

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

—English miners, it is calculated, lose 2 1/2 per cent. of their time through drunkenness.

—A millionaire in Marseilles has been sentenced to six months imprisonment and heavily fined for lending young men money at rates of interest varying from 20 to 60 per cent.

—Queen Victoria is very fond of apples, and she says it is interesting to watch the old lady popping the seeds on the kitchen stove to see if she will get married this year.

—An idea of the depth of interest felt in Birmingham, England, in the sports practised by its citizens may be formed from the fact that the recent defeat of the Aston Villa football team, by Queen's Park, Glasgow, in their tie for the association cup, was described in one local paper inside a black mourning border.

—A physician in Vienna operated for amputations several months ago on a man in his 102d year, and restored his sight, the operation being the first of the kind on record. More recently the same physician repeated this operation on a man ninety-six years of age, and with the same success.

—Mutsu Hito I. Emperor of Japan, who is now thirty-two years old, is the 123d sovereign of that country. He has reigned since the death of his father, in 1871. He is the only dynasty that has ruled in Japan, and began 690 B. C. There is no other monarch in the world who can boast so unbroken a descent from so ancient a stock.

—The late organist of a London (Eng.) church left a bequest amounting to more than \$500 a year for strewing gravel in slippery months along the steep inclines of streets in the neighborhood where he lived. His widow, for several years supervised the operation in person when the weather was bad, but she is now dead, and, though the work is still carried on, the horses are said to miss the energy and superintendence of their old friend.

—The new penal code in Italy abolishes capital punishment. But this is only making the law conform to the practice. During twenty years past, out of over 1,500 convictions for capital crimes, in which the death sentence was imposed, an aggregate of only thirty-one executions have taken place, and for the past nine years not one condemned person has been executed. It would seem to be quite as well that the form of law should be done away with.

—The Roman Catholic Cathedral at Westminster is to be commenced forthwith. It is to form the center of a vast quadrangle, comprising the site of the Tudor 14th-century Prison, recently purchased for \$115,000 from the Middlesex magistrates, and a site adjoining, long in possession of Cardinal Manning. As a frontage to this vast square houses are to be built in architectural keeping with the building and a character to adorn the neighborhood. The Cathedral itself, which is to cost something like \$500,000, is to be 570 feet in length and 350 feet in width. Westminster Abbey is 511 feet in length by 203 feet across the transepts.

Russian New-Year Festivities.

The Russians have our custom of "open house" New Year's day, and the ladies of the colony in Paris receive exactly the same as les grandes dames Americaines in New York or Chicago. As the Russian Embassy there was not so much ceremony this year as the years previous, for Prince Groloff and his Petersburg. One of the most attractive Russian salons in Paris is that of Mme. De Kosakoff-Bourdonkoff, and the gracious hostess spent the whole day receiving her friends of all nationalities. She was assisted by her cousin, Mlle. Bernar, a young lady celebrated for her spirit. It is a party of acquaintance with a Russian girl. A Frenchman is astonished at the independence of American young ladies, but the Russian girls have an education very similar. A French girl who expresses an opinion, or who makes a remark without giving "mamma" as authority, is considered a marvel, or is looked upon as destroying all her previous merits.

But I reserve my enthusiastic admiration of "la demoiselle Russe" and return to the "Happy New Year" of our salutation. "Happy New Year" the Russians say, "N. Novim Godom, N. Novim Solastium" "New Year, new happiness" or "Pozdravlayem S. Novim Godom" "I hope you will have a happy New Year." At each repeat during the day the guests stand, raise their glasses and toast the Emperor.

From a Russian friend I heard the description of the celebration in Russia. Yesterday (Saturday) Alexander III. and suite left Gatchina for St. Petersburg. This morning all the royal princes, courtiers, officials and retainers of the Winter Palace came to wish a "happy New Year" to the Emperor, and he in return wished them the same mouth three times. I write explicitly "on the mouth," because for four years I have not seen any one kissed in that manner, the French salutation being on both cheeks. At Easter the Emperor goes through the same ceremony, only he kisses every one he meets, even to the filthiest beggar. This is to recall the fact that all are brothers in religion. But the Russian aristocracy found this manner of embracing too contaminating, and discontinued it. "New Year's day" twenty-three years ago the ceremony of hand-kissing was abolished, but the Emperor re-established it today.

The kiss that the Emperor placed on the mouth was conveyed by the recipient to the hand of the Emperor. The festival period begins really on December 21. During two weeks the young people amuse themselves with games, etc., as we do in America. However, and terminate the festivities the 4th of January, Epiphany. On this day all the rivers in Russia are blessed. At St. Petersburg the Emperor and imperial family assist at the ceremony. On the frozen Neva is placed a gilded chapel, surmounted by a cross. The interior is decorated by pictures representing the baptism of Christ. This chapel is offered by branches of pine, and in the center of the chapel the ice is broken, and around the opening made are stationed the Emperor, courtiers, and clergy, all in gala dress. The Bishop of Novgorod, after praying before the altar, where are placed the relics and holy books, plunges his cross three times in the water of the river, which is baptized, for the blessing of the Jordan. Afterward he dips some of the water into a precious vase and sprinkles the assembly. This is the signal for the crowd to fill the bottles and pitchers which they are provided. They carry off enough of the water to last until next year, and use it the same as holy water is used by the Roman Catholics.

England's Play-Roader.

The Lord Chamberlain's play-reader reviews plays submitted to him by authors over the theatre, bullfight managers, and is decent and as the spirit moves him. Let me say he is usually decent. His name is Pigot, an ex-barkeeper. He has an office down near St. James' Palace. His duties are to license plays, and when he has said a play cannot go on that settles it; there is no appeal. Not that the Lord Chamberlain ever meddles with plays; he is too important an official for that, and the supervision of this part of his duties is perfunctory quite. He has charge of public buildings and palaces, has an office at Westminster, and is a very play and mighty man all around; but the play-reader is a retiring little chap with a literary turn of mind and a stern sense of duty.

Whenever a play is to be produced it is sent to him with a fee of one guinea for each act. He immediately sends a receipt for the guineas, and that is the last you hear of them. Within a week you get notice of whether you can play the piece or not, or if anything has got to be expurgated. It is not necessary for him to indicate why he will not allow any play or part of it: he only says yes or no and there is an end. A short time ago a Canadian friend of mine sent in a melodrama, in seven acts, to put before a London manager. The manager jumped at it and made preparation for its production, saying, "Oh, the license is all right; he won't interfere." But he did. The play was sent around to him as soon as the parts were copied, and with them the necessary seven guineas. In a few days notice was sent to the manager that the play could not be played. We went to see him and asked to make alterations. He said that he didn't mind telling us that the Irish scene was the objectionable feature, and if we had a mind to cut that out and change the time of action so that it would not deal with the Government of to-day, he would permit its production. Now the play is being produced, and the deal with a peaceful village where there was comparative prosperity, but out of which there subsequently came the thread of a plot. In London the troubles of the hero led to an appeal being made to the Home Secretary, who, by the way, is not represented, only referred to, and then not by name, and his refusal to grant a writ was an effort to escape, and naturally leads to his being "a hard-hearted man." Beyond this there is no reference to him, but that was the ground upon which the time of the action must be shifted.

"Can I put it into the period of the Peasants' Government?" said the manager. "That I can't say until I have seen what you make it there." "Can I take it to a time when the Home Secretary was an unpopular man?" "I can't tell you. This you can do, however. You can take it out of the reign of Queen Victoria."

How Cheap Pictures are Made.

"Do you know how these pictures are painted?" inquired an art connoisseur of a reporter, referring to the paintings displayed in an "art auction house." The newspaper man confessed his ignorance, and asked to be informed. "Well, I will tell you a story regarding their construction as it was told to me by a thoroughly reliable party. He said he knew an artist in Chicago who was a good painter, but had wrecked himself by drink. Broken down, he took to painting pictures for auctioneers, and this is how he did it: He would spread a long strip of canvas along the room and then mark it out into sections the size he intended to make the pictures. Next he would paint up about a dozen pots of mixtures of many colors as it was necessary for him to use. Taking the brush from one pot he would paint a dash, a tree or something on each section; then he would take up another color and go along the strip of canvas daubing water or houses on each picture, and so on until he had turned out the whole string, all alike, you know. In this way he managed to paint about twenty pictures a day. He received seventy-cents for each picture. My informant assured me that he was all he was paid. Well, that would be about \$15 for the day's work. This would be enough for the artist to go off on a drunk with, and that is just what he would do, and remain drunk for a few days. Then his funds would be out and he would go to work again. In this way he managed to keep afloat, and to drink the greater part of the time. You can understand how these fellows can sell pictures for a trifle and yet thrive. If they sell a picture at all they make money on it, as it costs them next to nothing. The frames they get for about fifty cents a piece as they buy so many at a time. Why, \$2.50 pays them well for a picture."—St. Louis Republican.

Matrimonial Collisions.

The collision of husband and wife is so frequent as to have a literature to itself. In this case the man, though he suffers also, suffers much the least. He, if he is severely disappointed, gets out of the marriage, and can form new friendships, he can harden himself until he is more or less apathetic, he can put affection, which makes the true string of such unions, away from him, and so, with his coolness restored, can go on and find life endurable. He is free to strive, though the striving is useless. The woman—we are speaking throughout of the first wife—can not get away, either from the house, or what is more important, from her life, can not strive without loss of self-respect, can not enfranchise herself from her own sense of right, her own necessity to herself of concealing her disappointment from her own heart. She can not be quietly discontented, or coolly disappointed, or calmly resigned. The condition is imperative and she must suffer daily, hourly, perhaps throughout her life, from a cause which even a mental change, possible to be made if duty did not forbid, would either remove or, at least, diminish to much smaller proportions. A woman so situated can not be either serene or genuinely happy, can not be at rest, or feeling all the while how harsh destiny is, yet how irresistible, because it exerts its force not from outside, but straight on her own heart. "I must bear," says the husband to himself, and he bears: "I ought to cure it," says the wife, and it is incurable. The pain in the one case is disappointment, in the pain in the other that of contention with the inexorable, which yet you know it is your duty not to contend with. Patience is usually the medicine; but, Griselda, whatever else she may be, is not serene, and Griselda is but a fairy tale.—London Spectator.

The English Mile.

M. Faye has explained why it takes sixty-nine and a half English miles to make a degree instead of sixty, as was probably intended when the mile was established. The English geographers deduced their mile from Ptolemy, and Ptolemy refers to Eratosthenes. Eratosthenes measured the arc of the meridian on the basis of the distance between Syene and Alexandria, in Egypt, which gave 700 stadia to the degree. Ptolemy says that he verified the measurements of Eratosthenes and found the same result, which he gives, however, as 500 stadia to the degree. The discrepancy arises from a change which took place about the middle of the foot—of which 640 went to the stadium—during the 400 years between Eratosthenes and Ptolemy. Eratosthenes used the Philetarian foot, which is longer than ours. Making allowance for this difference, the two measurements agree. The English geographers, in making their calculation, believed that Ptolemy had used still another foot, the Greek foot, which is one and a half hundredths longer than ours, but shorter than the one he did actually use. If the English geographers of the sixteenth century had strained this valuation ever so little, and had added to it one hundredth, they would have found 830 English feet for the stadium, which he believed to be 600 Greek feet, and these 630 feet, or 210 yards, multiplied by 300, would give them 105,000 yards for the degree and exactly 1,760 yards for the mile.—N. Y. Herald.

General Sherman, in referring to a young lady who wrote him a letter addressed "St. Louis, Ill.," says that "she is in Europe, but if called upon to define the western boundary of the United States would probably put it somewhere in New Jersey."—N. Y. Herald.

Ninety runaway couples from Oregon were married in Vancouver, W. T., during 1885.

A Great Movement.

Mr. J. H. Goldsmith, owner of the Walnut Grove stock farm, N. Y., says of the wonderful curative qualities of St. Jacobs Oil, that having long used it for rheumatism and on his breeding farm for ailments of all kinds, he has been fully convinced of its great value, his preference, as the best he ever used, in an experience of twenty years.

—Railroad men on the Boston, Hoosac Tunnel & Western Railroad greatly fear an engine on that road which bears the unlucky number "13." It killed its fourth victim recently.—Boston Post.

REMINISCENCES OF ROCHESTER.

The Falls of the Genesee and Sam Patch's Fatal Leap—One of its Business Hours and Its Great Magnitude.

The present floods, which are either deterring or threatening the county in every direction, are justly cause for apprehension. No matter whether they are sudden or by slow degrees, they are, in either case, a great evil and much to be dreaded, and yet, America will always be troubled by these spring or fall floods. Probably one of the most disastrous that was ever known, occurred in Rochester, N. Y., about twenty years ago. The Genesee River, just above the falls, where Sam Patch made his final and fatal leap, became completely blocked by ice, forming an impassable dam, and the water coming down the Genesee River overflowed the principal portion of the city of Rochester. This catastrophe would have been repeated the present year had not the energy and foresight of the city authorities prevented the principal portion of the city of Rochester, at that time and was greatly interested in the manner in which this great catastrophe was averted. Every few moments, a roar like the rushing of a great river, forming a canal would be heard, and in order to see this ice blocking process, the writer went to the top of the falls, and saw that here he was not only enabled to see the process uninterrupted, but also the magnificent building which had been erected for the purpose of generating power, being a four-story building, and a quarter acre of flooring. Mr. Warner treated my correspondent very courteously, and in the course of the conversation said:

"We are doing a tremendous business and are far behind in our orders. This is the year when the water will be so low, no matter how strong their constitution may be, feel, more or less, the pain and indisposition, the headaches, colds, neuralgia, and neuralgic affections, etc. We have been coughing all the 1,601 ill that flesh is heir to come this time of the year, if at all. It is natural, therefore, that we should be very busy. This is especially true of our Safe Rheumatic Cure, and it is crowding us very sharply for a new remedy."

"And so it has been until our remedy which was especially for rheumatism and neuralgia, and which we have been perfecting three years perfecting this new remedy. Study first taught us there were certain points in the eight stories of our Safe Rheumatic Cure, and it is crowding us very sharply for a new remedy."

"I can't tell you. This you can do, however. You can take it out of the reign of Queen Victoria."

A Lesson of Thrift.

Into the hills east of St. Helena two years ago came two Italians, father and son, just arrived from the old country. They had no means of any consequence, and could not purchase land. There was, however, a quarter-section of Government land on a side hill, rough and almost inaccessible and covered with underbrush, with rocks of all sizes upon nearly every square foot of it. This land, which every one else had rejected as incapable of cultivation, these sturdy Italians took up. They built themselves a little shanty. There being no water near, they felled small trees, grooved troughs in them, and thus constructed an aqueduct 250 feet long, through which to carry water for household use. They then set to work clearing the land, removing the trees and underbrush, and brought into a tillable state quite a tract of it on which they will set out grape vines. On being asked if it wasn't too rocky, the old man answered, "Oh, no!" and then marking places about fifteen inches apart on the ground, he said, "Here, rock. There, rock. Here, placing his hand midway between the two marks) putta vine. Very good." And thus they are bringing into cultivation some of the most discouraging land, so far as appearance goes, to be found in the county. Wherever there is a space between the rocks, they will afford a foothold for the vine, there they go. The son works out during the summer, earning sufficient to meet their frugal wants during the winter, and in a few years' time they will have a place to be proud of.—Napa (Cal.) Register.

THE GENERAL MARKETS.

KANSAS CITY, March 11, 1884. CATTLE—Shipping Steers, \$5 15 @ 6 20. HOGS—Good to choice, 4 00 @ 4 50. BUTTER—Choice, 18 @ 20. WHEAT—No. 2, 1 00 @ 1 05. CORN—No. 2, 50 @ 55. OATS—No. 2, 25 @ 30. RYE—No. 2, 45 @ 50. HAY—Choice, 12 @ 15. BUTTER—Choice, 18 @ 20. EGGS—Choice, 16 @ 17. LARD—Choice, 9 @ 10. WOOL—No. 1, 1 00 @ 1 10. POTATOES—Per bushel, 40 @ 50.

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Color Your Butter.

Farmers that try to sell white butter are all of the opinion that dairying does not pay. They would use Wash, Richardson & Co.'s Improved Butter Color, and market their butter in perfect condition, they would still get good prices, but it will not pay to make any but the best in color and quality. This color is used by all the leading creameries and dairymen, and is sold by druggists and merchants.

The didn't-know-it-was-loaded man will always live, and frequently die.—Chicago Tribune.

For 25 years I have been afflicted with Catarrh so that I have been confined to my room for two months at a time. I have tried all the humbug in hopes of relief, but to no success until I met with an old friend who had used Ely's Cream Balm and advised me to try it. I procured a bottle to-day, and from the first application I found relief. It is the best remedy I have ever tried.—W. C. MATHEWS, Justice of the Peace, Shenandoah, Iowa.

An exchange says such has become a popular dish in society. Nothing seems to take in society like something soft.—Chicago Herald.

A Messenger of Health.

Send free to sufferers from nervous, mental and blood diseases, brain and heart affections, nervous debility, etc. It tells of wonderful cures effected by Dr. Scott's Cocoa, Beef and Iron, with Phosphorus. Sold by druggists; \$1. Dr. Scott, Kansas City, Mo.

A CLEOPATRA'S needle should be set up to mark the floods. It would soon be full of Otiologyphylax.—Courier Journal.

IT GIVES us great pleasure to state that the merchant who was reported to be at the point of death from an attack of Pneuonia has entirely recovered by the use of Dr. W. H. HALL'S BALM FOR THE LUNGS, and in giving publicity to this statement we are actuated by motives of public beneficence, trusting that others may be benefited.

ESQUIRE: When is the best time to travel? When she asks you if you are going to stay to breakfast.

I HAVE seen remarkable results from use of Swift's Specific for a cancer. A young man near here has been afflicted five years with the most angry looking eating cancer I ever saw, and was nearly dead. The first bottle made a wonderful change, and after two bottles he was taken, and nearly or quite well. It is truly wonderful.

Nothing is gained by finding a man out. That is if you want to collect a bill.

POWDER is like money. It's awful hard to hold after it begins to go.—Burlington Hawk.

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TRAMMEL NETS

HOOP NETS, FISHING TACKLE. E. E. MENGES & CO. Direct Importers of Guns and Gun Goods, 121-123 West Fifth Street, Kansas City, Mo. Illustrated Catalogue Free.

POSTETTERS

The want of a reliable dietetic which acts as a stimulant of the kidneys, neither excites nor irritates them, has been discovered by Postetter's Stomach Bitters. This medicine is a pure vegetable preparation, and is sold by all druggists and dealers.

STOMACH BITTERS

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST WILSON'S LIGHTNING SEWER! Two thousand stitches a minute by a hand-sewing machine in the world. Sent on trial. Warranted 2 years. Need for Illustrated Catalogue. Write for it. Agents Wanted. THE WILSON SEWING MACHINE CO., Chicago, or New York.

ELASTIC TRUSS

It is a different kind of truss from all others. It is made of elastic and is so constructed that it will hold the body in position without any pressure. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

CALL Health and Happiness.

How? DO AS OTHERS HAVE DONE. Are your kidneys disordered? "Kidney Cure" is the best remedy for all kidney troubles. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are your nerves weak? "Nerve Cure" is the best remedy for all nerve troubles. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Have you Bright's Disease? "Bright's Cure" is the best remedy for all Bright's Disease. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are you suffering from Diabetes? "Diabetes Cure" is the best remedy for all Diabetes. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Have you Liver Complaint? "Liver Cure" is the best remedy for all Liver Complaint. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Is your Back lame and aching? "Back Cure" is the best remedy for all Back aches. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are you Constipated? "Constipation Cure" is the best remedy for all Constipation. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Have you Malaria? "Malaria Cure" is the best remedy for all Malaria. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are you Bilious? "Bilious Cure" is the best remedy for all Biliousness. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are you tormented with Piles? "Piles Cure" is the best remedy for all Piles. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Are you Rheumatism racked? "Rheumatism Cure" is the best remedy for all Rheumatism. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

Ladies, are you suffering? "Ladies' Cure" is the best remedy for all Ladies' troubles. It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

If you would Banish Disease and gain Health, Take "Kidney Cure" and "Wells' Health Restorer".

"Kidney Cure" gives instant relief in all cases of "Piles". It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

"Anakets" gives instant relief in all cases of "Piles". It is sold by all druggists and dealers.

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Answer This.