THE TOWN OF TOKAY BURNED.

Fourthing About Habanious Wines - & Long Rept Art.

The town of Johay, in the country of Zemphin, Upper Hungary, was on Monday the scen of a most destructive conflagration, which has laid all but a small portion of the place ra ashes. Tokay was a place of about 5,000 inhabitants. It was the seat of the county law courts, had a college for the training of priests, a grammar and other saids, and four or five churches, all of which buildings have been destroyed. The me was still raging yesterday afternoon, and as a hurricane was blowing, all attempts to save the place proved impossible. The Town Hall, the schools, churches, and hotels are all in ashes, and the inhabitants are without shelter of food. Government assistance has, however, been promised.

The site of Tokay is on the slopes of the Hegyalia Mountains, which are of volcanic origin, and are entirely covered with grape-aims of the particular variety which has made the name celebrated. Some twenty-five other market towns and villages dotting this range of hills share with Tokay in the profitable industry of producing the famous wine. Torkay was a very old town. It is mentioned in documents of the thirteenth century, which state that King Bela IV. summoned Italian vine-dressers to Tokay to teach the native growers the art of making the best wine possible from the excellent grapes their grown. This art has been preserved to our own days, the chief secreticing the mixture of the juice of dried berries with that of fresh grapes. There are his principal qualities of Tokayer, that to which the largest proportion of dried grapes is added being the famous "Tokayer Essence." The total annual product of the whole of the Tokay district used to be from 150,000 to 200,000 cimers, or about 2,500,000 gallons, but it fell off on the appearance of the phylloxera in Hegyalia.

The best qualities of Tokay, which are among the most famous dessert wines in the world, are only drunk by sovereigns and princes. Of the rare variety known as "Mezesmale," that is Honey Beams, which is only produced in Tarezal, near Tokay, the Emperor

Japanese Encamped on the Olyde.

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A very strange and interesting sight is just becoming familiar to the busy and thriving community of Clydebank, and is attracting the attention and arousing the curiosity of the observant among the crowds of steam boat passengers sailing upand down the river. The world-wide fame of the Messra James and George Thomson, Limited, was themeans of bringing to their ship-building yard at Clydebank an order from the Japanese Government for a gunboat, which is to be named the Chiyoda. In the month of August last year five officers came to superintend its construction, and in the beginning of June last the captain arrived with ten additional officers and 130 men to take the ship home to her destination. However, the work was not so well advanced as the officials who despatched the crew must have supposed, and the men in consequence have been ever since experiencing what closely recomment, if it is not in reality, camp life, with the added charm of its being camp life on a foreign shore. It is true the tars, with the exception of the captain and most of the officers, sleep on board the ship, but as the workmen employed in building the rate exception of the captain and most of the officers, sleep on board the ship, but as the workmen employed in building the rate exception of the captain and the morning the

three or four times a day, the last parade being held about five o'clock in the afternoon. In their military evolutions and excresses they follow the French and German system, but in their purely naval work they copy the British pattern. While at work and at drill they are attired in white ducks and when off duty they sport navy blue And, whether on the parade ground or of the highway, a smarter set of men could not be seen. They are rather under the average size of the British men-of-war, but they are well-proportioned and athletic-looking. Rigged out as they are in clothes similar to those worn by the British men-of-war they might be taken for them readily enough.

Will Man Ever Fly?

Will Man Ever Fly?

The giant birds of geology, such as the discornis, the extinct mea of New-Zealand some of which stood more than ten feet high were most of them wingless, just as still the great extrich is a running, not a flying, bird. The albatrosses and the conders, giants among the winged fewl of the present day, are only relatively gigantic, since the weights of their bodies are trifling compared with these of human beings, and their lofty flights even if matched by the ascending powers of balloons, are unsuited to the respiratory faculties of iran.

Helmholtz has observed that, though

Helmholtz has observed that, though Helmholtz has observed that, though many small birds which me granivorous fly swiftly, the great birds that are potent on the wing are fish and flesh caters, not needing extensive organs of digestion for their concentrated food. He thinks it therefore probable that in the model of the great Alpino cagle nature has attained the utmost limit that can be attained, with muscles for the working organs and conditions of nourishment as invorable as possible for the size of a creature which is to raiso itself by wings and maintain itself for any time high in the air.

and maintain itself for any time high in the air.

Under these circumstances he concludes that it is searcely to be considered probable that man, with the most skillfully contrived mechanism, to be moved by his own musculapower, would ever be able to raise his own weight into the air and sustant there for any time worth speaking of. When vessels tilled with gas lighter than air to employed to supply the lifting power, annyet other vessels are employed with some stored force to take the place of our own muscular resources, the consequential increase of bulk and weight in the complex machine must indeed greatly discourage human aspirations deed greatly discourage human aspirations and longings for the invention of artificial

wings.
The desire involved, however little it may he desire involved, nowever fitte to may be formulated, in those aspirations, is for the capacity to cleave the air like a merlin or to skim over the waters like a swift, and for ability to do this or something like it freely on the impulse of the moment, not after consultation with the gas works and a fee to the electrical engineer.

Fight Overa Coffin.

Fight Over a Coffin.

At Westminster on Tuesday, Lydia Viel, aged twenty-eight, a shirt dresser, giving an address in Vauxhall Bridge Road, was charged before Mr. Sheil with being drunk and disorderly in Victoria Street, Westminster, and with violently assentting Edward, Ernest, and Sydney Coomber, undertakers, of 8 Strutton Ground. Late on Monday night the persecutors were "shouldering" a coffin, containing a corpso (which they had just breight away from the Westminster Hospital) along Victoria Street when the prisoner stopped them by getting in their way. Sho hit Ernest Coomber, who was at the middle of the coffin, in the back, almost causing him to let the coffin down in the street. Edward Coomber left his place at the head of the coffin to try to persuade the prisoner to go away, but sho become very violent, and kicked and scratched him. To avoid a spill the men had to put the coffin down in the road and seiz the prisoner, who in her seles tore Sydney Coomber's coat. Mr. What do you say to all this? The will be a fine the coffin down, and he had be suffered to take my own and Edward Coombersaid to me, suffered to take my own also lived in the coffin down, and he had be suffered to take my own also lived in the coffin down, and the coffin down, also lived in the coffin down own to the coffin down, and the coffin down and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down, and the coffin down and the coffin down and the coffin down, and the coffin down and the coffin down, and the coffin down and the coffin down. The complete such as a compl

A Wonderful Meteor.

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In a paper printed in the new number of the Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute, Mr. Taylor White describes an extraordinary meteor which he saw at Wimbledon, Hawkes Bay, on May 3, 1839, between 8 and 9 o'clock P. M. The nucleus or head was of eval form, of a transparent light yellow color, as of iron at a white heat. The tail was in the form of the tail of a pheasant, expanded—that is the two centre streamers were of uniform length, the other ones gradually shortening so that the outernost streamer on either side was very much shorter than those in the middle. The streamers were of a dull opaque orange. These were distinctly divided each from each by dark bands, which consisted of several fine black lines to probably the number of five to each band.

Mr. White is unable to fix the number of orange streamers but would guess ten as probably correct. The colors blue and green were also certainly present. No sound was audible while the meteor was in view. "But," says Mr. White, "after I had gone into the house, and was describing what I had seen, the sound of its st. 'king the earth or sea was heard—a loud and lengthened noise, to me like the violent shaking of all the forest trees, and evidently above ground, thereby differing from the sound accompanying an earthquake—coming from the westward; and this was followed, after a hardly perceptible interval, by a fainter sound like an echo to the northests.

"The time which clapsed till the sound was heard was from these to fire minutes."

was heard was from three to five minutes."

Various New Zealand daily journals gave full descriptions of the phenomenon at the time. According to the New Zealand Times, the apparent size of the meteor was "quite half that of the full moon."

The King and the Hymn.

The King of Greece was fearfully bored, when at Aix, by the sets made at him by professional beauties who had not the talent to conceal their art. One of them hired the to conceal their ext. One of them hired the flat near his lodging, and a piane. Her musical education was neglected. But she knew how to play the Greek hymn. Whenever his Majesty returned from the laths she struck it up. If there is an air the King hates more than another it is that one. He has had to listen to it many times every day at Athens for twenty-seven years. Whenever he gees to a casino, concert, or opera, the orchestra gives him several lars. In short, it is to him so fearfully hackneyed that it grates on his nerves if, when it is being played, he cannot think of something else, and thus shut it out from his exa. But the professional beauty stumbled, and ing played, he cannot think of something else, and thus shut it out from his ears. But the professional beauty stumbled, and so got involved in false notes that he could not be deaf to her performance. He lost his temper over and over again, and sent message after message to the landlord to heg that he would silence her pianoforte. This the landlord feared to do, as the lady spent money far more freely than the potentate, and drew to the hotel rich fools, who paid for poor champagne as it were Widow Clicquot's best. The affair was arranged by a Greek from Marseilles making the acquantance of the lady and confiding to her some of his Majesty's defects. One of them was a born hatred for music, which he thought noise, and the other a taste for frumpish German women, who never painted, kept quiet, and had not a soul above knitting and daming stockings. The heauty changed her tactics accordingly. His Majesty was no longer bored by the Greek hir, and I should not wonder it he sent an Order to the diplomatic person who induced his fair neighbor to shut up her piano.

The Gordon Highlanders.

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The World says:—The Gordon Highlanders have left lielfast on the Assistance on route for Curragh, where they have been stationed for three years. Great lamentations are expressed over their departure. Their farewell dance given in harracks was a great success, and the excellence of the arrangement will long be remembered in the neighbourhood. A most delightful "sitting out" place was provided in the shape of a miniature encampment, and although the evening was fairly warm the shelter of the tents proved very welcome. At the Curragh the Gordon Highlanders will ngain meet the Scots Groys, a detachment of which regiment was quartered with them at Belfast, where the officers massed with them, and below leaving for Curragh presented them with a very pretty piece of plate in the shape of a silver eagle. A previous present from the Scots Greys, in the form of a here shoe which had been through the Heavy Dragoon charge at Blacklava, is much valued by the Gordon Highlanders.

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