KNITTING AND CROCHET.

BABY'S KNITTED BOOT.

From The Weekly Tribune.

This pretty boot is knitted on two needles, No. 10, with Saxony yarn.

Cast on 50 stitches and knit plain one row.

2d row: Knit 3, and then alternately 2 plain and 2 purl through the row, finishing with 3 plain. Repeat this row twice.

5th row: Plain.

6th row: Purl.

7th row: Slip 1, and knit 2 together up to the last stitch, which is plain.

8th row: Slip 1, over and knit 1 to the end, when the 50 stitches will be again on the needle.

9th row: Plain.

10th row: Purl.

11th row: Like the 7th.

12th row: Same as the 8th.

13th row: Plain.

14th row: Purl.

15th row: Plain, followed by 9 rows of rib, 2 plain and 2 purl, always commencing and ending by 3 plain.

25th row: Plain.

26th row: Purl.

Now for the quadruple band of holes. Repeat for each stripe the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th rows. Make 2 rows of decreasing, separated by a plain one, the first row of decreasing being worked thus: Slip 1, knit 2 together, 10 plain, 2 together, 20 plain, 2 together, 10 plain, 2 together, 1 plain. After the plain separating row, the second decreasing row is worked thus: Slip 1, knit 2 together, continue plain.

For the lacey instep, separate 16 of the centre stitches and work them apart, as for a heel. After a plain row, turn the work and purl, then knit backwards and forwards on these 16 stitches the four lines of holes, working them as in 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th rows, and cast off.

With the right hand needle pick up the stitches on one side, and cast on 11 extra ones. *Knit 14 rows plain, then begin to decrease for shaping the lower part of the foot. Each of the five following diminishing rows alternates with a plain one.—Slip 1, knit 2 together to the end.—Slip 1, knit 2 together twice, and continue plain till the 3 last stitches, 2 of which are knitted together and 1 plain.—Slip 1, knit 2 together twice, remainder plain, till the 5 last stitches worked off by knitting 2 together twice and 1 plain.—Slip 1, knit 2 together twice, finish by 2 together and 1 plain.—Slip 1, knit 2 together, remainder plain. Cast off.

Pick up the 11 extra stitches and knit plain, increasing at the beginning of each row till there are 18 stitches on the needles. Three plain rows.—From thence decrease in the same proportion until only 11 stitches are left. Raise all the remaining stitches on the opposite side of the instep, and repeat from *. Sew up the boot, and finish off with a ribbon runner and bows.

BUTTONS.

Many crocheted worsted articles, especially those intended for children, are often ornamented by what are commonly known as "buttons." These are raised little balls, and are made in several ways according to the particular kind of crochet used. In hoods and sacques for little folks, worked in crochet tricotée or Afghan stitch, "buttons" are very commonly used.

To make them, first work a complete row of Afghan stitch in the ordinary way, forward and backward, and raise all the stitches for the second row. In working these off, first catch the wool and draw it through one stitch. Catch it again and draw it through two. Now make a chain of four stitches. This forms the first button. Catch the wool again, and draw it through two loops and repeat three times. Then make another chain of four stitches, and repeat this process to the end. The first "button," it will be noted, is made after the second stitch, and there are four stitches between each succeeding button.

In raising the next row pick up only the vertical stitches as usual, and be careful that the hook is placed behind the buttons in raising the vertical stitch beyond each of them. Work back this row plain; that is, without buttons. Raise all the stitches once more, work off four and then make a button. Work off four more and make another button. Repeat this to the end. The buttons in this row fall midway between those of the first row—not directly over them. These two rows of buttons are repeated throughout the work. Remember to make a plain row between every two button rows.

If desired, the buttons may be made larger or smaller by making five or three chain stitches, but four will be found a good average number. They can also be easily arranged in rows or groups according to the taste of the worker. A common and effective arrangement popular just now on covers for baby carriages is in groups of diamonds. The covers are crocheted in Afghan stitch in strips of two different colors, as white and blue, each about four inches wide. On the white strips are worked diamonds of blue buttons, and on the blue strips diamonds of white buttons. In this case the buttons are worked every row close together and gradually increasing from one to the widest part of the diamond, and then diminishing again regularly to one. In passing the diamond two threads are carried along, one being used for the buttons, the other for the ground work of the stripe.

Instead of being made in working backwards with the Afghan stitch, the buttons or picots may also be formed while raising the stitches. Thus, after raising a vertical stitch in the ordinary way, make three or four chain stitches, take the hook out of the last loop, insert it once again in the vertical stitch, and pull the last chain through, and proceed to raise the next stitch.

Another form of button is made in ordinary treble crochet, and is much used for borders to various articles. To make these proceed as follows:

Make a chain of the length of the proposed border. Then in the first row work two treble stitches. In the next stitch work eight trebles; take the hook out of the last, put it in the first of the eight and insert it successively in each stitch—whipping them over, as it were. Then catch the wool, pull it through all the loops on the needle, and finish with a chain stitch. Make three treble stitches, then another button. Break off the wool at the end of every row. In the second row work four trebles, then a button, and so on, making a button every fourth stitch.

CROCHET EDGINGS.

A "New Contributor" is thanked for the following very simple and pretty short way crochet edgings:

FIRST PATTERN.

Make a chain of 15 stitches.

1st row: 1 treble into 6th chain, 4 chain, pass 4, 1 treble into each of 5 successive chain stitches; turn.

2d row: 6 chain, 1 treble into each of 5 trebles of last row, 2 chain, pass 2, 1 treble into the next 5 successive stitches, 2 chain, 1 treble into 3d chain of loop made in 1st row; turn.

3d row: 5 chain, 1 treble into 1st of 5 trebles in last row, 4 chain, 5 trebles under 2 chain of last row; turn.

Repeat from 2d row until you have the required length.

SECOND PATTERN.

Make a chain of 15 stitches.

1st row: 1 treble into the 6th chain, * 3 chain, pass 2 chain, 1 treble into 3d chain, repeat twice from *; turn.

2d row: 3 chain, * 3 trebles into 3 chain in preceding row, 1 chain; repeat twice from *; 9 trebles into loop made of 6 chain; turn.

3d row: 3 chain, 1 treble between 1st 2 trebles in preceding row, * 2 chain, 1 treble between the next 2 trebles, 1 treble between the next 2 trebles; repeat 3 times from *; 3 chain, 1 treble into the 1 chain between 3 trebles at once from the last *, then 3 chain, 1 treble between last 2 trebles; turn.

4th row: 3 chain, * 3 trebles into 3 chain of last row, 1 chain; repeat twice from *; 2 trebles, 2 chain, 2 trebles into space made by 2 chain between 2 trebles; repeat 3 times from the last *; turn.

5th row: 1 single crochet, 4 trebles, 1 single into each 2 chain of last row 4 times; 6 chain, 1 treble into 1 chain between 2 trebles and 1st 3 trebles of last row; * 3 chain, 1 treble between 3 trebles; repeat once from *; 3 chain, 1 treble between last 2 trebles; turn.

Repeat from 2d row until you have the required length.

BABY'S BIB.

"Aunt Mamie" kindly writes: "L. M." requests directions for *Knitted* Bib. If a *crocheted* one will do as well, she will find that the following of these directions will result in a lovely and very serviceable little bib.

It is worked with white Knitting Cotton No. 16, with a fine hook in ribbed (DC.) crochet, the same stitch used for Table Mats in TRIBUNE of April 21, only of course it is much finer.

Make a chain of 38 stitches, widening in the middle, by making 2 stitches in the 19th loop. Turn, and DC. back always throughout the work, putting the hook in the outside half of the loop, and widening always in the middle.

Continue thus back and forth until you can count 15 of these "ribs," fasten and break off the cotton. Then make a new chain of 55 stitches and fasten it with the hook to the upper corner of the piece you have crocheted, (*opposite* the corner where you broke off the thread, to make the rib come right), crochet down the side of the bib, widen at the corner, then across the bottom, widening at the centre and at that corner, then crochet up the other side, and then make a chain of 55 stitches, without breaking off the thread.

Turn, work back around the bib, and out to the end of the chain on the other side, always widening at the corners and in the middle, and always taking the back part of the loop.

Continue this until you can count 8 ribs on the side; then finish with any pretty edge you may fancy, and put cord and tassel of the cotton on to tie it on with.

GENERAL GRANT ON BUSINESS CHANCES IN MEXICO.

From an Interview in The Chicago Inter-Ocean.

"The resources of Mexico are almost unlimited. The latter, together with the altitude from tidewater up to the limit of vegetation, makes it possible within a very short distance to have every product under the sun. You can find places where you can go in an hour's ride on a horse from an extreme tropical climate up to where you can gather ice any day of the year in the ravines."

"What do they call the coffee which they raise there, General?"

"No particular name; nothing but Mexican coffee. There is not much of it that comes here. They have no incentive to cultivate coffee, for the reason they have no means of transporting it. They could not get it out of the country. When you have to take everything on the backs of mules and ride for hundreds of miles, trade must be exclusively domestic, and very small at that.

Here are these 7,000,000 of people, willing to go to work any minute, and glad to. They would go to work for 25 cents a day at first, but when you create a market for these things, there will be a demand and there will be a competition for their labor, and the more they begin to get the more they will spend, and what they spend they will get back in wages. The sale of cheap jewelry—that will become a great traffic. And watches; take these cheap watches that are made by our watch factories; and iron in all its shapes—railroad iron locomotives, cars, and engines, agricultural implements—that will be one of the first things. Now they just have a little cross-stick that they dig up the ground with. There is no market for products, except just enough to feed the people, and that is very little, but the minute you create a market they would all want improved agricultural machinery. Now, it takes no more than $2 50 a year to dress these ranchmen, but instead of that, they would spend twice the amount for shoes alone, to say nothing about the increased amount for their clothes, and the poor people would all wear cotton goods."

"What do the women wear now?"

"They get some calico and they pay for it out of this cheap labor. They have to pay 200 per cent more than they do here, at least that much more for calico. But that calico dress will last one of those poor women five years, just as the silk dress used to last our mothers when we were boys. A great many ladies then had one silk dress, and that was the only one they had during their lives. And so it is with these women. One calico dress is all they may ever get."

"Well, now, General, suppose some of our people should go in there, as they do in the South, and start coffee plantations, would they be well received?"

"Oh, yes; and some of them should raise sugar and cotton. Any young man can go there now and do well, if he will. I should say let him go to Oajaca, and he will make a fortune if he will just be a little patient and steady. In the first place, you can buy a piece of land about six sections, two miles and six-tenths square, of the best sugar and coffee land in the world for $500, and can hire laborers for 25 cents a day. A man with $1,000 or $2,000 could buy one of these big tracts of land and hire men to commence putting it in. In doing the planting he ought to generally commence planting coffee and sugar, and, when he has done that, watch the market and keep a little store where he can buy sugar and coffee—he can buy sugar for a cent a pound there—buy all the sugar and all the coffee that comes in, and pay the money for it; they will take the money for what they bring in, first, but the poor people would not carry a cent away; and he could build up a big trade in his store. I speak of Oajaca, as that is only about twenty-five miles from the Pacific Coast, where there is a harbor, and where steamers already stop once a month. He could thus ship direct to San Francisco, or he could ship by Panama for the Eastern market that way."

"Is this coffee hard to cultivate?"

"No; no more trouble in raising coffee than in raising peaches in our own country."

"There seems to be a big opening for these young men?"

"There is a big opening both for individuals and for the country. It is a thing we've got to look to, as we are importing an enormous amount of the articles which Mexico could furnish us, and which we could get by an exchange of commodities. Even Havana, right on our coast, doesn't buy anything from us; if we want to sell her flour, she has to send to Spain to get our flour."

A GEM WORTH $16,000,000.

From The Globe.

The Berlin *Börsen-Zeitung* says that the Prussian capital has long contained a jewel of quite fabulous value, the news of whose existence was first made known to the general public by the reports of the last session of the Polytechnic Society. This noble stone is a sapphire, and is the property of one of the members of that learned body. It weighs "12⅛ loth"—a little more than six ounces. The jury of the Polytechnic Society, on grounds stated in full at their discussion, have settled its value at the frightful sum of sixty-four millions of marks, or three millions two hundred thousand pounds of English money. It need hardly be said that such a treasure is not very likely to find a purchaser at such a price.

It is contended by some of the adepts that the stone is not perfectly pure, so that its price may, perhaps, be reduced; but it can never be so far lowered as to tempt the richest and most eccentric collector in the world to give anything like the sum which must be asked for it. In the year 1872 a Berlin mineralogist offered to go as far as 67,500 marks, but in vain, as the unique jewel had already been refused in 1860 to a German Prince who had offered a far larger price. Its present possessor has placed his treasure in State custody for the sake of his heir, as the *Börsen Zeitung* says; though we imagine that its future owner will not find it easy to realize anything more solid than distinction out of his very exceptional piece of property. All the experts who have scrutinized the sapphire agree that it is a genuine corundum. The "sappir" of the books of Exodus and Ezekiel, like the "sapphires" of Pliny, were probably our lapis-lazuli.

A STORY OF JERROLD.

From The Globe.

There is a good story told of Douglas Jerrold, who was consulted by Mr. Bentley, the publisher, as to the title of a periodical which he contemplated, and which was afterward well known. "I think of calling it 'The Wits' Miscellany,'" said the publisher. Jerrold demurred on the score of modesty, to which Mr. Bentley responded, "Well, suppose we call it 'Bentley's Miscellany'?" "There," retorted Jerrold, "you needn't go to the other extreme."

SCIENCE FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE MOON NOT A DEAD STAR.

Dr. H. J. Klein, who two years ago announced a new crater in that world of extinct volcanos, the moon, has a brief article in *La Nature*, in which he gives reasons for believing that the moon is not dead. He has recently examined drawings of the neighborhood of the new crater by Gruithuisen, which strongly confirm the theory of recent changes on the lunar surface, and cites also the drawings of Messrs. Nelson and Green, in further proof thereof. Professor Klein adds that he announced the new depression near Hyginus as a crater, from analogy. It is a crater funnel, and even one of the largest. Toward the south there is a shallow spoon-shaped hollow, which terminates in a second small crater. In full sunlight, when the interior of the large hollow of the crater is no longer in shadow, the spoon-shaped hollow may still be seen as a gray spot. By the use of high powers it is remarked that the environs of the new crater appear to be fissured in a bewildering manner. Two fine furrows, like clefts in the soil, which extend from N. toward the Snail Mountain, are the finest objects on the moon.

It is impossible as yet to decide whether this formation is really volcanic. There is one curious fact, however, which would seem to indicate that a mountain of smoke has at one time been seen on the moon. On the 2d July, 1797, Schroter and Olbers examined a mountain situated in the Sea of Vapors. This mountain, which was ascertained to be 3,450 feet in height, has been seen neither before nor since, and was probably merely a mass of vapor. The formation measured by Schroter has disappeared from the moon; and, nearly in the same spot, there is now a crater. There sometimes occur, too, on the surface of the moon, nebulous strata of very long duration, which have no analogues on the earth. He who examines carefully the materials furnished by the numerous observations made on lunar formations from the time of Gruithuisen up to our own day, says Professor Klein, will arrive at the conclusion that things are going on upon the surface of this neighboring world which we as yet can know nothing about.

A MILKY SEA.

Some interesting information has been lately published by Lieutenant Pornain, of the French ironclad L'Armide, which, in February last, met with a milky sea in the passage from Point de Galle to Aden. The nights of February 9, 10, 12 and 13 were characterized by the phenomenon in all its splendor, the ship during this time traversing 660 miles (1,100 kilometres), in a mean latitude of 12° north, between the meridians of 61° and 51° east longitude. There was no thunder-storm, the sky was clear, the moon new, the barometer, thermometer and hygrometer were regular, and a gentle northeast monsoon was blowing. The temperature of the surface of the water was constant at 25°C. The sea was like a snow-covered field on a clear night, and all trace of undulations was lost sight of. The milky look was hardly disturbed by the motion of the ship and working of the screw (which shows that the layer had considerable thickness). By day, all disappeared; but the hue of the sea was somewhat altered.

Looked at attentively over the ship's side, at night, the water was seen to contain an enormous number of luminous particles pressed close together, and more brilliant close to the side where disturbed. Some 400 of these corpuscles, one to two centimetres long, could be counted in a bucket holding ten litres of water. Drawn out, these were seen to be of gelatinous substance, which quickly dried and disappeared, leaving a dark globule one millimetre in diameter, which, in the microscope, presented a transparent ovoid animalcule, filled with eggs, and moving its fins and tentacle sincessantly. A drop of water added to the dark globule brought back its luminosity; and when the creature was bruised in the hand, it gave a bright mark, which was quickly extinguished, and which had no smell. The milky water kept till day, and looked at in the dark, showed no luminosity, even though agitated; nor did the water procured by day and brought into darkness. Several of the officers on board L'Armide had witnessed the phenomenon before, but never so brilliant or so continuous. The Armide, in going out, had passed thirty leagues further north in February, 1878, without encountering anything of the kind.

HOW THE OCEANS WERE MADE.

It has been commonly assumed that the water of the ocean was originally fresh, and that it became gradually salter as the rivers carried down to it the salts held in solution. Mr. H. N. Mosely in a recent lecture before the London Royal Institution thinks that even the primitive sea must have been highly charged with saline matters of all kinds. When the earth was still intensely heated, the whole of the water now on its surface must have been present as gas in its atmosphere, at first no doubt dissociated, but afterward an aqueous vapor. Since if the sea-bottom and continents were smoothed down to a uniform level, the sea would still suffice to cover the entire earth to a depth of over 1,000 fathoms, aqueous vapor equal to a layer of water of that thickness must have existed in the atmosphere and have produced a pressure of more than a ton on the square inch at the earth's surface. To this pressure must have been added that produced by all the other vapors with which the primitive atmosphere must have been filled.

As the earth cooled the water condensed on the coolest spots from time to time, boiled, and rose as vapor again. Mr. Mallet conjectures that the first water formed on the earth's surface may have been even as hot as melten cast-iron. At last permanent seas were established. The waters of these, heated to an intensely high temperature under great pressure, must have dissolved salts in abundance from the freshly consolidated earth's crust, and being constantly in a state of ebullition as the pressure diminished at the surface with the growth of the seas, or the temperature of the earth's surface varied in different places, must have taken up vast quantities of rock matter in suspension and become thickly charged with volcanic mud. Intensely hot rain must have fallen on the land and have washed down more salts and mud into the sea. The whole ocean must have consisted of a vast mass of seething mud. It must have required a protracted period for the ocean to become clear, and for its deposit, which was perhaps somewhat like the present deep-sea red mud, to settle, and possibly the deeper water long remained uninhabitable, being overcharged with various gases and salts and suspended mud.

PROGRESS IN TELEPHONES.

The Scientific American describes some experiments it has been making with telephones. One of these was to place two of the well-known Blake transmitters near Mr. Beecher's desk in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn. Connecting wires ramified from this point in all directions as far as Yonkers and Elizabeth, and a large number of telephones were placed in circuit. On Sunday April 25, the second trial, the result was strikingly successful. From the opening note of the organ prelude to the last word of the preacher's voice at the close of the service, everything was delivered to the ears of the listening telephoners in the most perfect manner, the tones that came over the wires being so full, round, clear and distinct, it almost seemed to the hearers in New-York, Yonkers and Elizabeth as if they were stationed within the church itself, directly in front of the speaker. The delivery of music was equally perfect, every note of the organ and of the individuals of the choir being fully brought out.

In consequence of the successful result of these experiments, says *The Scientific American*, several new improvements have been suggested for trial, and there seems to be every probability that in a short time some new and very effective instruments will be in use, by which all who desire may carry the sounds of church service into their dwellings, and may also enjoy the best lectures, musical and other entertainments with the utmost satisfaction in their homes. Heretofore, in listening to the telephone, it has required effort and strain of the ear on the part of the listener. But this experiment shows that all sounds may be delivered in full and easy tones, readily heard, with all the natural characteristics, modulations, and inflections of the human voice.

A NEW GATLING GUN.

According to the London papers, an improved Gatling gun was exhibited recently by Dr. R. J. Gatling to a number of experts, at the offices of Sir William Armstrong & Co. This weapon is capable of firing 1,000 shots per minute, and killing a man or horse at a mile range. The gun has a compact appearance, can be taken to pieces and easily carried about, can be applied to military or naval use, and the mechanism of it is simplicity itself. The revolving barrel has ten compartments, into which, as they whirl round, metal cartridges drop from a tall oblong case fixed over the centre of the barrel. At each turn of the handle ten shots are fired, and their dispersion is accomplished by a sliding apparatus. The size of shot in different calibre guns of this class ranges from musket balls to half-pounders. By the use of this implement, it is claimed, three men can do the work of 300 riflemen. A quarter of a million dollars are said to have been spent on experiments necessary to perfect the gun, which is now regarded by military experts as a complete success.

HYDROGENIZED IRON.

In the course of some recent experiments, Professor D. E. Hughes, of London, found that steel or iron wires immersed for only a few minutes in acidulated water became excessively brittle. All kinds of steel and iron are affected in a similar manner, and, except that longer immersion is required with weakly acid solutions, it appears to be immaterial what acid is used, or what proportion it bears to the water. No perceptible effects have been produced on brass and copper. After an extended series of experiments, Professor Hughes has come to the conclusion that the effects are due to the absorption of hydrogen. The discovery is of much interest, and may ultimately become of considerable practical value, but at present its chief importance is in pointing the way to other researches.

One practical application of this discovery is already mentioned by Professor Hughes—the purification of mercury. If it is desired to purify mercury containing zinc or any metal less negative than iron, the mercury is placed in the dilute solution of acid, and an iron rod allowed to touch its surface. Hydrogen is freely and constantly given off until all trace of zinc has disappeared. Other practical applications will, doubtless, occur to workers in different branches of industry, and further researches will, doubtless, lead to more important discoveries still. According to Mr. Chandler Roberts, who has measured the quantity of hydrogen occluded by the iron, it amounts to about twenty times the volume of the wire, and Mr. Stroh, who also has been experimenting, says that the brittleness extends, apparently, quite to the centre of the wire, but curiously, the tensile strength is not affected. In soldering up iron telegraph wires, practical men know the importance of having a flux in which the acid has been thoroughly killed, for from experience they commonly say that the free acid renders the wire brittle, and, as a rule, always take the precaution to wash the joint as soon as possible after it is made. The cause of this is now known, but why hydrogen should render iron brittle is a problem for solution in the future.

A STORY OF SCIENCE.

From Fun.

A philosopher sat in his easy chair,
  Looking as grave as Milton;
He wore a solemn, mysterious air,
  As he Canada Balsam spilt on
A strip of glass, as a slide, to prepare
  For a mite taken out of his Stilton.

He took his microscope out of its case,
  And settled the focus rightly;
The light, thrown back from the mirror's face,
  Came glimmering upward brightly;
He put the slide with the mite in place,
  And fixed on the cover tightly.

He turned the instrument up and down,
  Till, getting a proper sight, he
Exclaimed,—as he gazed with a puzzled frown,—
  "Good gracious!" and "Highty-tighty!
The sight is enough to alarm the town,
  A mite is a monster mighty!"

From t'other end of the tube, the mite
  Regarded our scientific;
To his naked eye, as you'll guess, the sight
  Of a man, was most terrific;
But reversing the microscope made him quite
  The opposite of magnific.

"One sees the truth through this tube so fall,"
  Said the mite as he squinted through it;
"Man is not so wondrously big after all,
  If the mite-world only knew it!"

MORAL.

Mem.—Whether a thing is large or small
  Depends on the way you view it!

A KNIGHT'S ACCOUNT OF HIS KNIGHTING.

From a Volume by Sir Stephen Lakeman.

The scene of the ceremony was Windsor Castle, and the knight expectant was conversing with the Duke of Brabant, now King of the Belgians, when an usher carried him off for presentation to her Majesty:

"It was a small oak-panelled room, in the middle of which stood a lady surrounded by sedate-looking men. I felt as if a mistake had been made—that I had got into the manorial enclosure instead of the strangers' pew—and was on the point of bowing myself out again, in the humblest way possible, as a proof of my unintentional intrusion, when the lady mentioned smiled so kindly that I left off bowing and walked further on. There was no necessity to tell me now that I was in the presence of the Queen. I felt that I was. Whatever may be often thought nowadays of 'such divinity as doth hedge monarchs,' I for my part was ready at once to acknowledge that fealty to England's ruler which hitherto I had only offered to the dear country itself.

After a few words had passed, a cushion was brought and laid before me, and then another, on which there was a heavy-looking sword. Some one behind me whispered that I was to kneel—an operation by no means agreeable to a man before company. This I somewhat awkwardly did, and so remained, with my face bent toward her Majesty's feet, expecting every moment to feel the weight of the sword on my shoulder to indicate that the ceremony had begun, but nothing came. There was a dead silence. So I looked up and saw the Queen holding up the sword and directing an inquiring glance toward some one behind my back. Whoever that person was, he seemed to be a long time in answering. It was the Earl of Aberdeen. It was evident to me that her Majesty could not hold the sword over my head much longer. I asked what was wanted. 'Your Christian name,' her Majesty said. 'Stephen,' I replied; and down came the sword, missing the shoulder and striking the cushion. The ceremony, however, was complete without that, for her Majesty immediately said, 'Arise, Sir Stephen,' and held out her hand to kiss. I did kiss it, and felt in doing so that she had not many in her wide realm who would serve more devotedly than I if necessity required it.

"The cushions were removed; the Queen graciously smiled to all around and left the room, and we retired together through the long corridor before mentioned. I was standing near the entrance to the castle door whilst the Earl of Clarendon was lighting a cigar, when the Duke of Newcastle rejoined us and said, 'Allow me to congratulate you as Sir Stephen Lakeman, and as to having your head still on. I thought at one time her Majesty was going to cut it off.' 'Ah,' said Lord Clarendon, puffing away at his cigarette, which I thought extremely unbecoming in the Castle, 'if the Queen had given it a whack it would have done it good.'

"'Just as it might do your lordship to whack out your cigarette,' I replied. I had, within the last few days, taken a sudden dislike to his Lordship, which, however unaccountable at the time, was a true presentiment of our future relations."

M. RENAN ON A FUTURE LIFE.

From The Spectator.

M. Renan delivered, yesterday week, a special lecture,—not one of the Hibbert course,—on Marcus Aurelius, of the general teaching of which we have said enough elsewhere. But we may add here that M. Renan indicated in it once more his own strong leaning to a belief,—belief it can hardly be called,—in the immortality of the soul. Protesting against the resignation which Marcus Aurelius tries to feel in contemplating his own annihilation, M. Renan characteristically broke out:

"Ah! that is carrying resignation too far, dear master! Were it in truth so, we have a right to complain. To say that if this world has no counterpart, the man who sacrifices himself for goodness and truth ought to leave it contentedly, and absolve the gods, is too naïve. No—he has a right to blaspheme them. For why so cruelly abuse his credulity? Why plant within him deceptive instincts, of which he has been the honest dupe? Why this premium granted to the fribble or the scoundrel? It is he, then, who is not cheated, who is the wise man. But in that case, cursed be the gods who choose their favorites so ill! I want the future world to remain a riddle; but if there be no world to come, this world is a frightful ambuscade. Remark, in fact, that our wish is not that of the coarse crowd. What we want is not to gloat over the chastisement of the culprit, nor to draw the dividends on our virtue. What we want has nothing egotistical about it. It is simply to be and to stay connected with God, to carry on our thinking as we have begun, to get more knowledge out of it, to be rejoiced one day with the sight of the truth we are seeking with so much travail, the triumph of the goodness we have loved. Surely, nothing could be more legitimate."

We quite agree, but is it legitimate for those who reply, when God really reveals himself: "I want the future world to remain a riddle"? M. Renan cannot both "be rejoiced with the sight of the truth he is seeking," and have it remain a riddle with the answer unguessed and unguessable.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

A MONK WITH A FORTUNE.—A suit at law respecting property left by a monk named Agostino, whose home was at Malta, has recently been tried at Constantinople before the Supreme Consular Court of the English Government. Agostino was a Capucin and a member of the monastery of that order at Malta. Like his brothers he had voluntarily imposed upon himself the vow of poverty, but in spite of this he accepted a salaried appointment at Tunis charged by the British Government with the care of the British Roman Catholics at that place. He lived some years in office and prospered the while, leaving a handsome collection of savings when he died. A large number of competitors came up to contest their right to the money. First the convent put in its claim as entitled to all things acquired by the individual members of the society, but it was met with the objection that the vow of poverty applied to the community as well as to each of its members. Then a claim came from the Pope as head of the Propaganda Fidei and finally the collateral relatives of the deceased insisted that the property should go to them. After admitting as valid the objections made to the claim of the convent and refusing to allow that the Pope had any right to the fortune, the Consul decided that it must be disposed of according to the Malta laws and as if Agostino had not been a monk. At the same time he added that if the English Government had claimed the property it would have been very difficult to withstand the argument in its favor.

VICARS AT LOGGERHEADS—Two vicars in Buckinghamshire have entered into an astonishing bit of correspondence over an incident in the recent English election. The vicar of Hillesden, who is a Conservative, allowed a prominent Liberal candidate to speak in his school room, and it so happened that among the candidate's supporters at the meeting was the Vicar of Grandborough, who also spoke, and of course on the Liberal side. This fact has led the Vicar of Hillesden to write his brother a letter declaring that he should not have minded it had a Dissenting minister spoken for the Liberal candidate, because Dissenters are known to be in general of that political faith; "but that *you*" he goes on to say, "a clergyman, should come to a meeting in the schoolroom which I had granted the use of, and speak against views which you knew I held, this was, in my judgment, unseemly as regards the Church, and not courteous to myself." The vicar of Grandborough, in his letter of reply, maintains that the rule of professional etiquette referred to applies only to a clergyman in his clerical capacity, and reminds the Vicar of Hillesden that the present time differs somewhat from the Middle Ages.

"SISTER DORA."—During the last illness of Dorothy Pattison Monsignor Capel and Frederick Willett, a Church of England clergyman, were both admitted to her bedside. Mr. Willett, in a letter to Miss Lonsdale, Dorothy's biographer, states as from her own lips that Mgr. Capel stayed with her an hour, urging that she embrace Roman Catholicism, and "trying all he could to get me to allow him to baptize me." "Three times," she is reported as having said, "he turned to the water and suiting the action to the word, implored me to let him baptize me, saying it would at any rate do me no harm." Mgr. Capel has written to Miss Lonsdale to say that the story "is utterly unfounded." Both letters were printed in the second and third English editions of the biography, but were omitted from subsequent ones. The American edition, being from the sixth London, does not contain either letter.

THE EXILE OF DIDON.—Pere Didon, when in Rome, in reply to a question asking of what he was accused, made answer: "I have not been informed, and no one was bound to tell me. The Holy Father, perhaps, knows nothing of the matter. When the colonel of a regiment punishes an inferior, he orders and the inferior obeys. I believed I was speaking the language of the Gospel; I thought I could show the harmony existing between the teaching of Christ and the aspirations of the people. I wished to conciliate faith with science, and to bring believers and unbelievers together under the radiating light of the Spirit of God. It appears that this was too delicate a subject to deal with, and it is desired that I should remember this; I am sent to Corsica in order to have time to engrave it in my memory." He said afterward that he feared the conduct of the Court of Rome would produce a schism.

MR. SPURGEON.—A third letter has been written by Mr. Spurgeon—and a much longer one than the two others—on the report that in a certain case he had said he should vote for the Devil if he were a Liberal. To his denial that any such remark was ever made by him he adds that men of all creeds and of no creed have a right to be represented in the House of Commons if they are numerous enough to return a member. While he should greatly prefer to see men of Christian character returned, the fitness of the man politically "cannot be measured by his piety or his orthodoxy." The less sectarianism in politics the better; the moral element should be mainly regarded, and peculiarities of creed "only so far as they are involved in the present union of Church and State and other kindred subjects."

Thomas Neilson, who has been a missionary in the New-Hebrides for thirteen years, says in reference to the murder by cannibals of John Williams, the first missionary to Erromango, that he has sat at the same communion table with a brave Christian who when a lad joined the cannibal feast on the body of Williams. On a certain day which Neilson spent on that island he saw native Christians go into a heathen district to do missionary work, and the leader of the band was a son of Kourowi, at whose hands Williams was murdered.

Prominence is given in several religious newspapers to the recent conversion to Catholicism of a Methodist minister of Fort Mill, S. C., as well as his five children. His name is J. C. Russell. He has been a preacher for nineteen years past, and his conversion is said to have been the result of several years of close study and careful inquiry. He was received into the Catholic Church on the 31st of March. Mrs. Russell was present at the baptismal service, but she has not yet decided to accept it herself.

It is said that military chaplains will be dispensed with in France after the present year. The Catholics have not decided what they will do, but it is intended by Protestants to go personally into the barracks of all garrison towns and invite the soldiers to attend the services on Sundays. In garrison towns where there are no places for Protestant worship—and of such towns there are sixty-four—the Mayors will be asked to permit the holding of services in some public building.

A shocking accident to a widely known and respected rural English clergyman, the Rev. A.C. Bassett, is reported in London papers. Mr. Bassett was riding his pony near his own house when the animal suddenly shied at a passing vehicle and threw him off. His foot became entangled in the stirrup, and the frightened pony dragged him a long distance. Before he could be taken home Mr. Bassett expired from a dislocation of the neck and a fracture of the skull.

Since the Rev. William Taylor, the well-known Methodist evangelist, went to India, nine years ago, three Methodist congregations, cared for by as many ministers, have been secured in Bombay. A new church, which one of these congregations has just built and dedicated, will seat 500 people, and is said to be the finest audience room in the entire city. It cost, with the land, about $16,500. There is a small debt resting on it, but a part of the debt will be paid off this year.

At a monastery near Palermo a priest named Bonajuto has been murdered by the monastery cook. In the corridor of the building his body was found stabbed in thirteen places. The cook had been employed in the monastery for twenty years and was taken into it out of charity, his story being that he was a sailor and had been shipwrecked. Latterly he has been ill and the monk had prescribed for him, but to little purpose. No motive for the act has been learned. The assassin in spite of his illness took flight.

Many of the older Methodists complain that it should be necessary for the present General Conference to meet in an opera house. It is not the first time, however, that an opera house, has been used for this quadrennial convention of Methodism. In 1872 it met in an opera house and again in 1876. It would be a matter of great inconvenience to do the business of a Conference in a church.

Recent discussion of extempore speaking, and especially the argument in favor of it, has a good example to preserve in an address recently made in this city by the Rev. Dr. Bridgman on City Life. Ordinarily Dr. Bridgman preaches from manuscript, but on this occasion his success is said to have been so great that it surprised all who heard him, and some of his friends advise that he put away the paper.

The Methodist Church in this country has a membership of 1,700,000. The number of its ministers is 11,500, and of its lay preachers 12,400. Of Bishops it has 9, and of Presiding Elders, or Diocesan Bishops, which virtually they are, it has 450. The number of delegates at the Conference now in session in Cincinnati is 398, of whom 248 are clerical and 150 lay.

Of fifty-six Baptist churches in Philadelphia thirty-four own their property free of debt. The remainder either do not own their building or are incumbered to the amount of $80,000. Five churches have recently discharged their obligations viz.: the Tenth, $9,090; the Newtown, $1,000; the Bethesda, $1,600; the Olivet, $10,000; and the Roxboro, $8,000.

Theodore Monod, the eminent French Protestant, who was expected to visit this country during the present season, will be unable to come owing to the illness of a member of his family. Another prominent French Protestant will, however, come in his place, to lay before this people the cause of Protestantism in his own country.

Enmegahbowh and Menogishik, the Chippewa Indian preachers, both chiefs, are still in Baltimore on their mission to raise funds for a new church building on their reservation in Minnesota. They attended All Saints' Church last Sunday, and spoke to the congregation, the one in his native tongue, the other in English.

Among the statistics of work accomplished by foreign missions during the past century are these: converts from heathenism, 1,500,000; languages into which the Bible has been translated, 226; copies of the Bible circulated, 148,000,000; barbarous languages endowed with a grammar and literature, 70.

It is said of the Wesleyan church at Barcelona, Spain, that its Sunday-school now numbers 132 children and 10 teachers, and that its day school has been carried on with such success that the Roman Catholics have opened a school of their own in opposition to it directly across the street.

Strong efforts are being put forth by the Old Waldensian Church to extends its missions in Italy, and an attempt at the same time to increase the salaries of its pastors has been successful. A Turin banker who conceals his name has given for the purpose the sum of 40,000 francs.

In certain parts of Palestine farming is profitable. At Jaffa orange groves are said to pay 6 per cent net. The convents succeed well in the culture of the olive and the manufacture of oil. Arab villages raise grain enough to supply their own wants, and now and then have a surplus for exportation.

Two missionaries who have been recently on Lake Nyanza will arrive this month in England with three native chiefs who bear a letter from their sovereign to Queen Victoria. Recent troubles between missionaries and native authorities in that region have been adjusted.

The Rev. J. T. Massey is a native Virginian who has been the pastor of the Baptist church at Billingham, Mass., for the past forty-five years. He has recently resigned the office and will return to Virginia to pass the remainder of his life amid the scenes of his youth.

Dr. J. Monroe Gibson, who has been pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church at Chicago for six years past, has accepted a call from St. John's Wood Church in London. Before going to Chicago Dr. Gibson was the pastor of a church in Montreal.

There are 800 Swedes in Denver, all young unmarried people, it is said, and they are about to purchase a church site and raise money to build an edifice to worship in. It is believed that in the entire State the Swedes number 10,000.

A Protestant chapel with a seating capacity of 300 has been erected at Samokoo, Bulgaria. More than half the funds for the purpose were contributed by the natives. Since January 1 the congregation has increased 50 per cent.

Dr. D. X. Junkin, who died recently in West Virginia, saw considerable service in the Navy as chaplain during the civil war. Stonewall Jackson was his son-in-law, but Dr. Junkin had no political sympathy with him.

Preparations are making to accommodate 4,500 people at the ceremony of laying the corner stone of Truro Cathedral on May 30. The Prince and Princess of Wales will be there, and the Prince will lay the stone.

Among eighteen persons confirmed recently in an Episcopal church in Philadelphia two were very aged. One candidate had reached seventy-six, and another eighty-five.

There is a church in Norway with its interior made wholly of paper. The bas reliefs are of paper also.

CURRENT RELIGIOUS OPINION.

THE TWO KALLOCHS.

From The New-York Independent.

As a religious newspaper, we are called upon to comment on the fact that the two Kallochs are properly accredited clergymen. We feel dishonored by the fact, and so especially does the Baptist denomination to which they belong. Baptists have long been ashamed of Kalloch as one of their clergy. They have known that the Baptist denomination has suffered greatly in California by his relation to it. Very lately a second Baptist paper has been started in California to be free from his overpowering influence. But nothing has been done to relieve the body of responsibility for him. No Baptist council has taken up his case. The names of the two Kallochs staid in the "The Baptist Year Book for 1880," issued by the Baptist Publication Society. That they are not fair representatives either of Christianity or of the Baptist denomination is most true; but it is a pity that their associates had not withdrawn fellowship from them, as there was abundant occasion to do. In any decent religious body each minister must be responsible for his moral conduct to his brethren, as well as to his God. They must, if he walks disorderly, withdraw their fellowship from him; or, if a majority are his tools, they must put themselves on record so clearly by their indignant and sorrowful protest that their skirts shall be free.

WEST POINT EDUCATION NARROW.

From The Boston Watchman (Baptist).

West Point has given us some great men; and it has given us many small ones. There is a general impression that the kind of education received there unfits the students for large views, large feelings and large aims. The cadet, and too often the officer hatched from the chrysalis of the cadet, is apt to fancy himself a superior being. Perhaps he is not so much to be blamed as pitied. He wants to be a gentleman. His instincts are lofty, and if directed wisely would lead him to become one. But the fates are against him. His education at West Point is narrow. His instructors, as is evident from the revelations made in the Whittaker case, have false ideas of honor, and impart them to him.

THE PARDON OF KEMBLE.

From The New-York Methodist.

Kemble (millionaire) and his associates were in jail just four days, having undoubtedly surrendered only after "matters were amicably arranged." The Court of Pardons has released them in defiance of public opinion. THE TRIBUNE says of it: "A more insolent defiance of public sentiment, under cover of a temporary deference to it, has not been seen since Tweed asked the taxpayers of New-York what they were going to do about it." You can imprison a forlorn fool like Denis Kearney for wild, and nonsensical talk; but you cannot imprison two millions of money in a Presidential campaign. Oh, for such a breath of God's winds as has just swept England clean!

AN INFAMOUS SPIRIT.

From The Advance (Presby.)

There is not another school of note in the entire North where a student would lose caste with his associates on account of his treating with friendly civility a colored classmate. At West Point the social dominance of the caste-prejudice has been so absolute that not a lad among them dared be seen holding a moment's conversation with the colored cadets. The unchristian, the heathen, the cruel meanness of the spirit, now that it has suddenly come to publicity, has grown to be simply infamous.

A CHURCH LIVING UNTO ITSELF.

From The Boston Congregationalist.

A country church, which pays this year a salary of $1,200 to its pastor, gave last year to all benevolent purposes the munificent sum of $50. A pastor or some great disaster would seem to be needed there to rouse them to the privilege and duty of doing something for others.