

# LATE FOREIGN NEWS

Of the 193,318 recruits of the German army and navy in 1891, the percentage of illiteracy was 54, against 2.37 in 1875, 1.32 in 1882, and .71 in 1887.

Baron Albert von Rothschild has given \$50,000 to the Vienna Society for Founding a Home for Consumptives.

Automatic boot blacks will be put on the market soon by a Nurnberg firm. They will be run on the nickel-in-the-slot plan.

In Germany 27,485 children between 12 and 14 years worked in factories in 1890; in England, 86,499 under 13 years were employed.

Prof. Koch has written to a Swedish physician that he will not sell nor describe his improved tuberculin until he shall have tested it beyond all chance of doubt in his clinics.

The committee in Aix for the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope has published an appeal to all Catholics to participate in the circulating and signing of monster petitions to the King of Italy, requesting him to "return to the Holy Chair its heritage."

The Hotel de Sens, near the Paris Hotel de Ville, a building of the fifteenth century, once the residence of Archbishop of Sens, and later the abode of Marguerite de Valois, well preserved, is for sale, but will probably be torn down unless preserved through the Committee of Historic Monuments.

Gustav Willisch, a Berlin shopkeeper, was fined \$20 by a police court two weeks ago for having called a telephone girl who kept him waiting fifteen minutes "a miserable, brazen-faced woman." The prosecution asked that he be fined only \$5, but the police court held this penalty to be too mild, as telephone girls needed special protection from insult.

It is reported from Zurich that the Federal Government has forbidden all officers in the Swiss service to appear on German soil in uniform. A similar order has just been given to the German soldiers and officers garrisoned near the Swiss frontier. The German newspapers complain that the Federal Government has not made the order extend to the French frontier, and they are asking for explanations.

Herrmann Zeitung, who makes his living by traveling in trunks and then exhibiting himself in variety shows on the Continent, made his last trip from Antwerp to Christiania in a wooden box, which stood on the ship's deck four days and four nights without anybody's knowing that it contained a man. The voyage was stormy, but Zeitung kept his nose to a crack in the boards, ate his sandwiches and kept well.

Capt. Bottego of the Nineteenth Artillery Regiment of the Italian army made a wager recently that he could ride 150 miles in twenty-four hours without leaving the saddle except to change horses. He mounted at 11:45 on Saturday evening and at 11:50 on the following evening had covered 170 miles. On Monday morning he was at drill as usual. He changed horses five times during his ride and lost thereby thirty minutes. During twenty-one hours he rode at a trot.

The Austrian War Minister has issued an order to encourage religious feeling in the army. He finds that Austrian soldiers do not attend divine service according to the regulations. Inasmuch as the encouragement of religious feeling regarded as of great service to the military, the army must henceforth go to church at least once a month; likewise, the young officers in command at church must conduct themselves in a more reverential spirit than has been observed lately.

Austria's military manoeuvres this year will be on a grander scale than those in the Waldviertel last year, when about 60,000 men were in the field. Four army corps, with unusually large bodies of cavalry attached to them, will operate in Eastern Galicia with captive balloons, field telegraph lines, bicycle corps, and all other apparatus of the most modern warfare. It is expected that 85,500 or 90,000 combatants will be engaged.

Gertrude Souine, a pretty girl of 18 years who lives in a town in Aroostook county, Me., has never been known to laugh or even to smile. While intelligent in other matters she apparently cannot understand a joke, and is unmoved by the keenest witticisms.

Jose de Breties, a French explorer, well known in South America, who has spent more than twenty years among the Indians of South America, was married recently at Rio Hacha, United States of Columbia, to a granddaughter of Haipara, the head Cacique of the Goagira Indian tribes, a man of great power and influence in that region and among the Indians generally.

A missionary writes from the Yangtze River that he tried in November last to buy land on which to build houses for the accommodation of a party of missionaries who were coming up the river. He thought he had secured the land. All arrangements had been made except the signing of the deed. Then the man who was selling the property heard a report that the missionaries ate children. That ugly news frightened the poor man and he declined to sign the papers. The missionary hoped the man's fright would subside, but at last accounts he had not yet succeeded in buying the property.

The microphone, used as a death test, prevented the premature burial of a woman in St. Petersburg who, when in a state of syncope, was pronounced dead from paralysis of the heart. All other tests failing, the microphone, applied to the region of the heart, showed that it still beat, and the woman was resuscitated.

The number of students entered this winter at the twenty universities of Germany shows a marked decline. The total is only 27,836, as compared with nearly 30,000 last summer. This decrease is general, except at Berlin, where the numbers have risen from 4,427 to 5,371, and at Halle, where they have risen from 1,493 to 1,522. Leipzig still holds the second place with 3,431, followed by Munich with 3,292.

The centre of the French ribbon trade, St. Etienne, has been shaken with excitement on the rumor of the betrayal of valuable trade secrets to foreign firms. A large merchant received a letter from England saying that a workman at St. Etienne had offered to sell all the novelties for the coming season, and agreed to go wherever required to set up looms. Investigation showed

ed that a commission agent was the guilty party.

A significant indication of the changes in the ideas and sentiments of the people of the South, and in the material condition of things throughout the Southern States, is contained in the incidental remark of a Richmond newspaper that "Many hundred young ladies are employed in the various factories of Richmond, and the number is daily growing." Many Northern people still hold firmly to the belief that the woman who works for her living in the South is looked down upon and slighted, and that working girls and women are at a great social disadvantage there. That may have been the case at one time, but it is not so now. The item notes the refusal of a license to a barroom in the neighborhood of one of the factories where the women are employed, for the reason that the city was determined to see that the environments of the women were "such as they have a right to expect." Another interesting item is that statistics show that the South now has 1,200,000 more spindles than it had eleven years ago.

## THE EARTH'S MOTION.

It is Alleged that the Poles in Moving Describe Circles.

One of the most curious inquiries of a scientific nature now under way is the investigation of the fixity of the earth's axis of rotation. It appears from various astronomical observations that the latitudes of certain observatories in Europe and the United States are slowly changing. The changes are exceedingly slight, so that only the most delicate measurements can reveal them; but in many branches of science it is the small things that count most, since they give the investigator his closest acquaintance with the operations of nature.

Yet, although the variations of latitude that seem to have been detected are very small—amounting, for instance, in the case of the observatory of Pulkowa, in Russia, to a motion away from the North Pole of six inches in a year—very interesting deductions may be drawn from them. Mr. G. C. Comstock has suggested, in a careful discussion of the subject, that the change in the position of the poles, which is indicated by the variations in question, might possibly be the result of a slight motion still remaining over from a great shifting of the earth's axis in long past time, by which the North Pole was brought from the center of Greenland to its present position.

The idea that the North Pole may once have been in Greenland, arises from the fact that Greenland was the center of the area which was covered with ice during the glacial epoch. Such a shifting of the pole would, then, serve to explain the disappearance of the ice sheet that once covered North America as far south as the latitude of New York.

Mr. S. C. Chandler, after studying the results of the observations that have been made as to variations of latitude, has deduced the conclusion that all the changes can be accounted for by supposing that the North Pole revolves in a circle sixty feet in diameter, once in every four hundred and twenty-seven days.

To many persons such inquiries may not appear to be of much practical importance, but it is not worth while to learn everything we can about this great ship of space which is bearing us on a wonderful voyage through the ocean of infinity, and every peculiarity of whose motion has some relation to the forces that control the apparently endless journey?

## HOW THE SULTAN EATS.

He Himself Lives Simply but Feeds Lavishly Six Thousand Persons.

The author of "The Sovereigns and Courts of Europe" describes the present Sultan of Turkey as leading a very simple life. He came to the throne in 1876, without any agency of his own, and almost against his own will, after living for many years in retirement, and no doubt finds his trappings of royalty something of a burden.

When it is said that he lives simply, however, the word must be understood as applying to his personal habits rather than to his official surroundings and expenditures. Thus it is estimated that more than 6000 persons are fed every day at his Dolma Bagtche palace when he is there. The treasurer of the household has a pretty heavy burden upon his shoulders.

There is a regularly organized force of buyers, each charged with the purchase of certain supplies for the palace. One man's duty is to buy fish; and to do this for 6000 persons is no light undertaking in a city which has no great markets. About ten tons a week are required, and to secure this some twenty men are kept busy.

That there is enormous waste and extravagance in the kitchens is almost a matter of course; it is said that enough is thrown away daily to feed a hundred families. But such waste is not confined to a Turkish royal household, and might be found in kitchens nearer home. The surplus is gathered up by the beggars, with whom Constantinople abounds, and what still remains is eaten by the scavenger dogs.

## KILLED THEM AS A SACRIFICE.

A Religious Maniac Murders His Wife and Three Children.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—The steamship Monowai, which has arrived from Sydney, Australia, and Honolulu, brings news of a terrible tragedy at Tauranga, Auckland, on Feb. 8, when Danean Munro, step-son of James Bedell, late Mayor of that town, murdered his wife and three children.

Munro had been an inmate of an insane asylum about three years ago, being afflicted with religious mania. He had recently been acting strangely and talking of offering sacrifice to the Most High. When a milkman called at the house on the morning of Feb. 9 he was unable to arouse the family. He opened the kitchen door and found Mrs. Munro and the oldest boy, six years old, on the floor in a pool of blood, their heads being battered in. The milkman saw Munro on the beach at the back of the house, attired only in night-clothes. The police were called and Munro secured. In the front bedroom they found the bodies of the two little boys, aged three and five years old, respectively, in bed with their heads crushed, and in a cot near by an infant daughter lay dead with her skull beaten in. The youngest boy may recover.

A jury at the inquest found a verdict of wilful murder, and also that Munro should not have been released from the asylum.

## HEALTH.

### Natural Appetites.

It is reasonable to infer that the wild beasts have natural appetites, controlled by the orders given by their instincts, such as were given them by their creator, not influenced by false ideas or by depraved, abnormal impulses. They are supposed to die only by accident or old age, never having the diseases incident to human beings, unless these are contracted by some form of abuses connected with human society. On the contrary, it is supposable that there are few, if any, in so-called civilized society, who really have normal appetites, such as Adam and Eve were blessed with, till they fell from their high position.

It is more than probable that water is as certainly the natural drink of man as of the beasts, and that a higher degree of health would be obtained by its own use. This may reasonably be inferred from the fact that the human body is so largely composed of water, not a practice of tea, coffee, opium or alcohol being found naturally in its structure. But alcohol, that enemy of good society, that source of world of misery, that bold deceiver, misleading millions on millions of human beings, making them inhuman, that cheat, stealing away immense fortunes and the happiness of vast numbers, so corrupts the natural appetite as to introduce many, many foes of the human structure, doing more harm than war, enslaving more mortals than any of the brutal oppressors of the world. This vile oppressor brings to his aid, as a natural ally, tobacco, doing far more harm, if possible so far as the health of the present generation is concerned, and transmitting still more disease to succeeding generations. The two cost this nation alone, yearly, about \$1,400,000,000, or about what would be necessary to cancel our national debt? What do we receive in return for such a vast expenditure of the treasures earned by the laboring classes mainly? Not anything of real value! Instead, we have poverty, disgrace, crime, domestic misery, loss of health, loss of self-respect, ignorance, since drunkenness tends to close our churches and school houses giving us nothing in return. With men's superior reasoning powers, it would be reasonable to infer that it is possible for him to have normal appetites at least equal to those of the supposed lower orders of creation, in which case his health should be equal to that of these brutes. Under these circumstances, plain and simple food would be preferred, though it might not be necessary to adopt a diet as narrow in range as that of brutes, most of them living on some two or three distinct classes of foods, like the elephant, etc., representing the most robust of animals, with wonderful endurance. In the natural condition of man, as he came from the hands of the creator, it is probable that the appetite was a perfect guide, deciding just when food was needed, how much, what kind, the amount depending on the per cent of nutriment contained, never admitting of a mistake which is more or less true of the lower orders of creation, among which no drunkards or dyspeptics are found. Under such circumstances, it is manifest that there was a perfect control of the health, while we may reasonably infer that we now—in our fallen state—have as much control as we have in other affairs of busy life. What a paradise we might have and should have, if all of the God-given laws of our mysterious being were strictly obeyed, the whiskey and tobacco habits destroyed, wars at an end, also free from pain and suffering that they might be able to labor constantly, adding to the wealth of the world—all moving onward and upward steadily!

As a general principle, there is no occasion for abject poverty in a country like ours, in which all the necessities of life are abundant and cheap, within the reach of the average industrious and economical individuals. Most of our poverty is caused by intemperance in some form, prodigality and recklessness, without due economy in the use of money. There is more than enough money spent in purchasing intoxicants and tobacco—worse than thrown away—to feed and clothe all of the poor, those not made so by intemperance, giving all a house at least equaling that of the average citizen, and then have enough left to support our schools and churches? And what do the deluded intemperate persons get in return for their money? Poverty, misery, degradation, broken constitution, with no possible good.—[An American M. O.]

## Diphtheria: The Latest Word.

The Milroy Lectures this year were on the natural history and prevalence of diphtheria. The lecturer gave it as his opinion that soil and geological formation have something to do with its prevalence; that it is especially common in damp valleys; and that in England it is most prevalent during the last three months of the year.

The greater number of the persons attacked are between two and twelve years of age, and the liability is greatest between two and five years.

Many attacks of diphtheria are accompanied by simple sore throat and tonsillitis, and many apparently simple attacks of sore throat have really an infectious character. The same fact has been noted on this side of the Atlantic.

Some physicians look on diphtheria and scarlet fever as modifications of the same disease, and the occurrence of both at the same time in the same family seems at first sight to countenance this view. But the theory is disproved by the entire absence of diphtheria in several thousand cases of scarlet fever treated in the London Fever Hospital.

The probable explanation of the occurrence of both in the same family is that the condition of the throat in a family affected by scarlatina affords a soil favorable for the reception of the diphtheritic poison.

When diphtheria does occur in connection with scarlatina, it is almost always as a sequel to it. So, too, the sore throats due to bad hygienic surroundings and imperfect drainage furnish excellent soil for diphtheritic microbes.

Many cases of diphtheria end unexpectedly in fatal heart-failure, sometimes when the patient has seemed in a fair way to recovery. In such cases a post-mortem examination reveals a fatty and granular degeneration of the muscular fibres of the heart.

This fact emphasizes the need of prompt treatment to secure the speediest possible recovery. It follows, too, that in all cases, until complete recovery, everything should be avoided which makes demands on the

heart, a very slight effort being often fatal; and that the physician should always make a careful examination of the heart, and advise accordingly.

## STORIES OF THE DIAMOND MINES.

A Lucky Zulu Who Got \$75,000 for Restoring a Lost Gem.

Mr. Geo. D. Longstreet, an English mining engineer, says of the diamond fields of South Africa:—"The control of the diamond mines by the Rothschilds is entirely due to the overcapitalization of the original companies. Some of them were capitalized as high as \$25,000,000. There are now limiting the production of gems to the demand. Diamonds will never go down in price, and the days of romance in South Africa diamond mining are past forever. In early days the mines were divided into little allotments of thirty feet square, and each of these was sold to a corporation for \$500,000—a neat sum for a little land scarcely large enough to put a shanty on. I have been working for one company and in one mine as many as 10,000 naked Zulus, whose work oddly enough, was carried on by electric light within a year after it was invented. In those days our chief difficulty was to prevent the thefts of the workmen. We had an overseer for every five men, and yet the beggars managed to steal large numbers of diamonds. These Zulus are born thieves. All the tales of Ridder Haggard, whom I knew in South Africa, I have heard often from the lips of Zulus.

"The mines are four in number, the Kimberley mine proper being but one of them. It is 700 feet deep, and 10,000 men at work in it look like mere pigmies. It was originally all one hill formed by some gigantic volcanic action from below. Long before the chimney was dug a few diamonds were washed from this hill into the streams where they were discovered. At Kimberley the diamonds were embedded in a strange, hard mud, which had to be blasted with dynamite before it could be brought up. It had time to remain a year before the precious stones could be secured. We could not use crushing machines, for they would crush the diamonds.

"The most beautiful diamond by far that I have ever seen was the one found at Kimberley by a little American named Porter Rhodes. I paid \$5 just to look at it. The sight was a liberal education for a diamond expert. He afterward sold it to the Countess of Dudley for \$500,000. It was lost once before it left Africa, and Rhodes presented the Zulu who returned it with a reward of \$75,000.

## England and the United States.

Alfred Austin, the English poet, utters some frank and generous words concerning the proposition to erect a Lowell memorial in Westminster Abbey. "I cannot understand," he says, "any one objecting to its gates being opened to an American on whom, had he been an Englishman, they would not have been closed."

England and the United States are drawn toward each other by the triple link of blood, language, and literature—the strongest bond imaginable. Does any Englishman feel that he is in the society of a foreigner when he is conversing or travelling with an American? We are just as much members of one family as are married brothers or sisters, though they no longer live under one roof. Americans visit us whenever they can do so; delighting us by the unaffected simplicity of their manners, the cheerfulness of their disposition, the inquiring alertness of their minds, and their readiness to make themselves agreeable to everybody and on every occasion. With what hearty hospitality they entertain Englishmen who cross the Atlantic, every traveller who returns from visiting them is eager to record. The pilgrimages they make to every spot in the British Isles associated with the birth, death, or intellectual activity of departed men of genius, are inspired, in great measure, by the feeling that they are rendering homage to their own ancestors, and, moreover, are thereby acquiring, most justly and worthily, credit and honor for themselves. To this motive must be added that democratic sentiment which with them is a native instinct, while with us, it is as yet hardly more than a reluctant political affectation, and which urges men who have it to pay honor where honor is really due.

If, then, America be willing that the more eminent of her children should be honored after death as though they had been Englishmen, surely we ought to rejoice over this fresh evidence of their sense of kinship with us. To foster this feeling, as Mr. Leslie Stephen and those who agree with him are manifestly trying to do, is the duty, and I should think must be the delight, of every American and every Englishman who values the dignity and desires the well-being of his race."

## OF A STATISTICAL TURN.

Spiders are seven times stronger in proportion than lions.

Less than eight hundred persons own half the soil in Ireland.

The Prince of Wales's collars are size 18, three sizes above the average.

The total income of the Church of England is about \$1,000,000 a week.

The Atlantic ocean is said to be higher than the Pacific by six and one half feet.

Animal life ceases to exist in the ocean at a depth of one and a-half miles.

The pig has forty-four teeth, the dog has forty-two, and mankind only thirty-two.

The density of population is greatest in Europe, where it averages ninety-seven to the square mile.

There are about 1,500,000,000 people in the world, with very nearly an equal division of sex.

Three times as much spirits are consumed in Scotland, according to the population, as in England.

Berlin University is the third largest in the world. Paris, with 9,215 students, and Vienna, with 6,220, are larger.

Senor Don Antonio del Castillo says 3,000 tons of meteoric stone fell from the moon in his part of Mexico recently.

Twenty-three thousand travelers received hospitality in the snow-bound convent at St. Bernard during the past year.

Within sixty-two years Mexico has had fifty-four Presidents, one regency and one empire, and nearly every change of government has been affected by violence.

## PERSONAL.

Paris dailies announce that Queen Natalie is about to go to London incognito to find a publisher for her memoirs. In Berlin and Vienna her efforts to this end were rendered futile by the authorities. The memoirs are expected to give some details of Millan's shameful life, and of such notorious performances as his chartering a Viennese comic opera company to entertain him for a week at his palace.

Archdeacon Farrar says that, "when we look back to the state of society in England fifty years ago and compare it with the present condition of things, we may thank God and take courage."

The ex-Queen of Naples, who has suffered all the pangs of genteel poverty during the past twenty years or more, has now been placed in a comparatively affluent position. Her mother, the late Duchess of Ludovica, of Bavaria, who died some weeks ago, left a fortune yielding an income of about \$100,000 a year. The ex-Queen figures as the heroine in Daudet's "Kings in Exile."

John Stuart Mill has had to do with causing a new play to be suppressed on the Austrian stage. An ill-treated wife lives with a brutal husband for the sake of her child. The child dies, and the wife, happening to read John Stuart Mill on the subjugation of woman, concluded that she would be justified in throwing off the matrimonial yoke and she leaves her husband and goes home. Part of the dialogue has offended some woman in Vienna and the Emperor suppressed it.

Dean Liddell, who was for more than thirty years chancellor of the University of Oxford and dean of Christ's Church, has just left Oxford. When the Prince of Wales was an undergraduate his name was on the books of Christ's Church College, and Dr. Liddell found the task of being the responsible guardian of the future king by no means an easy one. He, however, managed things so cleverly that whereas he was at every moment being compelled to close his eyes to shortcomings of the Prince, no one suspected that there was any special indulgence accorded on account of the rank of the royal graduate. On one occasion the youth gave an extraordinary rendering to one of the phrases in Sophocles. "Where did you get that from?" asked the Dean. "Oh, Liddell and Scott?" was the answer. "Then," said the Dean, "I am sure it must have been Dr. Scott, and not I."

The English Bishop of Zululand, inasmuch as the British have taken from the Zulus the regulating influence of their own government, makes the following earnest appeal to extend the influence of his Church: "I know that many missions both at home and abroad, have special claim upon English people, but I doubt if any people have a greater claim upon Englishmen at the present time than the people in Zululand. Ten years ago England conquered this country and took away from its people the discipline which made them in many ways the finest of all the South African races. It was undoubtedly a cruel discipline, and yet the discipline had its good side, and there is nothing now in its place. Surely the very least that England can do is to show them 'a more excellent way,' and this is what the Church Mission to Zululand is trying to do."

The statue of Marshal Ney, erected in Paris on the spot where he was executed, is about to be removed. The proposed new railroad through the Latin Quarter will pass over the ground where the Marshal fell, and the statue will be taken away. Some of the Paris newspapers are indignant, and some interesting little pieces of history are coming to light. Among others there is the following report of a secret agent of the Government, which was found among the national archives: "When he fell the officers cried out 'Vive le roi!' but the work people, who composed the greater portion of the crowd, remained silent. Then I heard a few murmurs. A woman remarked, 'That is one more dead man. How very rich we are becoming on account of that.' But the other woman made her keep quiet. The body remained exposed upon the litter for a quarter of an hour. More than five hundred Englishmen came to look at it; their curiosity displeased some of the National Guards, who asked them, ironically, 'Why didn't you come to see him ten years ago, gentlemen?' An Englishman approached the body and dipped a white handkerchief in the blood. Then he enveloped the bloody handkerchief in another handkerchief and went away as quietly as he came. During the day many people came to the place of execution. They wrote upon the wall, 'Mort du Marechal Ney,' and they picked and enlarged the holes which the bullets made in the wall. It is widely reported that an Englishman remarked: 'The French are acting as if there was neither history nor prosperity.'

## Won the Case.

"If you were a jury, Clara," said the embarrassed young lawyer, hesitatingly, "I could plead my cause with more self-possession. In the courts of—er—of love I don't think I stacked up as a first class advocate." "Perhaps you have not had an extensive practice in such courts, William," suggested the maiden softly.

"That's it exactly, Clara!" eagerly rejoined the young man, moving his chair a little nearer. "I'm a green hand at this business. But if I could feel sure the jury—"

"Meaning me?"

"Yes—wasn't prejudiced against the advocate—"

"Meaning you?"

"Yes—why, then, I might—"

"What kind of jury are you considering me, William?" she asked, with eyes downcast.

"A—h'm—petit jury, of course. You couldn't be a grand jury, you know, darl—"

"Why not?"

"Because we don't try cases before grand juries."

"I think, William," said the young girl, blushing, "I would rather for this occasion be considered a grand jury."

"Why?"

"Because"—and she hid her face somewhere in the vicinity of his coat collar—"I have found a true Bill!"

## Accounted For.

"Papa, do you know what Mr. Spratt's business is?"

"He is a wheelwright."

"Then that accounts for it."

"For what?"

"He tires me."