

**THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE** between Chili and Peru are reported to be brighter.

**PROHIBITION AMENDMENTS** have been defeated in the Texas and Missouri Legislatures, in the latter by nine of a majority.

**COMPLAINT IS MADE** that property in Manitoba and the North-West belonging to persons living in the East is frequently sold to pay taxes without sufficient notice being given the owners to protect their interests and in some cases it is alleged that land is so sold under a false pretext, the taxes being paid up.

**MISS MARY DANIELS** has accepted twenty-nine thousand dollars from the New York Central and Hudson River Railway for injuries in the disaster at Spayten Duyvel about a year ago. This is said to be the largest sum ever paid by that company for personal injuries. The lady had claimed a hundred thousand, but the above sum was agreed upon without litigation.

**MR. ROBINSON**, of New York, the British hater, has asked for information in the National House, whether the officers of a British steamer had held an immigrant under arrest in an American port until they sent for the British Consul and had the passenger tried before permitting him to land. He also offered a resolution that he said was "for the relief of England, the benefit of Ireland and the glory of the United States"—he should have added, "for the political advantage of Mr. Robinson among the Irish voters of New York." This resolution discusses the condition of Ireland, which it represents as panting for republicanism, and goes on to request the President to communicate with the Government of Great Britain, to obtain its consent for the annexation of Ireland to the United States by purchase or otherwise. Mr. Robinson has been showing much activity in behalf of securing fair play for P. J. Sheridan, the Irish Nationalist whom the British Government asks the United States to surrender on a charge of murder or conspiracy to murder.

**THE GRAND JURY** in the case of the destruction, with terrible loss of life, of the Newhall House, Milwaukee, has rendered a verdict. Nothing especially blameworthy was found in the construction of the hotel, as compared with others, nor any want of care on the owners' part in providing against fire. The landlord was solicitous for the safety of the guests, but did not employ sufficient men or means to alarm the guests, yet it is said on his behalf that he adopted precautions equal to the generality of similar houses. He was at fault in not being more vigilant in watching the bar-room, knowing the bad habits of the tenant thereof, and also in not giving instructions at the fire. Weakness is found in the laws regulating modes of getting out of buildings. In view of the appalling calamity investigated by the jurors, their verdict seems tame, but yet it may be fair. If the common run of hotels, however, are little better than firetraps, it is time the authorities of every place having one should perceive and act upon their responsibilities in the matter.

**THE NEW ENGLISH ARMOR-PLATED** warship Conqueror is fast approaching completion at the Chatham yard. She recently made a trial of her engines in the local waters. The Conqueror is a turret ship and ram of 6200 tons, and is fitted with engines of 4500 horse-power. Her armor is of steel, and some of the plates are 14 inches thick. It is believed that these plates would be able to resist the most powerful guns, save, perhaps, those recently on trial at Spezia. When finished she will have cost over \$1,500,000. The estimated cost of the hull alone was \$1,370,000.

#### A REMARKABLE PATIENT.

A remarkable man, now living in Lebanon County, Pa., was recently exhibited before the Philadelphia Medical Society. Peter Wendling was born forty-eight years ago, at Mt. Nebo, a little village in Lebanon County, Pa. Although nearly half a century old, he has never had any teeth—not even the deciduous teeth of infancy. Neither has he ever had any distinct growth of hair on the scalp. He is entirely destitute of the sense of smell, and almost of that of taste. In regard to the latter he is barely able to distinguish the difference between the several kinds of food. In the words of a prominent physician, "he is just about able to tell the difference of taste between cheese and chalk." But the most wonderful thing about the man, that has set the pet theories of physicians of both hemispheres at naught, is that his skin is entirely devoid of pores. Under the closest scrutiny of the microscope it has been impossible to discover perspiratory glands, without which the doctors have always contended a man cannot live. The fine downy hair that is commonly on the limbs of any ordinary person is entirely absent in this case, and the skin is perfectly dry, and without the slightest suspicion of moisture. When working actively, his body becomes intensely hot, and the only means of assuaging this heat is to throw water over him. What is most peculiar is that Mr. Wendling has never known a day's sickness and is, in every sense, a healthy man. He is, of course, on account of the entire absence of teeth, unable to masticate food. He cannot even crunch it with his jaws, as the lower one protrudes so that the gums do not meet. Besides vegetables and soft food, he can only eat the tenderest of meat, which, after cutting it up very fine, he makes an attempt to chew by pressing it with his tongue against the roof of his mouth, to extract the juice, and then swallows it. He is among the youngest of twenty-one children, none of which possessed any of the peculiarities of their brother. The parents were also perfect, but his maternal uncle and grandmother, it is said, were both as singularly created as Mr. Wendling. His father was a farmer, and the son followed this occupation for many years. When working in the fields it was always necessary to have a couple of boys bring water to him, as he could not find relief from the intense heat his body was subjected to by perspiration, as ordinary people do. The boys threw the water on him, and his clothes were continually kept wet. He never suffered any inconvenience from this, and never knew what it was to have a cold. It finally became rather expensive to employ boys to carry water to the field for him, and he concluded to change his vocation. He then sought employment in the ore mines of Cornwall, Lebanon County. More he was beset by another difficulty. His skin being dry and shivery, for want of natural perspiration, he was unable to get a firm grip on the pick-axe and the other tools used. This he remedied by wearing gloves, with which he was able to wield his implement somewhat better. He soon grew tired of this kind of work, however, and about a year ago, having learned the trade of making shoes, he opened a little shop in Bismarck, a small village about seven miles south of Lebanon. The smaller tools used in cobbling, he can easily manage. While at work in his little shop he has a bucket of water standing beside him with which he keeps his clothes constantly wet. During the summer, when it is so warm that he cannot sleep, he goes into the cellar and lies on the damp ground until he becomes sufficiently cool, when he again retires to his couch, and he is able to slumber. He frequently takes this means of cooling off. One of his greatest delights is to give himself a thorough soaking under the pump. His sedentary occupation has caused him to have a slight attack of dyspepsia within the last few months, as he was always used to outdoor labor. Mr. Wendling has a wife and eight children. His progeny have none of the defects of the father with the exception that their teeth are imperfect. One of his daughters, who is about sixteen years old, has only ten teeth, instead of the twenty-eight she should possess, and none of them have a full set. Intellectually, Mr. Wendling is perfect. Prof. S. H. Guilford, of the Philadelphia College, has been acquainted with Mr. Wendling some ten or twelve years. He has spoken to a number of old residents of Lebanon County who have known this strange man since his infancy, and who corroborate all the facts of his peculiar history as related above. Prof. Guilford has for several years been anxious to get Mr. Wendling to come to Philadelphia to be presented to the students of the dental college. As Mr. Wendling was of a retiring disposition, the professor was unable to accomplish his object until this winter. It would have been impossible to bring him here in the summer, as his clothes have to be kept continually wet during the hot months, and he would, therefore, attract much attention. Mr. Wendling finally consented to appear at the last meeting of the dental college. This was done. The physicians made a close examination and were astonished. They all pronounced the case as being of the strangest character and one unknown in medical annals. Mr. Wendling returned home a few days ago.

**FOREIGN BODIES IN THE EAR.** Some children have a propensity to put small objects which happen to come into their hands, such as beads, buttons, the seeds of fruit, etc., into their ears. The alarm attending a mishap of this kind is only fully appreciated by parents whose children have indulged in a predilection of this kind, and they, as well as others, may profit by some experience which the aurists of New York have quite recently discussed in the columns of *The Medical Record* concerning the removal of locust beans from the ears of children. In one case—a child nine years old—where a locust bean had been put in the ear, Dr. Buck partially detached the outer ear, an operation which seemed to afford the only way of getting at the bean, which had been tightly packed in the canal. Dr. Sexton relates another, but somewhat similar, difficult case, which suggested to him the construction of forceps for grasping objects in the ear, and which subsequently served him in removing foreign bodies in such cases. It would appear from a perusal of *The Record* that in nearly all cases where foreign bodies like the above are put into the ear they may be allowed to remain, for a time at least, without fear of harm resulting, the danger in such cases being the result of unskillful and bungling attempts at removal. The principal cause of danger in these cases is stated by Dr. Sexton to consist mainly in the inability of children to remain quiet enough to permit necessary manipulations being made, and he advises, therefore, that in nearly all difficult cases an anæsthetic should be administered before removal is attempted. In conclusion, it would seem to be advisable when a child gets a bead, a seed or other like object in the ear, not to poke it in any way, lest, during the child's struggling, it may be pushed further down into the ear. The removal, it is needless to say, should be entrusted to the skillful only, and if such aid be not accessible, it is best to avoid any energetic procedures.

#### FOREIGN BODIES IN THE EAR.

**FALLING FROM A HEIGHT.**—With regard to the recent sad suicide of a girl by leaping from one of the towers of Notre Dame, Dr. Bronardell's expressed view that the asphyxiation in the rapid fall may have been the cause of death, has given rise to some correspondence in *La Nature*. M. Bontemps points out that the depth of fall having been about 66 metres, the velocity acquired in the time (less than four seconds) cannot have been so great as that sometimes attained on railways, e. g., 33 metres per second on the line between Chalons and Paris, where the effect should be the same; yet we never hear of the asphyxiation of engine drivers and stokers. He considers it desirable that the idea in question should be exploded, as unhappy persons may be led to choose suicide by falling from a height, under the notion that they will die before reaching the ground. Again, M. Grossin mentions that a few years ago a man threw himself from the top of the Column of July and fell on an awning which sheltered workmen at the pedestal; he suffered only a few slight contusions. M. Remy says he has often seen an Englishman leap from a height of 31 metres (say 105 feet) into a deep river; and he was shown in 1852, in the Island of Oahu, by missionaries, a native who had fallen from a verified height of 3100 metres (say 1000 feet). His fall was broken near the end by a growth of ferns and other plants, and he had only a few wounds. Asked as to his sensation in falling he said he only felt dazzled.—*Nature*.

#### SUBSTITUTE FOR NEW YEAR CALLS.

A Trieste, Austria, correspondent writes to a London paper:—"Your readers will be amused to learn how in this city we have got rid of the old intolerable burden of New Year's day etiquette, which requires the day to be spent in incessant calls. Subscription lists are now opened at all the clubs, commercial rooms and principal cafes, and it is understood that every person signing his name and paying the sum of two florins will, by a convenient fiction, be deemed to have fulfilled all these troublesome duties. The lists are published gratis by the local papers; and the total sum collected is given to the institution of the poor. It equals on this occasion between £200 and £300 sterling for this town alone. The lists are scrutinized very closely, particularly by ladies, who buy the papers publishing the names, and woe to the man whose name is not found on the list. It would show that he does not frequent society at all, or that he does not care to comply with its obligations, or that he has not got the 3s. 6d., or, finally, that he prefers to make the calls personally at his own trouble and expense.

#### THE BLOOD.

Never, under any circumstances, rub the limbs downward. The blood in circulation, which can be reached by rubbing is all venous or blue blood. It is charged with waste and poisonous materials, and is struggling to get to the heart and lungs for purification. Always rub upwards. But few invalids, especially with female difficulties, who will not feel a new life imparted to them when this is tried for the first time. Valves are placed in the veins to resist downward movement, while the stiff arteries, near the bone, have none. Clasp the wrist tightly, and see what multiple currents of poison start out on the hand, while none of them appear on the arm back of the ligature. A life could be destroyed in a short time by simply rubbing the limbs downward, while you can almost drag the lead out of the grave by rapid, persistent and general rubbing of the limbs upwards if no lesion of vital parts has occurred. In view of this, why has it not been stated in the hundreds of directions for restoration of the dead from asphyxia and syncope—as in drowning and heart disease? Rubbing to and fro simply affects the capillaries, doing little if any good. Artificial respiration is beneficial, but only when it has given impulse to the heart. The best results will be obtained by having as many as four or six persons rubbing the limbs synchronously (all alike in rhythm) while another manipulates the breast and abdomen.—*Selected*.

IT IS SAID that cats never display any of the attachment and gratitude to their masters that are shown by dogs. If this be true, Louis Blanc's favorite cat was an exception to the rule. This animal was in the habit of sitting for its master on the stairs, every evening until his return from the Chamber of Deputies, and it is now said to have died of grief two days after his decease. It refused to take either food or drink.

**HENRY VINCENT**, the English lecturer related to an American that he was driving with John Bright when the news of Abraham Lincoln's death was told them by a man who stopped their carriage by the wayside for that purpose. Neither of the two Englishmen spoke a word in response. They drove on in utter silence, and by and by, when each looked up at the other's face, the eyes of both were full of tears.

**M. FALLIERES**, the recent French Premier, who has just been succeeded by Jules Ferry, owes his success in life largely to his pleasant manners. He has disarmed many a foe by honeyed words, and made either a friend of him or a sympathetic adversary. But underneath all these ways there is the astuteness of the lawyer, and although he is all things to all men he takes care to be the dupe of nobody.

**THE PORTLAND OREGONIAN** tells of an expressman in that city who, one cold day recently, was seen stamping around on the sidewalk in front of the Occidental Hotel to keep himself warm, while his overcoat was spread over his horse.