Where Did Life Begin.

President Warren, of Boston, thinks he has succeeded in solving the problem as to where animal and vegetable life commenced. His researches, he says, have led him to fix that point at the North Pole. The doctor sustains his theory with much energy and with a surprising array of evidence, and this in turn throws much light on the most vital of the current problems of biology, terrestrial physics, ancient cosmology, comparative mythology, primeval history, scientific anthropology, and Hebrew and ethnic traditions. He claims to have given to the work the study of many years. He says the poles were first fitted to produce life, which consequently commenced at the northern and southern extremities of the globe, developing independently, but to a certain extent correspondingly, since conditions were similar. By the secular cooling of the globe the poles ultimately became unfitted to support life, and such forms as did not perish in the changes of the earth's surface slowly migrated toward the equator, changing in the course of ages, and ultimately giving rise to a fauna which, over most of the globe, consists of a mixture of northern and southern forms.

Many facts derived from the Northern Hemisphere lend support to this theory, and the Southern Hemisphere has recently added new facts which tell in the same direction. The animals of the Northern Hemisphere are still almost identical throughout the world's circuit. The same families and even the same species of mammals and birds are common to the Old World and to the New. To give a few examples, the elk or moose, the reindeer, the beaver, the lynx, the wolf, the fox of Europe and Asia, are especifically identical with those of America. The bison of America is closely allied to the aurochs of Europe, the brown bear of Europe to our own grizzly, the stage to the wapiti or elk, and so on.

Remains of mammals now regarded as tropical, such as the elephant, hippopotamus, rhinoceros, hyena, lion, &c.—are common in the tertiary strata of temperate and even arctic regions. This is proof of southern migration when climate changed. In the southern point of South America, in desolate Patogonia, have been found mammalian remains which tend to show that the tertiary fauna of Patagonia preceded that of the Argentine Republic, to the north of it. Forms of the pampas are there, but are somewhat more generalised, as though older. Hooker has shown that seventy-seven species of plants are common to South America, New Zealand, and Tasmania. A small family of fishes (*galaxidæ*) and the marsupialia (kangaroos, wombat, opossum, &c.) are Australian and South America.

A sort of submarine plateau connects Staten Island (part of the Terra del Fuego archipelago) with South Georgia and other antarctic lands, and it seems not unlikely that a great antarctic continent once existed, the remains of which are Australia, New Zealand, &c., on the one hand, and Patagonia on the other. In Australia the marsupialia multiplied and, spreading northward, mingled with the boreal fauna that had been driven southward. In South America the marsupialia did not greatly multiply, though they spread, after the upheaval of the Isthmus of Panama, into North America, where they are represented by the oppossum.

The edentata (sloths, armadillos, ant eaters, and their relations) first appeared in Patagonia in the miocene period, and spreading northward, became the characteristic animals of South America. Edentates (the aard-vark or Cape ant-eater and the pangolins or scaly ant-eaters) occur also in Africa, which was probably once connected southward with the ancient antarctic continent.

In many cases the animals of northern origin, which are the more numerous, can be distinguished from the northern, but in other cases we cannot distingnish them, since on the one hand, animals which naturalists place in the same family on account of resemblances in structure may very possibly have had a distinct ancestry, and, on the other hand, the northern forms, which evidently predominate, have not only varied greatly in the course of ages, but have penetrated far towards the southern extremities of the continents. As regards the Northern Hemisphere, the resemblance between the fishes, insects, and mollusca of the Old World and the New are even more striking than those of the higher animals.—*Scientific Press.*

EXPENSES OF BIG ARMIES.—John Bright recently declared that the resources of the nations of Europe were being "swallowed up by the insatiable exigencies of the militarism in which they live." Last year the armies and navies of Europe cost the enormous sum of $917,599,985, while the national debts absorbed the sum of $1,036,159,075 for interest alone, the aggregate national debts reaching the almost inconceivable amount of $23,011,949,705. At the head of the list stands Russia, whose army and navy estimates reached $230,512,500 and the interest on her national debts $168,653,935. France, England and Germany come next in the order named.

Tell Her Again.

Although it may be that you have assured your wife of your love so often that you think she certainly must know it by this time, tell her again. It is to her like the "old, old story," that with every hearing grows more sweet. You remember in the halcyon days of youth, how eagerly you improved every opportunity to convince her that she was to you, at least, the dearest girl in the world, although, for the life of you, you could not tell half the time whether your declaration pleased or vexed her—well, don't you love her as well now after her five, ten or fifteen years of devotion to you and yours—if you really loved her, you love her better now than ever before; then why not tell her so? Now, every woman who has read this far knows what your answer will be. You will tell her how every day's toil is lightened by the thought that what you earn will add to her comfort and pleasure, and she knows you love her. And, strictly speaking, that is true, for if your wife doubted your love you would probably find it out—or she is an exception among women. And to a man's mind the fact that she once knew it, and hasn't come to the point of doubting it is evidence sufficient that she still knows it. But women are different from that. There is a middle ground to this question that every woman occupies sometimes, when she knows and when she don't know. She would resent from any living creature the intimation that her husband did not love her better than anything else in the world, and yet she is not sufficiently satisfied of the fact in her own mind to make her happy. If man could put himself in a woman's place for only one short week, which experiment, by the way, Gail Hamilton says no man was ever yet fool enough to want to try, he would find how often woman works by faith in this matter, doing everything that love can suggest to make her husband's home life as happy as possible, even to the exclusion from the conversation of this topic that is sometimes nearest her heart for days, for fear of wounding his feeling. But while he remains a man he isn't likely to know much about these higher sensibilities, and considering the life the average man is called to lead, it is a merciful provision of nature that he is not constituted as we are. But while all this is true there are still some lessons that he might learn of his wife without detriment to his own happiness, that would add materially to that of his wife, and this is one of them. If your talent for love making has grown dull from long disuse, you will doubtless make awkward work of it at first, but brace up as you did the first time you told her about it and she will not misunderstand your meaning nor criticise your rhetoric. Man is a selfish creature, and if he could but once be brought to realize that it was to his own interest to reform in this matter, he would turn over a new leaf at once. But "there's the rub." In the first place he doesn't realize that he is not as happy as he might be, and if he did he would probably attribute it to every other cause before this. But shut his eyes to it as he may, it still remains a fact that a woman who does not realize that her husband loves her now, to day, not that he once did love her in the long ago, cannot be happy in the strict sense of the word, nor make such a home as the Lord intended man should enjoy. Some of our readers will appreciate this fact, while others will not, but a very little observation and study of the subject will convince the unprejudiced mind of what we have contented ourselves with stating, that the happiness of a home depends largely upon the woman at its head, and that no woman who is a wife can be happy without her husband's love.

No woman cares for a really handsome man for that reason alone; in reality they quite prefer to monopolize the beauty of the family themselves; but they do crave their husband's love and they don't expect that all expression of it will cease with the wane of the honeymoon. And where it does, as is so often the case, is it any wonder that the young wife in society is flattered by the attention of other men? And flattery, even that which the most respectful attention may be made to convey, is a formidable foe to the peace of the taciturn husband, who deems it a compromise of his dignity to be polite and loving to his own wife. And if he wakes up some fine day to the fact that the love that was once so fully his, is forever dead, he may thank his superiority (?) for the change. But let a husband love his wife only, and not forget to tell her so at home, and show her proper attention abroad, and the "masher's" vocation will be forever gone, and the home-life of the world approach the standard set for it by the Almighty when he established the institution in Eden.—*Burlington Hawk-Eye.*

Some English Postal Statistics.

Here is the return of letters and papers delivered in the United Kingdom in the course of twelve months:

Letters	1,322,066,000
Post-cards	153,568,100
Book packets	291,504,500
Newspapers	142,392,300
Total	1,917,963,800

These figures do not include the multitude of letters dispatched to foreign countries, nor the enormous number of parcels conveyed by the parcel post.

The number of letters registered in 1884 was 11,545,072.

Out of this vast multitude of letters, 5,732,310 were so addressed as to fail to reach their destination, and after causing an immense amount of extra trouble in returning them to the senders, there remained 561,736 which could not even be thus dealt with. The most remarkable thing concerning letters of this class is, that 24,628 were posted without any address, and of these no less than 1,536 contained money and checks amounting to the value of £5,158.

A very interesting detail in our postal statistics shows the immense increase of correspondence which has resulted from increased facilities. Thus, whereas, in A. D. 1839 the average of letters per annum for each person in the United Kingdom was only three; by 1854, under the influence of reduced postage, it had increased to fifteen; while we find that the average per head is now thirty seven letters and four post-cards.

It is interesting to note in this respect how we compare with other countries. To do so we must take the year 1882, of which the latest of which statistics can be obtained. We find that the average per head was: Great Britain, 35; United States, 21; Germany, 17; France, 16; Italy 7; Spain, 5.

Truly a wonderful center of busy life is our great city postoffice—great in all details. Here upwards of 1,200 telegraph workers, male and female, are engaged in flashing messages all over Britain, by the electric currants engendered by no less than 22,000 electric battery jars, which are ranged along shelves so numerous, that were they placed in line, they would reach three miles. And with regard to other postal matter, the General Postoffice daily receives about 6,000 mail bags, weighing about fifty tons, and dispatches about the same amount.—*Cassell's Magazine.*

Popular Fallacies.

It would add many years to the average longevity of our species if we could free the next generation from the curse of the following fallacies, which are either direct sources of disease or add an unnecessary burden to domestic life. The idea that cold baths are healthy in winter and dangerous in midsummer; that rain water is more wholesome than "hard" water; that bedrooms must be heated in cold weather; that the misery of everlasting scrubbing and soapsud vapors is compensated by the comfort of the lucid intervals; that a sick-room must be kept hermetically closed; that it pays to save foul air on account of its warmth; that "draughts" are morbific agencies; that catarrhs are due to low temperature; that even in midsummer children must be sent to bed at sunset, when the air begins to grow pleasant; that an after-dinner nap can do any harm; that the sanitary condition of the atmosphere can be improved by the fetor of carbolic acid; that there is any benefit in swallowing jugfuls of nauseous sulphur water; that rest after dinner can be shortened with impunity; that outdoor recreation is a waste of time; that athletic sports brutalize the character; that a normal being requires any other stimulant than exercise and fresh air; that any mechanical contrivances can compensate for manly strength; that any plan of study can justify the custom of stinting children in sleep; that the torpor of narcotism is preferable to insomnia; that the suppression of harmless recreations will fail to beget vice and hypocrisy is identical with invigoration; that fashion has a right to enforce the wearing of woolen clothes in the dog days.—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

THE IRISH LANGUAGE.—Lady Carnarvon, as far as lingustic studies are concerned, is becoming more Irish than the Irish themselves. The Irish language seems to have a peculiar fascination for persons of lingnistic tastes, as evidenced by the ardor with which it is studied by the scholars of Germany. The beauty of its literature, the richness of its vocabulary, and the regularity of its grammatical forms seem to attract persons of intellect and refinement, who only require to become slightly acquainted with it to continue its study.

THE TELEPHONE IN RUSSIA.—Telephones appear a substantial source of revenue in Russia. According to the rules under which telephone companies are formed in that country, 10 per cent. on private subscriptions, and 5 per cent. on those of municipal and Government corporations are paid over to the treasury. In 1883 the revenue derived from this source exceeded 22,000 roubles, while that for the present year is expected to reach 40,000 roubles, or $32,500.

A Baptist church at Ocala, Fla, has expelled all its members who have signed petitions for liquor licenses.

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9th	"	1,678 05	2,500
10th	"	1,911 65	2,755
11th	"	2,157 90	3,005
12th	"	2,415 45	3,250
13th	"	2,685 00	3,485
14th	"	2,967 70	3,720
15th	"	3,263 20	3,945
16th	"	3,575 35	4,165
17th	"	3,903 15	4,380
18th	"	4,248 50	4,590
19th	"	4,613 70	4,800
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