AGRICULTURAL.

MATTER PREPARED SPECIALLY FOR THE "RECORD-UNION."

A Prospect for California Wheat — A Preventive for Frost—Thieves in the Garden—Etc.

While the wheat-growers of our State are studying the question of how to bring up the price of wheat on hand, and to be produced, to a paying standard, the unfavorable weather in England is working in the same direction and with a great deal better prospect of success. A London dispatch, dated April 21st, says: "Every day increases the prospect that the crops of England will be a total, or nearly total failure. It is now some weeks since any rain has fallen, and the ground is very dry. Within the last four days there have been very heavy frosts throughout the entire country." Even should there be warm rains within a short time, it will be too late to repair the damage which has already been done by the long-continued drought, frosts and the unusually cold weather. This information should not discourage our wheat-growers in their efforts to secure and insure cheaper freights on their wheat to market, but rather induce them to greater exertions. Heretofore, there has been but one possible route and but one possible means of transporting California wheat to Liverpool or the continent, where we have to look for a market, and for a number of years the control of this route and this means was in the hands of one man, who chartered all the available tonnage and set his own price on freights. It is true that this state of things no longer exists, that no one man or set of men has attempted for a few years back to monopolize the wheat, carrying trade of this State, but it is equally true that circumstances have favored high freights, and that the farmers have as a consequence been the losers. There are a number of difficulties in the way of certain cheap or even reasonable freights on wheat from this coast to Europe. First, our crops are not assured in season to notify ship owners of the demand for their ships to carry them away. This was especially the case last year. The acreage of grain was unusually large, but during all the early part of winter we had no rain to assure crops or even to give farmers but little ground to expect a good yield. When the rains did come they were so heavy and continued so late in the season that farmers had but little hope that they would have more than a heavy growth of straw and a light clean up of grain. Then the north winds came and continued so long that every body supposed that the wheat had been injured at least twenty-five per cent., and that perhaps the injury might be much greater. The fact is that the farmers were themselves deceived as to the real wheat yield last year up to the very time of harvest, and the thrashing machine first showed them the enormous crop they had produced and had to ship. It is not be expected that ship-owners are going to send their ships into the Pacific ocean in ballast upon such a state of uncertainty as to obtaining business. The route of transportation is so long, and there is so little freight this way compared to the amount of wheat to be carried away, that it is almost impossible to bring ourselves into favorable circumstances as to our wheat-carrying trade, until we can change and shorten the route and create a greater return trade. It is claimed by farmers, and was put forward at the late meeting of wheat-growers in San Francisco, that farmers should organize in some manner for the purpose of gaining more reliable information, both as to the prospects of crops, not only at home but abroad, and as to prevailing prices. This would be well, but it would be much better to have a State Bureau of Statistics, to collect and publish monthly statistics relating to all such matters. Such a bureau properly and honestly managed would be a benefit to the farmers and dealers, as well as millers and consumers, everywhere. It would also keep the owners and charterers of vessels constantly informed as to the prospects of demand for tonnage, and would in a great measure tend to remove or prevent for the future all such embarrassments as the wheat trade has encountered since the present crop has been ready for shipment. It was also proposed at the meeting referred to to form a corporation of farmers for the purpose of shipping wheat. In answer to this proposition, it was stated that the farmers already had an organization, which, besides doing many other kinds of business for farmers, was prepared to ship to the best advantage all the wheat they desired, and were also prepared to give farmers all necessary information upon all branches of the subject. Although it was stated that the organization proposed to be formed for wheat shipping should be kept distinct from all Granger's organizations, it was readily seen that there was no good reason why an organization of Granger farmers should not be as good for farmers that are not Grangers as for those that are. This idea seems to have had its influence in postponing any action upon the proposition to form a wheat shipping corporation. The meeting postponed this branch of the subject till September next. While the wheat-growers' meeting can hardly be said to have accomplished any immediate good for the class it was intended to benefit, the possible indirect benefits are very great. It brought the whole subject of wheat growing and wheat shipping more prominently before the public, and emphasized very forcibly the disadvantages we have heretofore been laboring under in regard to getting our wheat to market and the necessity for shorter and more direct routes of shipment. It also brought out very prominently the importance of provision by the farmers of facilities for storing larger quantities of grain in the country, where it will be at all times convenient for shipment, and where the taxes upon it will be as light as possible. With the Southern Pacific Railroad completed to the Gulf of Mexico, and a line of steamers running in connection with it from its gulf terminus, the farmers will be placed in much better condition to secure a fair value for their wheat. A ship-canal across the Isthmus will add another and great advantage, and a ship railway still another, and we believe the day is not far distant when all these facilities will be enjoyed by the wheat-growers of the Pacific coast. Then certainly we may claim that not only the present or immediate, as well as the future and more remote prospects for California wheat, are very good.

Smoke as a Preventive of Frost—Pulling Jack Frost's Teeth Out.

Probably in no other locality in the State is there to be found more wide-awake and enterprising vine and fruit-growers than in Napa valley. The success which is attending grape and fruit culture in this valley is not only bringing to individuals great and deserved prosperity, but it is bringing a reputation to the valley itself. With the continued enlargement of old vineyards and orchards and the planting of new ones, it will not be many years before the entire valley above Napa City and the slopes of the mountains on either side will be very nearly covered with vines and fruit trees of various kinds. The liability to late frosts in the valley has heretofore been somewhat of a discouragement to planting out vineyards and orchards, but the intelligence and enterprise of those already interested in these lines of culture have so completely overcome this objection that it is no longer considered of a serious character. They have found a way to extract the teeth from Jack Frost's jaws so surely and effectually that his disposition to nip the tender vines and the fruit in the bud is rendered quite harmless. The operation of taking out Jack's teeth is so simple and yet so complete down among the Napa culturists that we will be justified in giving an account of it for the benefit of those interested in other localities. Let us premise by saying that to keep Jack out of the valley requires the co-operation of the growers from one end of the valley to the other. Hence among the objects embraced in the local fruit and grape-growers' association of the valley this fighting of Jack Frost is included. The plan of work is about as follows: They all keep bunches of half-rotted straw distributed through their orchards and vineyards ready to set on fire whenever there is danger. They all know that danger is approaching whenever the thermometer drops down to 36°, and that this occurs, if at all, in the latter part of the night. Therefore whenever in the upper part of the valley danger threatens, the sentinel on watch up there fires off a gun as a signal, and immediately applies the match to his bunches of straw. His neighbors, being warned, also fire guns and apply matches to the bunches of straw in their orchards and vineyards, and so the guns and straw piles are fired all along down the valley almost simultaneously, and at the same time there arises a dense vapory smoke which soon forms an unbroken cloud, hovering over and protecting the vines and trees of the entire district. The time to set the smoke off, it has been found by experience, is about an hour before sunrise, and to continue about an hour after the sun is up. The cost of this whole operation is comparatively nothing, but a single smoke may save the entire grape and fruit crop of the valley, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The occasion may not come at all in a season, and it may come once or twice, but if it should come a dozen times the wide-awake people are ready for it, and they protect their trees and vines and fruit from injury and themselves from loss. It is all smoke and no fire that does the work, and thus leads to the inquiry how smoke only keeps away the frost. Many have supposed that heat was the object and that the fires kept up the temperature so that there could be no frost. This is not the fact, and it is not heat but smoke that does the work. We all know that frost seldom occurs of a cloudy night, and that even when we have a frost in the night followed by clouds to hide and prevent the rays of the sun from falling on vegetation until the frozen moisture has melted away in the morning, but little injury generally results. Now a layer of moist smoke in the air over vegetation operates as a protection just as a natural cloud does. It checks the falling current of cold air before the sun rises, and then screens the vegetation from the heated rays for a time after the sun is above the horizon, and thus, in effect, pulls Jack Frost's teeth from his jaws and renders him harmless to nip the tender shoots and flower buds.

Thieves in the Garden and in the Field!

This announcement should make every owner of a garden, whether of vegetables or of flowers, to discover and rout the thieves. If human thieves, they must be arrested and prosecuted in the criminal Courts, not only to punish them for the offense of stealing from the owner, but to deter other thieves from committing similar offenses against the peace of the people. If they be thieves in the shape of cattle, hogs or other animals, tame or wild, they must be driven out and the fence and gates secured, to prevent a repetition of the depredation. If their owner can be found, he must be warned that if a repetition of the offense be permitted the no-fence law will be invoked, and the offenders corraled till the damages are settled. But if it be found that the thieves that are stealing away our crops and our profits are weeds, that are carrying on an indirect theft by taking the moisture and the fertility of the soil from our corn and potatoes and other plants in the garden and field, then what shall be done? prosecution of course, and that immediate; we must arrest the thieves, and that without waiting for the slow process of the law. We must in this case take the law into our own hands, and immediately apply lynch law to the case, and not only cut the thieves' heads off, but dig them up by the roots and exterminate the entire race, that they will never steal from us any more. The fact is these weeds that steal our crops from us are the lowest class of thieves. They come in day or night, in good weather and in bad, when we are awake and when we are asleep, and they come up from under the ground and do us much damage before they become bold enough to show themselves on the surface, and we must treat them accordingly. At whatever sacrifice of time and labor, this class of thieves must be exterminated or our year's efforts will be lost, or the products and profits of the year will be greatly reduced. Now is the time to find them, and now is the time to kill them. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. A stitch in time saves nine. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Sulphur for the Grape Vines.

Those who have grape vines that are liable to suffer from mildew should not forget that sulphur will prevent this disease, and thus save the grapes. Eastern sulphur is the best, because it has been cleansed of all mineral and other impurities. The sulphur should be applied to the leaves by sprinkling them well, from a tin box with perforated bottom. We have always selected dewy mornings for the application, as then it will adhere to the damp surface, and penetrating the leaf enter at once into the circulating sap and kill all spores of fungi. If you have but a few vines, as in the garden, it will do to sprinkle the leaves with sulphur. If neglected now, when the time comes for picking large fine bunches of luscious grapes to eat from the hand or from the table, you will find none but half-grown, half-ripened, half-colored, tasteless grapes on your vines, and then you will regret your neglect now.

Successful Experiment with the Silo.

A correspondent of the *Courier-Journal*, writing from Russellville, Ky., gives the experience of Nimrod Lang, a wealthy farmer of the place, with the silo. Mr. Lang, he writes, told me that last summer he engaged hands and had a pit dug in a tobacco farm, 16 feet square and 12 feet deep. The ground was the ordinary red clay. He already had in his stock barn the necessary power, and thither he cut and hauled the corn from an adjacent field—stalks, roasting ears and all—and ran it through his cutting machine, cutting it in half-inch lengths. This cut stuff he put into the pit until filled. He then covered it with flooring boards, and weighed it down with over a foot of stone, about 500 pounds to the square yard. This soon caused it to sink to about half the depth of the pit. In cutting this corn, Mr. Long was unfortunate, and broke his cutter. As he could not get it mended soon he removed the weights and filled the pit with clover hay, cut in the field, and hauled directly to the pit. With this he filled the pit a little more than full and again put on the weights. When this had been pressed down the weights were again removed and the pit again filled with clover hay, freshly cut, and weights again applied and left. On the 23d of December he began to feed twenty-five large steers for the market and a fine flock of Cotswold sheep. He estimates that it will last till the 1st of May. The steers get nothing else, and cattle and sheep eat it ravenously. Not counting the cost of the steam power this ensilage has cost about 50 cents per ton. Its color, as it comes out, is a very light maple leaf brown. The boards, for a space of about three feet, are removed at a time, and it is cut down with knives. Next the dirt, for less than one-quarter of an inch, it is moulded, but elsewhere perfectly sound. Mr. Long says he has long dealt in tobacco, and was, of course, familiar with the principle, so that as soon as the discussion about ensilage began in the agricultural papers, his attention was arrested. These silos only need to be covered in and kept dry. This experiment shows that a less per cent. is lost by contact with the earth than by contact with stone walls. Mr. Long is preparing for extensive silos, and this coming summer will ensilage the corn from thirty acres. This he will plant at three different times, so as to have it come in successively. This will allow for time consumed in pressing. The corn ought to be planted in drills three feet ten inches apart, and eight inches between stalks, and cut after formation of pollen on the tassels and before it has entirely gone. As this cut stuff was put into the silo, Mr. Long had it well tramped. He will also ensilage clover and rye as well as corn. He says his cattle love it, and are fattening better than any he ever fed.

A ROUNDABOUT COURSE.—The Vermont boy who went down the cellar for a pitcher of cider by way of Deacon Perkin's trout pond is not a circumstance, as an illustration of the circuitous method, to the telegraph messages which were recently sent from Peterhead to Aberdeen by the way of Scandinavia. It has always been supposed that the Vermont boy acted from choice, but the Scotch telegrams took the roundabout course from necessity, for the hurricane and the snow-drifts had cut off all direct communication. From Peterhead the messages were first sent by cable under the North Sea to Egersund, where they were translated into Norwegian by some of the polygolt clerks, of whom every Continental telegraph office of any importance can boast. Thence they were dispatched by Arendal to Christiania, and from the Norwegian capital to Gothenburg, in Sweden. From Gothenburg they were forwarded to Newcastle, where they were again "Englished," and then returned to Aberdeen by way of Edinburgh, six hours after leaving Peterhead.

HAMMER'S Cascara Sagrada Bitters cures constipation, liver complaint and purifies the blood.

WORKING HOURS.

LOUIS BLANC'S APPEAL FOR REDUCTION OF WORKING HOURS.

What Was Accomplished in France—The Hours of Labor in Paris—Indemnity Sought.

PARIS, April 4, 1881.

Louis Blanc spoke the other day at the Chamber in favor of the reduction of working hours. Some three months ago he told me such was his intention; but, although the subject has been agitated, it could not obtain its place in the debate until now. The same arguments he used in 1848 he used on this occasion, which goes to prove how far ahead of his fellow-creatures he started out, and how far they still reman behind him. It is impossible throughout the world to find a more graceful and polished orator than Louis Blanc; every word is in its right place, there is not one too many; and, combined with the harmony of the language, brilliant and forcible ideas flash throughout like the bright sunlight. His gestures are ample and sober, and he has always endeavored to do justice to his fellow creatures by appealing to their understanding and sense of justice without ever trying to impose on them his own personality. His speeches lose nothing in the reading of them, for their language is perfect, and the earnestness, the sincerity of the orator, pervades it like a perfume which softens your heart and brings the tears to your eyes. I sometimes ask myself if Louis Blanc should be classed among reformers, for although his heart is filled with sympathy for suffering humanity and his hand is extended to all in real friendship, particularly to the workman whose struggles and efforts ennoble him in the eyes of mankind, he cannot be said to resemble other reformers who enter their midst and too often by their heated words excite them to anger and rebellion. He seems rather to stand aloft and as though inspired by the presence of justice demand in her name of the strong those rights belonging to the weak. His disinterestedness, his sincerity and earnestness invest him rather with the character of a prophet. He takes such broad and extended views of all subjects he treats, that they invariably enter the domain of deep philosophy and high morality, and one is surprised that the world should hesitate to decide in favor of the advancement of the human race. This eminent orator said in his speech: "No one more than myself is disposed to recognize that which is elastic in the individual initiative and creative power in a large expansion of the human person. I have many times envied for my country the practice of that

'SELF-GOVERNMENT'

Which has partly made the grandeur of the United States and England. I know that very often the force of the governing power is the weakness of the governed. I do not wish for the people that sort of guardianship which in monarchies is almost always the hypocricy of despotism, and I have a horror of the system which consists in killing liberty by teaching it how to live. What is liberty? Is it not the right to exercise one's faculties in all their latitude? Very well. I say it is because one has been pleased to define liberty by the word right, that one has arrived at calling men free men who are slaves of ignorance and misery. What matters to him who drags a heavy billet attached to his feet the right to run? Does it suffice to those who may have the metaphysical right to exercise all their faculties, who have neither instruction, without which the human mind cannot be largely developed, nor the instruments of work, without which human activity cannot be exercised in all its latitude; or cannot be, except in conditions of absolute dependence? Is the workman who has no other means of existence than his work really free to obtain the price for it which he judges equitable when he must work or else starve? The founder of modern political economy, Adam Smith, has made a declaration which I recommend to those who imagine in combatting our proposition that they plead the cause of liberty. A manufacturer, he says, without occupying a single workman could live a year or two on the funds which he has hoarded up. A great many workmen could not subsist without work one week, very few a month, and scarcely one a whole year. It might be that in the end the master may have as great need of the workman as this last has need of him, but the need of the master is not so pressing. From which Adam Smith concludes that this last forcibly imposes all his conditions on the other. It is true that the workman has the right to refuse. He has the right to starve. Ah, gentlemen, do not take the abstraction for the reality, the shadow for the substance. No, no; liberty is not only the right to be free; the power of being free, that is liberty. If it is true that after a certain time the dust, the action of harmful substances, the noise of the wheels, the trepidation resulting from the continual movement of the machines by the strongest constitution—if it is true that the workman who passes out of each day of the year twelve and even to fourteen hours, including his meals, in a factory, which is often far situated from his dwelling, needs time not only to

INDULGE IN REST,

Hardly earned, but to cultivate his intelligence, exercise his thought and live a family life, is not the proposition submitted to you more than justified? Does not the physical and moral health of the workmen constitute the most noble part of the riches of a people? Is there a social interest superior to that which adheres to a reform whose consequence would be to increase the forces of the workman by sparing them and adding to his intellectual power through the culture of his mind? Ah, what! There is not a machine which may not need repairing, and it is not only with regard to man that the restorer rest should be unheeded. What! one refuses to understand that in reference even simply to the industrial and commercial prosperity, society is to the highest extent interested in having the workmen given time to become instructed, because man is the generating principle of that prosperity; because all that which leads to the amelioration of man leads to the amelioration of that which man produces; because there is no wealth compared to that of the intelligence—wealth which is communicated without diminishing, and which they are right to compare to a light which can serve to illuminate thousands of others without losing any of its volume, of its heat, or its brilliancy. But you will be told without doubt, for it has often been said, that

WORK IS A MERCHANDISE

And the State has no greater reason for interfering between the master and the workman than it has for interfering between the buyer and seller. How is that an exact comparison? The workman sells his work; agreed. But is there nothing in that sale which distinguishes it from a table or a plaything? That which the workman sells, when he disposes of his work, is all his time, the entire combination of his faculties, it is his life, his being. Can that then be an ordinary market? Between the man who sells a table and the man who desires to buy it there exists no competition of force. If they do not agree, there is no reason for one or the other to complain. The first will wait until a new buyer presents himself; the second will seek elsewhere the desired object, or will do without it. But in the relations between the master and the workman there enters an element of permanency, a necessity of competition and an idea of justice which gives to these relations an absolutely distinctive character. They must unite to produce, and when they are divided on the question as to what portion of the produced value should belong to the capital under the form of profits, to the work under the form of salary, there is a sort of conflict which, by its importance, its generality and its relation to public prosperity, interests the whole of society, claims its attention and solicits its vigilance. That kind of conflict you know, gentlemen, what it is called and to what it leads. The adversaries of our proposition do not wish the reduction of working hours to come from a legal provision; would they much better prefer to see it continued by means of strikes? As to myself, I consider that strikes are a great harm. Not that I belong to those whom they inspire with bitter reflections and words of blame. I consider it supremely unjust that in the state of antagonism in which all interests are placed to day, that the workmen should be

ACCUSED OF A CRIME

In uniting to obtain the benefit of a common protection. But as much of this means of defense is natural, just so is it disastrous. In struggles of this kind, the victory must belong to him who can wait the longest time, and the battle being terribly unequal between those who lose but a part of their earnings and those who lose a part of their bread, one trembles in thinking of the sacrifices which the workmen during a strike are forced to make, of the privations which they have to endure—without other results, very often, than to see themselves obliged to submit, happy still if they are not condemned to take up their burden again under conditions more severe than before; whereas the losses inflicted on the masters are found to have diminished that portion of the public wealth which is consecrated to the remuneration of work. I ask you, gentlemen, can we, ought we to remain indifferent to that which leads to such calamities? Have we nothing to see in the well-being of a class whose labor contributes to so high a degree to the well-being of all the others? Besides, is not society, taken in its ensemble, doomed to suffer when, owing to a violent disagreement between the two great agents of production, the factories are closed; when work is stopped; when the war of folded arms does not end in exhaustion except after having devoured an enormous mass of capital and caused immense ruin? I was in England at the time of the masons' strike at London, called the nine-hour law—for they wished to reduce to nine hours the workman's day—and the sight of the sufferings of which that great struggle was the source will never leave my memory. However, that is where the doctrine of *laissez faire* is leading us, so dear to certain economists. Because it is lawful for the master to impose on the workman such condition of work as may please him, it must be admitted that it is lawful for the workman to refuse them; and that which they are free to do to one they are free to do to two, ten, a thousand, ten thousand—the fact of association being in itself an application of individual liberty. But then it is the domain of industry transformed into a battlefield. It is war! A war in which the qualities even which it develops in the workman—firmness, constancy, spirit of sacrifice, devotion to the good or evil interest comprised in the common cause—belong to the order of militant virtues, and in which hunger too often performs the offices of the sword."

THE DEBATE.

I have extracted these sentences, which I fear, however, may give but an incomplete idea of the beauty and force of the ensemble of the speech. Considerable debate followed these eloquent words of the eminent orator, in which the Government took part and explained the infeasibility of the State interfering with the liberty of the workman, and how little desirable it was to establish the precedent. The bill was rejected, but an amendment reducing the hours from twelve to eleven was passed; that as may be seen the principle has been established, and all, although convinced of the truth of the arguments, decided with the interest of the master before them rather than the condition of the workman. Louis Blanc considered he had been extremely modest in his demands while asking the reduction to ten hours, and yet it has proved too much for the non-progressive lawmakers. Just think. From 6 o'clock in the morning until 7 at night, with an hour's rest at noon, the working people of France are at their labors. No wonder they are becoming a stunted, misshaped race, wherein crooked limbs, pinched, homely faces, and physical deformity in general, are almost as common as the perfection of the human form. These workmen sometime live miles distant from their field of work, and as early as 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning, just as pleasure-seeking Paris is returning to rest after dissipation, they may be seen moving on to their labors. What courage, what fortitude, to so continue a lifetime, every day in the week, for Sunday is not a day of rest, and the majority of workmen are engaged in their work on that day, to so continue to the grave without so much as a grinding of the teeth. Surely these cautious lawmakers have never in imagination put themselves in their place, and all workmen may feel grateful and proud to find so powerful and so earnest an advocate of their rights as Louis Blanc, whose memory will long remain honored among them.

INDEMNITY.

A demand has been made of the Government for an indemnification in favor of the victims of the coup d'etat of the 2d of December. The subject has been brought before the Chamber, and yesterday when at the tribune one of the victims reminded his hearers of the sorrow cause by the proscription, husbands separated from their wives, children snatched from their fathers, families plunged in desolation by order of a mixed Commission, a piercing cry resounded from the tribune, followed by a second and then a third. The orator stopped; all eyes turned toward the tribune from whence came the lamentations, all eyes except one; one man sat motionless on his seat, with his pale face bowed down, that man was Mr. Rouher, Prime Minister thirty years ago under Napoleon III., and it was he who had followed up these enemies of a crime who had caused all their sorrow. The woman who uttered these screams is the wife of a proscript, and on hearing her sufferings reiterated her bursting heart could no longer restrain itself. "The mills of the gods grind slowly but surely." One of the bandits remains, the rest of whom have passed away; the Emperor buried on foreign soil; St. Arnaud, Morny and others dead, one of them only left to listen to the reproach of his crime from the piercing screams of a woman, one of his victims thirty years after.

VAL.

UTILIZING SOLAR HEAT.—It is not impossible that, before our coal fields are exhausted, we shall have discovered some means of doing many things without that fuel—at least in regions where the sun shines. We are already acquainted with M. Mouchot's solar engine, but that method of utilizing the heat of the sun has been eclipsed by an improvement devised by M. Fifre. It is stated that the latter has gone so far as to utilize 80 per cent of the available heat of the sun's rays at Paris, and has actually constructed an apparatus with which he pumped water to a hight of 10 feet at a rate of over 20 gallons a minute. As in Mouchot's solar engine, a reflector receives the light and concentrates it upon a boiler—in this case containing nearly 90 gallons of water, which, under a clear Paris sky, begins to boil in about 40 minutes, and in a few minutes longer has sufficient pressure to drive the engine working the pump.

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RELIGIOUS.

SMALL TALK CONCERNING CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.

Current News on Religious Matters from Many Sources—A Strange Scene at a Funeral

Madagascar has 70,125 church members, nearly seven-ninths as many as the Congregational churches of Massachusetts. The London Missionary Society has thirty agents there, but nearly all the pastors are natives.

The Canterbury Convocation has been prorogued until May 17th. The upper house passed a resolution deprecating legislation, and declaring that the authority to settle matters of ritual is inherent in the Episcopal office.

The Baltimore *Episcopal Methodist* is hard on a certain class of do-nothings who infest the ministry. It expresses its judgment by saying: "A ministerial loafer is an abomination on the earth, an ecclesiastical nuisance that ought to be abated."

The *Christian at Work* avers that there are pew-holders in a New York city church, who, under an old church charter, pay but $50 rental yearly for pews, go to Europe a year or two more, relet their pews for $400 or $500 a year, and pocket the difference.

The Chinese are said to believe that the reason why those who read the Bible become Christians, is due to the stupefying power of the ink, which takes away his reason and leaves him ready to believe false doctrines. Warnings against the purchase of foreign books are frequent in consequence of this superstition.

The command of Leo XIII. to the bishops of Poland and Russia to have masses offered up throughout their respective dioceses for the repose of the soul of the late Czar has caused profound surprise all over the Catholic world. It is such a departure from precedent and established custom that many were led to conclude that the news was false.

A Catholic mother once showed her child a beautiful doll—a St. John of an exquisite rose color. "See," she said, "he has been very good, and heaven always rewards the good by making them beautiful." "Oh!" says the child, lifting its shoulders, "don't believe that, mamma. This little St. John looks very meek because he's all glued up, but if he could only move, you'd see!"

A rich men's revival is looked for in Boston. "I have noticed," says the pastor of an aristocratic church, "some awakening in religious matters lately. People have made a great deal of money, and, in some instances, have been led to see that they are leading too worldly a life. I anticipate no marked intensity of religious fervor, but it is noticeable that the churches, as a rule, are constantly receiving accessions."

The Rev. W. P. Paxon, Superintendent of the missionary work of the American Sunday-school Union in the Southwest, whose headquarters is at St. Louis, in a recent address at Boston, stated that Oliver Bennett, now living in Massachusetts, formerly of St. Louis, had given $1,000 a year for twenty years for the support of Sunday-school missions in the West, and that this money had organized 3,290 schools, with more than 140,000 scholars.

The *Whitehall Review* states that the list of converts "received" by Monsignor Capel is probably longer and more varied than that of Cardinal Manning. Anglican clergymen, noblemen, undergraduates, men about town with "mystical tendencies," skeptics, actors, actresses, officers, barristers, physicians, Ritualist monks, Americans, dissenters and stockbrokers have entered the portals of the "Mater et Magistra omnium Ecclesiarum" under the magnetic influence of "the Monsignor."

President Eliot, of Harvard University, says the degree of D. D. has ceased to mean anything, it has been distributed so indiscriminately. This is bad. An eminent religious authority remarks that "so many of the D. D.'s are neither talented nor learned, nor remarkable for anything but heaviness and stupidity, that their title is about all there is to them." As the title means neither more nor less than "teacher of divinity," it can not carry much harm with it, even if it fail to confer high distinction on those who wear it.

A mass for the dead is but a mourning mass. The celebrant clothes himself in vesture of grief, decks the altar in drapery of similar hue and places the purple, symbol of royal mourning, over the tabernacle. This is a mere external pageant, and betokens the church sympathy with public or private grief. For similar reasons she tolls the bell and chants the funeral dirge. As in times of sadness, or on occasions of public or private joy, the church in her vestments and ceremonies shows that she has a heart to feel with the people.

There are in England and Wales 170 different denominations, some of which differ on exceedingly small particulars of faith or practice. The variety ought to be great enough to meet the views of almost everybody, of whatsoever stripe of religious preference. There are among these 170 religious bodies about 45,000 houses of worship and upward of 14,000,000 sittings. There are 36,000 stated ministers, of whom 23,000 are clergy in the Church of England. The members number about 3,000,000, and the average Sunday attendance is 10,000,000.

In commenting on a baptism of immersion, which occurred during the past winter, when the ice in a stream was broken in order to perform the ceremony, the *Christian Register*, of Boston, suggested that hereafter a "hearse should form part of the procession" to the ice-hole. The New York *Examiner* does not take well to the idea, and replies that a hearse "might be serviceable in the case of some Unitarian scoffers who looked on, but not to the Baptists." It adds "that nothing has been better known through all the generations of Baptists, that when the heart is warm ice and snow can do no harm."

An amusing story is told of Gambetta. In a private parlor he was recently telling how, at the age of 20, he promised himself never again to pronounce the name of the Divine Being. "You can imagine," he added, "how difficult that was for one who speaks often and extemporaneously, like myself. But, finally, owing to the extreme pains that I took, I have, thank God"—the sentence was interrupted by peals of laughter, and Gambetta ended with the words, "You see that I had flattered myself too much. I have not succeeded yet."

Professor Sayce writes to the *Athenæum* from Jerusalem: "Mr. Shapira has just returned to Jerusalem from a second journey to Yeman, in the course of which he has obtained about 120 Hebrew manuscripts, some of them of great value. One of them, which is characterized by a peculiar system of vowel points, is stated in an epigram attached to the end of Proverbs to have been written A.D. 945. Others contain hitherto unknown Masoretic reading, besides copious extracts from lost commentaries of Saadia and Malmonides. Mr. Shapira has also secured a long roll of paper closely inscribed with Arabic, and apparently containing extracts from genealogical authors."

One of the strangest funeral scenes recently took place at Ancona. A young workman fell sick and his parents called in a priest, who heard his confession and administered the last rites. The young man died and his body was carried to the parish church for the funeral service. Ten or twelve persons entered the church and demanded the body, stating that they were friends of the deceased and wished to give him a civil funeral. The request was refused. They then waited outside the church, and when the body was carried out for burial they interrupted the proceedings, stating that the deceased had been a Free Mason and Free Thinker, and that they would use force to gain possession of the body. The police did not interfere until the people who stood by showed a disposition to take the law into their own hands and punish the disturbers of the funeral.

The *Jewish Messenger* says that a facsimile copy has been received by the Palestine Exploration Fund of a Phœnician inscription upon the Pool of Siloam. It was first discovered by their correspondent at Jerusalem, a few months ago, and consists of six lines (about one hundred and fifty words in all) inclosed within a tablet, the letters of which it is composed being almost identical with those on the Moabite Stone. The Pool of Siloam is of very ancient workmanship, and is supposed to be connected with the waterworks made by King Hezekiah, and to be supplied from a spring of living water in the heart of Temple rock. The name still exists in its Aarabic form in the Keir Silwan, or village of Siloam—a cluster of dwellings, half hovels, half natural caves, on the opposite side of the valley, whose inhabitants, when not engaged in theft, earn a scanty livelihood by carrying the water of the Pool into the town for sale. No legend remains of the healing power of the Pool, and it would be interesting if the inscription should contain any allusion to sick persons who waited for the angel to trouble the waters. This is thought to be not so improbable as may at first sight seem, for the date is certainly not later than the first century of our era, and may be much earlier, while it would appear to be the work of more than one hand, and is just such a record as a pilgrim would leave.

SOME SPORTING NOTES.

FEEDING PUPPIES.—On the feeding the growth and health of the puppies largely depend. I find them thrive best on a varied diet, everything I give them being well cooked, except that occasionally I give a little sound lean beef or mutton raw, and this I find, if not overdone, of great benefit to weak puppies. It should be given finely minced to young ones. Cows' milk, it has been contended, produces worms in puppies if given unboiled. I have never found a single person holding this opinion who could produce a shred of proof in support of it, and I think it a theory most unlikely to be correct. Cows are, unlike dogs, very little subject to worms, and if they were, I doubt very much if the milk is at all a likely secretion in which to meet with the embryo of these parasites. I have no doubt, however, that cows' milk is often too rich for the assimilative powers of puppies, and makes them ill when given undiluted. Oatmeal porridge, stale bread, puppy biscuits, with milk, or broth from sheeps' heads, rough bones, or pieces of lean meat, a few green vegetables being added, generally suits puppies well; and a little bit of dry biscuit and a rough bone too big for them to break, to play with and exercise their teeth on, is also beneficial. For the first three or four months they should be fed four times a day, letting them at each meal eat as much as they will, but removing any food as soon as they appear satisfied. The dishes should be thoroughly cleansed after each meal; clean cold water should be always within their reach. The antiquated practice of putting a lump of roll brimstone in the water has no practical value, the sulphur being as insoluble a paving stone.—[Hugh Dalziel.

CHESS IN ST. LOUIS.—Fifth game in the pending match between Captain Mackenzie and Mr. Max Judd. Score from *Globe-Democrat*:

IRREGULAR OPENING.

White. Mr. J.	Black. Mr. M.	White. Mr. J.	Black. Mr. M.
P Q B 3	P K 3	Q R B sq	B Q 4
P K 3	P K B 4	Q Q B 3	R K B 3
P Q R 3	Kt K B 3	K Q 2	B K B 2
Kt K B 3	P Q Kt 3	R Q Kt 2	R Q R 3
B K 2	B Q Kt 2	P Q Kt 4	K R B 3
P Q 4	B K 2	P Q Kt 5	R Q Kt 3
Kt Q B 3	Castles	P Q R 4	P Q R 3
Castles	Kt K 5	Kt Q 2	P tks P
Kt tks Kt	P tks Kt	R tks P	R tks R
Kt Q 2	P Q B 4	P tks R	P Q B 5
P tks P	P tks P	R Q Kt sq	Q Q B 4
Q Q B 2	P Q 4	P Kt 4	R Kt sq
P Q Kt 3	P K B 3	P tks P	R tks P
R Q Kt sq	Kt Q 2	R R sq	Q B 3
B Q Kt 2	R Q B sq	Q Q 4	R tks P
B K Kt 4	Q K 2	Kt tks P	Q Q 4
P tks P	P tks P	Q tks Q	B tks Q
B tks B	P tks B	Kt B 3	B B 6
B tks Kt	Q tks B	K B sq	P Q 6
K R Q sq	P K B 4	R R 4	R Q 4
Kt K B sq	P Q 5.	R R sq	P Q ch
Q Q Kt 2	P Q 6	Kt tks Q	R tks Kt ch
P K Kt 3	Q K 2		

and wins.

SHOEING.—Some have an idea that if a horse is only partly shod the fore feet should have shoes on. Now, I hold that both fore and hind feet should be shod, if the horse be used, where he requires shoes at all, except, perhaps, in plowing, etc., and for the reason, that the fore and the hind feet are intended for two distinct purposes—the fore feet to bear the weight, and the hind to propel it. Their peculiar and respective shapes prove this. The hind leg, when ready for great action, is bent like the main-spring of a gun-lock, or bow, the straightening of which sends the arrow on its way. When a horse, of his own accord, wants to jump a fence, he walks up to it, touches it with his chest, and, seeing that all is clear on the other side, raises himself on his hind legs, and, when in the position of a kangaroo, one spring from the hind legs throws some 1,200 pounds into the next field, when his fore legs in turn receive his entire weight, then the hind legs come again to the ground to propel the horse onward. If, therefore, the fore feet require shoeing to bear the weight, the hind require it to propel the whole in such service. If you break a deer's hind leg he is yours; if his fore, he isn't. How many horses have lost their race from the loss of a shoe, thin as it is? How many cavalry horses have been lost from the want of shoes? The strongest recommendation I ever wrote for any man was for one of my farriers whose diligence saved hundreds of my horses! How many have fallen on ice, breaking either their own legs or their rider's, from not being rough-shod? How many horses fall on street pavements from this same cause? How could cutter races be run on ice but for rough shoeing?—[Diamor, in N. Y. Spirit.

BOATING.—Trickett is advised by the English aquatic writers to row Boyd. Unless he can beat the English oarsmen they regard his chances of winning anything in this country exceedingly slight....The boat-builders are very busy just now. Ross, Kennedy, Davis and Ten Eyck will row in shells this season....Jacob Gaudaur will row in all the prominent regattas during the coming season....Yale University will not be represented in England this year, as previously reported. While the eight was well qualified to sustain the reputation of the University against any of the English colleges, the amount necessary for expenses could not be got together. ....Wallace Ross is ready to row Warren Smith, of Halifax, for $1,000 a side, either in the Kennebecasis or Bedford Basin. Ross is anxious for a match, and if these terms do not meet the approval of Smith, Ross will row him on neutral water, Lake Maranacook, Me. Smith can also name the distance of the race.

IMPORTED HARRIERS.—There has been lately imported from England by S. Reed, of Louisville, Ky., two large-sized harriers, dog and bitch, Bluebill and Plaudit, from the kennel of Dr. Gordon Stables, R. N. They give satisfaction and are greatly admired. It is supposed that dogs of this kind from good strains will improve the breed of foxhounds in the West.

CLEAN ROOMS.—For the dirt of close rooms, whether they be for sleeping, living, entertaining, traveling or worship, wash it out, beat it out, sweep it out and flush it out with pure air—it will not stick if there be an abundance of pure air. For the dairy and the kitchen, see to it that there is no dwelling-place for kitchen and dairy utensils in common. Milk and butter should never be in the same safe—or even pantry—with the cold meats, fish or aromatic vegetables—nor even in the ice-box, if there is any doubt about the cleanness of the ice. The ice-pitcher should be supplanted by the bottle—the *water*-bottle—fill it with pure water, stop it well and set on the ice *ad libitum*—serve cold. Milk and butter can be treated in the same way. And as for the mouth, it should be rinsed with clean water after every meal, and washed with soap and a soft brush occasionally.

THE QUIET HOUR.

TANGLERS' CORNER AND PUZZLERS' CONTRIBUTION BOX.

Charades, Enigmas, Riddles, Puzzles, Word Squares, Answers to and from Correspondents, and Solutions.

Answers to April 16th.

1005. Davy Jones'(s) locker.

1006. More, most.

1007. Morn, horn, prayer, everywhere, lave, wave, fall, wall, smiles, piles, within, sin, rear, near, gates, straits, tombs, homes, topple, Constantinople.

1008. Cheat, heat, eat, at, t.

1009.

R
SER
PUTAH
PARADES
SURPLICED
RETALIATION
RADIATING
HECTINE
SEINE
DOG
N

1010. Mus-tac-he.

1011. Farewell.

New Tangles.

THE PRIZE RIDDLE CONTEST.—February 12th we offered a prize ("Cobbin's Pictorial Bible Commentator") for the best metrical or prose riddle of not less than three nor more than six lines, and the character of the riddle was defined clearly. The contributions were to be in by March 1st. March 5th we extended the time to April 1st. We herewith give the MS. submitted, and have concluded that where two riddles have been offered by one person to give both. In this we think no injustice is done, and hold that the competitors have a right to ask the judges to consider more than one production. This rule we shall adhere to in all competitions hereafter:

1017. Riddle, by S.:

I am tough and unyielding as a hickory,
Yet easily broken as a rotten tree,
Bliss I betoken, patience I try,
I measure the deep as the ship sails by;
The beard of an ancient King I graced,
And from his name my own is traced.

1018. Riddle, by S.:

I cover many a head that is bold,
"The burden of a song" by Webster called;
I descend from many a towering wall,
And climb, but never fear to fall;
Tho' I mock and delude them, and mean "to cheat,"
Girls and angels love me, and I am hard "to beat."

1019. Riddle by Amethyst: [This riddle exceeds the rule of the contest, which limited competitors to six lines per riddle. Each or any one of the stanzas, however, may be treated as sufficient in itself. Nevertheless, if the judges treat it as a whole, the riddle is not entered according to the terms observed by the other competitors.]

I am square and round,
I am found underground,
Among the gamins of the street I abound;
Many fond mothers weep,
Each night ere they sleep,
To think that I should their darlings keep.

By all of man's race
I am deemed a disgrace,
And they dread me as much as they would the bad place.
But, though thus I am shunned,
Yet the poor and bedunned,
By means of me have raised many a fund.

And a fortunate man
Is he, whose life's plan
Embraces me in its chief support;
Should I fail to-day
I can safely say,
Everybody would go through the bankruptcy Court.

1020. Puzzle, by Silver King:

I'm sought for eagerly by men who come from every nation;
I'm known to all who may be well acquaint with navigation.
Both engineers and sportsmen my value understand,
And farmers, when they haul to town the product of their land.
Now, if from what I've written my name you cannot find,
Ask him with burdened spirit what 'tis that grieves his mind.

1021.

The nations know of my fallen and buried state,
Amid the ruins to mark their following fate;
To know I'm risen and shown distinguished marks,
You'll find in head a sting, and eye in hinder parts;
Four signs 'twixt these extremes antiques have found,
And mean, admit all—to homes within the ground.

1022. Riddle, by E. C. D.:

I'm made of wood, or made of men, just as you choose;
I'm known in modern martial drill;
An ancient scepter, if you will;
Yet on my turn fame, fortune, honor, oft men lose.

1023. Riddle, by Rose:

Neath the wave I glide with the fish,
I gleam in the deep, starry skies;
In Danish tongue, a cup or dish;
By me you measure, weigh or rise;
I hang upon the pine cone's side,
And in the boy's first pocket hide.

1024. Riddle, by Conrad Delmar:

Oh, mighty earthly king!
Born from the earth, a thing!
To make proud man; thy servant fall;
Or worship thee, when thou dost call,
To fly from him like whiffs of air;
So false thou art, and yet so fair.

Correct Solutions and Answers to Correspondents.

F. M. S. says: "Am glad to welcome Hattie Heath to our little boat where the sex is in doubt. To my eye she does not look like the Sachem of the Silent Hour. I am discussing the question of offering a prize to the Tangler that will entice Rose aboard of our little craft." He answers 1013, 1014, 1015 and 1012.

Trinity—1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1014, 1015, 1016 (no). He says: "Thanks to Amethyst and Rose. Please say to Amethyst that there are three of each sex in my nursery, aged from 1 to 19. Now, then *Doubtful Rose*, have I a wife or not?"

E. C. D.—1006, 1007 (good), 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013 (cfcbgcgfnx is not the name of Trinity's fish; so you failed, you see), 1014, 1015, 1016 (no). In answering 1006, E. C. D. fills the rhymes handsomely, though in four or five lines differently from the original. Yet quite as good, if not better, compared with the answer to 1006 in this issue, is the following by E. C. D. as illustrative of the charm of suppressed rhymes:

Let us take a stroll, this balmy morn,
Along the banks of the Golden Horn;
List to the muezzin, he calls to prayer,
And the people are streaming from everywhere.
Watch their devotion, see them bow,
Hands and face in the fountain now;
Now they turn and prostrate fall,
Keeping their faces toward Mecca's wall.
A wonderous city around us stands,
Fantastic kiosks and glittering bands
Gleam in the sun, but darkly here
Crimes are hidden and many a tear.
Mosques and minarets upward rear,
Here graceful columns far and near;
A famous river flows by its gate,
On to the sea through its narrow strait.
Here are cypress grove and turbaned churls,
Gaudy harems, but few sweet girls.
Will time these slender minarets topple?
Thus ends our ramble in Constantinople.

Rose—1011, 1015, 1016 (no). Rose says: "My answer to Augusta Blake's riddle was *barron*, not barren. Please give us the answer."

It was "Barrow," 999 (729).

Twilight—1003, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1009, 1010.

A LEADING STEP.—Giveadam Jones here secured the floor and observed that the time had come for the Lime-Kiln Club to take another leading step. He would therefore offer the following resolution: "Resolved, Dat from an arter dis date dis club will officially number de hours of time de same as hours of de day, from 1 o'clock to 24 o'clock." Trustee Pullback said that if there were 24 hours in a day it was all right to say 23 o'clock. Nullification Q. Jones said there was no more use in having two 12 o'clocks than there was in having two girls named Sarah. General Wholesale White said it might sound a little strange to tell a man that you would meet him at 15 o'clock to talk business, but he was in favor of the change, and would hereafter have dinner at 13 o'clock. Many other members spoke in favor of the resolution, and when the question was called it was adopted by a unanimous vote. From this date the meetings of the club will open at 20 o'clock, and the new arrangements will be recognized in all official correspondence.—[Detroit Free Press.