

**STUDENTS IN GERMANY.**

The Scholar There Holds a Higher Place Than He Does in America.

"In a German's life at a German university," says a writer in the Boston Commonwealth, "I incline to think university work is a more important factor than in the life of a student here with us; that is to say, if he does any work at all. He gives it a more prominent position in his social life than is the custom with us; he chooses his friends often from among his co-workers in a way that is rare with us; he discourses on his studies in leisure moments as few Americans would do at home; a good deal of his social life may be based upon his interest in this or that branch of science. This seems strange to us; but it is to a great extent to a German in a German university, and it is apt to be doubly so to an American. For the American cannot avail himself of the various kinds of diversion that attract the attention of the German, and often he would not desire to do so if he could, through lack of interest or lack of time. He has come to Germany for a limited time and he wishes to make the most of it. But it is not merely that it is practically convenient for an American to keep his work constantly before his eyes.

"There is another cause which goes to account in a measure for the scholarly atmosphere. I think it will be allowed by all who have studied in Germany or lived there for a time that university work holds there a far more important place, in more ways than one, than it does with us. With a student in America, in his undergraduate days at least, college work is pretty well jostled and even put to the wall by athletics, society or a hundred other things. So it is in Germany with a certain class of students. But with the majority the university takes the place of the professional school with us, and here, even with us, work is generally given the first place. With the German student university work need not fear athletics as a rival, nor indeed much of anything except the corps or other student society, and with these corporations it is perfectly understood that each is to take its turn. For two or three years the corps has full swing; then the university.

"It is hardly worth while to go further in the matter to point out the comparative positions which scholarship holds in German civilization and in American. I am, on the whole, of opinion that in Germany the scholar is regarded with greater respect in every way than with us, and it seems to me very natural that this should be so for very many reasons. Recognizing it as a fact, one can very easily see how 'shop' should be a far more constant factor in social intercourse in Germany than here at home, and especially with an American. He himself regards his own work—and, by courtesy, that of his fellows—as a most important thing. In the society to which he finds admittance he sees that it is also most important, or at least highly honorable. A man is thus put into an attitude with respect to his work that is of great value to him."

**LOSING HER ATHLETIC LEAD.**

England Finds Her Gallic Neighbors Formidable Competitors.

Now that the French people are cultivating athletics of all kinds the performances of the French amateurs and professionals are attracting considerable attention in England. The victory of the French carmen on the Seine was a great blow to our boating men, says an English contemporary, and M. Terront's feat of riding something like three hundred and ninety-two miles on a bicycle in twenty-four hours is causing considerable apprehension in cycle circles over here. Only a couple of years ago, when Mills won the Bordeaux-Paris race, it was considered inevitable that the winner would be an Englishman and, as a matter of fact, the first Frenchman to arrive was hours later than the last Englishman. Things, however, are very different at the present moment. Terront's ride of three hundred and ninety-two miles in twenty-four hours has been beaten here by only one rider, Shorland, who did four hundred and thirteen miles in the same time. A writer in *Bicycling News*, however, comforts its readers by pointing out that the difference between the two men was probably greater than it appears. At the Herne hill track, where Shorland rode, the measurement is from the inside edge, whereas at the Palais des Machines in Paris the measurement is from a distance of rather more than a yard toward the center. This would make a difference of, say, a yard a lap, so that Shorland's performance is really better than Terront's by about twenty-two and a half miles.

**Too Much for the Parson.**

A Scotch clergyman, much addicted to snuff, resolved to abandon the habit and preached a sermon against it. Some little time afterward, during the course of a sermon on another subject, one of the elders sitting immediately under the pulpit and within reach of the preacher, took a comfortable pinch, which so sorely tried the minister's self denial that he stretched out his hand and, seizing the box, thus addressed the astonished elder: "After the sermon that I so lately preached against the vice of snuffing, how can you venture, sir, to do this (tapping the lid), and this (opening the box), and this (taking a copious pinch)," and then handed the box back to its owner.

**Hated the Doctor.**

A resident of Irvington, N. J., lost a child last year, and the doctor who attended the little one during its illness was recently nominated a village trustee. The father of the child had taken a violent dislike to the doctor, and tried by every means to defeat the candidate, and when he heard that the doctor had triumphed he decorated his horse and dog with crepe and drove through the streets carrying an American flag at half-mast.

**CHARACTER OF ISABELLA.**

The Beautiful Consort of Ferdinand Who Helped Columbus.

Isabella was a lady, she was a queen, and, above all she was an autocrat. Gracious and gentle in her manner, says R. Ulick Burke's "A History of Spain," she brooked no opposition from prince or peer, and she soon made it known and felt throughout Spain that, although she was the daughter of John II. and the sister of Henry IV., her will was law in Castile. Beautiful, virtuous, discreet, with that highest expression of proud dignity that is seen in a peculiar simplicity of manner, with a hard heart and a fair countenance, an inflexible will, and a mild manner—something of a formalist, more of a bigot—Isabella united much that was characteristic of old Castile with not a little that was characteristic of new Spain. And it is her boldness was inherited from the God, her bigotry was bequeathed to Philip II.

No man can read the history of the times without being struck by the enormous personal influence of Isabella. An accomplished horsewoman, a tireless traveler, indefatigable in her attention to business of state, the queen with her court moved about from place to place, swift to punish crime and to encourage virtue, boldly composing the differences and compelling the submission of rival nobles, frowning upon the luxury of the clergy, denouncing the heresy of the people and laying a heavy hand upon enemies of every degree and evil-doers of every class. In Andalusia the unaccustomed and unexpected presence of the sovereign was everywhere productive of peace and order. Even in the remotest districts of Galicia the royal power was felt. Over fifty fortresses, the stronghold of knightly robbers, were razed to the ground, and one thousand five hundred noble highwaymen were forced to fly the kingdom.

**COTTON MILLS IN JAPAN.**

The Industry Has Grown Rapidly in the Mikado's Realm.

Cotton manufacturing in Japan is the growth of the last fifteen years. Not a cotton mill, with one exception, of those now in operation was in operation prior to 1890, says the Industrial Record. There is now running in Kagoshima a mill of 8,000 spindles that has been in operation since 1885. In 1880 and 1881 an era of cotton manufacturing was inaugurated by the erection of 14,000 to 15,000 spindle mills. In 1892 a 61,000-spindle mill was put up at Osaka. The mill is the largest ever erected in Japan. There are two 30,000-spindles, one at Tokio and the other at Osaka. The latter location is the principal manufacturing center in the empire. Nearly, if not fully, one-half of the cotton spindles are to be found there. The cotton mills at Osaka are reported as paying average annual dividends of 18 per cent., the highest having been 28 per cent, and the lowest 8 per cent. Not more than about ten years ago the people depended almost wholly upon foreign products of factory-made cotton fabrics, while now not over a fourth of this demand comes from foreign sources. The Cotton Spinners' association of Japan is the most reliable source of information, and that placed the number of spindles in 1894 at 385,205, yet the Yokonama chamber of commerce placed the number in 1898 at about 630,000. Between these two authorities we put our estimate of 500,000 spindles. The cotton mills of Japan will never be able to spin from the native cotton very fine yarn. The cotton is not suitable for anything but for the spinning of coarse yarns.

**NEVER GROW OLD.**

Parts of the Physical System Which Never Wear Out.

In his work on the senile heart Dr. Balfour tells us that there are two parts of the human organism which, if wisely used, "largely escape senile failure." These two, says the Medical Record, are the brain and the heart. Persons who think have often wondered why brain workers, great statesmen and others, should continue to work with almost unimpaired mental activity and energy up to a period when most of the organs and functions of the body are in a condition of advanced senile decay. There is a physiological reason for this, and Dr. Balfour tells us what it is. The normal brain, he affirms, "remains vigorous to the last," and that "because its nutrition is especially provided for." About middle life, or a little later, the general arteries of the body begin to lose their elasticity and to slowly but surely dilate. They become, therefore, much less efficient carriers of the nutrient blood to the capillary areas. But this is not the case with the internal carotids, which supply the capillary areas of the brain. On the contrary, these large vessels, "continue to retain their pristine elasticity, so that the blood pressure remains normally higher than within the capillary area of any other organ in the body. The cerebral blood paths being thus kept open, the brain tissue is kept better nourished than the other tissues of the body."

**A Willy Scotchman.**

Was not this the retort courteous? It was the custom in Scotch parishes for the minister to bow to the laird's pew before beginning his discourse. On one occasion the pew contained a bevy of ladies, and the minister, feeling a delicacy in the circumstances, omitted the usual salutation. When they next met the laird's daughter—a Miss Miller, widely famed for her beauty and afterward countess of Mar—rallied the minister for not bowing to her from the pulpit. "Your ladyship forgets," replied the minister, "that the worship of angels is not allowed by the Scotch church."

**Absolutely Pure.**

A little Ohio girl was taught by her good mamma to pray regularly every day, but the requests made were the same night and morning, week in and week out. Finally her mamma suggested a change for the next day, and what was her surprise to hear the dear little innocent pray that God would make her "absolutely pure" like the baking powder in papa's paper."

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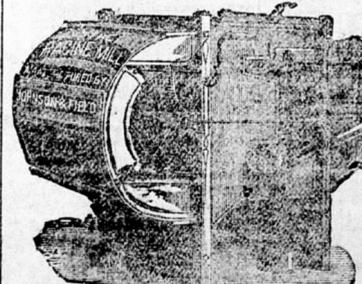
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