

THE CENTRAL TIMES.

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Render unto Caesar the Things that are Caesar's, unto God, God's.

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NO. 31.

Three patents on electric locomotives and electric railway systems, applications for which have been filed since June 31, 1880, have just been issued to Thomas A. Edison.

There are four times as many words in the language as there are in the French, yet, a philologist estimates that the number of new words in our tongue is on the rate of one hundred annually.

The rapid growth of the habit of smoking and temperance is, in the estimation of the Chicago Herald, one of the characteristics of the American railway service, the use of intoxicants becoming more and more the exception, although it is said to be the rule in the English service. It was a subject for comment in an English railway publication recently that the 5000 laborers employed in building the grade of the Great Western Railroad were not allowed to refresh themselves during working hours with anything stronger than oatmeal water.

The New York courts have just rendered a decision which, the Detroit Free Press believes, will be of inestimable value if it shall be accepted as a precedent in other States or even regarded as a warning. The Women's Memorial Association having applied to erect a statue at the World's Fair to the late Mrs. Hamilton Schuyler, a typical philanthropist, the family urged the association to desist from its design. The association persisting, the family took the matter into court and the association has been enjoined from carrying out its scheme. The soundness of the decision is that family sensitiveness is entitled to consideration and that nobody has the right, against the family protest, to even do honor, or that is intended as such, to a deceased member of the family.

The Washington Star maintains that the great problem of the centuries has been transportation. From the dawn of history man has struggled to get himself and what he needs across rivers, deserts, seas and oceans. It is a question of burden and, more than that, a question of skill. Without means of transportation man would never have been civilized. As the older civilizations used the shoulders of the people and the cruder forms of invention to transport materials for temples and palaces, and the backs of beasts of burden for articles of commerce, so more modern civilizations with their increasing and higher wants have eventually, after a painful evolution, developed the steamer and the railway. This very generation itself has seen the beginnings of the railroad as something more than a local feeder for local ports, and the last stage of cars. Much of this almost incredible progress has been witnessed in the United States. According to Poor's Manual there was at the close of last year 170,000 miles of track or 43.6 per cent. of the world's total with only one-sixth of Europe's population. The value of the assets in 1890 was \$10,590,605,000. Railroads constitute the third industry of the United States, the first and second being agriculture and manufactures. These are facts that show the wonderful development of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

A Washington correspondent says: The mints will have plenty of work during the coming year, without any new legislation to compel additional coinage. The demand for the minor coins—the bronze one-cent pieces and the nickel five—continue to keep the Philadelphia mint busy, notwithstanding the coinage of about 60,000,000 of these pieces annually for the past four years. Orders for them continue to come in from the various sub-treasuries, and the mint at Philadelphia is unable to catch up with the orders. The constant expansion of the business of the country makes the demand a growing one for this and all other forms of money, and will probably soon require a more extensive coinage at the other mints. The mints at New Orleans and San Francisco, as well as that of Philadelphia, are working earnestly to recoup the worn subsidiary silver which is carried on the treasury books, into quarters and dimes. There is no demand for the half dollar pieces, and there are plenty of them in the Treasury, besides the 10,000,000 of them which it is proposed to issue for the World's Fair. The coinage of silver dollars has not entirely ceased, notwithstanding the suspension of compulsory coinage by the silver act of 1890 and the decision of Secretary Foster not to continue the coinage of \$2,000,000 per month without necessity. There is a demand for a certain quantity of silver each year when the crops are moved, and a certain margin is also required at the sub-treasuries to meet occasional demands and settle balances.

POLITICAL WORLD.

Candidates, Conventions, Nominations, Elections.

All the News of Political Movements of the Four Parties.

Full returns from Vermont give Fuller (Rep.) for Governor 39,190; Smalley (Dem.) 19,526; Allen (Pro.) 1,650. Judge Geo. T. Werts was nominated for Governor by the New Jersey Democratic convention last Wednesday, in spite of his letter saying he would not accept it. His friends have induced him to yield.

The Massachusetts Republican State convention at Boston nominated by acclamation for Governor, Lieut. Gov. Haile.

The Democrats of the Second Virginia district at Norfolk nominated for Congress D. Gardner Tyler, of Charles City county. The nominee is a son of ex-President Tyler, and was born in the White House.

The Democratic Congressional Convention of the Ninth district at Birmingham, Ala., nominated Lewis W. Turpin on the first ballot.



ADLAI E. STEVENSON.

Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson spoke to large audiences last week at Asheville, Raleigh, Charlotte and Winston.

COLUMBIA CANAL IN A TANGLE.

The State's Sale of the Canal and the Probable Results.

COLUMBIA, S. C.—The State of South Carolina spent years of time and thousands of money in building a canal around the fall at Columbia.

The primary object was, we believe, to improve and expedite navigation.

Subsequently plans were changed, and since the war the purpose has been to develop a water power and conduce to the development of manufactures. Several years ago the State grew tired of the undertaking and sold out to the city of Columbia. About year ago the city sold out to one Eretus Flood and associates, of New England, the entire canal, franchises, privileges and immunities.

But when Flood and his associates had purchased the canal and settled for it, they soon found that all available mill sites were owned by local parties. Amongst the responsibilities of the owners of the canal was a statute compelling its extension to Granby. Those local parties who own the land between the present terminus of canal and its proposed lower terminus have been threatening to bring suit to compel the owners to extend the canal through their land to Granby as required by law. But suddenly it is found out that the State never sold these lands but simply sold a usufruct interest in them, till needed for canal purposes. The present owners aver their readiness to complete the canal to Granby, but demand that they now need the land, the title in fee simple for which comes to them with their purchase of the canal with "all rights, privileges, immunities, etc."

A week ago the local land company felt that they had the canal owners bottled up. At this writing the canal owners have the whip handle, if their allegations are true, and the prospect of the lawsuit is substituted for Columbia's immediate prospect of one or more large cotton factories.

A DESPERADO KILLED.

In Resisting Arrest He Is Shot Down.

Expires as the Sheriff is in the Act of Handcuffing Him.

NORFOLK, VA.—Saturday night Deputy Sheriff T. J. Jackson, of Norfolk county, was called upon to raid the gambling house on Western Branch. One of the parties made his escape, but was recognized on the road the following morning by Jackson and placed under arrest, but resisted and struck the officer a powerful blow on the left cheek, stunning him for the instant. The negro, who was a desperate man, ran away, and as soon as Jackson recovered he fired at the escaping man three times. The negro ran about seventy-five yards and hid behind a stack of fodder, where he was overhauled by Jackson. He claimed to have been shot, but the officer not believing him put a pair of handcuffs on him, who almost immediately fell to the ground and expired. Jackson notified the authorities. A coroner's jury heard the evidence and brought in a verdict in accordance with the facts stated. It is reported that the deputy sheriff will be arrested.

North Carolina Schools.

RALEIGH, N. C.—The annual report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction was made public. The receipts were \$775,450; the expenditures \$761,050. Of the latter, \$390,000 were for white tuition and \$390,000 for the colored tuition and \$194,000 for the colored tuition and \$21,000 for the school houses. The receipts are the largest on record, being \$61,000 greater than last year. The reports show that there are 386,000 white and 212,000 colored children of school age; total, 598,000. The value of school property is \$790,000, and 6,980 schools were in operation.

The World's Fair has already cost nearly nine millions.

THREE STATES' BRIEFS.

Telegraphic Dispatches From Many Points of Interest.

The Fields of Virginia, North and South Carolina Carefully Gleaned For News.

VIRGINIA.

A rat flooded the office of the People's Bank at Charlottesville and drowned himself by gnawing a hole in a lead water pipe.

Thirteen Syrian immigrants, holding first class tickets for Suffolk, Va., via Norfolk, were stopped at Cape Charles and turned back to New York whence they came.

A carload of Norton's Virginia and Ives wine, nearly 3,000 gallons, was shipped last week from Charlottesville to New York by the Monticello Wine Company.

Dr. Taylor, who was sentenced in Wise county to death for murdering the Mullins family, has been taken to Lynchburg to avoid lynching.

A rule has been granted by the Court of Appeals against the town council of West Point, to show cause why they are not in contempt in refusing to assess property of the Richmond & Danville Railroad Company at that point.

Bees are reported to be dying in Charlotte county for want of blossoms, resulting from the severe drought.

A B. Clay, of Chesterfield county, has on his farm a stalk of corn fifteen feet three inches high. He is going to send it to the State Exposition. It is the tallest stalk of corn ever raised in that county.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Hon. Donald MacRae, of Wilmington, died Thursday at Lenoir. He was a Director of the Carolina and Wilmington and Weldon railroads.

Winston's fifth tobacco warehouse was opened.

Revenue officers have seized a big government distillery in Yadkin county, owned by A. E. Shore. It was for a violation of the law. The plant is announced to be sold.

Gov. Holt was absent from Raleigh during the Stevenson reception, attending the burial at Reidsville of Mrs. Williamson, his wife's sister.

Raleigh ladies gave a festival last week to aid the Confederate monument, and raised \$600.

Mrs. Virginia Madison has been jailed in Tarboro on the charge of killing the newborn child of her daughter, Rosa.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston has quarantined against New York.

Two terrific cyclones passed through Newberry county last week, destroying much property.

Taso D. Jorvey, a veteran merchant and prominent man, of Charleston, died last week. The flags of the city were lowered to half-mast as a mark of mourning.

In the second Democratic primary of the Second Congressional District Talbert, (Alliance) defeated Tillman. Attorney General McLaurin is proceeding against several phosphate companies for selling fertilizers, analysis of which by the State, showed to be one-half sand. A Sumter company is the first on the list. The Crockett Lumber & Construction Co., of Fernandina, Fla., is engaged on an order for crosscutting 600,000 feet of yellow pine and 60,000 feet of oak, to be used in the construction of the government drydock at Port Royal, S. C.

OTHER STATES.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—Thomas H. Watts, ex-Governor of Alabama, and Attorney General in the Confederate cabinet died here at 3 o'clock Friday morning after several weeks illness.

THE CLYDE FACTION IN CONTROL.

The Richmond and West Point Terminal's Status Fixed.

RICHMOND, VA.—W. P. Clyde and these in sympathy with him are now in full control of the Richmond and West Point Terminal Railroad and Warehouse Company.

At the general meeting of the stockholders the ticket proposed by what is known as the "Calhoun faction" was defeated as were also resolutions which Mr. Pat Calhoun tried to have passed. "Ever since the meeting held here was called there have been two committees at work receiving proxies. The one headed by Wm. E. Stron; represented the Clyde people and that of which Alex. E. Orr was chairman represented the "Calhoun faction." To-day the supporters of Clyde controlled 400,123 shares of stock, while the other side had only 173,000 shares to vote.

The meeting was called to order in the Times Building at noon by W. G. Oakman, receiver of the company, and immediately adjourned to the Exchange Hotel. W. P. Clyde was made chairman. The inspectors of the election reported the following gentlemen had received the vote of 400,123 shares of stock voted and they were declared elected directors: Wm. E. Strong, Geo. F. Stone, Wm. P. Clyde, J. G. McBean, Alex. S. VanNest, Thomas F. Ryan, Geo. Blagden, C. A. Law, R. G. Erwin, W. H. Goadly, Jno. N. Hutchinson, Jos. Bryan, Edward Packard, Jno. A. Rutherford, R. S. Hayes, G. J. Gold, Thos. Manson, Jr. and Chas. McGhee.

This was the ticket put up by the Clyde faction.

The names of the persons on the Calhoun ticket were not given out. They received the vote of about 173,000 shares.

Build Canning Factories.

While the past season has not been altogether favorable for the farmers and canners in Botetourt county, Va., the latter have found a stronger demand and reader sale for their output than was expected. Altogether over 50,000 cases of canned corn, tomatoes and okra will be made in the county by some fourteen canners. This industry seems to have taken a good hold wherever tried and should become more general. It is a benefit to the farmer and to the town in which it is located.

ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT.

State Alliance Elections East and West.

News of the Order From Various Points.

The Alabama State Alliance met in convention at Cullman. The following officers were elected: B. W. Grace, president; Merrill of Randolph, vice-president; S. M. Adams, State lecturer; T. J. Carlisle, of Pike, assistant lecturer; W. I. Brock, secretary and treasurer; Elder Blackwell, of Madison, chaplain; C. C. Lee, of Barbour, doorkeeper; G. W. Jones, assistant doorkeeper; King, of Butler, sergeant at arms.

The Maryland State Alliance elected as officers for ensuing year—president, M. G. Ellzey, of Howard county; vice-president, J. W. Kerr, of Caroline county; secretary and treasurer, T. Canfield Jenkins, of Charles county; State lecturer, Frank H. Jones, of Caroline county. Executive committee: Hugh Mitchell, of Charles county; N. A. Du-nning, of Prince George's county; Charles Gum, of Worcester county. Committee on the good of the Order: E. S. Heffron, of Caroline county; E. J. C. Parsons, of Worcester county; J. H. Downing, of Wisconsin county. F. H. Jones and M. G. Ellzey were elected delegates to the National Alliance.

Alonzo Wardell writes: I attended the State meeting of Missouri Industrial and Labor Union at Moberly, Mo., August 23-25. Had a good meeting. The old Hall difficulty has practically disappeared and so has he, so far as the Alliance is concerned. The Ocala demands were fully irradicated. The national dist degree was adopted and the officers were requested to proceed at once to introduce it. Joseph Miller, of G. Anger, Scotland county, was elected president and J. Weller Long, Warrensburg, secretary; Larkin Wise, lecturer, and Brothers Wollard, Aldrich and Leonard were elected delegates to the supreme council. Missouri is in good condition and can be depended on for a big vote for Weaver and the Ocala demands. The new officers are able, energetic and reliable, and will push matters. General Weaver made them a grand speech the evening of the 28th.

Coming Crisis (Colorado) reduces the national banking problem to one paragraph, and hits it right:

Have you got a "bank" note in your pocket? Then know that somebody had to borrow it out of bank at the current rate of interest, 10 or 12 per cent. The know that your government made this bastard money especially for the poor bankers and loaned it to them at 1 per cent. per annum! And yet these bankers stick up their nose and tell you that the government cannot loan the people money at 2 per cent!

CUBAN TOBACCO IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

If reports be true there will soon be even stronger reasons for Cuban cigar manufacturers to move to this country than the high taxes imposed upon them by the Spanish government. It is said that on the Wilcox & O'Neill plantation at Edinville, S. C., sixty miles from Savannah, Mr. W. P. Wilcox has succeeded in raising some remarkable fine Havana tobacco from *Ueeto Abojo* seeds, which is one of the best varieties grown in Cuba. Fifteen acres were planted, but through insufficient knowledge of the proper methods of cultivation and trouble with insects the crop was small. Even with these drawbacks, however, the result have netted nearly \$100 per acre. With the experience gained by this trial Mr. Wilcox thinks he can more than double his returns next year, and will give about seventy-five acres to it. The leaf has been examined by experts, who pronounce it equal to any tobacco grown in Cuba.

It may take some years to acquire a full knowledge of the methods most satisfactory for growing such a crop, and the variety may change under the new conditions of soil and climate, but the experience of a well worth trying, and even though later crops should not be of as high a grade as this first one, they will more than pay the expense of cultivation. A careful study of what is needed, coupled with the judicious use of suitable fertilizers, should at least aid in preventing any material change in quality or value of the leaf.

Goaded School Boy Avenges Himself.

A Viennese cablegram says: At Tarnopol, in Austrian Galicia, a school boy named Schwedt, exasperated beyond endurance by the harshness with which he had been treated by a Prof. Glowacki, shot the professor dead as he was leaving the classroom. Glowacki was noted for his severe treatment of the children under his charge. Schwedt then shot himself through the head, dying instantly.

"Guilty, But Drunk."

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The case of Joseph Smith and J. H. Lockhart, sheriff and deputy sheriff of Warren county Ala., charged with the larceny of \$2,000 worth of diamonds from a New York drummer, while in Nashville, were "nolled" in the criminal court. The defendants admitted their guilt, but said the robbery was committed while they were in a drunken frenzy.

A Freight Train Kills Them Both.

LYNCHBURG, VA.—Frank Martin, of Lynchburg, and Joseph VanCleave, of Lexington, Va., both in the employ of Wm. Snead & Co., contractors of this city, were struck and instantly killed by a freight train near Greenway, a station on the C. & O. railroad. The remains of the unfortunate men were brought here.

Director Leech, of Washington, has ordered from the Philadelphia Mint, in addition to large orders of small coins, 200,000 new half dollars for circulation in Washington during the veterans' encampment. Treasurer Nebecker is also prepared with large orders of small notes.

Chicago brewers have formed a \$60,000,000 combine to purchase local saloons.

CHOLERA IN NEW YORK.

The Dreaded Disease Within The Citadel.

A Number Dead and More Stricken. Precautionary Measures Taken.

NEW YORK CITY.—Five deaths in this city from Asiatic cholera, announced by the Board of Health. This is the list of those known to have died of Asiatic cholera:

| NAME. | AGE. | DIED. |
|-----------------|------|----------|
| Charles McAvoy | 35 | Sept. 6 |
| William Wiegman | 52 | Sept. 10 |
| Sophia Wiegman | 63 | Sept. 11 |
| Minnie Levinger | 41 | Sept. 11 |
| Charlotte Beck | 31 | Sept. 13 |

Each has been reported by the attending physician as suspicious, but no notice was given until the nature of the disease had been definitely determined by a bacteriological examination, which delayed announcement of the presence of cholera.

In but one case is there a clue to the possible origin of the disease. Four Hungarian immigrants who arrived from Antwerp on the Friesland on Aug. 29 lived for several days in the house where Minnie Levinger died on Sunday. None of the Friesland's passengers were ill, but the vessel was disinfected and detained about forty hours.

The city authorities express confidence that they will be able to keep the disease from spreading, and the announcement of its presence in the city does not seem to have created public alarm.

The health inspectors have reported another case of cholera. The victim, Mary Conolly, 16 years old, residing at 692 Second avenue, has been removed to the St. John's Guild Floating Hospital at the foot of East 16th street. Two suspected cases were found in Brooklyn. A young German girl, whose name could not be learned, residing at 56 State street, was one, and Simon Colinski, of North Ninth street Williamsburg, the other. The German girl died in a few hours. She had been in this country since last February.

THE NAVY CLAIMS HIGH HONORS.

Lieutenant Peary Discovers Independence—He Travels 1,300 Miles Inland—Loss of Mr. Verhoff.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Lieutenant Peary, who with his party arrived at St. Johns, N. F., from the Arctic regions, after an absence of 12 months, has telegraphed the Navy Department from St. Johns that the United States Navy claims the highest discoveries on the east coast of Greenland—Independence Bay, 82 degrees N. latitude, 34 degrees W. longitude, discovered July 4, 1892. Greenland Ice Cape ends south of Victoria Inlet.

St. John, N. F.—The steamer Kite arrived here from McCormick harbor of 12 months in the Arctic regions bringing with her Lieutenant Peary, with his wife and party. All are safe and well, with one exception. Lieutenant Peary made a stage journey with dogs of thirteen hundred miles over the interior ice, which he found available. He was out 90 days and returned all right, August 4. He made important discoveries, confirming his theory.

Mr. Verhoff, the meteorologist of the party, went on a two days' geological trip to a neighboring settlement. Failing to return at the end of that time, the party started after him, but found no trace of him. For six days, the entire party searched for him. On the sixth day they found some minerals placed by Verhoff on a rock and traces of his foot-steps to a large, wicked-looking glacier, and here all signs of him were lost. No signs of the missing man were found and they were forced to believe that he had met his fate in one of the numerous crevasses.

The expedition was a great success. Among Lieutenant Peary's discoveries, was one of a great bay, latitude, 81.37, longitude 41, opening out east and north-east, which he named Independence Bay, in honor of the day, July 4, and the great glacier flowing north into it Academy Glacier.

WISE WORDS.

Women's jars make men's wars.

A woman's tears are a fountain of craft.

The cunning wife makes her husband her opium.

Women laugh when they can and weep when they please.

Truth travels in slow boats while hope and fear run in slippers of lightening.

In maturity reason sometimes builds a palace out of the ruins which the passions of youth have left.

A little depression is more favorable to improvement than much complacency. Better pass through life drooping with a globe of gas in the brain.

Prejudice is intellectual and moral impurity disturbing the balance of our faculties with a personal bias. It mixes our ignorant error and wilful desire with what should be kept clean and free for the truth.

Disagreeable duties are better done with quick resolve by a generous impulse of devotion than with careful deliberation by a dogged perseverance. When one has to take an emetic it is a great economy to swallow it at one heroic gulp and not dribble it down in successive disgusts.

Rectitude is the normal condition for religious peace; certitude the normal condition for intellectual contentment. Rectitude is the regulation of personal conduct by the standard of universal good. Certitude is the complacent repose of the mind in conscious union with its object.

The coal mines of Flen-lez-Mons, in Belgium, are of great depth, and a recent survey has shown that rich veins of coal exist at a depth of 1200 metres, which are to be worked in future.

DOWN IN A SALT MINE.

WHAT MEN DO THERE A THOUSAND FEET UNDER GROUND.

Solid Masses of Salt Broken Up by Blasts—Hauling the Salt by Mule Power.

WHEN the signal for the car to descend sounds, the first thing to do is to hug your hat down on your head for keeps, and by the time you get that accomplished it seems as though you were going down at about the rate of a thousand miles a minute. You have seen one streak of greased lightning chase another—well, it's no comparison. It seems as though the cable has been cut, and you are just dropping down to the bottom. You can't see, and the only thing to be heard is that terrible roar of the air as you rush through space. After the first two or three hundred feet there is a feeling it would be hard to explain, sort of a gossamer as it were, and you don't care much whether school keeps or not, and the changes are so different and varied that one begins to wonder what will come next.

When near the bottom the car on which you are riding begins to slow up, and then comes the most peculiar experience of all. You imagine that you are shooting upward, and you will soon be among the stars. You can imagine the sensation from going down at the rate of about one hundred miles a minute to going up at about seven times that rate. Finally the car lands at the bottom of the shaft, and you breathe a sigh of relief as you step out.

Well, the first thing you do is to look for salt; it's there, all around you, above, beneath, on all sides, but it doesn't look much like salt near the bottom of the shaft, as lights are burned constantly and the smoke has blackened the walls. You look away to the east, through a long, dark tunnel, and you discern in the far distance some flickering lights, and you are informed that they are lights used by the workmen who are engaged in mining the salt. Your guide steps up to a man near where you land and says: "Three lights, please," and three tallow candles are handed out. It may seem a little strange that tallow candles are used in this age of kerosene, gas, and electricity, but such is the case, and they are the only lights used in the mine, and each man carries one, and they are hung up from the ceiling where the mining of salt is going on, and they are the handiest lights that can be used. They don't purchase these lights by the dozen or hundred, but by the car, the candles were lighted, and the workmen who are engaged in mining the salt, proceeded to make a tour of the mine; we might add, a partial tour, for it would take a person something like a week to walk all over the mined territory. We followed the guide along through dark and winding pathways, until we reached a point where the workmen were busily engaged mining the salt. They were not at work with picks picking it out, as might be supposed, but were breaking up the large lumps and shoveling it into the cars, the salt having been blasted out ahead of them. While some were engaged in shoveling the salt, others were drilling holes into the solid mass, making ready for a blast, machines run by compressed air being used for this purpose.

As before stated, the main tunnel runs directly east, and is nearly a half mile in length. Near the shaft two other tunnels branch off from the main tunnel, one on either side, and run parallel with it. These, we believe, are termed air shafts. From these shafts rooms branch off both north and south, and in these rooms is where the salt is mined. These rooms are nothing more nor less than short tunnels, and in time will probably be lengthened out as far as the main tunnel, or even further, as they can go miles in any direction and still be in the salt. The rooms are, perhaps, twenty or thirty feet wide, and from seven to eight feet in height. A section of salt some thirty feet in thickness is left between each room as a support to the solid mass above. A thickness of five or six feet is left above as a roof, and a substantial roof it makes, as the salt in its natural state is almost as hard as rock. There are no other supports than the columns of salt that are left.

Of these rooms mentioned there are fifty or sixty at the present time, and the workmen are distributed about, working in several rooms at a time. There is no necessity of a foreman in each room, as the number of carloads of salt delivered at the shaft tells the tale as to whether the men are shirking their duty or not. A railway runs through the main tunnel and branches extend in all directions. The cars are hauled from the several rooms by large, powerful mules, and there are some thirty of these in the mine.

There is a blacksmith's shop in the mine where the tools are repaired and the mules are shod, and there is also a large stable where the mules are sheltered during the night. Of course they would be well sheltered in the mine, any way, but it allowed to roam about they could find nothing to eat but salt and the railroad track, and the average mule cannot exist on a diet of this kind. This stable is far ahead of the ordinary stables about the country, and there is every convenience and luxury for his muleship. The stables are some forty or fifty feet in length and twenty or thirty feet wide, with wood floor and wooden stalls and mangers. This is the only combustible substance there is about the mine, and there are no exposed lights anywhere about it. Directly in the rear of the stables is what is known as the bar-yard. This is a large room cut in the solid salt, and here the mules are turned out for recuperation.

One may imagine that a salt mine is a bad place to work, but aside from the fact that it is a little dismal, there are no bad features about it. Unlike a coal mine, it is clean, and there is almost an even temperature the year round, ranging from fifty-eight degrees to sixty degrees, winter and summer. The ventilation is perfect, and the system for supplying fresh air is not excelled by any mine in the world. In some of the passageways the air rushed through with such velocity as to extinguish the lights. The experience in going up the shaft is somewhat different from that while going down. The signal is given from below after you have been safely stationed in the car, and away she goes, your hands down firmly on your head, and your craning seems to sit right down tight where it belongs. A person who is a little weak in the knees would also have a tendency to sit right down tight on the bottom of the car. The roar of the wind as you hustle up toward daylight is about all that can be heard. When near the top the speed is lessened, and it is then that one imagines that he is going down again at the rate of about 1000 miles a minute, but finally the daylight begins to peer down at you and you are landed safely on top, only a few seconds having elapsed since you walked upon the car below.—Genesee (N. Y.) Democrat.

The Sullen Hamster.

As the squirrel was said by the old Norsemen to bring all the news of the animals to Thor, because he was the merriest and most sociable of beasts, so in the talk of the Russian peasants the hamster is the synonym for all that is sullen, avaricious, solitary and morose. Even in color he is unlike any other animal, being light above and dark below. This gives the hamster somewhat the same incongruous appearance that a pair of black trousers and a light coat lend to a man; in other respects he is like a large, shaggy guinea pig, with very large teeth and puffy cheeks, into which he can crowd a vast quantity of rye or beans for transport.

Each hamster lives in a large, roomy burrow all by himself, in defense of which he will fight like a badger against any other hamster who may try to enter. Family life he wholly avoids, never allowing a female inside his burrow, but keeping her at a good distance and making her find her own living for herself and family. The last burden is, however, not a serious one, for by the time the young ones are three weeks old each discovers that family life is a great mistake and sets off to make a bachelor burrow for itself and are up beans for the winter. For, in addition to its other amiable qualities, the hamster has that of avarice in a marked degree, and hoards up treasures of corn, rye and horse beans far in excess of his own private wants for the winter. His favorite plan is to dig a number of treasure chambers, all communicating with a central guard room, in which the owner eats and grows fat until the hardest frosts begin, when he curls himself up to sleep until the spring.

But this life of leisure does not begin until the harvest has been gathered. While the crops are ripening, the hamsters work incessantly to increase their hoards, and as much as three hundred weight of grain and beans have been taken from a hamster's burrow. After harvest the peasants often search with probes for the treasure chambers of the robbers, and during the present scarcity in Central Europe they will no doubt exact a heavy tribute from the hamsters' stores.—Spectator.

Apricot Paste.

Apricot paste, known as Kamar of Dine, is, together with dried apricots, one of the principal exports from Damascus. The fruit, when gathered, is crushed in a kind of large iron wire sieve, and the thick juice which results from this operation is collected in earthen rats, and then spread on planks covered with a layer of oil, where it is allowed to remain two days exposed to the air. At the expiration of this time the paste is removed and turned. On the fourth day the paste is again removed, and it then has the appearance of a band of leather, very thin, and of a reddish-brown color, about a yard and a half long and half an inch wide. This is the finest quality of paste. The same operation is repeated once or twice to obtain a second and third quality, each time a little water being added to the residuum of the former operation. The bands of paste are then folded so as to form bundles of about five pounds weight, which are sold according to quality.—Scientific American.