

NEWS SUMMARY.

Interesting Items of News from all Parts of the World.

CANADIAN.
Masonic Grand Master Spry, who has been ill for a few days is convalescing.
Barley is being shipped west from Belleville at the rate of twelve cars daily.
Polling will take place on the Scott Act in Oxford county on the 20th March next.
Ed. Woodhouse, town clerk of Dundas, was knocked down and robbed of \$500 recently.
Miss Christina Cameron, daughter of the late Hon. M. Cameron, died at Sarina recently, at the Hon. A. Vidal's residence.
The Parliamentary library at Ottawa contains seventy thousand books. Very few American institutions of the same sort surpass it.
The cost of constructing one mile of the Canadian Pacific north of Lake Superior, is \$300,000. This will give some idea of the huge undertaking that our plucky people are engaged in pushing through to a successful completion.
A writ has been issued to collect \$200 from Rev. W. G. Lane, Methodist Minister of Halifax, for marrying a soldier and a girl without a license. It seems the groom had neglected to procure a license, but promised that he would procure one the following morning. He did not secure the license, and now repudiates the marriage on account of the informality.
The heaviest man in Paris, Mr. Jos. Smith, died on the 23rd ult., at the age of 60 years. For several months past he had been confined to his house, previous to that he weighed 320 lbs. and has been gaining ever since that time, so it is thought his weight could not have been less than 350 lbs. when he died. He was buried on Monday, and owing to the width of the required coffin it was found necessary to dispense with a hearse.

UNITED STATES.
Reports from various portions of California indicate a bad condition of the crops.
During the past year 2,623 new buildings were erected in New York City at a cost of \$44,304,638.
Texas cattle are dying in large numbers from a strange disease, which appears to be incurable.
The Brigham Young Academy at Provo City, U., a Mormon school with 400 students, was burned.
In three years 135 telegraph companies with \$225,000,000 capital have been incorporated in New York.
AUBURN, N. Y.—A boy here recovered a verdict against the New York Central for \$10,500, for the loss of a foot.
In Massachusetts an attempt is being made by the temperance men to raise \$10,000 to aid in the temperance movement.
The season's ice harvest on the Hudson River amounts to over 3,000,000 tons, the largest crop ever housed in any one year.
The revenue receipts of the United States Government for the first half of the current fiscal year, amounted to \$60,500,000.
The frigate Colorado, which has cost \$1,410,503, has been condemned at the Brooklyn navy yard, and she will be sold at auction.
The New York pet stock show contains 5,000 Plymouth Rocks, 1,000 pigeons, and 7,000 Asiatics, including Brahmas of all kinds.
Wendell Phillips, of Boston, the orator and prominent abolitionist, died at his residence, Boston, after a week's illness, aged 72 years.
A syndicate of New York and Philadelphia capitalists has invested very heavily in the securities of the Northern Pacific system.
A Chicago Life Insurance Association has just come to grief, its outstanding policies amounting to \$300,000, and its cash funds to 37 cents.
TITUSVILLE.—Oil reports say that 228 wells were completed during January with a production of 3,146 barrels daily. Twenty dry holes were drilled.
Prices of eggs in Boston market are higher than they have been quoted before since 1865, and it is conjectured that the hens have struck for higher wages.
The bill making the Commissioner of Agriculture a Cabinet officer has been favorably reported by the Agricultural committee of the U. S. House of Representatives.
The Senate of Massachusetts has voted to abolish the annual "Election Sermon," a customary observance that has descended to us from the earliest days of the Puritans.
New York fruit dealers deny that frost has hurt the orange crop, or that the California corner will affect prices. There are upwards of 10,000,000 new bearing trees this year.
Great floods have prevailed along the Mississippi river, doing an immense amount of destruction. It is reported that at Pittsburgh alone not less than five thousand families were left homeless.
Marquis De Mores, who shipped 12,000 sheep last July to Montana, reports that 55 per cent. died. The animals swell up and bleed at the nose before death. Post mortem examination disclosed a disease heretofore unknown.
The United States Senate has passed a resolution providing for each Senator who is not the chairman of a committee, a private clerk or secretary at a salary of \$6 per day, and now the Representatives are hankering after the same privilege.
At the recent fisheries exhibition at London, twenty-six foreign and colonial Governments were represented. Out of the list the United States headed off with 49 gold, 47 silver, and 29 bronze medals, and 24 diplomas, equal to more than one-fifth of the entire number awarded.
Cornell University has a mummy on the way from Egypt. His name, some thousands of years ago was "Perpi." His views on the "College Fetish" question would be valuable if we could only get at them, and probably not much further behind the times than

some which have been recently maintained by several other college Dons.

It is considered almost certain that this Congress will not appropriate money to build any more steel cruisers, and possibly may refuse to complete those that have been begun, for it is believed by some naval men, that if completed they will be failures. A member of the Naval Committee says that no guns in the country can be placed in them, neither is there a foundry where they can be cast, and to construct a plant where such guns could be made, would cost a million dollars.
The Grange interests were never more prosperous in New Hampshire than they are at present. The State Master has visited the granges at Goffston, Dunbarton, Camp-ton, Stoddard, Antrim, and Andover during the past week and is in the field for ten days to come. At Andover on Saturday evening there was a large gathering, with a banquet and speeches. Secretary Bachelor of the State Grange, the retiring local Master, was presented with an elegant sash and Past Master's jewel.
At Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., a war ship was commenced during the time of the war of 1812, to cruise on Lake Ontario. When peace was proclaimed the framework of the ship had just been completed, and work on it was stopped. A building it has stood ever since. It was recently sold for \$400 and taken down. Some of the timbers are a good deal decayed and were sold for fire-wood. The most of the cedar is good however and has been disposed of for other use. The contractor nets about \$4,000 out of his purchase.

An Italian Estimate of Bismarck.

An interesting Italian essay on Bismarck has just appeared in Italy. It is written by Gaetano Negri, and consists chiefly of two lectures, which the author has given at Meiland, on the German chancellor. Speaking of Bismarck as a man, Signor Negri says:—"He is one of the most interesting and incomprehensible characters that have appeared in the history of the world. Imagine an East Goth, in-cultured with the culture of the present time. Seen from the one side, he appears as one acknowledging only the worship of power, violent, harsh, and merciless. On the other hand, we see in him the man endowed with the greatest moral gifts, open to the influences of purest and highest sentiments. The contradictions in his character are passing strange; marvellous is the wealth of his intellect and unique his capacity for satisfying the most contradictory claims. . . . All through he is a man of the north. In him lives the poetic spirit of the northern races; the spirit of Shake-speare is within him; at the same time he is grave and jovial, rough and graceful; and he has a depth of religious feeling unknown to the Latin peoples. Bismarck is one of the most powerful speakers that ever have spoken from the parliamentary tribune. His eloquence, however, is not that of a Cicero, enlarging on a given subject in smooth, harmonious figures of speech; his is an eloquence like an arrow shot from a bow—rough, passionate, irony, springing, as it were, upon his subjects and penetrating into their innermost depths. With Bismarck we are never in the world of words, but always in the world of facts. It is the mighty objectivity of his speeches which makes them attractive, even if considered quite apart from the circumstances under which they are made, and from the passion which inspired them. He always leads us into the real drama of life, into the fight for existence, in the collision of men and things. Added to this his imagination, in itself extremely lively and supported by a rich and varied knowledge, which brings to his mind the most surprising pictures and comparisons, and it is easy to understand that this combination of gifts stamp Bismarck's eloquence with the greatest originality. But nowhere do we see him more attractive, and, as it were more human, than in his letters to his wife and sister. They are mostly notes from his tours abroad, short epistles on his state of health and his occupations, all full of grace and life. They show partly that in the midst of the heaviest troubles the elasticity of his spirit, the clearness of his views, the ironical contemplation of all things human, the sense of the beauty of nature, are still preserved. In some of these letters he gives way to a deep poetic sentiment, and it is here that his best and noblest side is seen." *Pall Mall Gazette.*

Charcoal and its Uses.

Charcoal, laid flat while cold on a burn, causes the pain to abate immediately; by leaving it on for an hour the burn seems almost healed when the burn is superficial. And charcoal is valuable for many other purposes. Tainted meat surrounded with it is sweetened; strewn over heaps of decomposed pelts, or over dead animals, it prevents any unpleasant odor. Foul water is purified by it. It is a great disinfectant, and sweetens offensive air if placed in shallow trays around apartments. It is so very porous in its "minute interior," it absorbs and condenses gases most rapidly. One cubic inch of fresh charcoal will absorb nearly one hundred inches of gaseous ammonia. Charcoal forms an unrivalled poultice for malignant wounds and sores, often corroding away dead flesh, reducing it to one quarter in six hours. In cases of what we call prond flesh it is invaluable. It gives no disagreeable odor, injures no metal, hurts no texture, injures no color, is a simple and safe sweetener and disinfectant. A teaspoonful of charcoal, in half a glass of water, often relieves a sick headache; it absorbs the gases and relieves the distended stomach pressing against the nerves, which extend from the stomach to the head. It often relieves constipation, pain or heart-burn.

A FINE MORNING.—"Fine morning, your honor," affably remarked the man who was arrested the night before for being drunk and disorderly. "Yes, indeed," he heartily responded the justice; "quite a fine morning; in fact, a \$10 fine morning." After this little pleasantry the gentleman was booked for the "Black Maria" and the business of the court went on as usual.

Where Cigar Boxes Go.

"What becomes of the empty boxes?" was the question put by a reporter to a retail cigar dealer, who does a thriving business.
"I'm sure I don't know," was the reply. "Some of them are given away, a few, perhaps, are sold by some of the dealers, but the great bulk are broken to pieces and used as kindling wood. You see Uncle Sam makes it a punishable offence to use the same box twice for cigars unless every particle of the revenue stamp is removed, and a new stamp placed on the box. Now, a complete removal of the stamp would spoil the box a ad make it unfit for further use for cigars."
"Is not that a considerable loss?" inquired the reporter.
"Hardly so. Cigar boxes are very cheap. A good workman, I understand, will nail nearly a thousand boxes in a day, and the wood is abundant in this country. If you never saw a cigar box factory you had better visit one, and you'll see some interesting sights."

The reporter followed the advice, and climbed up five flights of stairs in one of the largest blocks in the manufacturing district of the city, where the largest cigar box factory is located.
A part of the large floor was occupied by the strips of wood, cut to the requisite thickness, one dimension for the bottom, sides and cover, and another for the ends. The strips of wood are run through a rip-saw, sawed in long strips, and cut into the required lengths by a second machine. The ends are then planed as smooth as the sides, and the pieces are ready to be made into boxes. Lids and sides have to pass through printing presses, of the same pattern as used in ordinary job rooms, but much heavier, to have the brand, trademark, etc., printed on them with indelible ink. Then the pieces go to the nailer, who uses a machine for his work. The nailing machines are somewhat similar in appearance to type-setting machines, and require but little experience to be quite dexterously handled.
The nails are fed into a hopper on the top, passing through small brass pipes into little tubes at the proper distances for the parts to be nailed together. By the pressure of the foot on the foot-board of the machine, the operator forces the nails out of the tubes into the wood, and accomplishes with the aid of the machine six times as much work as the most experienced workman could do with hand and hammer; besides the work is of necessity done far more accurately. The first operation is the nailing together of an end and head piece, which are placed in large piles, and then two of those pieces are nailed together, forming the sides of the box. Boys tuck on the buttons and girls tuck on the cover temporarily, while the half-completed boxes are then piled up until they are perfectly dry.

An experienced nailer averages about 850 boxes per day, receiving twenty-five cents for 100 boxes, while the boys and girls are paid by the week, earning from four dollars to ten per week.
After the boxes are dry, they are brought under a rapidly revolving planer, which removes all over-hanging wood-work, while whirling sand wheels smooth off the edges. A large force of girls is employed in putting on the finishing touches, which means to paste on the edgings, inside labels, linings and flaps. For this work the girls are paid eighty cents per hundred, and they earn from five to nine dollars per week.

The lumber used in the manufacture of cigar boxes is, with few exceptions, either bass-wood or red cedar. Bass-wood grows in almost unlimited quantities in Michigan, Minnesota, and the northern part of Wisconsin. It is shipped to this city in rough boards, which are re-cut, planed and stained by a peculiar process, so that it closely resembles cedar wood, from which it is different in color, and lacking in that sharp, pungent odor which is deemed of particular value for the packing of cigars. Bass-wood boxes are used for the ordinary quality of cigars. The red cedar grows in Mexico, Cuba and Central America, and forms an important article in the exports of these countries. Cedar costs in Chicago in the neighborhood of forty dollars a thousand lineal feet of the ordinary lumber dimensions.

An important item in the manufacture of cigar boxes is the label, which costs from sixty cents to six dollars a thousand. A few especially fine labels, made for special brands, cost nine and ten dollars a thousand. The larger box factories have a printing room attached to their establishments, and print the ordinary quality of labels themselves, while the more elaborate factories of more or less artistic design, and printed in from three to a dozen colors, are made by the large lithographic establishments, where designers for this particular branch of work are kept steadily at work. It is a noticeable fact that in a great many cases one may judge of the quality of cigars by the kind of label attached to the box. The "loud" label with flaming colors, presenting all kinds of impossible birds and flowers, or females more or less décolleté, does not, as a rule, speak favorably for the quality of the cigars.
The habitual smoker knows his label, although some of the favorite brands of "three-for-a-quarter," or "straight ten," such as "Corona," "La Rosa," "Henry Clay," and others, are sold in numerous imitations. The better quality of cigars, like the better quality of men, do not "show off" in a very elaborate style; they have a well-designed and artistically executed label, in unobtrusive colors, and some of the very best cigars have very plain packing. Cigars for private sales are generally packed in boxes which are fastened with brass clasps instead of the old-fashioned silk-ribbons.
There is one firm of lithographers in this city who do nothing else but print cigar labels; and there are eight box factories, employing 250 hands, and a capital of \$100,000, while the annual production is valued at \$400,000.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Dr. Carson's Pulmonary Cough Drops. The prescription of an old Canadian Practitioner. The best remedy for the Lungs, in large bottles at 50 cents. For sale everywhere.
"Freddie, did you go to school to-day?"
"Yes'm."
"Did you learn anything new?"
"Yes'm."
"What was it, my boy?"
"I got on to a sure way of gettin' out for an hour by sniffin red ink up my nose."



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