinia, with a seaboard of over westward it reaches to beyond the Victoria Nyarza and the other fgreat lakes about the sources of the Nile, thus including the finest lands and richest markets of Central Africa. As if to leave the way open for indefinite extension in the future, the charter, it is said, states that the extent of the territory westward of the great Central African lakes, "has not as yet been exactly delimited." Most wonderful of all, scouring of the European continent in gen- this new empire thus handed over to a privthan questionable sources, had constantly ly prosperous inhabitants." The East The infamous Berlin and Milan terests, presumably without consent asked

A Bombay paper recently cited two horrible incidents as proof that much remains to not a useful weapon for a soldier to carry. be done in the direction of social reform be- The weight which the horse ought to carry fore it will be possible to give the natives the | should be lightened as far as possible. franchise. In one case a tenant farmer, in the presence of the assembled villages and golden eyes. The whole neighbourhood very dangerous. He hoped that the aushared in the superstition, even including thorities would not give up their heavy the police, who asserted that the victim had perished by cholera. The scene of the would be able, under all circumstances, to other incident was the temple of a Hindoo goddess. A crowd of natives had hacked to pieces three buffaloes, in whose blood some | brown to a gray uniform. daced about; while others, gesticulating furiously, whirled above their heads the drippinglimbs of the slaughtered beasts. Another animal, which was also being horribly lacerated, was still alive and its awful bellowings were added to the din. At a short distance several men, with their bodies naked and painted, held a goat by the legs while they began with one accord to prophesy the ap tore away with their teeth mouthfuls of proaching downfall of Great Britian, which bleeding flesh from the still living and some affected to deplore, and others regardquivering body. Other animals were wait- ed with complacency. Everything conspiring their turn, and around them a crowd of | ed, it was evident, not only to bring about women smeared with blood, apparently in- this decline, but also to accelerate it. The toxicated with drugs, were dancing and paraell of Carthage-England has always shricking wildly. The purpose of these re- been set up as the second Carthage-was hand the scourge of smallpox. The Bombay | qualified to play the part of Rome. It was paper, commenting on these horrid scenes, pointed out that there was the dreadful

savages ever exceeded in horrible details the opinion of these keen-sighted philosphers, tion. A century of British rule has over a ence of the Poor Laws; the stain of slavery; ing self-government for the country, and country, writing about it, watching it, visitthe men who stand by while a wretched of these changes and dangers could be dewoman's eyes are gouged out, or a living, nied; the factories were choked with excesquivering dumb brute is torn to pieces sive production; poverty stalked through mouthful by mouthful by human devils- the country; the towns were filled with barbarities committed, too, in the sacred ruined women; the streets were cumbered

in guiding the destinies of the Empire?" If it be true that such incidents as those ruin? Even-and this was the most wonderperly if they had them.

a nail on the wall. He pulled his hat down so that she would think that he was shamming until she went up to him, and so would had a fit.

in seven weeks, and is now in gaol trying to men is her husband.

Modern Armies.

An announcement, which seems to have At a meeting of the members of the Royal United Service Institution held recently in London a paper was read by Col. H. M. Hezier on the equipment and transport of modern armies.

Col. Hozier called attention to the present attitude of foreign nations, with large bodies of cavalry watching each other on each side of frontier lines. In any future war he believed that there would be an increased number of engagements between cavalry, and that by their means much damage | been completed by Armstrong. It fires seven would be done at an early period of any war to roads and railways. But these cavalry war, and victory would depend upon which above mentioned. The boundaries of the side would be able to bring up infantry with the greatest rapidity. This involved rail-way transportation. There were now everywhere in foreign lands fortresses commandseventeen hundred miles in length, while ing the lines of railways, and at the first opening of war upon the Continent no doubt a dash would be made at these fortresses to prevent them being victualled for any lengthened period. They must be prepared to strike quick blows, and within a short time of the outbreak of hostilities. They must reduce the weight to be carried by every soldier and by every horse; they ought not to handicap the soldiers by makeing them carry enormous weights. Next, they must have efficient railway corps, able to repair railways in advancing, and to break them down when they were not wanted. Thirdly, they must do without camp equipment and tents, because they would not be

able to carry them in the future. The whole face of the country everywhere in Europe had changed in the seventy-five years which had elapsed since the last great men as formerly were absolutely necessary. He advocated the soldiers wearing a gray dress in time of war. The kit must be reduced in weight to about 38 pounds, instead of 52 pounds, which it was at present. Men should carry not more than 30 rounds of ammunition at a time. Favor had been shown to taking infantry into action on horseback, but then one man out of every four would be required to hold the horses, and he recommended the substitution of Irish cars-each car drawn by four horses, and carrying fifteen armed men. With regard to the arms carried by a cavalry soldier, he recommended that a triangular sword should be substituted for the present form, because in fighting a man always did more damage by thrusting than by cutting, and that a pistol should be substituted for a carbine. The revolver, he thought, was

Col. Sir O. Burn said in the Indian mutiny they used to put ten men on an elephant, amid the beating of drums and the singing and in that way go long distances. He of songs, deliberately gouged out the eyes of thought the alteration in the form of the his young wife, who had been bound by the sword was very desirable, as sometimes men neighbors, because he had been told by a would ride through the enemy without demon that they would be replaced by doing any damage, whereas thrusts were transport yet, because he did not think they depend upon railways.

Col. Hozier, in reply, said he preferred

Britain After Waterloo. As soon as the battle of Waterloo was fairly tought and Napoleon put away at St. Helena, the Continental Professors, historians, political students, and journalists all deadweight of Ireland, with its incurable "We venture to say that no cannibal poverty and discontent; the approaching feast amon, he most brutalized South Sta decay of trade, which could be only, in the two scenes just described. If such things matter of a few years; the enormous weight are possible in the India of to day, we may of the National Debt; the ruined manufacturreadily picture what the country was before | ers; the wasteful expenditure of the Governit came into contact with Western civiliza- ment in every branch; the corrupting inflularge area of the peninsula all but extermi- | the restrictions of commerce; the intelorance nated suttee, infanticide, the brutal rites of of the Church; the narrowness and prejudice superstition and other unspeakable horrors. of the Universities; the ingorance of the peo-But that a herculean task is still before us ple; their drinking habits; the vastness of is proved by the tales set forth above. A the Empire. These causes, together! with few natives of India are men of the highest | discontent, chartism, republicanism, ttheism intellectual endowments. A considerable | - in fact, all the disagreeableisms-left no proportion of the population possess at least | donbt whatever that England was doomed. a veneer of education. But the vast majority | Foreigners, in fact, not yet recovered from away from the towns and centres of thought | the extraordinary spectacle of Great Briare steeped in barbaric ignorance and super- tain's long duel with France and its successstition. Yet we hear the baboos of Bengal, ful termination, prophesied what they partly who constitute an insignificant, or rather | hoped out of envy and jealousy, and feared infinitesimal fraction of the population, from self-interest. Therefore the politicians prating of India as a nation, and demand- and professors were always looking at this electoral privileges for the masses. Are ing it. No, there could be no doubt-none name of religion-are these the men to ex- with drunken men; the children were ercise a vote, or take any part whatsoever growing up in ignorance and neglect inconceivable; what could come of all this but

referred to are common among the masses ful and incredible thing to those who do of India outside the cities and towns, it is not understand how long a Briton will go quite evident that the time has not yet come on enduring wrongs and suffering anomalies for the adoption of the scheme of the Na. -the very House of Commons in this tional Congress. The first endeavour of the | boasted land of freedom did not represent they ought to do.

A Paris costermonger quarrelled with his Yet surely the outlook was darker, the is truly dark, and the clouds are lowering. would never have ascended the throne. mother, and to get square hung himself from | clouds were blacker fiftyy ears ago. Read Carlyle's "Past and Present," and compare. over his eyes and held his pipe in his mouth, There may be other dangers before us of which we then suspected nothing. But if we still preserve the qualities which be scared at finding him dead. His scheme enabled us to stand up, almost alone, worked perfectly, and the mother nearly against the colossal force of Napoleon, with Europe at his back, and which carried A South Carolina girl married five times us through the terrible troubles which followed the war, we surely need not Besant.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The Austrian Government has ordered thirty automatic Maxim guns.

W. G. Grace, the greatest cricketer in the world, will be 40 years old on the 18th of July.

The Zuyder Zee may be drained before long, for the association for that purpose is about to try it.

A gun for projectiles of 100 pounds has shells a minute.

The income of the University of Camengagements would never be decisive of the bridge of this year will be \$180,000 and expenses, \$170,000 A French engineer has conferred a bless-

ing on all players of stringed instruments by inventing a peg which will not slip. The new wire gun at Shoeburyness has thrown a 500 pound shell a distance of twelve miles, the greatest distance ever

covered by a cannon ball. The Petit Journal recently appealed to Bismarck to restore Alsace and Lorraine to France, to kiss and make up, and then both have a go at England.

Admiral Hornby says that England would require at least 186 cruisers to protect her merchant vessels from the enemy's cruisers, and that she has but forty-two.

The French are acknowledged to have the finest guns and prejectiles in Europe. Their Ferminy shell has been shot through an armor plate twenty inches thick, and come out with its steel point uninjured.

There has been a long search for a sunken war; and there was no longer the necessity rock in the Red Sea upon which two Britfor such measures to encamp the fighting ish steamers foundered. It has at last been found. It is a very small coral patch with only fifteen feet of water over it.

A well-known London firm of refreshment contractors recently advertized for 4,000 additional waiters, and 10,000 applications were received in response, the whole of the candidates claiming to have had experience,

A correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that thousands of Russian peasants have died of hunger during the past six weeks. In the district of Zvenigorodka the peasants seized the cattle of the rich land.

Admiral Hewett of the British Navy, who was drowned the other day, was a very successful blockade runner during the American war. So were Hobart Pasha and Capt. Burgoyne, who commanded the ship Captain, which capsized about ten years

A cause of disagreement between haiser Fritz and Bismarck is regarding the restoration of the private fortune of the late King of Hanover, which had been! confiscated by Prussia. Bismarck prevented Kaiser William from restoring it, and now he and the Emperor have locked horns too.

Major E. C. Browne, an Engishman, writing about the acquisition of Burmah by the British, describes the effect upon the natives of the first exhibition of the electric light. "A great ray of soft light," he says, "shoots across the heavens from horizon to horizon. A flood of light is cast on a spot in the village, but it is off with more than lightning rapidity to illumine another. It heaps and bobs and bounces about the earth in most uncanny fashion. The village is illumined. It visits every portion of it and seems to enterfat the doors and windows. At first the people rush away, but finding that in many cases the light follows they throw themselves down with their faces to the earth. In a few minutes the village and river banks are cleared, and the terrified people take refuge in the bush or at the backs of the houses. But this only lasts a very short time. Curiosity is stronger than prudence. So far the light has struck no one dead. Perhaps it may be harmless; so the children, clinging to each other, venture into the glare, then run to their mothers' arms screaming half with fear and half with delight. Some of the big boys then rush out, have a good stare, and having dared so much once more disappear. The ladies seem to gain confidence next to the children. Their curiosity cannot be restrained any longer, so they get together in groups and hide their faces and scream and giggle. Some of the more cheeky ones actually put out their tongues at us and begin dancing and gyrating about. The men, last of all, moodily emerge from their cover, and still not half liking it walk cautiously about, and gradually the village

A Long Flight.

An extremely interesting experiment has been made by Mr. J. Wagner, of Boston, Mass. He sent nine carrier pigeons to Lon don by mail steamer on October 9, 1886. Shortly after their arrival they commenced their long flight home across the Atlantic Ocean. Up to January 10, 1887, three of these birds had returned; one arrived in Boston direct from London, the second was recovered near New York City, and the third was found in the Alleghany Mountains in Pennsylvania. The owner's address was painted on the bird's wings, and, when they were found, the birds were returned to the owner. The other six birds were not re-

All doubt in regard to the disease to which Emperor Frederick succumbed after long months of patient suffering has been set at rest by the post-mortem examination. fatal malady was cancer of the larynx. The larynx, indeed was nearly destroyed; it was reformers should be to secure the abolition half the people, seats were openly bought found to contain a large cavity, and its carof degrading social customs, to crush out and sold, others were filled with nominees lilaginous character had almost wholly disbrutalizing superstition, and to hasten the of the great men who owned them. What appeared. It is marvellous that the Emperor spread of enlightenment, education and could possibly follow but ruin-swift and survived so long. Nothing but the best Christianity generally. When a fair amount hopeless ruin? What indeed? Prophets of medical skill postponed the evil day and of progress has been made in this work, it disaster always omit one or two important permitted the brief reign which will be will be time enough to give the natives poli- elements in their calculations, and it is memorable in the history of Germany. To tical privileges which they do not at present through these gaps that the people basely Sir Morell Mackenzie the German people desire, and which they could not use pro- wriggle, instead of fulfilling prophecy as owe a lasting debt of gratitude. But for his skillful treatment, in spite of opposition and Even now the outlook of the whole world abuse even, in all probability Frederick

The American Brewers' Association has been enquiring into the relation of liquor to crime. It reports that "of 859 murders reported in the New York papers, only 98 were due to liquor, and of 554 suicides. liquor was responsible for 98." Exactly 14 per cent, of the lives thus lost were therefore taken through liquor. The report does not mean that beer was the source of all this crime, but that liquors in general, spirits no doubt almost exclusively, were responsible for it. The showing is not so favourable to liquor after all.