Mr. Clarke Wallace, M. P., who recently paid a visit to York Colony, is perfectly delighted with the result of this year's harvest in the North West, and says that the threshing proves that the grain crop is from 25 to 35 per cent better than at first announced.

The value to Great Britain of the Canadays ago, and in consequence traffic authorities on their return to England. through the canal was interrupted for some little time.

The Department of Fisheries is advised that up to date ten Behring's Sea sealers have dodged the United States cutter, Rush, and arrived at Victoria, B. C. The total catch is reported to be 15,046 skins by Canadian vessels and 2,539 skins landed in British Columbia by American schooners At \$6.50 per skin, the value of the catch reaches the handsome sum of over \$140,000.

A special despatch from Washington says eirculars have been forwarded to all United States Consuls in Canada asking for certified returns, according to sworn statements made before them, of the exports of various articles at each Canadian port to the United States during the past three years. It is supposed that the Government want the information with the view of considering the question of closer commercial relations with Canada.

The total number of births amongst French-Canadians in 1886 was 3,787, or one in eighteen, while amongst Protestants there were only 1,216 births, or only one in every thirty-eight. The death-rate for the French Canadian population during the year was 54 per 1,000, which, it is stated, is only equalled in Berlin, where deaths five years are proportionately higher than here. The birth rate for other Catholics is 45 per 1,000, and for Protestants 26 per 1,000. Of 54 French-Canadians born it is estimated 24 survived, of 45 Irish 21, and of 26 Protestants 11.

Messrs. Rogers & Taylor, railway contractors of Montreal, have obtained the contract for the building of the Massena Springs and Fort Covington railway, which runs from Fort Covington, the present western terminus of the Grand Trunk Champlain division, to Massena Springs, a distance of some twenty miles, where it will connect with the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg railroad. The completion of the route will give the Grand Irunk another through route to the Western States.

The Marine Department has mailed to Mr. Putnam, M. P. for Hants, at his residence in Maitland, N. S., a valuable silver watch which has been awarded to Captain A. Halsch, of the barque Mary Fraser, of Windsor, in recognition of his humane and gallant exertions in the rescue of the shipwrecked crew of the brig Elsie Cronan, of Halifax. Minister Foster requests that the testimonial be presented to Captain Halsch in as public a manner as possible. Four seamen of the Mary Fraser have been each granted ten dollars in recognition of their bravery.

In Quebec City two boys had a narrow escape on Saturday last from an awful death. The axle of a caleche broke on John street and one of the wheels dashed through the plate glass window of Turner Bros'. sewing machine store. Shortly after the accident two little boys put their heads through the hole made in the lower part of the window to examine the damage inside. They had barely withdrawn their heads when the upper part of the heavy plate of glass fell upon the spot they had just left. Had the fall occurred a few seconds sooner both boys would undoubtedly have had their heads severed from their bodies.

alone in her house on Manitoba street some weeks since, on which occasion one was found dead was on Saturday last tried before County Judge Hughes on the charge o manslaughter. She was found guilty and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment in the Mercer Reformatory. On the charge of abandoning the living child, she was also found guilty and sentenced to six months in the same institution. The alleged father of the children admitted having a wife and seven children at Port Hope. He was committed to gaol for contempt of court during the trial. The woman's husband is in the Old Country.

The new London City Directory is to be issued on Tuesday. From the publisher's the Erie County penitentiary, Buffalo, were introductory remarks it is learned that the set to work at making apple barrels. These says :- Every day brings developments number of names contained in the work as compared with the three previous issues is cost price—twenty five cents a barrel—and | tablish any arbitrary rules governing interas follows:-1883, 8,041 names; 1884, 10,-561 names; 1886, 11,965 names; 1887, 13,-774, names. This shows an increase of 11, turing Company, which cannot compete rous in another. This is illustrated in the 309 names over that contained in the directory of 1886, which, when multiplied by for 4,000 barrels cancelled. Another large raised from 621 cents to \$4.56 per hundred three, the usual figure used by directory firm of coopers, which expected to sell from from California, which places the wool merpublishers, gives an increase of 5,427 in the 20,000 to 30,000 barrels on Grand Island, chants of that State in a quandary. The population, and coupled with the fact that estimates that it will not be able to sell wool crop of that State last year was about their are 206 less vacant houses in the city more than 5,000. It is said, also, that it is 40,000,000 pounds, of which about 34,000,than there were two years ago, warrants the intention of the prison authorities, after 000 pounds were shipped east. The crop the claiming of a population when London the fruit season is over, to put the convicts this spring is 25,000,000 pounds, and the South and London West is included of close to work on flour and cement barrels, which dealers have fears that they will have the on to 40,000.

Captain Warron, of the schooner Owner, | coopers away fram Buffalo. arrived at Victoria, B. C., from Sitka, on the 17th. He stated that by the cutter Rush there arrived a sailor in Sitka who is the only survivor of the whaling schooner Napoleon, which was wrecked in the Arctic two years ago. He tells a terrible tale of of Greece, will serve three years in the with a large one. This was probably the suffering. The vessel got crushed in the English navy. ice, the crew having to take to their boats, and the man who arrived in Sitka was one of the 18 who were on the ice for thirty days. During this time his 17 companions died from starvation. He was picked up by some Esquimaux, and lived among them until the trip of the Bear into the Arctic, when he was found among his protectors. The cutter brought him down and connected with the Rush in the Behring Sea, the latter bringing him to Sitka.

Some startling stories are in circulation here amongst the sailors of the British war ship Tourmaline, new in port at Montreal, which, if true, certainly call for an investigation. Some of the sailors complain that whilst in irons, was badly treated, and tell with Emperor William in Berlin. the following story of his death :- Fitz-

fresh air and to be examined by the doctor, the proportion of young men being very On the morning of the eighth day of his confinement, which was a Sunday, he was brought up to prayers, and seemed only able King John of Abyssinia, asking her to to stand with difficulty. He complained to the doctor that he was ill, but was sent back to his cell. About four o'clock that afternoon his tea was taken down to the cell, and, on the door being opened, Fitzgerald fell down on his face dead. His nose, it is sible for Abyssinia without giving umbrage said, was broken by the fall, and it was dian transcontinental route as an alternative supposed that his mouth had been pressed means of communication with the East has close to the keyhole to get a breath of fresh recently been illustrated by the blocking of air. The captain and officers deny the rethe Suez Canal-a not unusual event. The port, but some of the sailors say they will chain of a dredger, it appears, broke a few bring the matter before the attention of the

AMERICAN.

The Chicago Farmer's Review says :- The weather has continued favorable for the r pening of late planted corn, though rain is badly needed in many sections for fall feed and fall plougning and seeding.

Ellsworth Anderson, a desperado, while endeavouring to make a forcible entrance into the house of Mrs. Sarah Meadows, a widow of Bloomington, Ind., on Sunday night last, was fatally shot by the latter.

Mark kinner, of Chicago, who, as president of the Sanitary Commission, collected and distributed \$500,000 to sick and wound ed soldiers during the civil war, died on Friday night at Manchest r, Vermont, aged 76. He had been in feeble health for some time. An estate of \$1,000,000 is left by him to his daughters.

Wm. Dresbech, one of the chief manipu lators of the recently collapsed wheat deal, has filed with the county recorder a full statement of his liabilities and assets. A summary shows as follows :- Money borrowed on wheat and secured, \$1,850,000; owing to the Nevada Bank, \$6,553,000; losses on contracts, \$3 0,000; losses on cargoes en route, \$535,000, making a total indebtedness of more than \$7,500,000, which is practically unsecured, and which is supposed to approximately represent the loss in the great deal.

The Times, speaking of the centennial celebration of the signing of the American constitution at Philadelphia, says :- "The festival celebrates no ordinary kind of a birthday. The United States have already won the way to a foremost place among the nations of the world, and to their future development of strength and wealth no limit can be assigned. The constitution has been a compromise throughout, and in no way more clearly or usefully than in the reconcilement it has effected between national and local claims.

Henry Riedel, a weaver, murdered his tempt to take his own life. Riedel awoke about 1.30 o'clock and says he was seized with a desire to die, and as he did not want to leave his wife and child unprotected he took up a pistol and crept stealthily into an adjoining room where they were in bed. Both were sound asleep and he shot them through the head, death resulting instantaneously. He then aimed a bullet at his own head, but it glanced and made a deep but not dangerous wound. Riedel is in

At Kansas city, on Sunday night, Thos. Bourke, a well-to do citizen, 66 years of age, went home intoxicated and began raising a disturbance with his wife Three policemen were summoned and arrested him. Without any examination he was put into a cell, and on Monday he was sent to the workhouse. There it was discovered that he was suffering from frightful injuries. He was seized with paroxysms, and died in terrible agony yesterday afternoon. He repeatedly said that the policeman had kicked him all the tries of that busy section. way to the station house. The coroner has ordered the arrest of Policeman Peterson for murder. The dead man left an estate of \$25,000.

Letters have been received by the Amer-Mrs. Hayes, of St. Thomas, the inhuman ican Board of Commissioners for Foreign mother who left her twin babes 36 hours Missions, picturing a terrible condition of affairs among the people of Cicilian Plain, Asia Minor. Large numbers of the inhabitants are starving and the source of food supply has been almost exhausted. The missionaries at Adana report that since August 500 more families have been added to the list of those who have to be supplied with bread to sustain life, making 1,500 families that are now being fed. The board makes a general appeal for funds with which to alleviate the distress. Large numbers of the people are kept alive by eating grass, roots, berries and small fruit and will need aid to enable them to live until the next

A few weeks ago one hundred convicts in are sold by the penitentiary authorities at | that show how difficult a matter it is to esthe daily product is about 500 barrels. One state commerce, which while working satisresult is that the Buffalo Barrel Manufac- factorily in one direction will prove disastwith the above price, has just had an order new schedule on wool; by this the freight is will have the effect of driving forty or fifty entire stock on their hands.

## FOREIGN.

The fund for the relief of the sufferers by the Exeter theatre fire amounts to \$55,000. Prince George, the second son of the King

Another great trial of Nihilists is about to be commenced at St. Petersburg. The prisoners include fifteen officers of all ranks. Official statistics of the damage done by the floods in Egypt show that property was damaged to the extent of £500,000 and 800 dustries are to a great extent crippled.

families were made destitute. The Spanish settlement of Rio Oro, West Africa, has proved a fiasco. There is no trade there and no prospect of any. The Colony will probably be abandoned.

board the ship at that point. Every morn- gravely, with dignified pathos. His Met- dealers.

ing he was brought up on deck to breathe ropolitan tabernacle is as crowded as ever,

The Queen has replied to the letter from mediate between Abyssinia and Italy for an amicable settlement of the dispute between them respecting the territory on the west coast of the Red Sea at Massowah. It is believed that England wishes to do all posto Italy.

M. de Cassagnac has assured M. Rouvier that notwithstanding the Count of Paris' manifesto the Right will continue to support the Cabinet, but on the condition that no change be made in the policy of conciliation which the Cabinet has hitherto pursued. Several deputies have decided to petition M. Rouvier to convoke the Chamber, at the earliest possible date.

The Circassian Prince Sergius Kepiana Palenko has been arrested at Nice charged by the Princess Wiazemsk with stealing a diamond necklace from her and expending the proceeds of its sale in dissipation. Prince Palenko avers that the Princess gave him the necklace to sell for her, and that he repaid to her all the money he realised on it. The complainant is the lady who was recently tried with a companion for shoplifting in Paris, of which she was acquitted.

### Business in the United States.

Some chronic grumblers are heard just now to say, that business is dull in the United States. Nothing could scarcely be mer between Glasgow and Montreal weekly; Glasgow wider of the mark. There is an active movement in all branches of industry and trade. In Boston all kinds of business have been active; in Philadelphia an improved Halifax; Shea & Co., St. John's, N.F.; Wm. Thomp tendency is at work; while in Pittsburg, the iron and steel industry is in a better condition than ever before. In Cincinnati, phia; H. A. Allen Portland Boston Montreal. all factories are busy, and well supplied with orders. In Chicago all kinds of manufactured goods are selling freely. In Kansas City general business is in a less prosperous condition. But this cannot be wondered at. The "mushroom city" has enjoyed more than a decade of unprecedented prosperity, but while the inevitable reaction is now being experienced, it will be only of temporary duration. In St. Louis confidence prevails in all directions. In Omaha, country orders of large proportions, it is reported, are being received. St. Paul reports show, that a good many concerns are working overtime, in order to keep up with requirements. In New Orleans there is a substantial improvement, as compared with this time last year.

Organized labor promises to be less troublesome this fall than last, which, to say the least, is a reassuring symptom. wife and nine-year-old son on Saturday The prevailing tendency now is to arbitrate morning, and then made an unsuccessful at- where possible, and to defer striking as long as possible, where there is a just cause for it. And employers on the other hand, are anxious to meet all fair demands,—a fact, by the way, which must not be given too much prominence to, as they are obliged to show a willingness in that respect, to avoid trouble with their workmen, in view of the large orders now in hand.

> The great activity in the paper making industry throughout the country, is demonstrated by the fact that makers of papermaking machinery have their books full of

> The various industries of New England are in a flourishing condition, and large numbers of new enterprises are being undertaken, it is reported, with good prospects of success. Woollen and cotton mills, hosiery factories, wood-working machinery, metal working and other manufacturing establishments, are springing up by dezens, and trade papers teem with announcements of new plans for extensions in the indus-

The development of the mineral resources of new sections of the country goes on apace. A tract of very rich coal land near Paris, Texas, has been leased by a company with \$500,000 capital, and will be opened up at once. Large mining operations are also IFARMERS lumber trade continues good. Supplies of all kinds of lumber are large, but no weakness of prices is reported, except, of course, to its other industries. Glass manufacturers report prospects very favorable; in most mills orders are plentiful.

Other instances of a similar kind could easily be added of the development of almost every branch of industry and trade throughout the Union, but enough has been given to satisfy the most sceptical.

### The American Inter-State Commerce Bill.

Speaking of the effects of this bill a writer

Similar effects are produced in other directions. The object of our Inter-State Commerce bill should be to prevent unreasonable exactions from one class more than another; for the protection of the rights of a small shipper in competition labor should be encouraged, but it is poor encouragement, when national legislation is such as to wholly preclude the idea of shipment. If commodities are cut off from exchange by exorbitant freight rates, then in-

## The Opinion of All

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