

### SELECT SIFTINGS.

The first steel pen was made in 1830. The first steel plate was discovered in 1830. Johnny Simmons, a ten-year-old boy of Shasta County, California, shot and killed an enormous wild cat at 100 yards range. A convict in the Ohio Penitentiary was pardoned the other day, but did not want to leave and had to be put out of prison. The first coach in Scotland was brought thither in 1561, when Queen Mary came from France. It belonged to Alexander Lord Scoton. An elephant's digestive functions are very rapid, and the animal therefore requires daily a large amount of food—600 pounds at least. The largest grapevine in the United States is at Santa Barbara, Cal. It is twelve inches in diameter, and the annual product is often four tons. The manufacture of porcelain was introduced into the Province of Hezin, Japan, from China in 1513, and Hezinware still bears Chinese marks. California has many fine lakes. The most noted are Tahoe, twenty-five miles long, and Clear Lake, twenty-six miles long. Both support steamers. Missouri is the first zinc-producing State of the country. The Nation's total production was 234,593 tons last year, and 93,131 tons came from Missouri. A curious relic of old Roman life found recently at Lannurim (Porto Portese), and now stored in the British Museum, is a thin slab of stone that was anciently a circus poster. Tulare, Cal., will send a tree to Washington, D. C., for exhibition. It is eighty-seven feet, nine inches in circumference at the base and sixty-five feet through at a height of six feet above the ground. A stranger entered the Newton (Kan.) Postoffice, one day the other week, and, buying a lot of postage stamps, asked permission to stamp all letters that the office was holding for postage. His request was granted. San Diego, Cal., will give its regular boarders in the county jail employment in picking oakum. It is hoped that this innovation of labor will tend to decrease the number of tramps who get their living at the county's expense. The telephone company of Glasgow, Scotland, has completely fitted up an elaborate telephonic arrangement in Woodside Church, whereby the subscribers are enabled to hear the entire service with the utmost distinction and ease. Farmer Frank Lusk, of Kingman County, Kansas, has a bird dog which goes to meet the south-bound train six days in the week, and catches a daily paper which the trainmen, by arrangement, throw out to him, and returns with it to Mr. Lusk's residence. Rev. Mr. Sweet, the young Methodist minister at Russell, Iowa, was the other day stricken with apparent total blindness. He preached his usual sermon in the morning, but that afternoon, while filling a country appointment, his sight grew so dim he could see nothing and he had to be driven home. John Dawson, of Swan Creek, Iowa, while sawing a cut from a large jack-oak tree, fully twenty feet from the butt, found in a small hollow a frog. The frog on being released hopped a short distance away and then fell over dead. There is no knowing how long the frog was in the tree, but it must have been many years. There are about 6000 varieties of postage stamps now used by the different nations of the world. The Museum of the Berlin (Germany) Postoffice alone contains a collection of between 4000 and 5000 different specimens of these little colored papers. Half of this number are European stamps—the remainder divided among America, Asia, Africa and Australia.

### The Fisheries of Lake Superior.

At little Port Arthur alone the figures of the fishing industry for the market are astonishing. In 1888 the fishermen there caught 500,000 pounds of white fish, 360,000 pounds of lake trout, 48,000 pounds of sturgeon, 90,000 pounds of pickerel, and 30,000 pounds of other fish, or more than a million pounds in all. They did this with an investment of \$3800 in boats and \$10,000 in gill and pound nets. This yield nearly all went to a Chicago packing company, and it is in the main Chicago and Cleveland capital that is controlling the lake's fisheries. The white fish is, in the opinion of most gourmets, the most delicious fish known to Americans. The lake trout are mere food. I am told that they are rather related to the char than to the salmon. They are peculiar to our inland waters. They average five to ten pounds in weight, and yet grow to weigh 120 pounds; but whatever their weight be, it is a mere pressure of hard dry flesh, calculated only to appease hunger.—Harper's Magazine.

### The Lion After Death.

The most superb of fur rugs are made from the skin of the lion. When the lion is five years old his mane has attained its full growth, and he is then ready to be sacrificed at the altar of civilization. Next in beauty comes the tiger. The graceful, catlike neck and sleek, glossy skin make a truly effective rug—indeed, many prefer it to the lion skin. The bears, and especially the grizzlies, are very popular. The white polar bear is arranged in a very realistic manner, with his great mouth open and formidable claws projecting grimly from the soft fur. All these animals are displayed with one-quarter, one-half and three-quarter heads—that is, raised and stuffed in these shapes. The last style is the handsomest, of course, and the most desirable rug are the animal shapes with the heads arranged as in life.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

### HARBINGERS OF SPRING.

News Note as Fresh as the Crisp Air.

The Most Interesting Event Happening in Three States Chronicled Here.

### VIRGINIA.

A bank has been organized in Burkeville. Gen. Peyton Wise is an applicant for a position on the Civil Service Commission. In the Graham court-martial case at Richmond the defendant was sentenced to a 3-year's suspension. Gov. McKinney appointed C. C. Taliaferro, of Roanoke, a member of the board of visitors of the Southwestern Lunatic Asylum in place of Judge Asa Dupuy, who resigned after he had been elected judge of the circuit court. Miss Ella Rives died at Charlottesville last week, aged 55. She was an aunt of Amelia Rives, the authoress, and a daughter of the late William C. Rives, minister to France and United States Senator. There is an engineer named Moore on the Richmond and Danville road running between Lynchburg and Alexandria who has been in the employ of the same road for thirty years, and has never lost a day from work. He has made an aggregate of 112,000 miles on one engine, averaging 5,000 per month. He is still at work on the Richmond and Danville and is as good health as he ever was. The Beckley Marble Development Co., a corporation owning 186 acres of marble land near Fincastle has fully organized, ordered outfit of machinery and will soon commence quarrying. The company has in prospect black and six varieties of variegated marble and lithographing stone. Col. A. S. Buford was elected president, and Capt. T. C. Morton, secretary of the Virginia World's Fair Managers. An executive committee was appointed consisting of J. H. Figgatt, A. S. Buford, M. Glennan, H. J. Jordan and M. Brennan. Hon. John L. Hurt was authorized to take such steps as may be deemed necessary to secure contributions from the railroads of the State to the World's Fair fund.

### NORTH CAROLINA.

Iredell county alliance has adopted the St. Louis platform. Henderson shipped 59 car loads, or 826 hogheads of tobacco to manufacturers last week. The New Bern Journal estimates the loss to truck farmers in that section by the cold snap at \$100,000. The day says the Oxford electric light plant is offered to the town for \$5,000—40 per cent. of its cost. It is reported that A. C. Shuford, the Alliance lecturer of the seventh congressional district, will be a candidate for Congress. The Democratic congressional nominating convention for the third district has been called to meet at Clinton July 30th. The citizens of Greensboro have held a meeting and appointed committees to raise funds for the sufferers from the famine in Russia. Last Thursday Benjamin Henderson, the negro postmaster at Fayetteville received his commission from the President, and Monday he took charge of the office. Rev. C. M. Payne, of Concord, will preach the commencement sermon before the young ladies of Peace Institute at the Raleigh Presbyterian church on Sunday morning, May 29th.

### SOUTH CAROLINA.

Cabbage and other truck produce are beginning to be shipped North in considerable quantities from Charleston. South Carolina has received her direct tax fund, \$221,171. A Sumter special: The twenty-eight precincts heard from so far give 10 delegates for Sheppard and 44 for Tillman. The political news from Lancaster county, where the Democratic clubs sent solid Tillman delegations to the county convention. The Farmers' Bank of Abbeville, a majority of whose stockholders are Al lianceans, made over 10 per cent. during the year just ended. Great preparations are being made for the floral fair which will open on the 28th at Charleston, and which is confidently expected to be on a larger scale and with greater varieties of flowers than ever before. The Huguenot Society, which is composed of some 200 members of the descendants of those who fled to this colony after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, will have their anniversary celebration on the 23rd. The day will be spent in picnic fashion at Otranto, Charleston.

The most terrific hail storm ever known in the State, occurred at Bennettsville last week. The hail stones were two inches in diameter and fell to a depth of six inches. Birds, chickens and hogs were killed, and many glasses broken. Men and horses were knocked down, fruit, vegetables and cotton completely cut down. Incalculable injury was done in the county. Interest in the estate of Robert Edwards, which involves about \$32,000,000 of property in Wall street, New York city, which was mentioned about a year ago, has been revived. The heirs in South Carolina are Mrs. S. A. Chisholm, of Columbia, T. H. Stokes and Mrs. Wesley Gilbert of Greenville, Judge I. Wickliffe, of Walhalla, Mrs. M. E. Hook, of Florence, W. F. Edwards and R. F. Peck, of Spartanburg.

For David Bennett Hill.

LYNCHBURG, VA.—The Henry county, Va., Democratic convention elected delegates to the State convention, and instructed them for Hill. This is the second county to act in Virginia, the first being Henrico. Both delegations are for Hill.

### HARRISON REPULSES QUAY.

A Declaration That He May Decline to Be a Candidate.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There will be no reconciliation between Senator Quay and President Harrison, and, as a result, Mr. Harrison may eventually not be a candidate for renomination. A few days ago Congressmen Bingham, O'Neill, and Reyburn, accompanied by Postmaster-General Wanamaker, called upon the President to urge him to forget the past and to receive Quay. This was with the idea that the Pennsylvania Republican Convention, to be held on April 20, would declare for Harrison and to assure him of the sixty-four delegates from that State to Minneapolis.

The surprise of the delegation was great when the President turned to Mr. Wanamaker and said: "The less you have to do with Mr. Quay the better it will be for yourself. He is not a fit man to associate with."

Then the President said that he was not so certain about accepting the renomination, unless he was assured that the party was harmonious, and that it would stand together on all questions. He said he saw here and there evidences of dissatisfaction, and that he preferred to stand aside rather than to place himself in the power of Mr. Quay and some other men who had attempted to dictate terms for renomination. The President told the Congressmen that he would not place the patronage of Pennsylvania in Quay's hands, because the men Quay had recommended to him were no better than himself and were not fit to hold office. The President said that if it depended upon Quay whether he should get the Pennsylvania delegation, then he would not get it.

Mr. Wanamaker talked in his most persuasive manner, but it was of no avail, and the President warned the Postmaster-General to keep away from Quay. When this was told the Senator he was angered. He immediately began to discuss with his fellow Senators the availability of Blaine as a Presidential candidate, and the boom in the interest of the Secretary last week is due to Quay's work. The men were present at the interview with President Harrison say that, unless Quay, Platt, Clark, and the rest are solid for him, Mr. Harrison will decline the nomination. Up to this time Quay has refused to tell his most intimate friends who is his Presidential choice.

### WEATHER CROP BULLETIN

Of the North Carolina Experiment Station, For the Week Ending Saturday, April 9, 1892.

RALEIGH, N. C.—The reports of correspondents of the weekly weather crop bulletin for the week ending, Saturday, April 9th, 1892, show that very favorable weather conditions have prevailed since the beginning of April. The first three months of the year have been cold and wet, and spring commenced very late, which has delayed farming operations somewhat. The late spring has been favorable to the fruit crops.

The average dates of planting and harvesting crops are as follows: a. Preparation of soil generally completed by end of March. b. Cotton planted from April 1st to April 30th, harvested September to October. c. Tobacco transplanted April 15th to May 30th, harvested August to October. d. Corn planted about April 1st, harvested in September. e. Wheat and rye planted October to December, harvested June 1st to October 15th.

### FIVE DAYS OUT OF THE WORLD.

Columbus, Miss., Flooded and at Least 20 Persons Drowned.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—After five days of absolute isolation for the world, communication with Columbus, Miss., was restored by wire. Although it is working badly enough, news has come to show a tragic state of affairs. The river has risen nearly three feet higher than ever before, and the whole country is under water. More than twenty people have been drowned, as far as heard from, and it is feared that the list will grow enormously when the wide territory flooded can all be heard from.

In one case a colored family of nine persons were drowned. They took a pig in the boat with them. The pig jumped out of the boat, and one of the women grabbed for it and overturned the boat. Five hundred persons in the town are being fed by charity. An appeal has already been drawn up to the Government for help.

### FROM THE THIRD STORY.

A South Carolina Lady Commits Suicide in New York.

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Mary Lee, a resident of South Carolina, aged twenty-two years, committed suicide to-day by throwing herself from the third story of the private medical institute, No. 151 East Thirty-fourth street, where she had been an inmate three months. About a week ago Mrs. Lee gave birth to a child, her health being so poor subsequently that her life was despaired of. Feeling considerably better however, she was left alone for a short time, during which she arose and leaped to her instant death.

### Carolina Marble to the Front.

MURPHY, N. C.—The combining of the Southern marble interests is becoming an assured fact. All the quarries between Marrietta, Ga., and this place, though owned by half a dozen different corporations, are really controlled by the Southern Marble Company. Agents of the combine are pushing through to Nantahala, this State, and into the marble sections of Tennessee. The country people, not knowing the value of their property, are parting with it readily.

### ALLIANCE COLUMN.

The Great Farmer's Cause Moving Steadily Forward.

Bright and Interesting News For the Order From All Over These United States.

There are now in operation fifty five agricultural experimental stations in the country—all but nine of which are supported by the general Government, at a cost last year of \$680,000.

A novel plan is being operated in the Dakotas. Each sub-Alliance is asked to prepare and send a certain number of acres of land to wheat. This is to be an offering for the spread of Alliance principles, by selling the wheat at a discount on the proceeds for that object. It is said that hundreds of acres will be used in that manner, and great good is expected from the experiment. Such methods disclose an earnestness that should know neither opposition nor discouragement, and should lead a nation or a people out of the dark shadows of distress into the bright sunshine of prosperity.

The Alliance Farmer (Homer, La.) says: "The President's salary is \$50,000 a year. Twenty years ago 30,000 bushels of wheat would have paid it; now it takes more than 60,000 bushels. Twenty years ago 500 bales of cotton would have paid it; now it takes 1,700 bales to get \$50,000. The annual salary of Congressmen is \$5,000. Twenty years ago 50 bales of cotton would have paid it; now it will take about 177 bales, and yet Congress seems resolved to reduce the currency, demote silver, and keep up the salaries. This is a very hopeful view of the promised reform, and shows that justice has done the people is conspicuously prominent in Congressional movements."

The Herald (Myrtle Springs, Texas) says: "The Alliance is educating the people. It has turned out already some of the most wonderful speakers in Texas, men who but for the Alliance training would have delved and dug with lusty limbs unhooned, and died in poverty and ignorance, unused. Now many a farmer had can discuss economical questions with senators and representatives, and hundreds of farmers are far better posted and more capable of attaining practical results than are their congressmen. The politician that now counts on fooling the people, at least the Alliance portion of the people, reckons without his host. All since men, boys and women, too, have cut their wisdom teeth."

The Alliance demands are on the right side of every great question now forging to the front in politics. Is not that sufficient justification for asking them? Does anyone suppose there would be tobacco in the great and dirty pool of politics on those questions if the farmers had taken the advice of the politicians and stayed behind plow handles? Not a bit of it, but these weathercocks up at Washington feel the wind blowing. Secretary Foster says: "The Alliance is far better posted and more capable of attaining practical results than are their congressmen. The politician that now counts on fooling the people, at least the Alliance portion of the people, reckons without his host. All since men, boys and women, too, have cut their wisdom teeth."

### REMEMBER YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

The Alliance is now on trial before the bar of public judgment and every individual member is responsible for the faithful discharge of the particular task assigned him. The responsibility is a common one and rests upon all alike. The great work that is going on may not come before your view every day, and your sub-Alliance may not be all that you would have it be, but stand by your colors. Results may not be reached as fast as you had expected, but stick to your crowd. Your leaders may not be as brilliant nor as aggressive as you would wish them, but abide your time and continue to struggle. Revolutions never go backward; if you hold up you are left. Nothing human was ever perfect, and never will be, but stick to your order and be steadfast to the end. It may require personal sacrifice of opinion, but that is but a daily occurrence in life. It may demand inconvenience, but stick together. Don't give up the ship.

### N. C. Republican Convention.

RALEIGH, N. C.—Jas. H. Young (colored) was made temporary chairman of the Republican State Convention last Thursday. Chairman Eaves said in his opening speech that the party was now on the edge of victory. In the western part of the State the Democratic party was torn all to pieces. He believed the job would join with the Republicans in securing local self-government. He believed that if the Republicans stood together this year they would get a victory. He said he agreed with Butler, of the State Alliance, that there was a crisis in politics, and called on all the counties plom as Republicans to stand to their principles and not give up a plank in their platform, national or State. The Republicans must drop all such sayings as "this county or that county is run by niggers." He asked that they drop the word "nigger" for five years. He said he honestly believed that the Democratic party did not yield the Alliance would give it trouble.

The committee on credentials was out may hours settling three county contests. The Brady men got in from Mecklenburg and the Scurlow men from Cumberland. V. S. Lusk, of Buncombe, was made permanent chairman. The delegates to the National nominating convention were elected—H. P. Cheatham, by acclamation. E. A. White, J. C. Pritchard and J. C. Dancy. Electors at large were chosen: Spencer Blackburn, of Ashe, and C. M. Bernard, of Greenville. J. B. Eaves and V. S. Lusk were nominated for chairman of the State committee. Eaves was elected, receiving 107 votes, against his opponent's 50.

this year. The Alliance is a unit on our demands, and will vote as they talk. Organization will be pushed actively and consistently. Louis demands, endorsed unanimously. A resolution asking the State legislature to grant the election franchise to women was unanimously adopted. Also one favoring passage of anti opium bill. Winsconsin is all right. W. WARDLALL.

THE SUB-TREASURY IN FRANCE. ROUBAUX, FRANCE, Oct. 13, 91.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your letter of enquiry, will say that Bank of France has almost since its establishment, early in the present century, loaned money on no perishable products, such as wheat, corn, wine, spirits, metals, etc., provided such securities were deposited in reliable warehouses, or warehouses designated by the directors of the Bank of France. Receipts were of course taken for the same, and these become negotiable just as are warehouse receipts in America. The amounts loaned upon products of this description was usually equal to about two thirds of its appraised value and the rate of interest charged for the loan was 3 per cent. The same rate is applicable at the present time. HORACE G. KNOWLES, Consul.

### BENEFACTRESS OF HER RACE.

Noble Work of a Young Colored Woman Born a Slave.

MANASSAS, VA.—The colored people of Prince William county have undertaken to establish what is said to be the first industrial school in the land for colored youths under colored auspices. A prospectus says: "The object is to give instruction in the ordinary English branches and the industrial arts to the colored people living in a region of Virginia not yet recovered from the devastation of the late war." The leading spirit in the movement is Miss Jennie Dean, of Manassas, a young colored woman, who has quite a remarkable history. Miss Dean was born a slave, but has accomplished much, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which she began life. She was graduated from the public schools in this city, converted, and then going to the mountains of Virginia, began mission work among the colored people, prosecuting her labors under great difficulties. She has four large Sunday schools in the mountains, in connection with which she conducts sewing schools. She has raised money with which to build churches and chapels, and her success in the work has led the people of Manassas to call upon her to raise the money to build the industrial school.

### Premiums for Tobacco Display.

The following is a list of the tobacco premiums offered by the Virginia State Agricultural and Mechanical Society at its second Exposition: Manufactured Tobacco—Best exhibit of cigars, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best exhibit of French tobacco, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best exhibit of chewing tobacco, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best exhibit of cigarettes (Virginia made), first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best exhibit of cheroots (Virginia made), first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best exhibit of Italian tobacco, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of French tobacco, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of dark manufacturing lugs, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of dark manufacturing lugs, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of bright stemming tobacco, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of bright stemming tobacco, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of bright stemmers, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of sun-cured fillers, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sun-cured cured wrappers, first prize, \$25; second, \$10. Best sample of dark shipping lugs, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best sample of dark manufacturing lugs, first prize, \$20; second, \$10. Best general exhibit of dark tobaccos, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best general exhibit of bright tobaccos, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best general exhibit of sun-cured tobaccos, first prize, medal; second, diploma. Best general exhibit of all tobaccos, first prize, medal; second, diploma.

### DANCE OF THE HUNTERS.

A CEREMONIAL OF THE PRASANT INDIANS OF MEXICO.

A Propitiatory Performance Before a Dense Throng of Spectators—All the Performers Are Masked.

THESE church dances may be seen in various forms in many parts of Mexico, even in front of one church in the national capital itself, where it is considerably modernized. The dances before a church are said to be performed by peasant Indians in accordance with vows made for success in their undertakings, as in their crops for the year, their herds, and the like.

Arrived at the church, we found the various associations at their height in the yard. Vociferous beggars were sending up their appeals for charity in all directions; and there were readers of ballads and religious broadsides illustrating the qualities of their wares to wondering listeners, simple-faced and illiterate Indians. The church-yard was also filled with itinerant vendors of various wares, which purchasers were critically examining and bargaining for.

Before the church, between the entrance and the great archway gateway, we found a dense throng assembled, all watching the dancing there. In these swartly-faced, cotton-clad Indian peasants of Mexico there was the same manner of gazing, the same look of absorbed amusement, that one might encounter along the Broadway curb-stones at the passing of a great procession.

It was the Baile de los Cazadores—the Dance of the Hunters—Sat day. All the performers were masked. There were several men dressed in hunting garb and armed with guns. These men had long and ragged beards and exaggerated noses. It was a sort of pantomime representing the hunting and killing of various animals, the parts of which were taken by boys. One of these carried on his shoulders a huge head representing a bear, and another a deer, while one bore a stuffed weasel, or something resembling that animal, on the stalk of his head. While the hunters were talking in their game, some clown-like figures, strikingly resembling the "one-eyes" and "coyaches" of the Zuni sacred dances in their grotesque masks, afforded amusement to the spectators by their comments and antics. Instead of the bare painted bodies of the Zuni performers, however, these characters wore loose garments, some of them white and painted with small crescents and stars, and rings that evidently stood for the sun; the attire of others was yellow, dabbled with red. Most likely these were survivors of an old pagan dance characters representing mythological beings of air fire. Finally one of the hunters took aim; bang! went his gun, and amid general excitement, the tail of some animal—a fox, I believe—was flung into the ring. That ended the performance for the time being. People now came pouring out of the church, and the band appeared, playing loudly as it walked out backward, succeeded by a company of pilgrims walking in the same way. So it was kept up all the afternoon. The band would march off into a side street not far from the church, whence it would return at the head of a fresh instrument of pilgrims, each holding a lighted candle in one hand and a staff in the other. When they had disappeared within the church, the dancers would advance from behind the edifice and repeat their performance.—Harper's Magazine.

### A Good Pocket-Knife.

The costliest pocket-knives, manufactured for sale at retail at a store in New York City, which sells nothing but knives. There are 1500 different kinds on exhibition in the window, ranging in price from five cents to \$25. The \$25 knife is the costliest known. The \$25 knife is of its handle are solid gold, and contains two small blades only, a nail file and a miniature pair of scissors. There is a little hook in the handle by which it may be attached to the watch chain. The sales of the \$25 knife are very slow. The largest knife in America is supposed to be in Cincinnati. It has fifty-three blades and a chest of tools in itself, containing almost anything; from a toothpick to a cigar punch, from a pair of scissors to a hand saw. It is for sale at \$500 and weighs thirteen pounds.

The largest knife ever known was made by Jonathan Crookes, a workman for Joseph Rodgers in Sheffield. It had 1821 blades.—St. Louis Republic.

### The Republican National Convention.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—The sub-committee of the National Republican Committee has practically finished its labor here. The committee were accorded an informal reception at the headquarters of the local committee by a committee of ladies. The matter of the distribution of tickets has been settled to the satisfaction of everybody. After a sufficient number have been taken out for the delegates, the alternates and their friends, and for the press, the remaining tickets will be turned over to the local committee to dispose of as it sees fit. These will go in large part to the contributors to the guaranty fund. The tickets will be good for three days.

### Went Mad on Trial.

GLASGOW, KY.—Henry Ragland, colored, was placed on trial Saturday for car breaking. He was one of many colored men induced to go to work on a railroad in the Adirondacks, where he claims a brother was murdered, and he was brutally beaten. Ragland had scarcely pleaded to the charge when he began to foam and bark. His yells were horrible. He attempted to bite the judge and others, and caused a panic in the court room. He was not tried and will die soon. Ragland, it was subsequently learned, was bitten by a rabid dog last August.

### Southern Progress in a Single Week.

The weekly record of new enterprises established in the South, as shown by the Manufacturers' Record of Baltimore in its issue of April 15, contains the following important items:

A \$300,000 lumber company at Westlake, La.; a \$100,000 oil refining company at New Orleans, La.; a \$100,000 phosphate guano company at Blacksburg, S. C.; a \$30,000 manufacturing company at Atlanta, Ga.; a \$100,000 lumber company at Evans, Ark.; a \$100,000 food conserving company at Wheeling, W. Va.; a \$100,000 hominy mill at Henderson, Ky.; a \$40,000 lumber company at Texarkana, Ark.; a \$100,000 manufacturing company at Richmond, Va.; a \$250,000 mining and smelting company at Baltimore, Md.; a \$100,000 distilling company at Lexington, Ky.; a \$100,000 cotton mill company at Baumberg, S. C.; a \$1,000,000 mining and manufacturing company at Glimmer, Texas; a \$125,000 phosphate company at Florio City, Fla.; a \$150,000 coal and coke company at Freeman, W. Va.; a \$150,000 ice and brewing company at Houston, Texas; a \$50,000 clothing factory at Durham, N. C.; a \$100,000 cotton oil company at New Orleans, La.; a \$25,000 quarrying company at Glimmer, Texas; a \$125,000 phosphate company at Macon, Ga.; a \$100,000 soap manufacturing company at Savannah, Ga.; an \$80,000 manufacturing company at Lexington, Ky.; a \$100,000 oil company at Newport, Ky.; a \$50,000 electric company at Austin, Texas; a \$100,000 oil company and a \$250,000 electric company at Roanoke, Va.; and a \$100,000 coal and coke company in McDowell Co., W. Va.

### Electricity for Health.

The value of electricity in hastening the growth and maturity of certain vegetable forms, and in bringing out the vivid colors of flower, promises to be supplemented by a valuable and useful to humanity. When Pasteur proposed to bring young animals up on sterilized milk and food he opened the way to the idea that the water supply of cities could be improved, and be made perfectly harmless, by applying the death-dealing agency of electricity to millions of injurious germs floating in it. The sterilization of water sources by means of electricity may be far in the future, but the fact that the work is practically demonstrable is sufficient to show that great advances have been made in the direction of solving the question of water supplies in cities. Not less important is the agent in destroying life in the sewers of the cities, and in the great mass of garbage and waste which scatters around every city whole colonies of threatening diseases. Another peculiarity of the powerful agent is that it has results upon the general health of people similar to those of the sun. In crowded quarters of the cities where the electric light is admitted, electric light is far more conducive to health than any other mode of lighting. It is still a mooted question whether it cannot be made to force growth in the individual as it does in the plants and flowers of the hothouses where the light is applied night and day.—Yankee Blade.

### Pasteurized Milk.

All methods of sterilization that are in use in this country have the disadvantage of giving to the milk the taste which is peculiar to boiled milk, and also of rendering it less easily absorbed by the body. In France and Germany a method has been adopted which accomplishes the purpose without injuring the taste of the milk. Machines are in use in Paris and some other cities which will heat great quantities of milk to a temperature of about 155 degrees for a few minutes, and then cool it rapidly to a low temperature. The method has been called the pasteurization of milk. It does not kill all the bacteria, but it does destroy so many of them that it greatly increases the keeping properties of the milk. Moreover, it almost entirely destroys the danger from disease germs in milk, since nearly all forms likely to occur in milk are killed by this temperature. The advantage of this method is that the temperature of 155 degrees does not give to the milk the taste of boiled milk, and does not render the milk difficult of digestion.—Popula Science Monthly.

### Great Bridge at Memphis Completed.

MEMPHIS, TENN.—At 10 o'clock iron beams closed up the gap in the big cantilever bridge at this point, and the States of Arkansas and Tennessee were joined. The celebration of the opening takes place in the early part of May, and the United States war ship Concord will steam up the river and take part in the celebration. The bridge cost \$3,000,000, and, including the jettie work, is about three miles long. It belongs to the company operating the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis Railroad.

### How a Spider Knew the Bell.

A correspondent of the Geneva (Switzerland) Tribune relates that his family were disturbed one evening by a mysterious ringing of the electric bells all over the house. Investigating the cause, the writer found that a large spider had established itself at a point where the bell and the electric light wires ran close to one another, with one leg on either wire, thus establishing a connection.

### Weeping Trees.

The literature of "weeping trees" is enormous, much of it being plainly mythical, but there is a large basis of fact upon which most of these marvelous stories rest. Many travelers have described the famous "rain tree" of Palmarosa, Isle of Ferro, the most notable accounts of it appearing in Peter Martyr's "Indie Occidentale." John Cockburn, 1735, describes a tree at Vera Pas, Central America, from which pure water continually dripped from every leaf and branch.—St. Louis Republic.

A little boy was choked to death in Springfield, Ohio, a few days ago, by a piece of bread and butter.