

RETURN OF THE PHEASANT.

She Reports no Seizures and Little or no Trouble with Sealers. H. M. S. Pheasant, Captain Blair, arrived in Esquimaux from her northern cruise at 6 o'clock last evening.

AFTER THE FLOOD.

Ploughing and Seeding Again—Large London Contributions. Between Langley and Popcorn the water has receded fully six feet, and ploughing and seeding of the lands covered by the flood is commenced in various sections.

THE ONTARIO SITUATION.

Rather a Gloomy Picture of the State of Business and Crops. A Toronto correspondent writes to the Times as follows: He instances the fact that in Toronto business is good, money is not as plentiful as usual, a good many men out of work, very little building has been done this summer, and nobody cares about building as two or three houses stand empty.

IRRITABILITY OF PLANTS.

A German Scientist Says All Plants are Sensitive to a Degree. At a recent meeting of German naturalists Professor Pfeffer gave an address on the subject of irritability of plants. Irritability, he pointed out, is not an exceptional characteristic found in special plants, it is a fundamental quality found in all plants, from the highest to the lowest, although its manifestations in great measure escape superficial observation.

PROGRESS IN AFRICA.

Changes Noted in the Settlements along the Congo. A German named Martin, who recently made a seven months' trip up the Congo river, tells some interesting things about the present condition of the settlements and enterprises along the Congo river, and has thus furnished a text for the well known African traveller, Dr. Baumann, who contrasts the prevailing conditions of the Congo valley with what he saw nine years ago, when he went over the very same ground.

SINKING OUT OF SIGHT.

The Missouri River Likely to Disappear Within Half a Century. The recent survey of the Missouri river under the direction of the United States geographical engineering department resulted in the discovery that the stream is undergoing a curious transformation. During the survey measurements were made of the volume of water passing between the banks at various points.

DROWNED IN THE GORGE.

A Little Child's Sad Death—Body Recovered To-day. The two year old son of Principal Thomas Nicholson of the Victoria West school, was drowned at the Gorge last evening. Mr. Nicholson lives on the water's edge, just below the Gorge bridge. While the family was at dinner last evening the little fellow slipped from his place at the dinner table and went out of the house. It was thought that he was sitting on the steps, so no notice was taken of his absence for twenty minutes.

LA SIBILING STORY.

U. S. Patrol Vessels Fear the Approach of German and Norwegian Sealers. The following highly improbable sealing story has been sent out from Port Townsend: "By the latest reports from the Behring Sea, brought down by the steamer Queen, it is learned that there is more than a possibility of international complications arising in regard to the authority of our fleet over vessels fishing for seals in the waters of the United States and England."

HENRY IRVING'S WIFE.

Brought Into Notice by an American Publishing Agent. Mrs. Henry Irving has suddenly become a celebrity in England. Very few people knew that the wife of the great actor was living, until an American agent, who was publishing a series of articles upon the obscure wives of famous men, got upon Mrs. Irving's track and brought her forth into the light. He is a smooth and plausible agent, and has called upon Mrs. Irving and talked sympathetically with her a number of times. She finally agreed to write for him. He got a number of her photographs and began to turn out a bewildering series of articles upon the wife of the most famous actor in the English tongue. He started in by calling her a recluse. Both of her sons denied this in different papers, the agent answering them, and there was altogether a very extraordinary amount of publicity over the subject. The fact seems to be that Mrs. Irving is not a recluse, but for many years she has felt an aversion for the stage. She lived quietly in a little house in the west end of London with her two sons, both of whom bear a close resemblance to their father. Mr. Irving does not live there, his time being devoted almost entirely to his theatres. He gives his wife an allowance of £1000 a year. She is tall, exceedingly thin, was a Miss O'Callaghan before her marriage, and is said to have a good share of Irish wit. She affects an aesthetic style of dress and seldom goes into society. Publicity has its attractions, though, for it is noted that since Mrs. Irving began to figure in the newspapers as the unknown wife of a well known man she has been going out very generally in London society, and has astonished her oldest friends by appearing four times in amateur theatricals.

NEW HOT BLAST FURNACE.

The Air Pumps Around the Crucible Before Entering the Furnace. A new hot blast copper furnace is described in the Arizona papers, the main feature consisting of an arrangement for heating the blast before it enters the furnace; that is, there is a wind jacket completely surrounding the crucible of the furnace, and in connection with the blast supply pipe and also with the regular wind box. In operation the blast coming from the supply pipe enters the wind jacket in the usual way, and is slightly higher than the surrounding atmosphere, and passes completely around the crucible, here coming in contact throughout its passage with the hottest portion of the furnace. After making a circuit of the crucible it flows into the regular wind box, and thence to the tuyeres in the regular fashion. In making its passage it heats the blast to a high degree by taking up the heat which has already been lost to such a large extent by radiation, now taking it back into the furnace to perform the usual work by reducing the coke consumption. It also keeps the crucible from getting abnormally hot, thus saving wear and tear caused by great variations of temperature, and saving the time formerly lost by cooling it down when in this highly heated condition. For those working in the vicinity of the furnace this arrangement insures a much greater degree of coolness and comfort, and there is also claimed to be an important reduction in the running expenses.—New York Sun.

A MARTYR'S FORM.

The Strange Story of an Algerian Convert to Christianity. The marvelous ways in which the stiel forces of nature preserve accurate records of human deeds and make great wrongs imperishable has just been illustrated anew in Algeria, says the New York World. Away back in the year 1568 a poor lad known as Geromino became a convert to the Christian faith and with many others suffered martyrdom rather than deny his religion. The records of the persecution are scant enough, but it so happened that a good monk of that day, struck with pity wrote an account of the death of the friendless and brave boy, Geromino, which account has come down to us. From this narrative we learn that the martyr, after having been tortured and afflicted and refusing to recant, was thrown alive into a bed of soft cement, where he sank out of sight and perished in a fearful manner, disappearing as his persecutors believed, forever from the world. It is worth noting that the good Spanish monk appends to his narrative a sort of prayer that God will some day bring forth from the earth this poor body from its shameful resting place and give it over to the Christian world to be honored with the other martyrs who died for the faith.

LEARNING TO BE A COWBOY.

The Process Through Which a Boston Youth Passed in Nebraska. He was a cultured Bostonian, so he said, but with his long, fair, curly hair and self-evident verdancy he was mistaken for a dude and by others for Will Wright's first cousin, says the Chadron Citizen. He had come all the way from Boston to be a wild and woolly cowboy like you read about but an eye-glass was the only lacking essential to constitute either a dude or Willie.

IN THE DAYS OF THE KING.

Labouchere's Description of a Prize Fight in the 60's. "Among my many sins I have attended a prize fight, and for the outpour of rank bile and redoubtable blackguardism it ran an execution at Newgate or Horse-monger lane jail very close. The police were dead against prize fights, which were excused for a gigantic form of extortion. Two ruffians of the lowest class contracted to batter one another about in order to extract the guineas from the swells, the toffs and the supporters of the "noble art of self-defence." A programme had to be secretly arranged, a special train had to be secured for the army of fortune seekers, and the scum of the metropolis, who lived upon the excitement or pelf of prize fights. There was a certain official countenance to these illegal "mills."

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DOG INTELLIGENCE.

Development of the Language Faculty Among Brutes. The creation of something like a language among our civilized dogs has usually been accompanied by the foundation of an understanding of human speech. Although we cannot attach much importance to the mass of anecdotes on this point, there is enough which is well attested, sufficient indeed which has come within the limits of my own observation, to make it clear that dogs, even the most deliberate teaching, frequently acquire a tolerably clear understanding of a number of words, and even of short phrases. They will catch these not only when given in distinct commands, but when uttered in an ordinary tone without any sign that they relate to their affairs. It is true that these understood words generally relate to some action which the dog is accustomed to perform, yet there are instances which even the most intelligent creatures can get some sense of the drift of conversation even when it is carried on by persons with whom they are not connected, and does not clearly relate to their own affairs.

MISSALICENOUS.

The white Calla lily of our gardens is well known, it still retaining the original name of Calla, although botanists have in modern times removed it to another genus, which is called *Calla*. It has been frequently hinted that there are species with other colors which would soon come into cultivation; but so far these have been mere rumors. It is now definitely known that there is a bright yellow species, which has been named by botanist Calla *Elliotiana*. The one in cultivation known as the *Calla* *maritima*, has a slightly yellowish tint some times. The new one is spotted with white, similar to our common *Calla*. Only one original plant was introduced, and it is said there are only a few now pagated from it in cultivation. The plants were raised at auction in London, and bought by enterprising dealers for £2000, which is considered the largest figure ever obtained for auction plants. Another fellow one has been introduced, which is said to differ in having larger foliage and richer colored spathe, but which has not yet been offered to the trade.—Meehan's Monthly.

THE CRIME COMM.

As the President of the Crime Commission. The crime commission has just issued its report on the assassination of President Garfield. The report is a long and detailed one, and contains many interesting facts and figures. It is the result of a year's work, and is the most comprehensive report on the subject that has ever been issued.

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ASSASSIN PRESIDENT STABBED. The Crime Commission as the President of the Crime Commission. An Italian Assassin a Dagger Into the White Carrion. Intense Excitement Resolutions of and Prayers the P. Paris, June 25.—S. cent of the French President mortally at 9:15 evening Caserio Santo, an Italian, 35 years old, President Lyons to visit the sciences and industries chamber of commerce his honor, shortly after walked in the carriage in the Place de la Harly had his newspaper in hand, crowd and sprang steps. President Caserio snatched a dagger and plunged it abdomen near the back back unconscious at once to the prefect skillful surgeons in motion. Meantime S. The news spread swift the city. Infuriated streets. Before ten restaurant had been closed were obliged to protect the Italian President. President Carnot a reply and intended Tuesday. He was a pal Borius chief of hold most of his other Premier Dupuy, M. members of the cabinet enthusiastically at mayor and district prefectures the president torch-light procession of fire-works and planned to go to the Place de la Combe the banquet at the Hotel de Ville in Paris during the banquet elated by the cordial not only by the crowd but also by the was cheered incessantly as he left the until he took the cat. The demonstrative crowd caused the Caserio his opportunity push his way forward until he was in the midst of the banquet. As soon as the police the hands of his cap off to the station he Premier Dupuy at on a lay. He announced the president chamber of deputies afterwards hold a conference of the interests this morning. Some congress at Wednesday for the purpose. They favored official notice has been on the chambers to Versailles on Wednesday. Lyons was the president, accompanied by her sons, arrived on a special train from Paris. They another of the president with his father, who was trampled ately driven to the dead body lay. He looked at the face tears, though all eyes before his death. He was with Caserio's last words, extreme query as to whether Carnot should be informed by the people were around an altar in Italy. He were his last words. His respiration ceased. June 25.—yet identified Carno Italian subject. W. Caserio, the general assassin in Italy. He ed the death of C.