

CURRENT NOTES.

Medical science has advanced rapidly of late along the line of discoveries of Pasteur, Koch, Behring, and their colleagues. If the curative antitoxines now announced are shown by the test of continued use to be as efficacious as they are claimed to be...

Experiments made with the antitoxine for the "plague" have, it is said, conclusively demonstrated its effectiveness when injected within six hours after the appearance of the disease; and Dr. Kitasato is satisfied that his serum for leprosy offers a certain cure...

The Quakers in England have a remarkably business-like way of compiling their statistics of membership. At the end of the year they draw up a gain and loss account under the prosaic ledger headings of incomings and outgoings.

but to reach a Quaker meeting house it is usually necessary to go to the older parts of the town and to traverse the alleys and the back lanes. The reason for this is until a few years ago Quakers in England were declining in numbers...

CHINESE TELEGRAPHY.

Numerals Are Flashed Over the Wire and Then Translated by a Code. According to the "Statesman's Year Book," all the principal cities of China are now connected with one another and with Peking, the capital, by telegraph...

It is very different with his friend, the receiver. He has the code dictionary at his elbow, and after each message is received he must translate it, writing each literary character in place of the numeral that stands for it. Only about an eighth of the words in the written language appear in the code...

A writer in Le Mouvement Colonial of Paris says that if railroads are introduced to any extent in China the personnel must be exclusively European and American, or recruited from the literary class. He says the Chinese Government will not take foreigners into its service, and that the educated men of China, who alone among the people have sufficient knowledge of the written language to be intrusted with the actual running of trains...

PRACTICAL FARMING.

THE COW.

When times are hard, as times are yet. And cash is scarce and hard to get; When but little money can be made, And debt and taxes must be paid, To help us out, we must allow, There is nothing like the good old cow...

GRASSES FOR PASTURES.

A prominent agricultural writer, a practical farmer, answers an inquiry about permanent pastures, and as he gives his practical experience the inquirer will be able to gain further ideas. The authority writes as follows: A writer asks for the best mixture of grasses for permanent pasture and time of sowing...

As to the cause or the exact nature of this disease no explanation is to be found in medical works. Sailors themselves believe that it is caused directly by the moon, and many who have looked into the subject of lunar influence agree with them. One thing is certain, moon blindness was recognized as a curious malady many years ago, and by one, who evidently wrote after careful consideration, was attributed directly to lunar influence...

sweet oil by you, as you may want them at any moment.

Always give just enough food at one time that it will all be eaten up; none should be left lying around. Always give as great a variety of food as possible; constant change of diet is the way to get the chickens on. Always give your birds a little hempseed and cooked meat when moulting. Always keep the floors of the houses and coops well covered with sand or ashes. Always rake the droppings off every morning. Cleanliness is a great preventive of sickness. Always keep a sharp lookout for vermin, and eradicate them as quickly as possible...

SPRING CARE OF HORSES.

The teams, for the work of seeding and heavy plowing should be at once put at moderate work to harden the shoulders. The horse's work for the first day should be doubled on the second day and followed every other day afterwards for a fortnight, by three or four hour's work. The loads to be drawn should also be increased from time to time. The condition of the roads is to be taken into account in loading the wagons, of course. The young, unbroken colts are to be handled with great care. The lumber wagon with the stout tongue is the safest thing to use for the first twenty days work, in the case of untrained horses. Very little, if any load, should be put on a wagon drawn by green colts during the first ten days of work. This is especially important if the ground is wet and soft. The brood mares if already well broken to work may be worked moderately, and will be improved by the work, even up to the day of foaling, if handled carefully. A half day's work during the week previous to delivery is the safer rule. Heavy pulling or a fast walking gait over soft ground or wet roads should be avoided. A place by herself—a box stall at night—should be provided for thirty days before the brood mare's date of delivery. Her food should be of the kind to regulate the nerve system and give tone to the nerves and organs of digestion. No pains should be spared to furnish every attention needful. It is probable that horses will be valuable when this season's colts are grown.

A STRANGE CUSTOM.

It is obligatory in Seoul, the capital of Korea, for every man to go home at sunset, when the ringing of the large bronze bell of the city is a signal for every man to retire to his home. Any man found in the streets after sunset, when the city gates are closed, is liable to be flogged for a breach of the law. The women are, however, allowed to go out to take the air and gossip with their friends. Another curious distinction between men and women is that the latter have no name before marriage, and that after marriage the husband becomes answerable for his wife's misdemeanor and, in his own person, suffers the penalty inflicted.

BLINDNESS FROM THE MOON.

A Peculiar Malady With Which Are Sometimes Affected. Some notable cases of so-called moon-blink, or moon blindness, were reported a few days ago, the victims being sailors on board the ship El Capitan, which had just returned to New York after a long cruise in Chinese and Japanese waters. These men, we are told, were in the habit of lying on the deck at night, with their faces turned upward, and as a result were stricken with temporary blindness. During the daytime they could see well enough, but at night they could see nothing. This singular affliction beset them as long as they remained in the warm countries. As to the cause or the exact nature of this disease no explanation is to be found in medical works. Sailors themselves believe that it is caused directly by the moon, and many who have looked into the subject of lunar influence agree with them. One thing is certain, moon blindness was recognized as a curious malady many years ago, and by one, who evidently wrote after careful consideration, was attributed directly to lunar influence. Martin, in his "History of the British Colonies," a book published many years ago, says: "I have seen in Africa newly-littered young perish in a few hours at the mother's side if exposed to the rays of the full moon; fish become rapidly putrid, and meat, if left exposed, incurable or unpressurable by salt; the mariner, heedlessly sleeping on the deck, becomes afflicted with myctologia, or night blindness; at times the face is hideously swollen if exposed during sleep to the moon's rays; the maniac's paroxysms are renewed with fearful vigor at the full and change, and the cold, damp chill of the ague supervenes on the ascendancy of this apparently mild yet powerful luminary. Let her influence over the earth be studied; it is more powerful than is generally known."

PERPETUAL LEAP YEAR THERE.

A Shipwrecked Sailor Washed Ashore and Married Before He Was Dry. News from the group of Tristan d'Acunha, the three little islands midway between the Cape of Good Hope and the coast of South America, arrived at Victoria, B. C., by the steamer Miuwera of the Canadian Australian line. To the Miuwera it was given by the Captain of the ship Dartford, spoken by the Miuwera in Australian waters while on the northward course. The Captain of the Dartford, in reporting the events of the voyage from London, announced that in about latitude 37 degrees 5 seconds south, and longitude 12 degrees, 16 seconds, west, his vessel was hailed by a small boat. The yards of the Dartford were backed and the boat came alongside. In it were several men and a quantity of potatoes, eggs, milk, and penguin skins. The men offered the fresh produce and the skins in trade, saying they wanted clothing, tea, rice, sugar, and flour from the ship's stores in exchange for the articles they brought from their island home. They told the Captain that they depend on passing vessels for the provisions they named and for clothing, and that the inhabitants of the islands were in dire distress, because for six months not a boat had succeeded in hailing a ship. The Captain of the Dartford lowered into the boat some flour and rice and tea and other groceries, and also some canned goods. Then the men begged for clothing for women, and particularly for corsets, hairpins, and ribbons. As the Dartford carried no such articles among her stores the ladies of Tristan d'Acunha must go corsetless and permit their hair to float in the breeze, not confined even by ribbons. The population of the island of Tristan d'Acunha, as reported to the Captain of the Dartford by the men in the boat is sixty, the women outnumbering the men in the proportion of three to one. There are there forty-five women and fifteen men—that means thirty unmarried women. The group consists of three tiny volcanic islands, Tristan, the largest, being seven miles in diameter, in the centre being a mountain 7,600 feet high; inaccessible, about two miles across, and Nightingale Island, a baby islet, just big enough to hold two hills. The islands have been under the British flag since 1816, though, as the men in the boat told the master of the Dartford, no European Government has paid any attention to them in the memory of any of the inhabitants. When Napoleon was at St. Helena, 1,300 miles distant, a British garrison was stationed on Tristan, but was withdrawn after the death of the exile, Corporal William Glass, his wife and family, and two private soldiers, were permitted to remain on the island when the garrison was withdrawn. The population had increased to sixty people, some of the accessions being due to shipwreck and some to desertions from whaling vessels. The Captain of the Dartford reported to the Miuwera no explanation of the extraordinary majority of women, but as his paring bit of information he related that the men who sought the corsets, the ribbons, and the hairpins told him that the latest addition to the population of the island was the second mate of the wrecked vessel Allen Shaw, who was washed upon the rocky shore. He was seized by the women and married before he was dry.

THE BRITISH IN EGYPT.

No Probability of That Country Being Evacuated.

The little breeze about the British evacuation of Egypt of the demand of the Sultan seems to have died out, says the New York Evening Post. There never was a particle of probability in it. The promise of England to evacuate has faded away before the enormous advantages of her rule and before the difficulty in finding anyone to take her place. It is fully admitted that Egypt cannot stand alone either militarily or financially. If she were left to herself the Mahdi or the Abyssinians would probably be in Cairo in two months; the finances would go to pieces (Egyptian credit now stands high), the old brutal modes of collecting taxes would begin again, and the reign of barbarism be resumed. The British have never retired before a prospect of this kind, and we do not believe any European power would under present circumstances think of insisting on her leaving, though France might be glad to see her do so. Compelling her to do so would be no easy task, as she can fling troops into Egypt very easily from India, some of them, the Sikhs and Gorkhas, a match for any troops in the world. It was a force from India which drove the French out of Egypt in 1801.

END OF A CONVERTED BANDIT.

Lambros Telonis, a Greek bandit of great notoriety, has been amnestied and had accepted the position of executioner. This office is universally despised in Greece. After having cut off the heads of a good many of his former accomplices he retired from business and decided to finish his days peacefully in Rovolaki, his native village, a lovely little spot hidden in a valley. But hardly had he settled himself in his new abode than he became the prey of the villagers' contempt and insults. He was constantly reminded of his past life, doubly stained with the blood of his fellowmen, and little children fled from him as from a monster. One fine morning the inhabitants of Rovolaki saw a corpse hanging from the steeple of their church. It was that of the bandit and executioner Telonis.

REAL WEATHER NOMENCLATURE.

How is the weather out? asked Mrs. Wickwire. Very pugilistic, replied Mr. Wickwire. Very how? Windy and threatening.

REMINDEES.

The following suggestions are found in the English Fanciers' Gazette: Always carefully look over your flock once a day, and if you see any birds mopey or dropping their wings, remove them then and there, as one ill bird may affect all the rest. Always keep some Epsom salts and

TWO FROM CORK.

A Cork Town Councilor is credited with having thus spoken: There can be no doubt of the virulence of this epidemic, for I know of people lying dead from it who never died before. The same gentleman thus chivalrously defended a colleague: I strongly protest against this attack on my absent friend, for surely it is not right to hang a man behind his back. "Willie," said the boarding-house mistress to her young son, "I was ashamed of you at dinner. You kept your arms on the table during the entire meal." "Yes, mamma," was the hopeful's reply; "I didn't want to give the boarders a chance to say there was nothin' on the table."