AMERICAN NEWS.

Millions Lost by Fire.

EAST TAWAS, Mich., July 6.—Early this morning the steamer Sea Gull, lying alongside Sibley & Bearing's lumber dock, caught fire. Great piles of lumber were stretched along the bay, extending far up and down the dock. Sparks were carried on the breeze from the fire high up on the stack of lumber. The Sea Gull drifted down the bay and was driven ashore again, setting fire to the lumber in several places. By the potential use of dynamite, vast piles of lumber were thrown into the bay and the fire allowed to slowly burn itself out, consuming the dock to the water side. Lumber mills and the homes of lumbermen were saved. With her perished the cook, Mary Clark. Loss to the lumbermen is five million dollars. Of this sum, two million falls upon Sibley & Bearing. Other losers are Tonawanda lumber company, Wm. Loode, Warry Bros. and Isaac Bearing.

A Small Town Burned.

ALTA MONT, Ill., July 6.—At Iola, Ill., a small station on the Ohio and Mississippi railroad, about eighteen miles south of here, early yesterday morning, the drug store of J. A. Patricks was discovered to be on fire, which was under such headway that nothing could be done. The flames swept the entire business portion of the town, leaving but one store standing. The losses are as follows: Vickery Bros., $5,000, small insurance; J. M. Sloan, $2,000, no insurance; J. A. Patricks, $2,500, no insurance; J. M. Aldrich, $3,000, no insurance; Moore & Guttel, $1,500, fully insured.

Striking Bricklayers.

BOSTON, Mass, July 7.—About half of the striking bricklayers on Norcross Bros.' large buildings returned to work this morning, but left again this afternoon because non-union men had not been transferred to smaller jobs, as the bosses had agreed should be done. The superintendent claimed that the bricklayers had failed to keep their agreement for all hands to return. The strike of the union brick layers against J. P. Soule & Co., and Woodberry & Leighton is still on.

Serious Train Accident.

KANKAKEE, Ills., July 7.—As a Knights of Pythias excursion train on the Illinois Central railway, composed of 14 coaches, bringing excursionists from different points of the south, bound for the Milwaukee encampment, reached Manfano, nine miles north of this city, a pin in the switch, after four coaches had passed, derailed 10 coaches. One coach was turned completely over. The killed and injured are: J. Crowder, of Henderson, instantly killed; F. W. Fegue, East St. Louis, hurt in the back; Capt. W. H. Sandusky, Central City, Ky., leg fractured; Chas. Lontz, of Shelbyvill, Ills., hurt in the shoulder and sides. The accident took place about 7.45 a.m. The wounded were properly cared for by physicians from this city. The sixth Illinois regiment, uniformed rank Knights of Pythias, was on the train, but none of its members received any serious injury.

Northern Pacific Train Robbery.

NORTH YAKIMA, July 6.—Yesterday afternoon, while Northern Pacific freight train No. 56 (eastbound) was stopping at Yakima Conductor Nudles ran into a saloon near the depot to get a time check cashed, and received for the same four $20 gold pieces. Two rough-looking strangers were in the saloon at the time, and, after noting the transaction, hurried out. Mr. Nudles paid no especial attention to their movements and would have thought no more about it had he not encountered the same two men on entering the caboose. When the train was fifteen miles east of this point a brakeman was with the conductor and he proceeded to ask for their tickets. He was met with the answer that they were old railroad men and went down into their inside coat pockets as if to produce credentials, but instead drew revolvers, and each covering his man, demanded their money. Protestations were in vain, as the highwaymen knew they had coin, and finally they yielded up their combined capital of $120. As the train slowed up a crossing the robbers dropped off. Superintendent Crowell was notified by telegraph and he came down from Ellensburgh with a special engine and coach, and picked up Sheriff Lesh and a posse at Yakima, who were soon scouring the country. Deputy Sheriff Dan Simmons found the highwaymen after a brief search in a squaw camp, where they were bargaining for ponies to take them out of the country. He covered them with his Winchester, and, assistance being close at hand, they were quickly secured. The captors earn a reward of $250, $50 of which was offered by Conductor Nudles, $100 by the company and $100 by Yakima county. The case is a clear one and they are bound to go over the road, as the money was found in their possession.

Detroit Swept by a Tornado.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Juln 7.—A special from Detroit, Minn., to the Tribune, says: A reporter of the Record at Detroit, Minn., describes the tornado which struck the city of Fargo, N.D., at 2.30 o'clock this morning, as follows: About ten o'clock a strong wind prevailed, but no attention was paid to it until half past eleven, when in a few minutes the citizens realized that a terrific tornado had veered down upon the city by Red River and left a birth mark that will be remembered in years to come. The storm demolished the Manitoba and Milwaukee freight sheds, threw down the electric light towers, destroyed the fronts of the Davis block, the opera house block, the Continental block, the Garfield block, the Western block, unroofed the Northern Pacific freight depot, also the Republican office and Chapan hardware store. The courthouse tower is badly twisted and deposited on the sidewalk on Tenth street. Plymouth Congregational church is destroyed. The Luger Furniture Co.'s warehouse it damaged; numerous bricks from the Argus brick block lie on the ground. The Deering warehouse is damaged to some extent, as also is Alfstad's hardware store and Vachen's restaurant and the rear battlement of the Bank of North Dakota lies on the ground in ruins. The Keeney block and Exchange Hotel suffered badly. Dozens of smaller buildings and roods of sidewalk are demolished. The saddest of all is the death of an entire family, consisting of the mother and seven children of the late Capt. McCarthy, which occurred at their residence at the corner of Ninth and Fifth streets. They had taken refuge in the cellar, and in some manner were caught in the timbers of the falling building and crushed to death. Train No. 1, a Northern Pacific passenger, was caught just as it was departing from Fargo and was toppled over into the ditch. No one was killed although several were injured. The storm extended over Northern Minnesota, and was slightly felt at Detroit, Minn., where it demolished the plate glass front of the Record office and overturned a few small buildings, and one house was struck by lightning and burned.

CABLE NEWS.

London Police on a Strike.

LONDON, July 6.—Saturday night the metropolitan police of the Bow street division refused to perform their duty because one of their number had been removed to another district for agitating the grievances of the force. Subsequently the constable was reinstated in his old division and the policemen returned to work, with the exception of forty-nine, who still refuse to perform their duty. The latter were suspended to-day. The others worked to-night and were hooted by crowds in the streets.

Enthroned at Vienna.

VIENNA, July 6.—Bishop Grusha, formerly vicar apostolic of the Austrian army, was enthroned as a bishop of Vienna to-day with great pomp. Monsignor Golambertin, papal nuncio to the court of Austria, represented the Vatican at the installation and Count Kellmanger was present on behalf of the Emperor.

Three Women Killed.

LONDON, July 6.—An express train, running at a high rate of speed, struck a carriage which was crossing the track near Lippe, Germany, to-day, killing three of its occupants and seriously injuring three others. The three killed were women.

Lillie is Feeling Better.

LONDON, July 6.—Mrs. Langtry is in so much better health that she hopes to appear at the St. James early in October. She then goes to the continent before returning to California.

Noble Stanley.

LONDON, July 6.—It is expected that a title of nobility will be conferred on Stanley on his wedding day, either by the Queen of England or the King of Belgium. Both will send representatives to be present on the occasion.

JUDGMENT.

Given in the Supreme Court, June 24, in the Case of Burk v. Tunstall.

This was an application for a writ of prohibition against the proceeding to restrain him, as gold commissioner for West Kootenay, from further proceeding in an action brought in his court by Robert Burk, to recover $70 for labor performed in the Cariboo mining claim in Illecillewaet, in the district of West Kootenay.

The grounds taken by Mr. Wilson in applying for rule nisi were that Mr. Tunstall is a gold commissioner appointed by the Provincial Government, and that the powers given to a gold commissioner sitting as judge in a mining court under sec. 11 of the Mineral Act are ultra vires, the Provincial legislature, the power of appointing judges being solely vested in the Governor-General.

It is to be regretted that no argument was addressed to me in support of the powers claimed by the gold commissioner under the act, as no one appeared in opposition to the rule.

The sections of the Mineral Act, so far as they are of importance with reference to this application, are as follows:

Section 4 authorizes the Lieut.-Governor in council to appoint gold commissioners either for the whole province or for a particular district. Sect. 5 establishes in every district a court called the mining court over which the gold commissioners shall preside.

Such mining court by sec. 6 is to have original jurisdiction as a court of law and equity to hear and determine all mining disputes, and is to be a court of record, and the gold commissioner is to have the same powers for enforcing the judgments or orders of his court as are exercised by the supreme court or a judge thereof.

Sect. 10 gives jurisdiction as to disputes relating to real estate held under the act. Section 11 gives jurisdiction as to personal claims arising between persons engaged in mining, and in respect to supplies furnished to persons engaged in mining, and sect. 12 authorizes the gold commissioner to issue writs of ca. re. to execute and ca. sa. in all cases in which by law he has jurisdiction, which apparently means in all cases in which the act clothes him with jurisdiction.

We here find a very large and extended jurisdiction vested in the gold commissioner, unlimited as to amount, and limited only by the fact that the questions to be decided by him must be between persons engaged in mining or in respect of supplies furnished to persons engaged in mining. This jurisdiction is in reality in excess of the powers vested in the county courts, uncontrolled by any rules and unfettered by any restrictions. The issues that can be raised under these sections may involve property of a very great magnitude, and questions of the greatest importance. In addition to these judicial powers the gold commissioner is vested with certain judicial functions respecting the recording of claims, defining of boundaries of claims, laying over claims, and other matters of considerable importance to a mining community, but which are not involved in the question now before me.

Prior to confederation the provincial government had all the necessary authority for establishing courts of this character and of appointing the presiding officers, and sections 4, 5 and 6 were enacted prior to confederation.

Since confederation the provincial legislature has power to constitute, maintain and organize provincial courts, including procedure in civil matters, under section 92, sub-section 14 of the B. N. A. Act. So far then as that act establishes a mining court and creates its jurisdiction it was within the powers of the colonial legislature, but when the provincial legislature attempts to appoint judges of the courts thus constituted with other than ministerial powers, it trenches on the powers expressly given to the Governor-General by section 96 of the B.N.A. Act. It is true that the language used in that section is limited to the judges of the Superior, District and County Courts in each province, and it might be contended that these courts having been expressly named, all other courts are excluded. If this were so, the provincial legislature would only have to constitute a court by a special name to enable them to avoid this clause, but in the section itself after the special courts thus named, the courts of probate in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are excepted from the operation of the clause, if these courts had not been so excepted the conclusion would naturally be that they would have been included within the terms under which the other courts are described.

But there is a further view which I think is conclusive on this point. It is a prerogative of the Crown to appoint all judges, and such prerogative cannot be taken away except by express words, and this prerogative has been delegated to the Governor-General, and I see nothing in the act taking this right away and vesting it in the Lieutenant-Governor. In the Magdalene college case, 11 reg. it was held that when the king had any prerogative, estate or interest, he shall not be barred of them by the general words of an act of parliament, and Lord Cairns in Theberge v. Landey, 2 app., cases 102, says their Lordships wish to state distinctly that they do not desire to imply any doubt whatever as to the general principle that the prerogative of the Crown could be taken away except by express word. I therefore hold that the power of appointing judges of the mining courts is vested in the Governor-General, and that although the appointment of a gold commissioner for certain purposes of a ministerial nature, which are defined in the Mineral Act, is entirely within the powers of the Provincial Legislature, yet to clothe that officer with the important and extensive judicial jurisdiction which section 11 of this Act purports to do, is entirely beyond the power of the Provincial Legislature.

I may point out that under the 7th section of the Mineral Act, the County Court judge, if there is one whose jurisdiction extends over the district for which a gold commissioner is appointed, has exclusive jurisdiction in all mining questions under the Act, and it will be for the Government to make provision to meet the difficulty that has now arisen.

I therefore direct that the rule for a prohibition be made absolute.

KALAKAU'S NEW CABINET.

Hawaiian Politics in a Turbulent Condition.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 5.—The steamship Marsposia arrived to-day, 25 days from Sydney and seven days from Honolulu. Hawaiian advices state that on June 17 King Kalakua appointed John Adams Cummins, minister of foreign affairs, vice Johnathan Austin, resigned; Godfrey Brown, minister of finance, vice S. M. Damon, resigned; Charles N. Spencer, minister of the interior, vice Lorin A. Thurston, resigned; and Arthur P. Peterson, attorney-general, vice C. W. Ashford, resigned.

On Friday, June 13, Noble Wideman introduced a resolution in the legislature, declaring that, whereas, it was apparent that the constitutional advisors of the king were irreconcilibly divided against themselves, and it being impossible to heal the dissension in a manner conducive to the best interests of the kingdom, except by the dissolution of the cabinet, it was resolved that the assembly mark its dissatisfaction with the existing state of affairs by declaring a want of confidence in the ministry.

Previous to the introduction of the resolution, Minister Austin replied to charges made against him in a majority report of the committee on foreign affairs which have been heretofore referred to in these despatches, denying that he disobeyed the instructions of the house to lay before it documents regarding the proposed treaty with the United States, or that he had abstracted an important document in relation to the matter on the plea that they were personal communications.

On the introduction of the resolution Representative Brown stated that there was a greater principle at stake than the integrity of the ministry, namely that the minority should not rule, and offered amendatory resolutions, declaring that whereas, Minister Ashford had advised the king to refuse to follow the advice of the majority of the cabinet, which advice the attorney-general, the supreme court passed upon and declared illegal and unconstitutional, but the attorney-general had persisted in his advice to the king. It was therefore resolved that such assertion of the principle of right of minority to rule was subversive of a constitutional representative government, and that the action of the attorney-general was deserving of the severest censure and condemnation of the house, which did thereby declare its lack of confidence in him.

A warm debate followed, in which the attorney general and some members of the legislature took the ground that that body could get rid of one member of the ministry only by passing a vote of want of confidence in the whole cabinet. The vote on Brown's amendment resulted 24 to 24, all legal members of the house, including the president, voting. The cabinet, however, promptly resigned.

Russia's Advance on China.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 4.—The Russian government, to counteract the plans of China to make Manchura an outpost against Russia, by building railroads and fortresses in that territory and an extensive colonization scheme, has decided to hasten the construction of the Siberian railway, and to strengthen the garrison in the Amoor and Usuri provinces. The government will also establish colonies throughout these provinces, and no Chinese will be permitted to settle in the territory.

HAS A MANIA FOR MARRYING.

A Gay Deceiver Who Sails Under the Name of Alexander Vashon Has Five Wives—One of His Wronged Wives Causes His Arrest.

Alexander Vashon, a French cook, was arrested on the steamer Olympian at Seattle on Sunday, and locked up in a steel cell charged with bigamy.

Vashon, from his own confession, has wives in almost all portions of the country. He was arrested on a complaint filed by George Chisholm, of 225 Box street, whose daughter Lizzie he married in Minneapolis three years ago, and afterwards deserted.

The story of Vashon's adventures, which are likely to cost him in Walla Walla for a term of years, are extremely interesting.

Vashon was born in the city of Quebec and is 30 years old. When 22 years old he emigrated to the United States. In 1884 he met Miss Lizzie Stock at Wahpeton, Dak., and after a brief courtship married her. After a year of married happiness the couple parted at Helena, Mont. He claims to have secured a divorce, but his testimony on that point is generally disbelieved.

From Helena Vashon went to Minneapolis, where he married Lizzie Chisholm. A little over a year ago, when the woman was about to become a mother, Vashon left her.

Vashon's next adventure was at Pennington, Dak., where he made love to two girls, Miss Ella Fuel and Miss Jennie VanHorn. He became engaged to both and appointed the same day for the nuptials. His intimacy with Miss Fuel was of a criminal nature. He settled the matter by giving her a deed to a preemption claim, and taking Miss VanHorn to Minneapolis, he made her, as she supposed, his wife. After a few weeks he deserted No. 3 and went to Butte, Mont.

At Butte he met Miss Clara Carroll and married her, under the assumed name of Alexander Marchant. Vashon lived with wife No. 4 two weeks. During that time he told he had a brother living in Moorehead, Minn. After he had deserted No. 4, she wrote to Moorehead, and wife No. 2 got the letter.

After deserting No. 4 Vashon located at Tacoma. It happened that wife No. 2 located in Seattle at about the same time. He had a desire to see her and came to Seattle. She saw him passing the house, told her father of his presence in the city, and he was at once arrested. Vashon tried to arrange a reconciliation, but the Chrisholm family announce their determination to vigorously prosecute the case.

Vashon is a typical French-Canadian. He is tall, stout, and a brunette. He is rather good looking, has small, black eyes and is a splendid talker. He denies ever having been legally married to any but Miss Stock and Miss Chisholm, and says that he was divorced from the former.

A MATUTINAL ENTERTAINMENT.

An air of refreshing originality, novelty and quaint strangeness pervaded the police court yesterday morning. Another Sabbath had come and gone; its peaceful relief from labor had been fully enjoyed and appreciated; a store of good resolutions had been laid in for the week then in the swaddling clothes of infancy and everything and everybody on the street looked cheerful, bright and hopeful. Even the police court was no exception, the magistrate looked twice as just as usual, the clock, which had not been wound up, had stopped and was looking placidly down on the assembled throng, its hands pointing near the witching hour of midnight. The chief was looking up to his elbows in work, and the police officers looked gay in their whitewashed titles. There was a remarkably dusky and cosmopolitan crowd of spectators, some wise and some otherwise, judging from their personal appearance and facial expression. In fact a well attended, largely patronized police court is the best possible school for studying human nature. Yesterday's attendants did not include Swift's "Turk, Jew or Greek," although "all are welcome," but it could boast several tribes of Indians resplendant in their picturesquely dirty state; Celestials looking on with large, unreadable, expressionless optics; and white men some of them scarcely less intelligent-looking than the Chinamen and almost as dirty as the Siwashes, while others looked like real gentlemen.

The unsavory smelling dock was full (so were some of the occupants) to excess. It was rumored about town yesterday, in consequence, that the corporation is going to improve and increase the accommodation of this profitable source of civic revenue.

The ball was opened by the usual set of honor, a drunk who waltzed to the tune of five dollars, and, as he had no partner, he retired to the police station for refreshments.

A ray of light suffused the face of "the oldest inhabitant" of the court as John Hayes bobbed up unserenely when his name was called. His face was as red as a full moon at harvest time, or the setting sun of a hot summer day. In a word, John had been drinking extraordinarily good whiskey of late, hence his ruddy complexion. It was only at five o'clock Monday morning that he bethought him of paying a friendly call at the police station, his great stand-by of many years. He must have mistaken the morning for the afternoon, for the police station officials are not so fashionable as to carry the five o'clock tea custom to the early morning. John was put into a separate apartment, furnished specially for single gentlemen. John was not sober when he bowed to the court. The fumes of spirituous liquor were still in his brain (and breath), so his honor told the officer to put him in his little bed.

Kitty, in full war paint, gave the assembly an opportunity of witnessing a full dress rehearsal of a play entitled the "One time drunken Klootchman."

An old man named L. Bennett entertained the audience with a recitation of "How I gave the Indians whiskey," but his declamations were as powerful and his gesticulations so much in accordance therewith, that a bright idea struck his honor. We, he thought, have talent, vocal, recitative and oratorical: why should we claim a monopoly of these good things. I will send this man to a place where his talents will find more appreciation and a wider scope. Say now he goes away; we'll suffer loss, undoubtedly, but others will reap the gain.

Mr. Bennet has left the city.

So far in the proceedings over an hour had been spent and gate receipts to the extent of only ten dollars had been taken in. There were three individuals remaining in the dock, by whose presence there hung so long a tale that it is not possible to relate. Susie, an Indian, is of an entertaining disposition, and is widely sought. She was in company with two white men Sunday, and of course they had to drink each other's health. Officers Levin, E. B. Irving and Hunter, whom the public pays to interfere in private matters, did their duty in this case. There was considerable discussion in court over the matter, for which she had to pay $25, and Garland, one of the men, fifty dollars and fifty cents while the remaining man got off.

Three Jolly Jack tars, from H. M. S. Daphne, were considerately sent back to their ship from which they had endeavored to desert.

FROM KOOTENAY.

Mr. Wm. Gordon's Trip Along the Line of the Columbia and Kootenay Railway.

MR. William Gordon, agent of the Hamilton Powder company, has just returned from a business trip up the line of the Columbia and Kootenay railway, which is now being built by the C. P. R. Co. He reports that the interest in mining matters is unabated in that section, and that when the road is completed there will be a very great impetus given to mining operations. The weather had been damp and unpropitious, nevertheless the men had stuck to their work and had put in almost full time. So well has the work progressed that the first five miles will be graded by the middle of this week, though the time specified by contract is not until July 15th, while the Slocan river will, in all likelihood, be reached before the middle of August. Whitehead, McLean & McKay, the contractors, have upwards of 30 teams and between 400 and 500 men employed, they having, as the Nelson Miner announces, sufficient steel on the ground to lay five miles of track, and are taking down about 90 tons of material on every trip. According to the specifications there were on the contract about 125,000 yards of solid rock and 80,000 of other loose rock. This has been cut down to about 90,000 yards by the substitution of tressels, which will answer all the purposes of the enterprise. The contractors for the bridging are getting on well with their undertaking and have almost completed the first tressel. Mr. Gordon describes his trip down the Arrow Lake as incomparably grand. The first thirty miles of the trip from Revelstoke, as now accomplished, is down the Columbia River, where the Upper Arrow Lake is reached, down which the voyager travels forty miles, having on either side ranges of mountains of from 5,000 to 6,000 feet in height. He then takes what are known as the Narrows, after 22 miles of which he comes into the lower or Big Arrow Lake. This he traverses for 60 miles and then has a short run of eight miles on the Columbia River to Sproat's Landing, where considerable building operations are being prosecuted. Sproat's contains a hotel, the Kootenay House, and several boarding houses, which are well patronized. The contractors have an engine, tender and a number of flat cars employed on the first section. Across the trail from Sproat's, a distance of 16 miles, Keefer's camp is found, and five miles further on the Slocan River is crossed, where Mr. Keefer has his headquarters. Until the arrival of Mr. Van Horne it was uncertain whether the road would cross the Kootenay or remain on the north side of the river at Grohman Flats. It is announced that on the 2nd instant Mr. Van Horne and party left Sproat's Landing to go over the road. He was accompanied by Mr. H. Abbott and Mr. Mars, M. P. They went by the new steamer "Lytton," and it was expected it would take them about fifteen hours to go up, as they would have the current against them. Their advent was anxiously awaited, as upon it was expected to depend the selection of the point at which the road would would terminate, at any rate for the present.

THE BEHRING SEA CONTROVERSY.

The Negotiations Now in Progress for a Settlement of the Difficulty.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—In denying the sensational stories published in the eastern papers in reference to the Behring Sea difficulty, Sir Julian Pauncefote said:

I have made no communications of the kind to Mr. Blaine. There is no doubt that our vessels in the Northern Pacific ocean are there to protect the British flag and our sealers, but I have not broken off negotiations and there is no reason to expect a disturbance of the friendly relations existing between the two governments. Mr. Blaine has left for Bar Harbor for the benefit of his health, and I am about to go to Manchester-by-the-Sea, and shall there continue the negotiations with Mr. Blaine.

If Julian was not aware what instructions had been given the British fleet but thought it very unlikely that during friendly negotiations trouble would occur on one side or the other likely to provoke any disturbance. He added:

The great point is that negotiations have not been broken off and that these alarmist reports, which really do much harm, are not correct.

It is understood that the last communication on the sealeries question sent from the department was one in which Blaine went into a full argument of this country's side of the controversy. Great Britain is aiming at settling the whole difficulty by arbitration. There are two principal questions at issue. The first question is as to what regulations would be sufficient to secure a closed season. The two governments are agreed that the seal species should be preserved, but differ as to what means are necessary to that end. It is believed a settlement of the matter will be reached. The next question is as to the legal rights of the United States to entire possession and control of the seal fisheries in Behring's Sea, to the exclusion and deprivation of Great Britain and other countries. Great Britain regards that as a question of law, and hopes it will be left to settlement by arbitration.

THE GALICIAN MINES OF WAX.

A Curious Industrial Field That American Capital Will Control.

"The wax mines or ozokerit deposits of eastern Galicia, which a syndicate of American capitalists have leased or purchased," said D. M. Fox, of Pennsylvania, who recently returned from the oil fields of Austro-Hungary, "form one of the most curious fields of industry imaginable. They are at and around Boryslaw, which is also the center of the eastern oil district of that part of Austria. They have been for generations in the possession of Polish Jews of the most avaricious class, who have worked them in the most primitive manner. The wax lies in beds, like clay, at depths of from 350 to 600 feet. Shafts are sunk to the beds. The sides are curbed with timbers, but in such a careless and unscientific way that they are constantly caving in and burying workmen in the depths. From four to six men are killed in this way every week. The owners of the mines persistently refuse to go to the expense of making their shafts safe, and the laborers are at their mercy.

"The Boryslaw wax field is only fifty acres in extent, and upon that 10,000 shafts have been sunk. Twelve thousand men live and work on that tract. The owners of the deposits have made immense fortunes from the product, as it is very valuable, bringing eight cents a pound at the pits. Its use until within a few years was confined solely to making candles, but the manifold uses to which paraffine has been adapted has given this Galician deposit a much wider utility. The region is intensely Catholic, and holy days are constantly occurring, upon which occasions vast numbers of candles are used. The ozokerit lies in veins sixteen inches thick. It is dug out with shovels and raised from the shaft with buckets and windlass. The owners are the only merchants, bankers and hotel keepers in the region. Everything is mortgaged to them. The men shave their heads, leaving only a tuft of hair at each temple. The women also shave their heads, wearing mohair wigs instead of their natural head covering.

"There is more in this primitive field of mineral wax passing into the control of American capital than appears on the surface. These deposits have interfered in no small degree with the market for American paraffine in European markets, and American paraffine is an important product. The men who will control this Galician natural paraffine are greatly interested in the American artificial paraffine, and they intend to have the market in one way if they can't in another."—New York Sun.

One Hundred and Seven Years Old.

Mrs. Lanchester, of Bildershaw, near Darlington, England, is well in her 107th year, having been born at Gallow Hill, Yorkshire, on May 29, "Oak Apple day," 1783. A healthy old lady she is, too. She no longer rises early, but she performs her own toilet, and, though a little deaf, can see without glasses, her "second sight" having come to her about eighteen years back. She also talks and walks well, and during the late harvest actually took part in the gleaning. Mrs. Lanchester, who is a widow of forty years' standing, has had several children. Her eldest surviving "child" is 80 years of age, and she has a great-grandson of 25. She cannot "abide" doctors and has only traveled by train three times in her life.—Hall's Journal of Health.

A Boston Millionaire.

Henry Lillie Pierce, a Boston millionaire, is quick to recognize literary ability and the demands of genius—as evidence of which is the impetus he gave T. B. Aldrich. Understanding how trammeling any financial need would be, he invested money for Mr. Aldrich, which has resulted in comparative wealth to the poet. The Aldriches, with their famous twins—boys ready for Harvard now—and Mr. Pierce, form one household. It is said in Boston that wherever a rare bit of bric-a-brac or a "find" in a curio is discovered by a dealer, his first thought is to show it to Henry Pierce or Tom Aldrich.—San Francisco Argonaut.

"His Nibs de Eiffel Tower."

One of three giants (brothers) who have exhibited their seven feet two of human architecture in dime museums for the past three or four years was passing the office at the time when several newsboys were marching away with their papers. One of them espied him, paused, dropped his papers on the sidewalk, and after gazing at him for a moment, cried:

"Hi! Jimmy! get on to his nibs de Eiffel tower!"

Then walking up to the giant, he asked:

"Say, mister, ain't you afraid o' ketching de 'gripps' up there?"—New York Herald.

Bees Swarming in February.

While a young man named Flint, son of the bailiff to Mr. E. Foster, of Woodbury, Tempsford, Bedfordshire, was engaged in the fields one day in February he suddenly heard the humming of bees, and on looking round he was astonished to see a splendid swarm of bees which had alighted on a shrub. The youth's father is an amateur bee farmer, and being himself quite an expert, he soon obtained a hive and secured the whole swarm, which is said to be a fine one. It was subsequently presented to a laboring man residing in the neighborhood.—London Times.

An elliptical shaped gray stone, probably two feet in length and about six inches in diameter, was received at the White House a day or two ago, accompanied by a letter from Governor Prince, of New Mexico. He stated that the stone was of the idol age, anterior to the arrival of the Spaniards in the western continent, and it was known to be over 300 years old. Among the Pueblo Indians the stone was venerated as a household god, and examination showed that with some rude tools an attempt had been made to depict eyes, nose and mouth on the upper flat portion, while in the center crossed hands are easily discernible.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED!

MALE UNMARRIED TEACHER FOR Williams' Lake District School, B. C. Duties to commence in August. Apply to F. BORLAND, Sec. Trustees. jly6-w-2t. 150 mile House, B. C.

WANTED!

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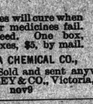

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