







The Death of President Garfield.

BY REV. N. H. GOLDEN. The mighty has fallen! he is gone!

More brilliant than ever on the field, Who flags are trailing, and men pale and bleeding on sword, buckler and shield.

Rest, noble statesman! from all dangers ahead; The assassin's bullet that slew thee

Most thou, Nation's great chief! with the brave souls Who have struggled for freedom and right.

Rest, faithful Christian! from thy travail on earth, Repose on the pure bosom of God.

Midst pagan's pomp and requiems sad and low, We'll remember still, the good and brave.

Our Washington Letter. (Received too late for publication last week.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 24, 1881. DEAN CANTON.

The last act in the National tragedy is over and the curtain has fallen on the earthly career of General James A. Garfield.

Checks for the interest on the 4 per cent registered bonds are now being prepared at the Treasury Department, and will be mailed on the 30th inst.

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SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

Arbuthnot used to say "of the large quantity of a man's sweat, one fourth supports him, and the rest he keeps at a risk."

A method of improving India rubber and gutta percha by the addition of a distillate of brook-bark has lately been brought out.

Distillation of the outer layers of the bark produces a dense, gummy matter resembling gutta percha and capable of resisting the action of air and of the strongest corrosive acids.

It is claimed that the durability of India rubber or gutta percha is greatly increased by the addition of a small quantity—a twentieth part is sufficient—of the bituminous gum.

M. Doucroux attributes the cracks in common mortar and cements to the uncombined quicklime which they contain.

In order to neutralize the lime, he has a very fine siliceous powder mixed with diluted nitric acid.

He thus obtains mortars of much greater, more uniform and more lasting results than those hitherto used.

The application of this method has given excellent results. Stone made by the process may be worked like the natural product.

M. Gley, a French physiologist, has been investigating the effects of brain work on the circulation of the blood.

In his experiments he has shown that the application of reading to a difficult subject, upon which he had to concentrate all his energies, the rhythm of the heart was far more accelerated than when considering some matter with which he was familiar.

A peculiar pneumonum occurred in August, in the garden of the experimental upon. In the side of the Bremensberg a pig of about a hundred square yards in area suddenly opened, emitting a great volume of flame and engulfing a house and its inmates.

It is believed that the cause of the catastrophe was the ignition of gas arising from a petroleum vein in the depths of the mountain.

Paper boiling is now being used in Japan, and is said to have been found stronger than leather boiling.

Mr. John Lubbock estimates that 3,000,000 animal species have existed on our globe, of which only 30,000 are yet on record.

He places the number of recent species at 700,000. Experiments to determine the changes of color produced in flowers of ammonia have given these results.

Over a dish of ammonia was a leverglass tunnel, in the tube of which were placed the flowers of ammonia.

Blue, violet and purple flowers were found to change to a beautiful green; deep red flowers to black, and white to yellow.

These changes are most striking when the flowers have several different tints, in which the red lines are marked dark, the white spots being the most prominent.

When the flowers are placed in pure water they retain their original color for several hours, gradually assuming their original tint after that time.

Another observation made in this connection is that the flowers of the aster, which are naturally inodorous, acquire a very agreeable perfume under the influence of ammonia.

The "sees of tooth in cyclops fishes is shown by experiment to be extraordinarily developed.

A paper by Dr. D. W. Prentiss calls attention to two cases in which the introduction of piperocin—the active principle of the powerful Russian drug, Johnson's—into the human system has caused a very marked change in the color of the hair.

In the first case the piperocin was administered at intervals during a period of ten weeks with the object of "treating" the patient.

In a few days after the first application he observed the growing dark, and in six months it had become almost pure black.

In the second case the hair had become perceptibly darker in a week after treatment with piperocin was commenced.

The patient in the first case was a young lady of twenty-five, and the other a man of thirty.

The introduction of Johnson's into medicine is so recent a date that little opportunity has been afforded for studying its varied action on the system; but there appears reason to believe that the color of the hair is due to an oily pigment, which is increased by the use of the drug.

During last winter the experiments of Mr. Q. W. Siemens on the action of electric light on vegetation—with results which he has just described to the British Scientific Association—were continued.

He noticed the curious fact that plants exposed to the direct rays of the electric arc soon became sickly and withered, while in the light of the arc enclosed in a glass globe the vegetation flourished to a remarkably extent as in his previous experiments.

The unfavorable action of the open arc is supposed to arise from certain non-luminous rays which are intercepted by the glass. The botanist has here a subject for study.

UNION SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO PASTORS AND OUTRIGERS.—The missionary of the American Sunday School Union is in demand to organize new schools, to revive old schools, and to train teachers and teachers in them by holding drills, normal classes, institutes, and conventions.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Wm. Hindley, NEW YORK, NORWALK. We still adhere to Low Rates. FARE ONLY 65 CENTS. Excursion Tickets to N. Y. & return 50 CENTS.

Paper Hangings and Window Shades, For the Season of 1881. Paper Hangings. He offers a large variety of New Patterns in all the different grades, from the Cheapest Brown Blanks to the richest Gold Embossed Papers.

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