

MISCELLANEOUS.

There must be something very peculiar in the case of Morrison, the Lower Canadian criminal, which leads to such liberal contributions being made for his defence.

Tuesday's military parade in New York was the greatest affair of the kind the United States has seen since the final reviews of the Union armies in Washington at the close of the war.

There is now any lack of mysterious crime. Chicago is horrified by the recent discovery of the dead body of a young woman, who had evidently been murdered, buried head downwards in the sand of the harbour bar.

It will surprise most people to know that some of the skilled workmen in such places as the Carnegie works near Pittsburgh earn at times as much as \$30 a day.

The Paris Exposition was opened with suitably impressive magnificence, pomp, military display and civic grandeur, and is now in the full swing of its splendour.

There are rumours of trouble between French and English fishermen on the coasts of Newfoundland. There has been some mutual recrimination, the Englishmen accusing their rivals of trespassing, and the Frenchmen anathematizing English greed, unfriendliness and indisposition to regard treaty rights.

The Protestant Episcopal Church of South Carolina is labouring with the negro question. Mission churches which were started some years ago have borne such good fruit, that some of them now have colored rectors.

Ocean travellers who go by way of New York will be glad to know that rosette hopes are being entertained about the new collector, Colonel Erhardt. He is said to have warned his deputies that they must be fair minded and considerate in their treatment of passengers, and their sole ambition must not be to get the percentage on their seizures.

The danger of being too sure was illustrated in a lamentable way in the town of Providence R. I. the other day. The builders of the elevator in a new five story building were so certain that everything was as safe as it could be made that two of them, accompanied by a reporter, got on and allowed the rope to be cut.

King John of Abyssinia is dead, he and two of his best Generals having been killed in a recent battle with Derivishes. It is reasonable to think that these deaths and the rout of the army make the chances of the successor who was named by King John rather poor.

Theodore Bevan is the name of a young English explorer who has gained almost more notoriety for his real estate claims than fame by his meritorious services to exploration. New Guinea has been the scene of his exploits.

There may be some international correspondence between Britain and the United States on the case of a man called Cherry who is the British Vice Consul at Astoria in Oregon. The British Steamer Otterspool had a libel case on hand it seems, and the evidence of Cherry was desired by the United States District Court.

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immunity from arrest or process of law, as a Minister or Ambassador. On the ground that Cherry no doubt believed himself justified in standing on his dignity, the judge remitted the fine which he might have enacted, and contented himself with requiring Cherry to pay the costs of the warrant of arrest, which amounted to \$64 70.

A terrible condition of things is reported from the coal districts of Pennsylvania owing to the action of the mine owners in stopping work. The barons pay the lowest wages when they do work their mines, so that their unfortunate human tools have no chance to save anything, and when misfortune overtakes them, their plight is sad indeed.

Loyal subjects of Queen Victoria will rejoice to know that Her Majesty appears to have taken a new lease of life, and to be both healthier and happier than any one has seen her for a long time back. It almost seems as if she had a shrewd suspicion that her worthy son and heir is getting a little weary with hopes deferred of wearing the purple, and that she has made up her mind, with the true perversity of womankind, to disappoint him, and make him wait a little longer for the fruition of his hopes.

The Paris Exposition was opened with suitably impressive magnificence, pomp, military display and civic grandeur, and is now in the full swing of its splendour. Happy they whom leisure time and length of purse allow to cross the water, and see fair Paris in this hour of her triumph.

Captain Ingram, who was recently killed by an elephant in South Africa, some time before his death unwound the cere-cloth of an Egyptian mummy. Inside he discovered a tablet which, being translated, was found to prophesy that the person who profaned the grave clothes would die a violent death within three months of his sacrilegious act, and his bones be scattered to the winds.

Planets Visible this Month.

Four beautiful planets are visible in May. They are Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury. Careful observers may easily find them in the middle of the month.

Venus is morning star, shining with surpassing lustre, as she approaches her period of greatest brilliancy on June 5th. She rises on the 19th about half-past four o'clock, an hour before the sun, and will rise earlier every morning, as, moving westward, her distance from the sun increases.

Jupiter is classed among the morning stars, but is also a beautiful object as he comes looming above the southeastern horizon late in the evening. He rises on the 16th about half-past ten o'clock, and continues visible until the dawn breaks, so that he will be found in the west, when Venus rises in the east, the king and queen of the stars shining at the same time.

Saturn is evening star. He is in quadrature with the sun, on the 31, and is then on the meridian, or point overhead, about sunset, and in fine position for observation.

Mercury is evening star, reaching his greatest distance east of the sun on the 24th. He may be found at that time, and for a week before and after, as he is most favorably situated for observation, and the one nearest to the sun is a rare and interesting event.

Mercury sets on the 24th at a quarter after nine o'clock in the evening, more than two hours after the sun. Observers must look for him in the north-west, five degrees north of the sunset point, and commence the search three quarters of an hour after sunset. If a brilliant star of the first magnitude, low down in the twilight, and not quite as large as Sirius, seems suddenly to dart from the sky, the prize is found, the star is Mercury.

Fire Protection.

The success of the Waterous Engine Co., of Brantford, in the manufacture of fire engines has been quite unique in the history of machinery in Canada. With their usual acuteness and far-seeing ability they saw that hundreds of the smaller towns and villages in the country were without any kind of fire protection, simply because heretofore the hand fire engines had proved useless, and the larger steamers were too expensive for an ordinary town.

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