

MODERN HEROISM.

Two Remarkable Instances from the Orient.

An American paper referring to the Calicut incident says:—When during the terrible storm in Samoan waters, the war vessels of the United States and of Germany were driving to certain destruction and what seemed certain death to all on board upon the coral reefs which skirted the harbor of Apia, the British Ship Calliope, by virtue of superior power, was fighting her way foot by foot against the raging waters toward the open sea and safety. She narrowly escaped running down the American cruiser Trenton, and as she passed almost within touching distance the sailors of the Trenton, driving as they were to destruction, set up a hearty, spontaneous cheer in recognition of the pluck and the seamanship which combined to save their English brethren. Every one remembers the story of this cheer and every American remembers the thrill of pride with which he read that the brave fellows could thus cry out their Morituri te salutamus in the midst of the driving and shrieking the fearful storm. That cheer

RANG AROUND THE WORLD,

and wherever beats an Anglo-Saxon heart, be it under the flag of England or of the United States, the pride of kinship to such men was the same and all said that no exploit upon blood-stained decks in time of action could be greater or more brave. At Molokai, one of the smallest of the Hawaiian group of islands, neglected and shunned by all sound men as the embodiment of the spirit of pestilence, lived, or rather existed, the poor wretches who had been attacked by the dreadful scourge of that region—leprosy. The island is a lazaretto to which these hapless ones were sent and there left to shift for themselves and to sustain as best they might the remainder of their unhappy lives.

Left there without a ray of light to mitigate their unhappy condition, deserted of men and seemingly to them of God, herded together—men, women and children—in a shameless community, idle in body for the most; idle in mind, save when they thought of their lot to curse it—what wonder that they yielded in desperation to vices which promised them at least a few hours of diversion and forgetfulness, until lambling, drunkenness and all manner of debauchery made their minds and souls as unclean as their diseased bodies.

In such a condition were these wretches in 1873, and such it would now be but for the single-hearted heroism of one man, whose work in the cause of religion, morality and humanity has just been crowned by martyrdom. This was Fr. Damien, a French priest, then young, who, hearing of the pitiful condition of these pariahs, in the year named took to the island the vigor of his healthful youth, the activity of his keen mind and the

DEVOTION OF HIS KIND HEART,

laying them all on the shrine of duty to his fellows. He knew that his life must be passed amid the most horrible surroundings and unlighted by companionship or intellectual pleasures, but this did not stay his steps. He knew that his death must in the nature of things be as loathsome as that of the poor beings whom he went to aid, but this did not deter him.

Once among the abandoned, he began like a man of sense to better their material condition, working with his own hand to cover their nakedness, fill their stomachs and provide them with shelter, and stimulating them to self-helpful effort in the same direction. He was their physician, nurse, teacher, adviser, friend, servant. Sometimes his hands cooked their food, and again he dug the grave and laid all that was mortal of the dead in its final resting place.

Proceeding from the material to the moral, Fr. Damien taught his wards cleanliness, sobriety, continence and honesty, and his words, supported by his deeds of practical benevolence, gave him such influence that he reformed

THE SAD COMMUNITY,

establishing self-respect where there had been a sullen abandonment of all effort as of all hope, and bringing out of the chaos of debauchery a decent order. Then, on the bases of material comfort and moral correctness he erected a religious edifice which stands as his noblest monument and gives to his flock a hope for the future which is denied them in this world.

At last his contact, daily and hourly continued for years, with the terrible disease brought the inevitable, and four years ago he became a leper. He continued his work, however, until six months since, when weakness compelled him to desist, and on the 10th of April he laid down his life. Surely, greater love hath no man than this.

Prelates who wear the scarlet and fine linen of ease and men in every place who repine under small discomforts or are exalted by their own petty virtues should remember the leper priest and be humble; and from these two heroic examples which come to us in a year of peace, the world should gain thankfulness and courage.

Crossing Africa in a Balloon.

An aeronaut in this city makes an interesting suggestion, says the New York "Sun." "Has anybody," he says, "ever used the balloon in the exploration of Central Africa or proved that it would not be serviceable? Look at Stanley struggling for years amid forests, swamps, and savage tribes, yet unable to make his way into the interior; but would it not be possible for a skilful aeronaut to take him in a balloon from the east coast of Africa, proceed in the direction of Ujiji, and from there towards the source of the Nile, surveying the country as they went along? They would sweep across the country at the rate of four or five hundred miles a day, so that they would meet with no obstruction from swamps, forests, or savages. The balloon would easily carry all the provisions and water required by the party during the trip, and the aeronauts might travel only during the day, descending for rest at night. Years ago Professor Wise repeatedly made voyages of a thousand miles in it, and competent sky-fliers might now be found to solve the African problem through a voyage in an air ship. It is the only way to do it, and I shall tell Stanley so when he gets back here to lecture." It is to be understood that the aeronaut who made the foregoing remarks is an enthusiast on his favorite subject.

Peter J. Vanetten, who, under the guise of a minister, swindled a widow, Mrs. Julia Homer, out of property worth \$4,000, at Youngstown, Ohio, has been arrested at Toledo.

BRITISH NEWS.

The British Bible Society, of which the Earl of Harrowby is President, reports an expenditure for 1888 of £212,615, against £226,663 for 1887. The distribution of Bibles also fell 500,000, from 4,000,000 to 3,500,000. They were in 287 languages.

The Empress Eugenie moves about England now, attracting very little attention. In Birmingham recently she and her companion, who is said to be the daughter of the Duke di Bassano, "an American lady," and their courier visited a hotel and a restaurant in the town without their identity being suspected. The Empress's ebony walking stick and darkened eyebrows are her noticeable features. She seems in excellent spirits.

An arrangement between Lord Mandeville and his creditors, which promises to be acceptable to the latter, provides for the execution to a trustee on behalf of the creditors of a mortgage on the fee of settled estates in Ireland of the Duke of Manchester for an amount which will suffice ultimately to pay twenty shillings in the pound, without interest within a year after the decease of the present Duke. The largest creditors have signified their approval.

The Vienna Tramway Company came to a final settlement with its striking drivers on these terms. The working day was fixed at 12 hours, including one free hour for the midday meal, and three classes of wages were agreed on for men who had served (1) more than ten years, (2) more than five years, and (3) less than five years respectively. The highest class is to receive 1 florin 70 kreutzers, or about 65 cents a day; the second class 1 florin 60 kreutzers, and the third class 1 florin 50 kreutzers. Deductions will be made for the sick and pension funds, but the drivers are to receive full pay for one day of absolute rest out of the seven. The rates of pay for overtime work, which is never to be compulsory, will be settled later.

The new translucent substance intended as a substitute for glass has been satisfactorily adopted in some of the public buildings of London, and various advantages are claimed for it, among these being such a degree of pliancy that it may be bent backward and forward like leather, and be subjected to very considerable tensile strain with impunity; it is also almost as translucent as glass, and of a pleasing amber color, varying in shade from very light golden to pale brown. The basis of the material is a web of fine iron wire, with warp and weft threads about one-twelfth inch apart, this being enclosed, like a fly in amber, in a sheet of translucent varnish, of which the base is linseed oil. There is no resin or gum in the varnish, and, once having become dry, it is capable of standing heat and damp without undergoing any change, neither hardening nor becoming sticky. Briefly, the manufacture is accomplished by dipping the sheets edgewise into deep tanks of varnish, and then allowing the coating which they thus receive to dry in a warm atmosphere. It requires somewhat more than a dozen of these dips to bring the sheet to the required degree of thickness, and, when this has been accomplished, the material is stored for several weeks to thoroughly set.

Another device or method has been added to those heretofore proposed to prevent the burning of cotton when being conveyed in vessels. The safeguard now brought forward consists in wrapping each bale of cotton in wire gauze instead of the usual covering of jute bagging. It has been, it is claimed, subjected to all kinds of tests, including hooks and compressions, and it is alleged, has proved itself equal in all respects to jute bagging. The principle involved is that flame will not pass through very small holes according to the well-known construction of the Davy safety lamp. Cotton packed in the hold of a vessel will when once on fire burn more or less slowly for weeks, even when the hold is flooded with sea water, and when removed the cotton will burst into flames, burning fiercely and most destructively. Cotton bales have even been known to float blazing away when thrown overboard after being taken from a burning vessel. In this case the cotton became heated almost to the charring point by the long continued fire close by. But while such wire cloth might stand a considerable degree of heat for some time, sooner or later the metal will oxidize and fall in pieces. It is suggested, therefore, that jute bagging might be treated with silicate of soda or some fireproofing "water-glass," to render the fabric non-inflammable.

Hints for driving of an unusually authoritative character are found in the Badminton Series' volume on that art, from the pens of several contributors of recognized competence. The Duke of Beaufort, for instance, says that the whip should be held at the collar, the silver plate about 10 inches from the end. Two handed driving is protested against. "The right hand has no sort of business to touch the reins, except for the purpose of shortening or lengthening one or both of them, or of supporting the left hand should it require assistance," such as holding a puller or in turning. For driving four horses "the driving hand (the left) should be straight in the centre of your body, with the knuckles of your hand to the front and your forearm exactly square to the upper arm." Then, "having seated himself on the box, the coachman should put both his feet close together. His left hand should be about where the top of his trousers would come—that is, the forearm pretty nearly or absolutely horizontal—the hand almost, if not quite, in the centre of the body, with the back of his fingers and his knuckles straight to the front." Another contributor, Lord Algonon St. Maur, says, "as to your reins, they should be held as near your heart as possible, if you happen to have one; if not, where your heart ought to be." The expounder of tandem driving is Lady Georgina Curzon.

Cause For Offence.

Insulted Montananian (to tenderfoot newspaper correspondent)—"Looker here, young man, you want to be a little more keener how you write things than ain't so to them newspapers back East. This is a high-toned town, by Jinks, and the boys won't stand it!"

Terrified Tenderfoot—Why, I—I—what have I written?

"Why, you writ to a Chicago paper that we lynched fourteen men here last month, and its a lie."

"I—I—thought it was true, or I—I—"

"Well, it wasn't. We didn't lynch but twelve and we only rid the other one on a rail and peppered him a little with buckshot. Stick to facts, young man, that's all we ask of you."

ON THE AFRICAN BORDERS.

A Bleak Country Filled With Wild Beasts.

The contempt of the traveler for wild beasts and his craven fear of the dog, the friend of man, were exemplified recently. Sir Robert Sandeman and I passed close to a wolf, of whom we naturally took no notice, while he slunk away from us as fast as his legs would carry him without attracting too much observation; but a few minutes afterward we had an engagement with two shepherd's dogs which constituted a more serious encounter. A scarcer sight was that of a woodcock, which the sportsmen of the party missed, for it is no joke to tear along roads on horseback and diamond to shoot. Surgeon Major Taylor shot four rock partridges. The country was

FULL OF GRAVEYARDS,

but controversy rages among travelers as to whether, in the dry district which lies between the Euphrates, the Caspian, and Thibet, enormous graveyards in an almost uninhabited district imply that once it contained a far larger population. Perhaps they do mean this; but, on the other hand, it must be remembered that nomadic tribes wander in great numbers for enormous distances in this part of the world, and that they may have their favorite burying places. Then, even a small population here makes a large graveyard, because the graves are kept up from time immemorial. They are merely heaps of stones, and passers-by fling stones on to each cairn, and it may be said that no grave once made is ever lost. These graveyards may have seen the passage of Alexander, for the rainfall is never sufficiently heavy to disturb the stones. A sign of the passage of many people is to be found in the enormous number of rags which decorate large trees where they exist. At our breakfast place, close to a stream swollen by the night's rain, which we had to ford, there was a great tamarisk tree,

WHICH WAS SACRED

because some holy man had been buried near it, and rags—chiefly red, but not all red—were tied to every bough. The custom of tying red rags to trees to indicate peculiar sanctity is one which is met with in parts of the world as distant from one another as the county of Galway, New-Zaland, Lithuania, Siberia, and Thibet. In the little fortified village of the valley I was shown the "miniature mosques," which are put up outside the fortified inclosures. They consist of a flat stone about the size of an English gravestone, with a headstone; and the villagers go out to pray upon them one at a time. In the whole of the long distance from Quetta to the shrine of Sakhi-Sarwar I did not see a single real ecclesiastical building, except those of our own Moslem soldiers. It is said that Baluchis are such bad Mahomedans that they used not to pray at all until we came, and that it is the example of our more religious native soldiers which has induced them to begin. But I think that there is some exaggeration in this statement, although it is certain that at Khur they have lately built a praying inclosure, like a parish church, not having had any place of worship until last year.

What We Are Made Of.

One of the most interesting collections in the National Museum at Washington is that composed of specimens and charts illustrating the composition of our bodies and of the foods which nourish them. These specimens and charts were explained recently in a lecture by Prof. W. O. Atwater. Upon the platform were arranged a large number of bottles. These, the lecturer explained, contained specimens of the chemical elements and compounds of which bodies are made up. Oxygen forms one-fifth of the air and about sixty-two per cent. of the body, so that the body of an average man, say a man weighing one hundred and forty pounds, contains about ninety-two pounds of oxygen.

The quantity of hydrogen in the body of such a man is about fourteen and one-half pounds, and in the form of gas would fill about twenty-six hundred cubic, in other words, the hydrogen in a man's body, if set free in the form of gas, would fill a room twenty feet long, thirteen feet wide and ten feet high. The same body contains about thirty-one pounds of carbon. These three elements therefore together make up about one hundred and thirty-eight of the one hundred and forty-eight pounds.

The principal compound is water. More than one-half the weight of our bones, three-quarters of the weight of our muscles and seven-eighths of our blood, or about three-fifths of the weight of the whole body, are water.

Besides water, muscle, bones and skin contain what chemists call "proteine" compounds. These consists mainly of four chemical elements: carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen. The albumen, or white of eggs, the caseine—curd-of milk, and myosin, the basis of muscle, are proteine compounds.

When country boys chew wheat, and get what they call "wheat gum," they make a sort of chemical analysis in their mouths, separating out the starch and sugar, and some of the other ingredients of wheat. The residue, which they call wheat-gum, consists chiefly of gluten a proteine substance.

A bottle containing about twenty pounds of tallow was shown to illustrate the fat in the average man's body. Fat forms about fifteen per cent. of the whole weight of the average adult. The bodies of stout people have more fat, and those of lean people less.

Our foods, like our bodies, contain water, proteine and fats, and also two other classes of compounds, carbohydrates. Vegetable foods, such as wheat, corn and potatoes, contain a large proportion of carbohydrates. In meats the proportion of carbohydrates is small.

There are small quantities of carbohydrates in the human body. Thus igosite sometimes called "muscle sugar,"—substance somewhat similar to ordinary sugar,—is found in the muscles and other parts of the body. Our bones and teeth contain a great deal of phosphate of lime and other mineral matters in all parts of the body and in all our foods.

Should Be Prohibited.

"So you have seen Clarence's poems! What do you think of them?"

"Well, I noticed one or two instances of poor grammar and false meter."

"Oh, he excuses that by saying it is poetic license."

"All I have to say then, is that a poet who does such work ought to have his license revoked!"—(Boston Herald.)

BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES.

The Ties which Bind the Mother Country and her Children.—British Courage and Endurance still Extant.

At Kensington recently a lecture was given to the members of the Imperial Federation League by Sir G. Baden Powell, K. C. M. G., M. P., on "Our Empire as a Fighting Machine." In introducing the subject of his lecture, Sir G. Baden Powell referred to the close intimacy of the Colonies and the Mother Country, and he spoke of the strong desire of the Colonies to increase and strengthen the ties that bound them. The lecturer did not hesitate to express in the most emphatic manner that the desire of the Colonies was a closer union, and that nothing like apathy or lukewarmness on the subject existed in any British Colony at the present moment. Such an expression of confidence in the sympathy and brotherhood of our vast Colonies was opportune, for there have been times when some passing irritation may have given rise to the idea that some of our Colonies had less regard for the old country than in times past. But such an impression has been only a momentary one, and whenever it has occurred has been speedily dispelled by

AN OVERWHELMING TIDE

of popular feeling in our favour. It has been witnessed on many occasions; for instance, when Royal visits have been paid to the Colonies; and nothing could surpass the kindly feeling displayed on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee. We take it, then, that the lecturer was perfectly justified in speaking with the greatest confidence as to the strength of the ties—we may almost say the affection—of those vast and ever-increasing populations speaking our language, following in our footsteps, holding fast to our representative systems, and spite of climate and distance, acting and living after the manner of the race from which they are descended. The actual possessions of the British Empire have to be borne in mind when we speak of securing its safety. The British Empire makes indeed

A MIGHTY FIGURE IN THE WORLD,

its area being equal to one-sixth of the entire area of the globe, and having one-fifth of the world's population. Having such a vast stake in the world Sir George Baden Powell naturally inquired whether all patriotic Englishmen were not desirous to see their great empire protected and secured against all chance of attack from rival Powers. It may be asked, as Mr. Cromer asked the other night in the House of Commons, where is the danger, and who is likely to seize our possessions? To that query Sir G. Baden Powell has also a reply. He remembers, as all Englishmen should, that in some instances these grand possessions have been won from others, who, if they saw anything like weakness or want of grasp on our side, would not scruple to take from us some of our noblest prizes.

There need never be the slightest fear as to whether the old British bulldog courage and endurance is still extant. We need only recall

THE MAGNIFICENT STORY

of the escape of H. M. S. Calliope at Samoa. It was a glorious victory over the elements—as glorious a record of British pluck, endurance, and skill went just a little beyond that of other nations that we have this wonderful feat to add to thousands of such thrilling records of the sea. We regard this simple effort of the captain of the Calliope and his crew as better calculated to impress other nations than anything of the kind that has taken place for years, and it goes to our hearts, too, to hear of that tremendous cheer the crew of the American vessel gave when, expecting every moment to go to the bottom themselves, they raised a shout louder than the roaring waves and the terrible hurricane in recognition of the genuine old British pluck, daring, and brilliant seamanship. Even the Germans could not withhold their tribute of admiration for the bravery and ability of the captain, who carried the flag of old England triumphantly into the open sea against all the combined forces of Nature.

Female Proportions.

"In woman, a height in proportion to weight; a form that will stand the test for symmetry; a carriage that is free, distinct, and noticeable for that which is not rather than that which is. The greatest and first essential to physical perfection in a woman is a figure without an angular line. Nature avoids angular lines every where, but in the human figure especially."

"How tall should the perfect type of woman be?"

"As I have said, stature and weight are comparative; still, a mean height and weight has to be chosen. A perfectly formed woman will stand at the average height of 5 feet 3 inches to 5 feet 7 inches. She will weigh from 125 to 140 pounds. A plumb line dropped from a point marked by the tip of her nose will meet at a point one inch in front of her great toe. Her shoulders and her hips will strike a straight line drawn up and down. Her waist will taper gradually to a size on a line drawn from the outer third of the collar-bones to the hips. Her bust will measure from 28 to 36 inches; her hips will measure from 6 to 10 inches more than this, and her waist will call for a belt from 22 to 28 inches."

The arms of the perfectly formed woman will end at the waist line, so that she can rest her elbow on a table while standing erect, and her forearm shall extend to a point permitting the fingers to mark a point just below the middle of the thigh. Her neck and thigh should be of about the same circumference. The calf of her leg and arm should measure about the same. Her legs should be about as long as a line drawn from her chin to her finger tips or about one-half her height, say from 2 feet 7 1/2 inches to 2 feet 9 1/2 inches. She should measure from her waist to her feet about a foot more than from her waist to the crown of her head. Her neck should be from 12 to 14 inches around, her head erect, and on a line with the central plane of the body, and her feet should be of a size and shape to conform with her hands."

The women attached to the Korean Embassy are very popular in Washington. They are working hard to acquire an English Education. They have their own parlors, in which they receive their lady callers, but no gentlemen. Gentlemen calling with ladies in their party are received by the men of the legation, while the ladies are invited up stairs to meet the Korean wives in their own apartments.

Improved Business Methods.

The merchant or manufacturer who hopes to do a large and successful business to day while adhering to the popular methods of a half century ago, will be disappointed. And so he should. Any individual or firm who is unwilling to keep pace with modern progress, and adjust his methods to the wants of his age, does not merit success; neither can he reasonably expect to secure it to any large degree.

One of the most important innovations in modern business is advertising. By a very few it is still regarded with some aversion; but the large majority of intelligent purchasers realize their indebtedness to advertising for much of the valuable information which they possess about the qualities, varieties, and special features of the goods which they purchase. They regard advertisements as so many speeches made to them in which the merits or distinctive points of the articles are more concisely and intelligently presented than is frequently done by salespeople, and if they feel the need of such an article they naturally ask their leader to show it. Instead of regarding advertising as suggestive of questionable quality, they are more inclined to entertain confidence in their merit, acting upon the commonsense principle that if the article were not meritorious it would not pay to advertise it.

It is true that exaggerations and misrepresentations are sometimes made in advertising, just as they are employed by some salespeople, and by some of all classes. The question of veracity cannot be determined by the method employed to describe the goods, but only by the character and principles of the individual, and there are hosts of honorable advertisers, the number of which is daily increasing, who would no more think of misrepresenting in their advertisement than they would in their own office or salesroom.

It pays consumers to read the announcements of responsible and honorable firms for the sake of the business information they gain, just as it pays them to read the other part of the newspaper for a different kind of information.

Misgovernment of Great Cities.

"The misgovernment of our great cities," writes Prof. C. E. Norton in Scribner's, "is due largely to the facts that a comparatively small part of their inhabitants are native to them, that a great portion of their inhabitants are but temporary residents in them, and that of their permanent residents the greater part have in the course of a lifetime changed their abodes. The sense in the individual of responsibility for the good of the community is weakened by the constant shifting and alteration of its members. A man naturally takes less interest in the affairs that concern the welfare of comparative strangers than in those which affect his friends; and naturally cares less for the welfare of the community of which he is a mere transient member than any one to which he is bound for life, and with whose past and future he is united by indissoluble ties. New York is a city of strangers to each other, without common traditions or controlling common interests. So vast an aggregation of men with so few of the elements of a true community has never before been seen. In such a city the social sentiment is feeble, and its part is largely taken by the mere sense of the necessity of maintaining the institutions requisite for the defence of material interests. Civic pride, one of the most powerful motives in the history of the progress of civilization, has lost its force among us."

A Lucky Physician and His Fee.

A New York homoeopathic physician has recently been the recipient of an allopahthic fee. Eight years ago Dr. Shelton graduated from a medical college, not a young man by any means, but full of hope, if without influence. It was up hill work at first, but in two years he was in partnership with a leading college professor, and last Winter saw him in attendance upon the daughter of Mr. Flagler, one of the Standard Oil king. He devoted his whole time to his patient, accompanying her to Florida, and was with her when she died. He had his reward for his faithfulness. In acknowledgment of his services Mr. Flagler presented the physician with Standard Oil certificates of stock to the amount of \$50,000, which are worth in the market \$87,000. It was a lucky windfall for the doctor, who was still a poor man only six years ago—at least this is the way in which other physicians speak of it—and it sets ordinary people to wondering whether the latter are liable to go on a strike at any time and give a boom to the price of consultations. The custom of engaging the services of a doctor for a single family exclusively is coming more and more into fashion, and the mass of people are as yet in doubt whether to look upon the movement as an evil or a blessing.

Would Wait to See.

A well known Scotch bishop never married. While he held a certain see he was of course a subject of considerable interest to the celibate ladies of the neighbourhood. One day he received a visit from one of them who had reached the age of desperation. Her manner was solemn, yet somewhat embarrassed; it was evident from the first that there was something very particular upon her mind. The good bishop spoke with his usual kindness, and encouraged her to be communicative. By and-by he drew from her that she had had a dream, or rather, as she thought, a revelation from Heaven. On further questioning, she confessed that it had been intimated to her that she was to be united in marriage to the bishop. One may imagine what a start this gave to the quiet scholar, who had long before married his books, and never thought of any other bride. He recovered, however, and, addressing her very gently, said that doubtless these intimations were not to be despised. As yet however the designs of Heaven were but imperfectly explained, as they had been revealed to only one of the parties. He would wait to see if any similar communication should be made to himself, and when it happened he would be sure to let her know.

A Natural Thought.

A very small boy was recently present at a balloon ascension. As the gigantic bird-like machine sailed up into the clouds with its human freight, the small spectator pulled his mother's dress excitedly and exclaimed: "What will the good God say when he sees that a-c-coming?"