

ODDS AND ENDS.

AMERICANS eat more potatoes than any other nation on earth.

ALBION, N. Y., has a prospect of a colored theological seminary.

A Boston belle has two French snails for pets. They live on clover and lettuce.

BEER has supplemented wine on the tables of some of the best Vienna hotels.

AN inmate of the Widows' Home, Allegheny, Pa., is known to be 112 years old.

GERMANY has just discovered a buried forest in her midst, supposed to be 10,000 years old.

THE work of assassination is going right on in West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Texas.

THE skeleton of a child was recently found in a chimney in London wrapped in paper dated three years ago.

THE choir of one of the colored Catholic churches in Washington is considered the best at the capital.

THE army of New York's Seventh Regiment will be completed in November. The total cost will be \$250,000.

HE who makes a wayside tree grow where none grew before furnishes shade and consolation for a tramp with a sun burned chin.

KIT CARSON, a son of the famous scout, and a very witty and intelligent person, it is reported, is making temperance speeches.

MR. JOSEPH SELIGMAN, the eminent banker of New York, began life painting canal boats for the late Asa Packer, at the rate of fifty cents a day.

PRINCE LEOPOLD wishes to marry the Princess Marie of Hanover, to whom his brother, the Duke of Connaught, unsuccessfully proposed.

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In a dream last week a Middletown (Conn.) man passed through a trial for murder which seemingly lasted three weeks, in which a great many witnesses were examined and eloquent pleas hours long delivered. At last he was convicted and sentenced. While on the scaffold, protesting his innocence to the last, the trap was sprung; but the rope broke and he ran away.

HE was pursued by the people and the police, but he eluded them until nightfall, when he ventured to visit his home. There he found his wife attacked by a gang of ruffians. He killed one of them and drove the rest away. Then he awoke and discovered he had been through these terrible ordeals, all this suffering and anguish, and the three weeks' trial, while sleeping only three minutes.

IT is stated as a singular fact that not

one of the Imperial Napoleons has died in France, or on French soil. Napoleon I., the founder of the family, died a prisoner on the British Island of St. Helena, in the South Atlantic Ocean; his son, Napoleon II., died in Austria; his nephew, Napoleon III., died an exile in England; and now his grand nephew, the young man whom the French Imperialists have hoped would one day rule France as Napoleon IV., has met his fate at the oint of Zul u spears in South Africa.

NEWS NOTES.

THERE are 45,000 suits pending in the United States Courts of the Union.

THE prospects are favorable for an immense sugar crop in the Island of Jamaica, but the condition of the coffee crop is not so promising.

THE recent revolution in Panama cost exactly \$5,000; nobody was killed, and everybody is forgiven.

IN the first week in June, snow to the depth of two inches fell in the northern counties of England.

THE President has withdrawn the nomination of Secretary McCreary as the successor of Judge Dillon.

IT is said that in one locality in Spain the masons wet their mortar with wine, because it is not so scarce as water.

KENTUCKY, California, Maine, Ohio, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin, hold State elections this summer and fall.

A TERRIBLE tragedy is reported from Holyoke, Massachusetts, where a man named Kemmer, because he did not like his wife, deliberately shot his three little girls dead, and claims that he did right in doing so.

A SHARP paragraphist says: "England has succeeded in beating Parole by loading him down, and she might, perhaps, beat Hanlan if she forced him to row with Senator David Davis in the shell as oxswain."

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gested that an enduring monument be placed upon the spot.

THE Governments of England and France have formally demanded the abdication of the Khedive of Egypt. The bankrupt condition of his Government is the occasion, and both Germany and Austria threaten to join England and France in their demand for his abdication, if he does not at once pay the floating indebtedness. The Sultan of Turkey, who has a nominal protectorate over Egypt, is yet to be heard from.

AT the burial of the late Baron Lionel de Rothschild, his kinsmen who were present each threw three spadefuls of earth into the grave, the eldest son leading in the ceremony. While the body was being lowered into the grave they united in repeating the words: "May he come to his appointed place in peace," and as they were leaving they each plucked a few blades of grass, saying: "And they shall blossom forth from the ruins like the dust of the earth."

SERIOUS apprehensions have been aroused by warlike symptoms among the Northern Cheyennes and other tribes in the vicinity of Fort Reno, Indian Territory. Ten companies of troops have just arrived at the fort, to be in readiness to deal vigorously with the threatening redskins. The number of the hostiles who are ready for the war-path is between 2,000 and 3,000. Their cause of anger is the fact that the government has refused them permission to leave their reservation for a hunting raid northward.

ON last Sunday, during a Bohemian dance and picnic in a grove near Chicago, a fight occurred between a member of an armed company of sharpshooters and a visitor. The latter was badly used up and ejected from the grounds. A mob outside took up his quarrel and assailed the picnickers with sticks and stones. The sharpshooters formed, and charged upon the crowd with fixed bayonets, subsequently firing several rounds, by which several persons were wounded, some of them, perhaps, fatally. The sharpshooters were arrested by the police force and taken to prison.

STATE ITEMS.

FLUX has been fatally prevalent at Orleans.

CENTER LAKE, Steuben county, has been stocked with eels.

A STEUBEN county hen recently hatched twelve chickens from eleven eggs.

A TIDAL WAVE of horse-stealing has recently been sweeping over Eastern Indiana.

THE Merediths recently sold \$10,000 worth of short horn cattle, at Cambridge City.

A LARGE number of pleasure-seekers, have taken summer quarters at Lake Maxinkuckee.

A RECENT enumeration shows the population of Richmond and its suburbs to be 14,679.

THE wool clip of the State, this year, is large, but it should be doubled as speedily as possible.

IN grading a street in Auburn, the bones of the first white man buried in DeKalb county were unearthed.

FIVE persons were killed by lightning in Washington county, during the month ending about June 20th.

A KOKOMO grocer was allowed \$1,000 for supplies to the poor of Center township, at the June session of the County Board.

SENATOR REEVE is the owner of two fine farms in Marshall county, which are cultivated under his direction.

A BROTHER of ex-President Fillmore, was one of the speakers at the recent old settlers' meeting in LaGrange county.

MARY MUNGION, aged 15, committed suicide the other day, at Richmond, because she heart her lover was about to leave her.

THE press and people of Warsaw, are very anxious to build up the reputation of that place as a picnic and summer resort.

GEORGE RETTIG, of Peru, is preparing to engage extensively in the business of raising fine horses at his farm in Fulton county.

THE safe of the Treasurer of Fulton county has been secured against a plain danger, by the attachment of a time lock, at a cost of \$300.

THE Board of Trustees of Moore's Hill College have secured an endowment of \$20,000 for that institution, which places it on a permanent basis.

THE Rockport Gazette says that the acreage of tobacco in Spencer county will not be so large as usual, owing to the scarcity of plants, which the farmers say were destroyed by bugs.

JAMES MALON's famous running mare, "Maid of Richmond," died, the other day, at Bensenville, of lung fever. She was one of the best young racers in the State, and was valued at \$2,000.

A LATE decision of the Supreme court, allowing County Treasurers five per cent. for certain delinquent collections, is putting considerable sums into the pockets of those officials that they scarcely expected to get.

MRS. FANNIE WHITMAN, aged 90, and one of the pioneers of Sullivan county, died last week from the bursting of a blood vessel, brought on by violent coughing. She was well-known and highly esteemed.

JAMES TUTOROW, of Brown township, Hancock county, thought to scare his brother, who was riding a horse, by shooting over the horse. His aim was admirable, as he shot the horse in the stomach, killing it almost instantly.

AN enterprising citizen of Argos has fitted up a wagon with which he proposes to travel about the country, and engage in the business of greasing harness. If he has the requisite quantity of cheek, he can make even that business pay.

A boy in Crawford county, married when he was seventeen, and was a father at eighteen. He lately married a second wife, and now, at the age of eighty, is happy with a second child. There is sixty-two years difference between the ages of the two children.

HARRY YOUNG, a piano tuner and teacher, attempted to commit an outrage on the person of two of his pupils, aged respectively nine and ten years, at Bourbon, the other day. It is to be regretted that the facts were not made known until the villain had escaped.

M. M. MOODY, of Delaware county, found a land terrapin on the county farm in 1868 with "E. H. 1849" inscribed upon its back. Mr. Moody carved his own initials, "M. M. M." 1868, "on the top," and let it go. Last Saturday week, Mr. Moody found the inscribed terrapin upon the same farm, with both inscriptions still readable. It has been thirty years since the first inscription was carved.

RECENTLY, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Boub, of Versailles, had their youngest child, aged about one and a half years, rather seriously scalded, by falling into a pot of soup Mrs. Boub had prepared for dinner. She had very carelessly placed the pot on the floor, and the child sat down in it.

THE Valparaiso Normal students are equal to any emergency. One went fishing recently, and, as it happened, the owner of the pond came along and commanded a cessation of his sport. The young man looked at the austere farmer, and said "take your fish, I was only trying to drown this worm."

PLYMOUTH REPUBLICAN: The fastest time ever made by a railroad in America, was made we believe by the fast train which passed through here on the P. F. & C. railroad, Wednesday of last week. It ran from Chicago to Ft. Wayne, one hundred and forty-nine miles, in one hundred and forty-five minutes.

JAMES McDONOUGH, of Anderson, has in his possession a chicken with four legs. It was hatched about a week ago. Two of the legs are in the position occupied by legs upon fowls, while the other two protrude from the place where the tail is expected to grow upon good healthy chickens. It is living, but will hardly survive the hot season.

THERE is growing in Wayne county a colossal grapevine so large in its proportions that a brief description of it will prove interesting. It is growing upon the farm of Mr. John Copeland, near Hagerstown, Wayne county. A few feet above the ground it measures forty-two inches in circumference.

This large trunk grows upward thirty feet, and separates into two branches, each of which is eight inches in diameter. The vine has spread itself over the tops of two large beech trees which stand near, and during the grape season the trees are overloaded with the fruit. A fabulous number of bunches of grapes are said to hang on the tops of the trees, seventy feet above ground, quite out of the reach of the fruit gatherers, who, no doubt, pronounce them "sour," as they hang so tempting beyond their reach.

MRS. ELIZA MENDENHALL, of Winchester, Randolph county, has been in poor health for the past twenty years, contending all that time that a snake or something of that kind in her stomach was the cause of her miseries, for which she was treated at a great deal by her parents and other friends.

About two weeks ago she took to her bed on account of it, complaining of the most nauseating taste arising from her stomach which almost stifled her. Her mother placed an electro magnetic plaster on the affected part, giving her a powerful emetic at the same time, which resulted in her vomiting up something about six inches in length in an advanced state of decomposition, with the head of a lizard and a body resembling that of a snake. Becoming deathly sick, she fell back completely exhausted, but was soon revived and has been steadily improving ever since, feeling better than for the past fifteen years.

What It Meant.

The trouble at the recent commencement exercises did not occur in vain if it shall prove the means of infusing into the public mind a better and more correct idea of the true functions and limitations of our free school system.

During the past few years there has been too much of a tendency, all over the country, to forget that these schools are common schools; that they are so in name, and should be actually such. Everywhere the tendency has been to neglect the primary and rudimentary departments for the purpose of enlarging the range of the upper grades. School boards have added to the list of study the languages and the higher mathematics and the fine arts, and have paid high prices for instructors in those branches while cramming the primary and intermediate grades. This tendency has not failed to excite widespread attention, and provoke general discussion. It is believed now that a reaction has set in, and that a movement is on foot which will result in confining our schools to their proper limits. In Fort Wayne the high school is a thing of the past, having been superseded by a central grammar school, and the same change has been made in many other cities. Less attention is given than formerly to the teaching of purely ornamental branches and more care is given to the primary and intermediate departments. It is recognized that these schools are common schools; that they are maintained for the use and benefit of the poor people of the county; and that they do not afford any proper field for costly display of any kind. In our common school commencement exercises, rich dressing and costly floral tributes are equally out of place. Let the rich have these things, if they desire, at their private institutions; but in our common schools it is merit alone that wins; the poorest scholar is on a plane of absolute equality with the richest, and the latter must not be allowed, by the expenditure of money, to affect a superiority which does not exist. Any display at the Central Grammar School commencements is out of order. It is

a fact that young women of superior capacity and scholarship, having earned a diploma, have refused to graduate because unable to purchase a dress equal to those to be worn by her class-mates. It is a burning shame. The school board in prohibiting the giving of floral tributes at the commencement exercises, did so, we doubt not, because they held the same view that we have advanced in this article, and which must, we feel sure, be heartily endorsed by every true friend of the common school system.—[Ft. Wayne Sentinel.

A Dinner as Peter the Great Gave It.

At one of the grand dinners given by the czar, a huge pile was placed in the center of the gentlemen's table, out of which, when the startled dwarf broke the crust, a beautiful dwarf lady, in a dress of all sorts of colors, and in a dress, stepped, proposed in a set speech and drank in a glass of wine the health of the company, and then retired into her snug retreat and was carried from the table by a dwarf, who was substituted at the ladies' table. Did not Peter say he could reform his people, but not himself? A dinner party at the czar's must indeed have been a sight not conceivable out of Russia, and could only have been planned in the maddest brain on earth, if a manuscript among the Sloane papers in the British Museum is believable. Such practical jokes! such wild, grotesque gambolling! the frolics of leviathan! the laughter of Titan, as frightful in his fun as in his fury! There was accommodation at the czar's table for about a hundred; but the grim humorist always issued invitations to twice or three that number, and left his guests to elbow, jostle and fight for chairs and places, and retain them against all comers and claimants if they could. Not unfrequently a free fight was excited, and the guests were tapped, and even the sacred personages of ambassadors have been profanely touched and trifled with. The czar sat at the head of the table, a broad grin on his face, rolling the spectacle like a sweet morsel, and the guests, who were so closely packed that feeding-room is not to be thought of, and ribs are often blackened and almost driven in by active and vigorous elbows, provoking fierce recriminations and quarrels. The czar, in his turn, was not without his share of the frolics, and there floats through the latter a fragrance of onions, garlic and train-oil, mellowed and tempered by the more knowing and more delicate flavors of a special appetite for tongues, hams and viands that cannot be tampered with, or made the vehicle of practical joking, for as often as not he has been known to swallow a whole will be drawn out of the soup or discovered snugly imbedded in a dish of green peas; and sometimes, when his guests have well partaken of certain pastries, the czar will courteously inquire if the cat, the raven or other unclean animal proved a savory or delicious morsel, with what result let the imagination guess. The approach to a regular Donnybrook was hastened on by liberal supplies of brandies, strong wines and liquors, and the czar, as to expedite the grand climacteric of drunkenness.—[Belgravia.

The Ruin an Extravagant Woman Wrought.

We are apt to think, and other nations are of our opinion, that reckless extravagance is high-wind monopolized by America. This is far from true, as is shown by facts that have been disclosed in connection with the Londons who recently became so embarrassed financially that the Earl, the head of the house of Northampton, had to sell his great collection in London. He has been married barely nine months (his wife was Lady Gladys Herbert, a very tall, dark, Jewish type of beauty, often called the Gipsy), and has lived at such a rate, his brief existence has been very actively, as to be on the border of bankruptcy. She has been noted for her eager pursuit of pleasure since her entry into society, and she met Lord Northampton while he was conspicuously radiant at the height of a London season. They seemed to be fond of one another—in a well regulated way, of course—and their lives were a scene of unbroken gold and diamonds. The Earl was lavishly all over Europe. Balls, dinners, yachts, races, hunting, succeeded in unbroken succession. She wanted everything, and he bought her everything. The Old World was ransacked for curious, luxurious objects of art, and an income of £16,000 was not sufficient for their purchases. Her diamonds cost her £200,000, and her furniture, pictures, marbles, and the like, more than £200,000 in all. She was not content. She appeared to have loved the great world and its resplendent glories more than they loved one another before their honey-moon was fairly over. When he was yachting in the Eastern Mediterranean she was dancing at Monte Carlo. He dined late and long at the Maison Doree, when she captured young noblemen and watched the stars from the cliffs of Serravallo. She was 33, and he 31, but both had lived long enough, and fast enough to feel weary, jaded, and old. She is the daughter of Sydney Herbert of fair renown and Crimean fame, and the sister of the Earl of Pembroke; the husband of which she and her titled husband have gone head and tail, waging and drawing morals from matrimonial indifference and wild extravagance. The men say he has ruined her; the women declare she has ruined him. Probably they are both right.

How things do change. Year by year a man grows old. So do his clothes. Since last I visited Osceola, Time has been very busy. I suppose he would have been just as busy all the same if I had never left Osceola. I do not know just what he has been doing, but I know he has been busy. Time is a great leveller. All the same as a dirt scoop or a road plow. Time levels everything except a man's back. He humps that up. And I don't see why either. It doesn't appear to make the back any stronger, and it certainly doesn't make it any prettier. But I suppose Time knows his business. There has been a great deal of change in the statistics of our life, and I suppose that fewer bullets now have their bullets than ever before. At Spichenen the Germans hit one French soldier for every 279 cartridges expended, and at Verdun 146 of every 147 bullets fired were thrown away. The Russian fighting the late war was regarded as over-accurate, being suspiciously small, yet they represent sixty-six rounds fired for one man hit. But we have a more striking set of figures from the Zulus. The Zulus are described as fighting with great ferocity and blood, scoring concealment, coming in dense masses and charging up to the muzzles of the English rifles. The English troops are splendidly armed, having guns, rockets and ballings, as well as their rifles, and in the engagements where they have proved victorious they have largely increased their enemies' losses by cutting them down with cavalry or spearing them after they have been repulsed. Yet at Ginghlova 5,000 men poured cannon volleys into the Zulus for an hour and a

fact that young women of superior capacity and scholarship, having earned a diploma, have refused to graduate because unable to purchase a dress equal to those to be worn by her class-mates. It is a burning shame. The school board in prohibiting the giving of floral tributes at the commencement exercises, did so, we doubt not, because they held the same view that we have advanced in this article, and which must, we feel sure, be heartily endorsed by every true friend of the common school system.—[Ft. Wayne Sentinel.

Lessons in War.

It was one of the dreams of the friends of peace thirty years ago that the vast improvements making even then in machines for the slaying of men would soon make war a game so deadly that kings and nations would cease to play at it. The improvements in arms encourage instead of discouraging warfare, as they are followed invariably by a decrease in slaughter. It is not necessary to go back to the battles of antiquity when the fighting was hand to hand and no quarter was shown except with an eye to profit; to the merciless and brutal days of Canaan, when 40,000 out of 80,000 Romans fell; of Zama and Metarrus, when the Carthaginian armies were twice defeated at Hastings, when the victorious Normans lost 10,000 men out of 60,000, or of Cressy, when 30,000 out of 100,000 French soldiers were slain. Consider the war of the old smooth-bore, muzzle-loading muskets, the great wars of Marlborough, Frederick and Napoleon, in conjunction with smooth-bore artillery. If we leave out of account such battles as Vittoria, Rossbach, Austerlitz, which were specially decided by tactical skill or obvious and overwhelming superiority in numbers at Zorndorf of 32,000 Russians 11,385 were killed or wounded, and 21,581 of 50,000 Russians, or 35 and 43 per cent. of the force engaged; at Jena, 17; at Prague, 17; at Friedland, 21; at Waterloo, 24; at Salamanca, nearly 32; at Eylau and Genua, nearly 34. According to the figures given by Col. Cooke, the average loss in these ten great battles was as nearly as may be 25 per cent. of the forces engaged. After the Crimean war the rifle came into vogue, and the war of 1858 was fought with it, and the Austrians used it at Koniggratz, where the Prussians employed the breech-loader. At Magenta less than 3 per cent. of the men engaged were killed and wounded; at Solferino the percentage was almost precisely the same, and yet these were pre-eminently "soldiers' battles," decided by "hammer-and-anvil" fighting. At Koniggratz the combat lasted one hour, and the total loss, with rifles on one side and breech-loaders on the other, was not quite 7 per cent. After this the breech-loader came into use everywhere, and the French brought out their mitrailleuses. The breech-loader was first used as accurate in fire as the old Brown Bess, eight times more rapid and seven times longer in range, not to mention the fact that it prevented the soldier from performing such feats as ramming home cartridge ball-foremost and sending down a dozen men on top of that under the belief that all that had been fired in the enemy's yet what was the result in the war of 1870? Taking the average while France had any army, we find that at Werth the loss was 13 per cent., at Spichenen 11; at Gravelotte not quite nine, at Sedan less than eight, and in the bloody field of Mars-la-Tour something under sixteen. In other words we have the table:

Killed in the days of sword, bow and spear..... Per Cent. 23
Killed in the days of smooth-bore..... 22
Killed in the days of rifles and breech-loaders..... 8 to 10

When we come to look into the matter in detail the figures are quite as instructive. We hear much about the destructive effect of modern artillery, especially when the great guns of the total German loss in killed and wounded in 1870-71, of 18,241 killed only 695 were slain by shells, and of 70,636 wounded only 4,389 were hit by these missiles. This is about as good a grand or as contemptible—a fraud.

With swords and the butt-ends of muskets, which always plays so terrible a part in romantic histories, there were only six Germans killed and 242 wounded in the whole war, though the Germans of brilliant cavalry charges by the cuirassiers and dragoons, while the lance and bayonet killed no more than 189 men and wounded no more than 370.

In other words, the 100,000 men outright or dying of wounds received in battle one is killed by a blow, cut or thrust, and three are slain by shell or cannon-balls. This is the bayonet and cavalry charges and artillery fire, therefore, may be set down, as chiefly moral.

Of course there is an explanation of all this. The increased power of modern weapons has been a great deal of great measure neutralized by the loose order of fighting; the modern soldier, too, is taught not to stand up boldly and face his foe but to crouch down and crawl himself out of all possible sight.

It is at least an open question whether there is not a slow but steady decadence going on in the warlike qualities of all modern civilized nations, and whether the war of the future will be decided by the military machine of civilization has not been weakened. Already a German author has recorded the fact that an army nowadays loses its best men first, because the bravest work furthest ahead in the skirmish line. The tendency has been so uniform in one direction that it looks very much as if we should yet come to inventing arms of precision so deadly that the rate of mortality in a pitched battle would be a good deal less than in a city in a sickly season. While on land a new and loose order of fighting has been introduced offering a difficult target and the soldier has been impressed with a sense of danger having to do with it, and allowed some option in doing so, the improvement of weapons in naval fighting has done away with naval engagements. Since the Keary sank the Alabama, the Kaiser at Lissa rammed the Re d'Italia, and sank the Palestro, there has been even a skirmish between the fleets of any of the great naval powers, though Germany have been at war, and we may rest assured that after the engagement of Iquique, in which all the Peruvian and Chilean vessels concerned seem to have gone down, commanders everywhere will be confirmed in their caution.

It might be thought that with accurate arms in the hands of trained soldiers a considerable percentage of the war might be made, but incomplete as the statistics of our life are, they show that fewer bullets now have their bullets than ever before. At Spichenen the Germans hit one French soldier for every 279 cartridges expended, and at Verdun 146 of every 147 bullets fired were thrown away. The Russian fighting the late war was regarded as over-accurate, being suspiciously small, yet they represent sixty-six rounds fired for one man hit. But we have a more striking set of figures from the Zulus. The Zulus are described as fighting with great ferocity and blood, scoring concealment, coming in dense masses and charging up to the muzzles of the English rifles. The English troops are splendidly armed, having guns, rockets and ballings, as well as their rifles, and in the engagements where they have proved victorious they have largely increased their enemies' losses by cutting them down with cavalry or spearing them after they have been repulsed. Yet at Ginghlova 5,000 men poured cannon volleys into the Zulus for an hour and a

fact that young women of superior capacity and scholarship, having earned a diploma, have refused to graduate because unable to purchase a dress equal to those to be worn by her class-mates. It is a burning shame. The school board in prohibiting the