

Russia, beyond the "pale," and in the bone framework of a woman. They plague has broken out in one or two arid districts of northeastern China, wanted help, and pleaded for it in the of the provinces. The sufferers are thousands of human beings are dying thin whine of the utterly miserable— huddled together in thousands in the for want of food. Lack of rain in the and I dared not give them so much as first instance, excess of it in the sec- a copper! ond is the cause.

Five provinces in China and 21 in Russia are affected, and, while from the former country come awful tales of the bartering of human flesh for food, of the sale of little children, and of the breaking out of the plague Russia comes a wail of despair, where men, women and children are trying to cling to life, with almost nothing to of 25 degrees below zero.

Conditions are such in both countries that it is estimated that what in single visit to the theater would save and steal their turn at the meager rethis country would be the price of a a human life until returning crops bring self-support.

The Christian Herald of New York. which has taken charge of the American end of the Chinese famine relief, pledged itself to supply 10,000,000 pounds of flour, corn, cornmeal, medical supplies, etc., in addition to what had already been sent. The government gave the army transport Gen. Buford to carry this consignment from San Francisco to Shanghai.

Government Aid Inadequate.

In Russia the famine is being relieved to some extent by government ald, but the restrictions this aid carries with it make it very inadequate. It involves the delivery of one pound of bread a day only to sufferers less the vast majority between 17 and 59 get nothing except what the unselfish among the more fortunate are willing to share. And, above and beyond this, there is the fact that the black hand of Russian official graft appropriates the money the government voted for relief.

Bishop Petter, of New York, is president and Dr. Samuel J. Barrows, formerly of Boston, is secretary of the know. American relief for Russia.

A foreign correspondent writing in description of the affected districts says: "Every semblance of grass plants and roots has disappeared, and starving parents are eating their children. I know this to be true, and have myself found human flesh on

Three Months in Famine's Grip.

The district involved in the famine is known as "Kianpeh," meaning "north of the river," the stream being the Yangtse. For more than three months this region in northern China has been in the remorseless grasp of famine and famine-bred disease. Forty days of rain and consequent floods heaped calamity upon the 40,000 square miles of territory and its 15,- of the morning struggle for a portion 000,000 of people. Before new crops of the government rice and of that incan be raised it is estimated that, describable, terrible, primitive duel despite the best efforts for relief, the between life and starvation which the death list will exceed that of Naples. Chinese so dauntlessly endure. San Francisco and Jamaica rolled into

the famine camps of 30,000 starving refugees, a correspondent said recently: "Little more than an hour ago I saw two women, presumably mother and grandmother, wailing over the part of grim famine's daily toil.

"It is all so horrible, so overpowering, so haunting, so heartrending, that ous American people, to whom God planted." has given a year of plenty, while the poor of China perish from want.

comes trooping before my vision. scription. There was the man, too weak to stand | Its arrival in China is expected to

SHOWED NOBILITY OF SOUL.

Boston.—On the treeless steppes of | blind old mother, the mere skin-an- | ditions have grown steadily worse, and

The Mother's Suffering.

"Or that mother, hard-eyed and rigid, who stood against a wall with her six children gathered about her tattered skirts, staring out uncaring on a company of living refugees, who are among the close-packed sufferers, from a more melancholy sight than the thousands of ancient graves among which they are encamped. They had been fed-one portion of thin, watery eat and with no fuel in a temperature rice porridge for them all—and now they must wait in the cold for another 24 hours to pass before they can be fed again—and even then some stronger ones may push them aside

"Strange incongruities flash into this morning an old, old woman, cov- their only hope of sustenance was ered only by a few rags, who sat on gone. the cold, bare ground, sharing her Last year in more than 1,500,000 small bowl of rice with a babe of 12 or square miles of Russian territory there who sat on her knees, I thought of ants hopefully put their little store of some grandmothers whom I know in seed grain into the ground. When the America—sweet-faced and comfortable arid land failed to return a crop, not and kindly, whose evening of life is only were they robbed of the fruits of made pleasant by the love of children their toil, but their seed grain itself, the word want. And I recalled some gone. There was nowhere to turn for baby friends—sweet, ruddy little dears, work or succor. Hundreds of miles wrapped in the finest linen, with ward- away there were cities, but the few robes upon which love has lavished daring ones who reached them sent than 17 and more than 59 years of its generosity, and whose food is a back the hopeless words: "No work." age. Infants under one year, and all matter of careful consultation with Wholesale "Grafting." physicians and friends.

"Of course, I cannot imagine these delicately nutured babes in dirty tatters and exposed to the cold winter night and day, week after week, yet somehow one picture suggests the for private ends at least one-half of other. Just so, when a refugee mother accosted us this morning and asked us tion brought instantly to view the preciousness of the American children I But even this sum is totally inadequate

Suffering Unparalleled.

"Incidents could be piled upon incidents; every one of these 30,000 refugees incarnates a story-a story of a home abandoned, of toilsome journeys to this southern district in the hope of finding a pittance of food to allay that awful gnawing of hunger; of the eager hunt for a sheltered nook in a doorway; of being driven from spot to spot, until at last a few feet of bare earth are secured out among the graves with the other refugees-a space no bigger than a Chinese grave suffices for an entire Chinese family; of the daily and nightly huddling together in one mass for the sake of human warmth; of the search for dry gra.s with which to make a tiny fire;

"In all this, I write of the best, and not of the worst. This is only the first Writing after a tour through one of outpost of the famine district.

Always Close to Starvation.

"The Chinese live closer to actual tiny coffin of a child that had been ways poor. So the failure of the crops -not to mention the destruction of their homes by flood-at once placed them in a state of actual destitution, one cannot write of it in orderly fash. which can only be relieved when the 000, and others of the 21 provinces afion. It seems as if only the repeated wheat crop is harvested in July. cry of 'Help! Help!' can be Meanwhile, owing to lack of seed, only fashioned for the ears of the prosper- half of the spring wheat crop has been

The cargo of food which the Christian Herald sent over to the stricken "Out of the awful mass of suffering district in China cost \$100,000, and a succession of individual pictures this sum was raised by popular sub-

erect, who bore on his back, as older do much for the sufferers, but more an adult and that \$5 will keep a child mail there is always a chance that joyment and satisfaction than it ever brothers carry babies in China, his food will have to follow at once. Con- from dying.

Millions Face Death.

In Russia the conditions are little less appalling. For the first time in the history of such catastrophes in Russia the government itself is aroused to the necessity for relieving the stress. The famine affects no less than 30.000,000 peasants inhabiting an area half as large as the United States, and while this area lies between the steppes and "White Russia." the famine is affecting indirectly the people within the "pale" who depend upon the peasants for trade and

The peasantry represents 85 per cent. of the entire population. Their one means of livelihood is farming, one's mind as he walks about among and when the rain did not come to these 30,000 refugees. As I passed make their crops grow the past season

18 months, evidently her grandchild, was sowing but no reaping. The peas-

In 1891, when the famine killed hun dreds, the Russian government hit upon the expedient of forbidding the word "hunger," but the famine of the present is so much greater that the government is fully alive to it. Besides having appropriated \$35,000,000 to accept her child as a gift, imagina- already, it is now negotiating a loan of \$37,000,000 more for famine relief. to the work in hand, especially as half of the money will line the pockets of official grafters to whom the deaths of thousands of poor peasants is merely an unfortunate incident in their own short cut to wealth.

> At present the relief work in Russia consists of doling out a pound of bread a day to sufferers. The aged and minors get nothing.

> Some families of five or six have perhaps two who draw bread. Other families have none. If two of a family of six draw bread and divide it equally it means that each member eats one-third of a pound a day. The regular diet of a Russian peasant is five pounds of bread daily. Thus the most fortunate are now existing upon one-fifteenth of their regular fare, or. to an American who has three square meals a day, two meals in three

The very seeds of the weeds have been eaten and the ground has been stripped of every green thing. The little horses have all been sold or eaten. and the occasional cows, too. Nothing remains but the hope of relief from the outside. There is no wood for fires and many families have joined starvation than it is possible for a together in one house for warmth, westerner to comprehend; they are all tearing the other dwellings down for

> It is estimated that in the province of Samara alone there will be 200,000 deaths in a total population of 3,000,fected will have like averages.

Seek Aid of the World.

made to enlist the sympathy of the dinary circumstances can supply you you will make for yourself a place world with the suffering, ignorant as quickly as you can procure the that heretofore you have never held. peasants, and emissaries have been goods from a mail order house. When You will be looked up to and respectsent to this and other countries. M. you buy of the home merchant, the ed. and your advice will be sought in Shiskoff, who is in America to enlist goods are before you and you see public affairs. Live and let live, and aid, says that \$8 will save the life of what you are getting. In buying by life will hold for you far more of en-

stages of consumption, but as cheer-

ed together-that was when I could ful as her husband was. The day be- work at the washtub, you know, she fore her death she asked him: 'How explained. She lingered until the sun are you making out, John? Still hold- sank in the west and with its last ing your trade? Ah, poor John, you've glint on the horizon her spirit depart-For real, whole-souled optimism in had a hard time with your old wom- ed. I shall never forget the fortitude narent defeat of noble aims and sun- see you spending your money for med- the inspiration of his unselfish devo-

attention that it is a wonder he was Every cent he had earned had gone cident in the lives of the very poor, fields long ago, or if he had stayed in able to earn enough to keep his own for invalid comforts and the cost of but one that reaches the hearts of those circumstances, the sheriff would

NO VALID REASONS

HOUSES IS WITHOUT EXCUSE.

GOODS NOT EVEN CHEAPER

Quality Considered the Home

The reasons why people should trade at home are numerous, but so town. far as we are able to learn but one no reason at all, for in many instances —you have lost your position, had the express charges or freight and long-continued illness in the family, or cle that as quoted in the price list ing money due you. You are in seemed a wonderful bargain, almost straitened circumstances. Would a or quite up to the price charged by letter to the mail order house, stating the local dealer. But even were one all these circumstances, secure for able to save a few cents on the pur- you a supply of the necessaries of is infinitely more than the gain, for etors for aid in your extremity would he who sends the money which he be barren of results. It is the home tant cities cannot fail to forfelt in a an emergency, and for this reason, if those around him, nor can he under loyal support in your times of prosthese conditions preserve his self- perity. espect intact.

The man who patronizes mail order pendent, and have never known the

You must remember, too, that when you send your money to some big concern in a distant city, you lessen the amount of money fa circulation in your own residence town. If you had spent it at the home store, some of it at least would have been paid out by the proprietor in the form of wages to his employes, they in turn would have expended it for the necessities of life, and it would have passed from one to another of the home dealers, proving an important factor in the prosperity of the community. Having sent it to the mail order house (Copyrighted, 1906, by Alfred C. Clark.) the probabilities are that it will never The reasons why people should again benefit anyone in your home

You should trade with the home reason is advanced for purchasing merchant because he is the one from goods of mail order houses. That one whom you ask and receive favors. reason—a saving of money—is often Perhaps you have had a run of ill luck cartage will bring the cost of an arti- have experienced difficulty in collectchase price by buying away from life on liberal credit terms? Most ashome, it appears to us that the loss suredly not. An appeal to the propriearns in the home town out to swell merchant who stands ready to extend the coffers of wealthy dealers in dis- the credit necessary to tide you over considerable degree the respect of for no other, he should have your

Perhaps you are financially indehouses must have a sneaking feeling necessity of asking for credit. Even



prairie fire, and we should turn to with a will, and by the aid of the hometrade plow run a protecting furrow around the community that will save us and our institutions from destruction. Such is the duty of every leval resi-

that everybody in town knows that | then you are indebted to the home he is a hindrance rather than a help merchant for many of the advantages to the community. He is not wanted you enjoy. The proprietors of a mail in public positions, and when ques- order house would laugh you to scorn tions of local interest and importance | were you to ask them to subscribe toare discussed, his opinion carries far ward the building of your new church. less weight than the man who con- the improvement of your school buildtributes his share to the prosperity of ing, or the expenses of maintaining the community by spending his mon- your fire department. The home merey where he earns it.

nothing to build up the town in which from him your patronage. he lives fails to find the contentment You know your local dealers. Per which is necessary to happiness. Hav- haps they have grown from childhood ing done nothing to make the town to manhood in your home town; you advantages it possesses, and is con- by you in sickness, and comforted you tinually talking and thinking of its in sorrow, they take a kindly interest deficiencies. He does not move out, in your welfare. Do you not prefer however, but stays on year after year, that your trade should increase their a discontented parasite, getting all he small profits rather than add its can and giving as little as possible in quota to the millions of dollars annureturn. There is an unwritten law of ally sent to the mail order houses? If one to really taken an interest in a, will be a better place in which to place until he has done something for live. Their prosperity will be maniit, and it is only when we have done fested by improvements in the appearour share toward building up the town ance of their own property, and by in which we live that it becomes a their increased liberality in contributreal home to us.

just the articles you desire, but they the entire community. are usually willing to order whatever Determined efforts are now being their customers want, and under or- tising the interests of the community. prove to be just what you expected ting all you can out of the town in and desired. In that case you are put which you reside and the people to the inconvenience of sending them around you, and holding fast to what back for exchange, or if the need is you get, regardless of your duty to immediate and pressing, you are others. Be loyal to your town, to entirely satisfactory.

Trade at home in order that your home town may have stores at which to trade. There are many times when you are in a hurry for some article shininess of disposition when the following the state of tion of the secret that he carried glad under such circumstances to of life. Take away the flowers and "John suppressed his tears, which about with him while she lay ill trade with the home merchant, yet if birds, the varying colors of vegetaends meet, and who when she lay I could not do. 'It's all right, wife, unto death he forbore to make, lest other people followed your example tion, the little cascades and the indying cheered her to the last with for as long as you can be comfortable she should be retarded in the recov- and patronized mail order houses, numerable things of beauty with roseste tales of the success of his and I can keep well enough peddling ery he prayed might come to her. there would be no home merchant to which nature has endowed precarious business on the street cormy papers, neither of us shall want.' Even to me he did not utter one trade with. If others bought of him scenery and life would be bereft of only when they wanted things in a much of its gladness, much that exer the other day. "Such devotion I not a dollar left when I came upon "He is still selling his papers, and, hurry, and sent out of town for the alts and embellishes it, much that never saw. The old woman required the scene. He had told his sick what is more, insists on sharing his greater part of their supplies, he makes it more useful to the human so much of her husband's time and wife this same story again and again. profits with our society. Only an in would have left for more promising family. body and soul together, to say nothing prescriptions. Indeed, I just ar those who know their struggles and finally have closed his doors. You of her needs. But he never whimpered. rived in time to save the woman from their victories. Need I add that this wouldn't like to live in a place with-"He's always been the same, the learning the truth. On the day she old hero shall not be left alone to out stores, and yet it may be that you been 20 minutes, and the hyens hasn't good wife told me the first day I died she told me that John had been suffer when he, too, will be called prefer to reside in a country town laughed once.

chant contributes liberally to the sup-In addition to losing in a large de- port of these institutions so essential gree the respect of others and his to the public comfort and well-being. own self-respect, the man who does and you cannot afford to withhold

better, he is unable to see the many were boys together, they have watched nature that makes it impossible for the home merchants prosper the town ing toward public improvements, and Perhaps the local dealers in country by helping them by your patronage. towns do not always have in stock you will also be helping yourself and

By doing your share toward adverwhen the goods arrive they will not can if you live with the idea of getobliged to accept that which is not your merchants, to the public welfare, and your home town will be the best place in the world in which to live. FRANCES A. HARRIS.

The Utility of Beauty.

Beauty and utility are not necessar-

Provocation Enough Maud (before the laughing hyena's

then, toward making it possible for your new spring hat, too.

The State Capital

Mrtters of General Interest --- FROM ---

Looking Into Deficiencies.

Members of the boards have been looking into the matter of deficiencies reported by the various institutions and allowed by the legislature, and every effort will be made to prevent any such occurrence during the coming two years. The deficiencies came as a decided surprise, inasmuch at it had been reported and the financial statements filed with the governor seemed to indicate that all the institutions with one or two exceptions were running within their appropriations. The deficiencies in state institutions, however, alone amounted to \$93,176.51. This is merely an estimated deficiency, though the legislature allowed it just the same. Neither does it contain the claims which were filed against the state institutions and accompanied by vouchers. The state institutions mentioned below used up the appropriations made by the legislature two years ago and it became necessary to have money to run during the time after the claims bill was introduced until the new appropriation became available. The deficiencies reported by the various state institutions for which appropriations were made, follows:

Norfolk asylum Grand Island Soldiers' home.... 3.911

Increase to Seven Judges.

Governor Sheldon signed S. F. No. 886, by King of Polk, an act intendtitle of the bill contains nothing of way the law will be en.orced. that nature and is an amendment to the constitution by legislative enactment, which is illegal, neither is mission to a vote, but the date is provided for in the constitution itself.

The Two-Cent Fare Law.

Complaints have reached Attorney Platte and Sidney. The road between these two Nebraska points dips into Colorado for about four miles, and on the strength of this the road insists on selling tickets between the towns at 3 cents per mile. County Attorney Roach of Lincoln county has Scotts Bluff county, has been grantsent a complaint about the matter ed a suspension of sentence and he and Attorney Thompson says that he may obtain his liberty upon giving a will advise bringing suit against the bond in the sum of \$15,000. The bond Union Pacific to enforce the 2-cent asked for has not yet been presented passenger rate.

State Loses Government Bonds. The state of Nebraska has been obliged to give up the only government bonds that it holds, amounting give bond he will probably remain to \$15,000 out of a total investment | there, but will not be obliged to work of about \$7,000,000. Under the con- at hard labor. stitution the trust or educational funds can be invested in United States securities, state securities and county bonds issued by counties of the state of Nebraska. It has never been the policy of the state to invest heavily in government bonds owing to the small rate of interest. The government sent a check for \$15,000.

First to Make Payment. Superintendent J. T. Morey of the School for the Blind at Nebraska City is the first head of a state institution to pay his cash fund into the state treasury under the new law. He up to March 31.

Purchasing of Supplies. The new Board of Public Lands and Ruildings and the new Board of Pur- tified the State Railway commission chase and Supplies is revolutionizing that it has no railroad in Nebraska the financial conduct of the various and therefore has no report to make state institutions and has started in in accordance with the new commisto do the same thing in the purchase sion law. While the commission has of supplies for the state intitutions. not yet answered the letter of the rail-At the last letting some of the bids on road company, very shortly the comdrugs, varied from 70 cents to \$7 on pany will be notified to hurry along the same item. The board accepted its report and furnish the commission the lowest bid and notified the bidder with whatever information it wants. that unless he delivered the goods no The a more bids submitted by him would be on the other roads in Nebraska which

May Test the Veto. office of Secretary Junkin looking up "sayed" state funds during their the bill vetoed by Governor Sheldon terms of office with the avowed purappropriating \$85,000 for an addition pose of spending the money for some to the Kearney Normal school. It is thing which the legislature did not understood some of the people in intend such funds should be used for. Kearney have it in mind to take the are not satisfied with the ruling of matter into court on the theory that the state auditor that claims incurred the governor failed to take action on after April 1, 1907, will not be allowthe measure until after the five days ed to be drawn from appropriations allowed by the constitution to act on made by the legislature of 1905. measures. If this were true the bill Claims incurred prior to April 1 need would have become a law without ac not be presented until August 1, but

Mr. Benjemin T. White, bend of th Northwestern legal deport Robt. McGinnie, general agent of the the State Railway come interpretation of the provision in the commission law requiring the rallroads to report tomage on all through and local freight. Mr. White wanted the board to set out specifically just what was wanted in order that his road could conform to the wishes of the commission. As a result of the inquiry the comm made an order directing the railroads to report tonnage as follows.

1-On freight which is purely through traffic. That is, freight which, for instance, originates in-Council Bluffs and goes through the state to Denver

2-That freight which originates in the state and has its destination in some other state.

3-That freight which originates in some other state and has its destination in Nebraska.

The roads are also required to report the tonnage on all freight which originates and terminates in Nebraska and in addition a report will be asked for covering the amount of the receipts from every road in the state.; These reports are to be separate, that is, covering the branch lines and the main lines and the subdivisions of the

Under the law these reports have to be made by August and Mr. White assured the board his road would endeavor to comply with the request and furnish any information the commission desired that time.

The commission also ordered post-Norfolk asylum 6,000 state an order calling attention to the Return of fugitives....... 1,500 fact that under the law no railroad 600 for tickets to destinations in this Department of banking...... 600 | for tickets to describe the pur-Superintendent McBrien 1,000 | state. This order suggests to the pur-chaser of a ticket that inasmuch as Geneva Industrial school...... 500
Railway commission 500
Nebraska point nearest the state line Industrial school 2,986 and then get off the train and buy a benefit of the 2-cent fare.

Beemer Turns in Cash Fund.

Warden Beemer of the state penied to amend the constitution by in- tentiary deposited with the state creasing the number of judges of the treasurer \$300, his cash fund, as prosupreme court from three to seven. vided for in a law enacted by the late The doubt as to the validity of the legislature. Commandant Presson of act is occasioned because there is no the Soldiers' Home at Milford was direct declaration that the proposi- here also, but he had not yet turned tion to amend shall be submitted to in his cash fund, which he said vote of the electors of the state. amounted to about \$2,000 a year. Mr. Some say this is not necessary. The Presson interprets the law to mean act appears to be simply amendatory that only that money received from of the constitution and as the people the sale of property belonging to the must vote on proposed amendment it state shall be remitted to the state is not known what effect the bill will treasurer and talked as though he have. Attorney General Thompson is did not like the idea of peing torn inclined to the belief that the propoliose from the cash fund. The memsition must be submitted to a vote of bers of the Board of Public Lands the people in 1908 under the provi- and buildings, however, take the law sions of the bill. An indirect refer- to mean all money which goes to ence is made in the bill to a vote by make up the cash fund must be turnthe electors of the state, but the ed into the treasury and this is the

State Cash Funds. State Treasurer Brian has received there any time mentioned for a sub- from Superintendent Morey of the state school for the blind at Nebraska City \$280.45 under the new law which requires the heads of state institutions to pay into the state The railroads probably will find an treasury all cash derived from the opportunity of testing the 2-cent-fare sale of state property, such funds to law without incurring the enmity of be drawn out on warrants issued by an open suit sto invalidate the act. the state auditor. The state university has long since been required to General Thompson of the violation of make such payments and the Kearthe 2-cent fare act by the Union Paci- ney industrial school for boys is anfic on tickets sold between North other institution that has paid in such funds and drawn them out on

> Kennison Can Give Bond. Kennison, the convicted murderer of Sam D. Cox, who was tried in and it is not known whether the defendant will be able to obtain it. Unless he does he will be kept in confinement. He is in the penitentiary for safe keeping. If unable to

When Appropriations Lapse. Deputy State Auditor H. L. Cook has ruled that bills incurred by the heads of state departments prior to April 1 can be drawn on funds appropriated by the legislature of 1905, but that all such bills must be presented for allowance by August 1 or they will be thrown in the waste basket. He rules that under the constitution of the state all appropriations really lapse April 1 and not on August 1, but that if the claims are incurred before April 1, those presenting them have until the latter turned in \$280.45 as his cash receipts date to get them before the state auditor.

> Illinois Central Balks. The Illinois Central railroad has nocome into the state over leased lines.

Ruling Not Satisfactory. Judge Hamer of Kearney was in the The heads of state institutions who after that they will not be allowed.

Poor Man's Remarkable Fortitude in Face of Gloom.

whose wife worked in the washtub all. in order to assist him to make both

found there in a little room down able to earn more during her illness upon to fight his battle against the rather than in a city. Do your share, Ella-Strange, and he's been eyeing tion by the governor.

ner" said a Philadelphia charity work- "Well, the fact was that John had single complaint.

the face of gloom, submission to ap- an, and it's been hard for me to of that old man, nor shall I ever lose shininess of disposition when every icines and food that I could do withdive me the old paper man I know, John; God will reward you for it confided his secrets, but the revela- immediate and imperative. You are