WESTFIELD, Mass., Nov. 27, 1899.
The Genesee Pure Food Co., Le Roy, N. Y.:
Gentlemen—Having used your GRAIN-O for the past 3 mos. I thought I would write and let you know how much good it has done me. When I was on my vacation last summer the people I visited asked me to try GRAIN-O, and I drank some, but I didn't like it; but the more I drank the better I liked it, and now I wouldn't drink anything else. I never weighed over 106 lbs. and last winter I was down to 103, and now I weigh just 120. I never felt better in my life. It gives me an awful appetite and makes me strong. It is doing me more good than anything I ever took. I recommend it to everybody.
Yours truly, MRS. GEO. E. BROWN.

Value of a Laugh.

The value of a good-natured laugh may be rated low by some people, but many writers have attested its worth in no measured terms.

It is not surprising that the merry Charles Lamb should have said, "A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market;" but from the lips of the sombre Carlyle one is scarcely prepared to hear, "No man who has once heartily and wholly laughed can be altogether or irreclaimably bad."

It was Douglas Jerrold who boldly stated that "What was talked of as the golden chain of Jove was nothing but a succession of laughs, a chromatic scale of merriment reaching from earth to Olympus."

"I am persuaded," wrote Lawrence Sterne, "that every time a man smiles—but much more so when he laughs—it adds something to his fragment of life."

Last of all comes the verdict of Doctor Holmes, given with his own inimitable humor: "The riotous tumult of a laugh, I take it, is the mob law of the features, and properly the magistrate who reads the riot act."

Valuable Quarries Discovered.

Some old quarries of Oriental alabaster have recently been discovered in the neighborhood of Monte Amiata, near Siena. It now seems very probable that the beautiful columns of that material in the interior of the Cathedral of Siena came from those quarries. The quarries are about to be worked.

Deducting dubious vessels, the completed battleships of England now number thirty-six and those of France and Russia thirty-eight.

Jell-O, the New Dessert
Pleases all the family. Four flavors:—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. At your grocers. 10 cts.

The population of London increases at the rate of about 60,000 a year.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.
Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

Any man who has the price of a wig can raise a good head of hair.

A BLOOD TROUBLE
Is that tired feeling—blood lacks vitality and richness, and hence you feel like a laggard all day and can't get rested at night. Hood's Sarsaparilla will cure you because it will restore to the blood the qualities it needs to nourish, strengthen and sustain the muscles, nerves and organs of the body. It gives sweet, refreshing sleep and imparts new life and vigor to every function.
Tired Feeling—"I had that tired feeling and headaches. Was more tired in the morning than when I went to bed, and my back pained me. Hood's Sarsaparilla and Hood's Pills have cured me and made me feel ten years younger." B. SCHEBLEIN, 274 Bushwick Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Hood's Sarsaparilla
Is the Best Medicine Money Can Buy. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

For Wheeling or Golfing.

The proper breeches for wear when wheeling or for golf, if you prefer to wear breeches, are of the decided pear shape. They are very loose about the hips and thighs and fit snugly under the knee. The knee buttons are closely spaced and the vent is in front of the leg, just on the outside of the shin bone. The breeches are made of tweeds or rough cheviots and are best in dark grounds with a neat hair line plaid. They may be worn with a black jacket of the Norfolk or plain model, or with the scarlet golf jacket. With the breeches wear plain top hose, low-cut calf shoes, a soft shirt, trace leather belt, coat, stock, kerchief or collar and tie or four-in-hand. The best hat is the sombrero with pugree.—Haberdasher.

Why the Assistant Failed.

Carl Hertz, the conjurer, has rather a horror of small boy confederates, and no wonder. On one occasion he was performing in London, and, borrowing half a crown from one of the audience, he placed it in the center of an orange. The idea of the trick was for the coin to disappear and find its way into the pocket of a youngster at some distance from the stage. Mr. Hertz, at the proper moment, called upon a boy in the crowd to produce it. Fumbling in his pockets for a moment or two, while all eyes were turned upon him, the boy at last fished out a quantity of small change.

"Here's two and threepence-halfpenny, sir," he shouted; "I got thirsty, so I changed that half crown you gave me."

THE HEALTH OF YOUNG WOMEN
Two of Them Helped by Mrs. Pinkham—Read their Letters.
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am sixteen years old and am troubled with my monthly sickness. It is very irregular, occurring only once in two or three months, and also very painful. I also suffer with cramps and once in a while pain strikes me in the heart and I have drowsy headaches. If there is anything you can do for me, I will gladly follow your advice."—MISS MARY GOMES, Aptos, Cal., July 31, 1898.
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—After receiving your letter I began the use of your remedies, taking both Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Blood Purifier. I am now regular every month and suffer no pain. Your medicine is the best that any suffering girl can take."—MISS MABY GOMES, Aptos, Cal., July 6, 1899.
Nervous and Dizzy
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I wish to express my thanks to you for the great benefit I have received from the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I suffered constantly from terrible sideache, had chills, was nervous and dizzy. I had tried different kinds of medicine but they all failed entirely. After taking three bottles of Vegetable Compound and three of Blood Purifier I am all right. I cannot thank you enough for what your remedies have done for me."—MISS MATILDA JENSEN, Box 18, Ogdensburg, Wis., June 10, 1899.

NAVAL BILL IS PASSED.

Senate Votes For the Purchase of Five Holland Submarine Boats.

AGREES TO ARMOR PLATE FACTORY

Senate Decides on a Government Plant if Armor Cannot Be Bought For $445 Per Ton—Secretary May Pay $545—Armor For New Battleships to Be Purchased When Required.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Special).—After a discussion lasting five full days the Senate passed the Naval Appropriation bill. Practically four days were devoted to the consideration of the armor plate proposition, which finally, by a vote of 32 to 19 was agreed to as reported by the committee, with the exception that the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to make contracts only for such armor as may be needed from time to time.

The Secretary of the Navy is authorized to procure armor of the best quality at $445 per ton; but if he be unable to obtain it at that price, he is then authorized to pay $545 per ton for the armor for the battleships Maine, Ohio and Missouri, and proceed to erect an armor factory, to cost not to exceed $4,000,000, one-half of which amount is made immediately available.

It is further provided "that if, under the operation of the above provision, no Government armor plate factory is begun or built, the Secretary of the Navy shall submit to Congress at the beginning of its next session a detailed report, in which he shall estimate the entire cost of a fully equipped Government armor plate manufactory, including site, and the probable time at which the best modern armor plate could be produced at said factory and ready for delivery."

The Secretary of the Navy is directed to purchase five Holland torpedo boats at a price not exceeding $170,000 each. The Gathmann gun amendment to the House bill was withdrawn by the Committee, the Navy Department having declared against it.

THE CUBAN POSTAL FRAUDS.

President Deposes E. G. Rathbone as Director General of Posts.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Estes G. Rathbone has been deposed as Director General of Posts in Cuba. By direction of the President, Joseph L. Bristow, Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General, sailed for Havana to take full charge of the postal affairs of Cuba. Every phase of the scandal was discussed in a two hours' session of the Cabinet Monday. Afterward the President's decision to supersede Mr. Rathbone and to send Mr. Bristow to Cuba was announced.

At the Cabinet meeting the legal questions in connection with the proposed extradition of Neely were discussed at length. The Administration is satisfied that the accused man will contest every move made to take him back, but Attorney-General Griggs assured the President he felt certain he could land Neely in Cuba successfully.

The administration has a well matured plan of action, but nothing will be said now as to what it is. One matter that will not be discussed now is how the authorities expect to recover all the money wrongfully taken from the postal funds, but it is understood that they have reason to believe they can do this.

BRITISH ACTIVE IN NATAL.

General Buller Turns the Boers' Position in the Biggarsberg Passes.

LONDON (By Cable).—General Buller's turning of the Biggarsberg position was effected by a bold movement. General Buller, with the Second Division, under General Clery, advanced from Ladysmith and reached the Waschbank after a two days' march.

GEN. HILDYARD.

Hamilton's brigade stormed Uithalek Mountain, while Dundonald's cavalry division swept to the right and left. Bethune's horse, from Pomeroy, drove the enemy from the heights commanding Helpmakaar, and Hildyard's brigade occupied Indoba. General Buller is expected to push on. He is breaking into British territory which had been administered for six months by the Transvaalers as though it were part of their republic, they holding courts and levying taxes. His success therefore has political as well as military consequences.

Wisconsin Town Burned.

The town of Fisher, Wis., is in ruins and 200 people are homeless. Every building in the town was burned except two dwellings, the railroad station and a store. The loss will aggregate more than $200,000, partially covered by insurance.

Students Must Not Marry.

Marriage has been put under the ban by the Faculty of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, and it has been announced that any students who disobey the edict will suffer the loss of all pecuniary help from the university. The placing of the ban on matrimony is said to be due to the fact that some of the students have risked marriage on too meagre incomes.

Prosperous Mackerel Fishery Season.

The Southern mackerel fishery business for the present season is a record breaker. Never has this industry been so prolific in big fares and financial returns.

Prominent People.

The pictures of Sargent, the American artist, now monopolize attention at the British Royal Academy.

Secretary Long is looking forward with pleasure to his summer vacation at his old home in Buckfield, Me.

Herbert Spencer has passed the age of eighty, and, though never a robust man, still keeps himself in good condition by the tonic of steady, intelligently-directed work.

General Edward Moody McCook, one of "the fighting McCooks," has been compelled to enter the Soldiers' Home at Yountville, Cal. He was the fifth and seventh Governor of Colorado, and was long active in Kansas and Territorial politics.

Rudyard Kipling thinks that, though short stories may be written in youth, the novel must be the work of maturity.

Arthur Sewall, Vice-Presidential candidate with Bryan in 1896, is reported to be in very poor health and to have been ordered by his doctor to go abroad for the summer.

The health of the young King of Spain will necessitate his leaving Madrid earlier than usual this year. Accompanied by the Queen Regent he will go to Covandonga in Asturia.

This is the official designation of the British General commanding in South Africa: "Baron Roberts, of Kandahar and Waterford, P. C., K. P., G. C. B., G. C., S. I., G. C. I. E., V. C., D. C. L., LL. D." And yet he is the shortest general in the service.

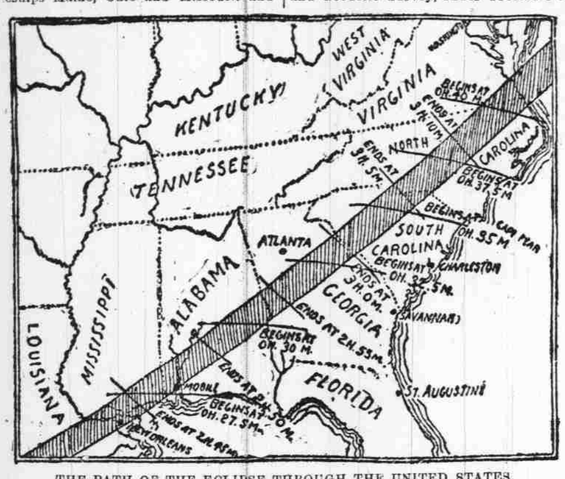
SUN'S COMING ECLIPSE.

Preparations of Astronomers to Observe the Phenomenon.

It Will Sweep Across the American Continent From New Orleans to Cape Henry—A Total Eclipse.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Special).—The forthcoming total eclipse of the sun on May 28, is attracting world-wide attention, and astronomers everywhere have long been making preparations for observing and photographing the phenomenon. Besides making the usual time observations, interest largely centers in photographing the corona, the coronal streamers, the spectra of the chromosphere, and particularly the celebrated flash spectrum appearing both at beginning and end of totality. Fortunately it will be possible to witness the phenomenon from many sections of the United States.

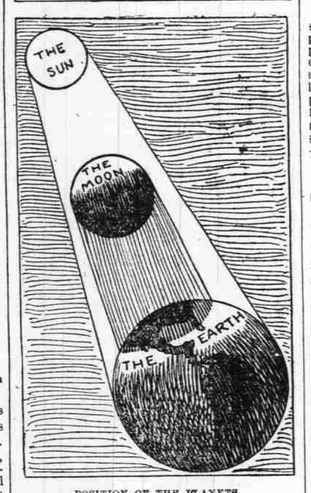
The Johns Hopkins University expeditions to observe the solar eclipse will work in unison with the United States Naval Observatory and under the supervision of the latter. The observations of the Naval Observatory will be divided among five parties. At Pinehurst, N. C., there will be four astronomers from Washington, under the direction of Professor Skinner; the John Hopkins party, and a party from the Coast and Geodetic Survey, under Professor G. A. Bauer. At Griffin, Ga., there will be one Naval Observatory party, consisting of Dr. L. S. Mitchell, of Columbia University; Professor Henry Crew and Dr. Tatall of the Northwestern University of Virginia, and L. E. Jewell of the Johns Hopkins University; Professor S. J. Brown, Astronomical Director of the Naval Observatory will conduct observations at Barnesville, Ga. The colleges and universities of the country will be well represented. Expeditions will be dispatched by Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Virginia, the University of Chicago, etc.



THE PATH OF THE ECLIPSE THROUGH THE UNITED STATES.

On May 28 the circular shadow of the moon cast by the sun upon the earth, and about eighty miles in diameter, will come sweeping across the American continent from New Orleans to Cape Henry. Along the centre of the path traveled by this swiftly moving shadow the sun will be completely hidden for a period of about two minutes. More than forty miles away, on either side of the track the eclipse will be partial, not total.

An eclipse of the sun that will be visible can occur only when the moon is new. At that time she passes exactly between the earth and the sun. According to the calculations of Professor Lumsden, the round black shadow of the moon, like a great arm, will sweep in out of space some time after sunrise on the morning of May 28. This gigantic arm will come into contact with the earth somewhere near the Revilla Gigedo islands in the Pacific ocean. With tremendous velocity the shadow will rush toward the mainland and will enter Mexico, near Corrientes, at a speed of more than 100 miles a minute. In eight minutes it will have crossed the Rocky Mountains, and by 7.30 central or 8.30 eastern time it will have crossed the Gulf and entered Mexico. Then on it will pass, over its selected path, until it is lost again in space.



POSITION OF THE PLANETS.

The period of totality of the eclipse varies at different points along the track. At the Rocky Mountains the spectacle will last but about thirty seconds, and at New Orleans the period will have been lengthened thirty-seven seconds. At Union Point, Green County, Ga., the centre of the path for the United States, the time of totality will be ninety-two seconds, while those who are at the Atlantic coast, just south of the city of Norfolk, will be able to continue their observations for 105 seconds.

GERMANY SEIZES TERRITORY.

Forcibly Occupies 3000 Square Miles in the Congo Free State.

LONDON (By Cable).—Lionel Decle, who is conducting a Cape-to-Cairo expedition, sends by wire and steamer from Uvila, north of Lake Tanganyika, the following:

"The situation here is critical. The Germans have forcibly seized all the Congo Free State territory up to Busizi River, occupying 3000 square miles of Congo territory with 1000 soldiers, fifteen officers, and cannon.

"The Belgian officer withdrew from his station under threat of instant attack."

The National Game.

Kennedy, of Brooklyn, says the new plate is an advantage to the pitcher.

McGann, the man Philadelphia should have bought and didn't, is playing great ball for St. Louis.

The Bostons are batting well enough, but somehow are away off in their former specialty, fielding.

There seems to be considerable foundation in the story that the League players are quietly organizing for mutual protection.

Jennings, of Brooklyn, certainly is an artist on low thrown balls. Those that get away from him are as scarce as hen's teeth.

The Philadelphias, New Yorks, Bostons and Cincinnatis have been doing the hardest batting so far.

Sudhoff is pitching the best ball for St. Louis this spring next to Young, and Tebeau now rates him as a first-class pitcher.

Doyle is playing a grand ball game for the New Yorks this season. Doyle is one of the men who is not afraid to take chances on the bases.

Heidrick, of the St. Louis Club, has blossomed out as a first-class fielder, his work so far this season being of the most sensational order.

Five of the seven regular fielders on the Chicago team bat from the off side of the plate. Ryan and Mertes are the only right handers in the bunch.

THE MARKETS.

Late Wholesale Prices of Country Produce Quoted in New York.

21			
BUTTER.			
Creamery—West. extras...$	—	@$	20
Firsts	19	@	19¼
Thirds to seconds	16½	@	18½
State—Thirds to firsts	16½	@	19½
State Dairy tubs, extras	—	@	19
Imitation Creamery	14	@	17
Factory, fresh firsts	—	@	15
Low grades	13	@	14
CHEESE.			
State—Full cream, fancy	10	@	10¾
Small	9¾	@	9¾
Part skims, good to prime	4½	@	5½
Full skims	1	@	1½
EGGS.			
Nearby—Fancy	13½	@	14
State and Penn	12½	@	13
Western—Choice	—	@	12¾
Southern	11	@	12
BEANS AND PEAS.			
Beans—Marrow, choice, 1899	—	@	2 12½
Medium, 1899	—	@	2 12½
Pea, choice, 1899	—	@	2 27½
Red kidney, choice, 1899	2 00	@	2 02½
White kidney, choice, 1899	2 25	@	2 30
Yellow eye, 1899	2 20	@	2 25
Lima, Cal	3 52½	@	3 55
Green peas, bags	—	@	1 15
FRUITS AND BERRIES—FRESH.			
Apples, Roxbury, ₱ bbl	2 00	@	4 00
Baldwin, ₱ bbl	3 25	@	4 50
Ben Davis, ₱ bbl	3 50	@	4 50
Strawberries, ₱ qt	8	@	18
LIVE POULTRY.			
Fowls, ₱ lb	—	@	11
Spring chickens, ₱ lb	18	@	24
Roosters, ₱ lb	—	@	7
Turkeys, ₱ lb	7	@	9
Ducks, ₱ pair	50	@	70
Geese, ₱ pair	75	@	1 00
Pigeons, ₱ pair	30	@	40
DRESSED POULTRY.			
Turkeys, ₱ lb	5	@	10
Broilers, Phila., ₱ lb	20	@	30
Chickens, State & Penn ₱ lb	—	@	—
Fowls, State & Penn., ₱ lb	10	@	10½
Ducks, L. I. spring, ₱ lb	—	@	16
Geese, ₱ lb	—	@	—
Squabs, ₱ doz	1 00	@	2 25
HOPS.			
State—1899, choice, ₱ lb	12½	@	13
1899, fair	—	@	8
Pacific Coast, 1899, choice	—	@	13
Common to fair	7	@	1
Old odds	—	@	—
HAY AND STRAW.			
Hay—Prime, ₱ 100 lb	92½	@	95
Clover mixed	77½	@	82½
Clover	72½	@	77½
Straw—Long rye	70	@	75
VEGETABLES.			
Potatoes, State, ₱ bag	1 00	@	1 50
Maine, ₱ bbl	1 00	@	1 55
L. I., ₱ bbl	—	@	—
Sweet, Jersey, ₱ bbl	1 50	@	4 00
Jabbages, Fla., ₱ bbl	1 00	@	1 50
Onions, N. O., ₱ bbl	2 75	@	3 25
Egyptian, ₱ bag	2 25	@	2 50
Turnips, N. C., ₱ crate	1 00	@	3 50
Tomatoes, Fla., ₱ carrier	75	@	2 00
String beans, ₱ crate	1 00	@	1 75
Peppers, ₱ carrier	1 00	@	1 50
Beets, ₱ 100 bunches	3 00	@	6 00
Egg plant, ₱ crate	1 00	@	2 00
Celery, Fla., ₱ case	75	@	1 75
Rhubarb, ₱ 100 bunches	1 00	@	2 00
Peas, ₱ basket	50	@	1 00
Lettuce, ₱ bbl	1 50	@	3 00
Spinach, ₱ bbl	—	@	75
Kale, ₱ bbl	40	@	50
Squash, Fla., ₱ crate	1 00	@	1 25
Radishes, ₱ basket	50	@	75
Cucumbers, ₱ basket	1 00	@	2 75
GRAIN, ETC.			
Flour—Winter Patents	3 50	@	3 85
Spring Patents	3 60	@	3 85
Wheat—No. 1 N. Duluth	—	@	74½
No. 2 Red	—	@	77¾
Corn—No. 2	41	@	41¼
Oats—No. 2 White	28½	@	28¾
Track mixed	27½	@	29
Rye—Western	61½	@	61¾
State	57	@	58
Lard—City	—	@	6.85c.
LIVE STOCK.			
Beeves, city dressed	7½	@	8½
Calves, city dressed	8	@	10½
Country dressed	6	@	9½
Sheep, ₱ 100 lb	5 00	@	5 40
Lambs, ₱ 100 lb	4 00	@	8 50
Hogs—Live, ₱ 100 lb	5 25	@	5 80
Country dressed	6	@	7¾
TOBACCO.			

Western leaf has been selling in rather small quantities, and inquiries from exporters and the home trade were commonplace. Domestic cigar leaf sold in moderate way only the past few days, but the market retains very steady tone. Havana leaf has met with rather better sale the past few days and the market remains firm. Sumatra leaf is rather quiet at the moment and prices for all grades are steady.

OFFICIAL CROP REPORT.

Reduction of Area of Winter Wheat—Condition 6.2 Points Above the Average.

WASHINGTON, D. C., (Special).—Returns to the Statistician of the Department of Agriculture, made up to May 1, show the area under winter wheat in cultivation on that date to have been about 26,585,000 acres, or 3,563,000 or 11.8 per cent. less than the area estimated to have been sown last fall. The reduction in acreage in the principal States, owing to winter killing and the ravages of the Hessian fly, is as follows: Indiana, 1,680,000; Ohio, 969,000; Michigan, 317,000; Pennsylvania, 158,000, and Illinois, 137,000 acres. For the area remaining under cultivation the average condition on May 1 was 88.9. While this average is 6.2 points above the mean of the averages of the last ten years and has been exceeded only three times in fifteen years it must be remembered that the acreage plowed up or cut for forage, except in California, where it is not yet definitely ascertainable, or otherwise abandoned, has been entirely eliminated.

Spring plowing is more or less late in almost every State in which its condition is a matter of any special significance. The only notable exceptions are Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas. The work already done in the country at large is estimated at 68.4 per cent. of the total contemplated, the proportion usually done by May 1 being about 75 per cent. of the whole. In South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas the work is later than in any for which records are available.

European Crop Prospects.

The Mark Lane Express, of London, in its review of the crop situation, says: "The effects of the cold in England have been injurious to growing cereals and the French fields are backward, but there is hope for nearly the average yield. In Austria-Hungary the warm, wet weather is expected to put a new face on the winter-sown wheat and rye. However, there will scarcely be a full crop. The Russian conditions are excellent.

High Prices For Asparagus.

Packers of asparagus on Long Island are preparing for a large pack, and contracts with growers have been made on a basis of fourteen cents per bunch for firsts, and six cents per bunch for culls. These prices, it is stated, are higher than those paid last year.

Railroads Carrying Most of the Grains.

Trunk Line traffic managers are elated over the fact that a large proportion of the grain now moving from Chicago to the Atlantic seaboard is being hauled by the railroads. In no previous season have the railroads handled so large a proportion of the Western grain output.

Trade and Crop Conditions.

Winter wheat crop prospects in Ontario are not as good as some time ago.

The strike of street-car hands at St Louis, Mo., has prostrated retail business

Dispatches from Delaware say that the peach crop is all right, in spite of the recent cold snap.

Trade is quieter at Chicago than it was a month ago, but there is a good export inquiry for rails.

Iron and steel buyers are holding off most of the business done being for small lots for immediate consumption.

Crops are reported backward in the lower Mississippi valley and in Texas, where rains and floods have interfered.

There was a slight increase of the output of pig iron during the month of April, and a small gain in furnace and other stocks.

Baltimore reports a business in agricultural implements equal to that of 1899, but that stocks of canned goods are larger.

Colder weather is complained of to some extent as retarding trade in Ontario and Quebec, but wholesale business is still of good volumes for the season.

Early sown spring wheat is generally going well, but the late sown over the northern portion of the spring wheat region is suffering much from drought.

The Cuban sugar crop of the year, it is now estimated, will be about 265,000 tons, or 80,000 tons less than last year's crop. At the beginning of the grinding it was predicted that the crop would reach 600,000.

CUBAN OFFICIALS IN JAIL

Postmaster, Deputy Auditor and Two Clerks Arrested.

THOMPSON SIGNS A CONFESSION

The Postmaster Says That Havana Office Funds Were Juggled to Cover a Shortage of $435 Which He Had Used—Auditors Begin an Investigation of the Cuban Postal Department.

HAVANA, Cuba (By Cable).—Warrants were issued for the arrest of E. P. Thompson, the Havana Postmaster; W. H. Reeves, Deputy Auditor of the island, and Edward Moya and Jorge Mascaro, Cuban clerks in the stamp department, and all were lodged in the Vivac, the Tombs of Havana. This was done under the advice of the Postal Inspectors.

Before his arrest Postmaster Thompson confessed the misappropriation of $435 and other irregularities. Thompson made a sworn statement to one of the Secret Service officers. He said that in April, 1899, he needed money for his own use and took $435 from the money order account, depositing his receipt. When the next inspection of the Postal Department by special agents was made he, being unable to repay the money, ordered the clerk in charge of the money order receipts to withdraw his personal receipt and substitute $435 in cash which had been received that day and which would not have to be accounted for until the next day. The inspection was safely passed when his personal receipt went back and the money came out again. By this method he successfully eluded detection during several inspections.

In April, through a failure to carry out this plan, the discrepancy was discovered. It was reported to Director of Posts Rathbone that Thompson had paid the $435, and nothing further was done. Thompson does not say in his statement where he got the money to make the refund, but he does admit that just at this time he drew a note for $350, which Neely indorsed and the North American Trust Company discounted. It is supposed that he used this money to make his shortage good.

Thompson also confesses that he manipulated the stamp accounts. He admits having changed balances without the knowledge of Director Rathbone. He says this was irregular, but denies that there was anything dishonest in the motives guiding him. There is nothing to show that he acted in collusion with Neely in anything. He denies, in fact, any knowledge of Neely's acts.

The arrest of Mr. Thompson caused great surprise in the city. It is looked upon as the precursor of many other arrests. General Wood felt, as did the Postal Inspectors, that it would be better to have the suspected persons arrested and to give them an opportunity to obtain bail than to keep them indefinitely under close supervision at a time when the detectives are badly needed for other work.

Four postoffice auditors have arrived here from Washington and at once began an examination of the department's accounts.

FATAL HOTEL FIRE IN CHICAGO.

Two Women Burned to Death and Five Persons Injured Severely.

CHICAGO (Special).—Two women were burned to death, five persons injured severely and many others are suffering from injuries received in consequence of the destruction by fire of the Hotel Helone. The dead are: Charlotte Peterson, twenty-three years old, dining-room girl, found in her room; Lena Pearson, twenty-three years old, chambermaid, found in same room as Miss Peterson. Among those injured severely are: W. F. Horn, thirty-five years old; S. G. M'Haddin, thirty years old; E. E. Tarbox, thirty years old; Florence Florence, internally injured and skull fractured; Mrs. T. D. Allen, back broken and internally injured.

It was shortly after 3 o'clock in the morning that flames were discovered coming from the basement of the building by James McNeil, a porter, and within ten minutes the structure was ablaze in every part. The building was of brick, three stories high. It contained thirty rooms and was totally destroyed, entailing a loss of $43,000. Very few guests saved anything, while the proprietors of the store in the first story lost everything.

$175,000 Fire in Greenwich, Conn.

GREENWICH, Conn. (Special).—One of the most disastrous fires that ever visited this village resulted in the total destruction of five business blocks, including the postoffice building, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, a stable and gas house on the estate of E. C. Benedict and damage to other property. The total loss is estimated at $175,000, with insurance of less than half that amount.

CHICAGO TRUCK FARMING.

A Levee Eleven Miles Long on the Muskegon to Be Devoted to "Garden Sass."

MUSKEGON, Mich. (Special).—The raising of garden truck on a 10,000-acre farm, to be sent by shipload from Muskegon to Chicago, is the plan proposed by Herman D. Lange, of Chicago. The land is to be devoted to celery, cabbage, onions, lettuce, radishes and other "garden sass." It is in the Muskegon River valley and lies along the north bank of the river. A levee eleven miles long is to be built five feet high and twenty feet thick. With a lake rate of seven cents a hundred and a night's sail from market, Mr. Lange and his associates believe that they can easily compete with the truck farmers of the Chicago district. The cost of these improvements is estimated at $60,000.

Lieutenant Cramer Disgraced.

Lieutenant Robert B. Cramer, of the Thirty-fourth Volunteer Infantry, has been sentenced to dismissal from the army by court-martial at Manila. A cablegram from General MacArthur, received by the War Department, says the sentence took effect on April 30. General MacArthur does not say for what Cramer was dismissed, but it is supposed that the sentence is the result of charges forwarded to General Otis, which involved the lieutenant's methods of getting money previous to his departure for the Philippines.

More Murders by Chinese Boxers.

More "Boxer" outrages have occurred sixty miles north of Tien-Tsin, China, where a number of native Christians have been massacred.

Women Vote at Annapolis.

For the first time in the history of Annapolis, Md., women were allowed to vote at the election held a few days ago. About twenty availed themselves of the privilege. The election was to decide whether the city should issue $120,000 of bonds. The proposition was carried.

Death Penalty in Massachusetts.

By the narrow margin of two votes the House decided against abolishing the death penalty in Massachusetts, the roll call recording 86 against 84 in favor. When the bill was considered in 1899 the vote was 3 to 1 against it.

Former Banker Goes to Jail.

In the United States Court at Boston Charles H. Cole, former President of the defunct Globe National Bank of Boston, who recently pleaded guilty on several counts of an indictment charging him with misappropriating funds of the institution, was sentenced to serve eight years in the Greenfield (Mass.) jail.

Shad Eggs Sent to Ireland.

The steamer Oceanic, which sailed from New York City for Queenstown a few days ago, carried as part of its cargo 700,000 shad eggs from the Government fishery on the Delaware River, which will be used to stock the river Shannon in Ireland.

Wheeler to Be a Brigadier-General.

After a conference with President McKinley at Washington, at which an understanding was reached by which he will be appointed a brigadier-general in the Regular Army, General Joseph Wheeler gave out a letter announcing that he would not again stand for re-election to the House from the Eighth District of Alabama.

British Casualties Over 20,000.

The British War Office has issued an abstract of British casualties since the beginning of the war in South Africa. This shows a total of 20,035, exclusive of the sick in the field and the invalids, including the wounded sent home, who number 8901.

SEASON'S WORK IN A DAY

How Amish Farmers Helped One of the Sect, Who is Sick.

Sixty of Them Plowed the Land and Planted the Seed For the Petersheim Family.

READING, Penn. (Special).—The Petersheims own one of the fine farms in Lower Berks County. About two months ago the head of the family was stricken with paralysis, and the attention which the other members of the family had to give to him prevented them giving any time to the cultivation of the farm this spring. The Petersheims are Amish people.

The farmers in the neighborhood heard of the Petersheim troubles, and they determined to cultivate that farm in quick order. It is an old-time custom among the Amish people to help one another as much as possible. So early in the morning there was a striking parade down the Conestoga Turnpike. The Amish farmers with their two, three, and four horse teams loaded with farm implements, were going to the John Petersheim farm. They had come from miles around, and they were determined to do the season's farmwork in a day. Thirteen plows were operated in one field. Many harrows were drawn across the plowed ground, and a large force of men who planted the seed followed. There were nineteen two and three-horse teams at work at one time in a single field.

By the evening the large farm was put in complete shape for producing this summer. Sixty men had been at work. All of them are more or less wealthy, and many of them draw checks that the local banks would honor for thousands of dollars. The Amish people are a quaint religious sect who believe strictly in the Golden Rule.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS.

A State Ticket and National Delegates Selected in Missouri.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Special).—The Republican State convention nominated the following State ticket by acclamation: Governor, Joseph Flory, St. Louis; Lieutenant-Governor, E. F. Allen, Kansas City; Secretary of State, E. L. Porterfield, Springfield; State Treasurer, W. F. Fleming, Webster Grove; Auditor, W. F. Bloebaum, St. Charles; Attorney-General, Samuel O'Fallon, Oregon; Railway and Warehouse Commissioner, C. C. Crouse, Pierce City.

D. M. Houser, D. P. Dyer, James L. Minis and C. G. Burton were selected delegates-at-large to the National Convention at Philadelphia.

The platform indorses President McKinley's administration, opposes trusts, favors gold and recommends the re-election of Kerens as National Committeeman.

KANSAS REPUBLICAN TICKET.

Convention Makes Nominations and Indorses the Administration.

TOPEKA, Kan. (Special).—The Republican State Convention nominated the following ticket with unexpected unanimity: Governor, W. E. Stanley; Lieutenant-Governor, H. E. Richter.

The delegates-at-large to the Philadelphia Convention are M. A. Lowe, W. S. Metcalf, A. C. Dubois, B. H. Tracy, E. W. Wellington and Frank Martin.

The resolutions unqualifiedly indorse the National and State Administrations and pledge the delegates to support McKinley.

Washburn For Vice-President.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (Special).—The Republican State Convention indorsed former Senator W. D. Washburn as a Vice-President candidate. The following were unanimously chosen as delegates-at-large: Senators Davis and Nelson, Thomas Lowry, of Minneapolis, and Samuel Lord of Kasson.

The resolutions adopted indorse the McKinley Administration, favor wise legislation to control the trusts and a Constitutional amendment giving Congress full powers over trusts. The election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people is favored also.

North Dakota For McKinley.

FARGO, N. D. (Special).—The Republican State Convention elected the following delegates to the National Convention: Senators Hansbrough and McCumber, R. N. Stephens, Stephen Collins, H. Holmes and H. C. Plumley.

The resolutions indorse McKinley, favor Republican money and tariff policies, oppose trusts, favor expansion and praise the soldiers of the recent war.

Wyoming Indorses McKinley.

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (Special).—The Republican State Convention nominated Frank W. Mondell for Congress. The delegates-at-large to Philadelphia elected were: Senator F. E. Wesson, Senator C. D. Clark, Representative Frank W. Mondell, Governor Deforest Richards, Colonel Jay L. Torrey and George H. Goble.

The resolutions adopted favor the retention of the Philippines and indorse the administration of President McKinley. The delegates to the National Convention are instructed for McKinley.

California Republican Delegates.

SACRAMENTO, Cal. (Special).—The Republican State Convention elected U. S. Grant, Jr., George Pardee, George A. Knight and N. D. Rideout delegates-at-large to the National Republican Convention.

ATHLETICS FOR A MURDERER.

Novel Method to Prevent Collapse of a Prisoner Awaiting Execution.

WILLIAMSPORT, Penn. (Special).—Sheriff Miller has taken an unusual course to prevent murderer William Hummel from breaking down while awaiting execution. Hummel is to be hanged on June 5. Some time ago his appetite left him and the jail physician had doubts of his living until the day of execution.

Sheriff Miller accordingly arranged a system of exercise for the prisoner. Daily he jumps over a broomstick three feet from the floor, and occasionally he turns forward and backward handsprings and walks on his hands from one end of the corridor to the other. Hummel's appetite has returned under this treatment and he is in good spirits.

Congress Will Adjourn June 11.

Congress will adjourn Monday, June 11. This decision was reached at a conference of leaders of the Republican party in the Senate and the House.

For National Rifle Clubs in England.

The British War Office has asked the National Rifle Association to draft a plan for national rifle clubs, as advocated by Lord Salisbury in his recent speech.

"Policy King" Kills Himself.

Charles G. Soper, the "policy king" of New England, committed suicide at Boston rather than face the exposure threatened in the investigation of the police. Soper was one of two men who handled all of the lottery tickets in New England. He left property valued at $100,000, the bulk being in real estate.

Died Aged 105 Years.

Henry Huffaker, aged 105, died near Knoxville, Tenn., leaving a wife aged ninety-three. They were married seventy-one years ago, and lived all that time in the same house without a move.

Statues For West Point.

Bronze life-size statues of Grant, Sheridan and Sherman will be placed in Cullum