

The Berlin Supreme Court has refused to release Prof. Genfincke, who is under arrest for furnishing the *Deutsche Rundschau* with extracts from Emperor Frederick's diary.

Dr. Peters, of Berlin, believes that the rising in East Africa has a close connection with the Mahdi movement, and that both are a struggle of Mahomedism against Christianity.

Official returns show that the effect of the system instituted in the British army last year, of greater leniency in the matter of punishment, has been attended with very satisfactory results.

While the bloodhounds, for the capture of the Whitechapel murderer, were being exercised on Thursday morning, they followed a scent that had been laid for them, got out of sight, and were lost.

Doctors Bergmann and Gerhardt do not advise that Dr. Mackenzie and his German publishers should be indicted for libel, but Dr. Bergmann is quite prepared to fight a duel with the English specialist.

London city circles are very suspicious over the withdrawals of gold to the extent of \$10,000,000 on account of the Russian Government. The theory is that Russia is hoarding gold in preparation for war next spring.

Emperor William visited Pompeii yesterday morning, and while there an excavation was made in his presence, and some bronze ornaments were presented to him. The Emperor and King Humbert returned to Rome in the afternoon.

Mr. John Fincaane, M.P. for East Limerick, will bring an action against the London "Times," for libel for stating that in a speech he had advised the farmers in Ireland, upon shoeing land-grabbers' horses, to drive the nails into the quick.

Prof. Virehow and Dr. Waldeyer say that the post-mortem examination of the late Emperor contradicts Dr. Mackenzie's two statements that cauterization was employed, or that Dr. Bergmann made a false passage while attempting to insert a cauterizer.

The commissioners appointed by the Imperial Government to select a number of Scotch crofter families for Manitoba have returned to London from the New Hebrides, having picked nearly forty families, containing a large proportion of adults, who will leave for Canada next March.

The Corset Questions.

In the Biological Section of the British Association at Bath recently the vexed question of stays and tight lacing was discussed in a separate department. The attendance of the fair sex was especially large. The general expectation which they apparently entertained that the paper would condemn the wearing of stays was, however, agreeably disappointed. Mr. C. S. Roy, professor of pathology at Cambridge, and J. G. Adams, university administrator of pathology, who had announced a joint paper "On the Physiological Bearing of Waistbands and Stays," blessed instead of banning these articles.

They have lately been making some pathological experiments, and had found that a good deal of blood stored uselessly in the abdominal veins is, by slight pressure, placed advantageously at the disposal of the muscles, brain and skin. This explains how men, as well as women, instinctively employ some method of abdominal compression, wearing waistbands or belts, or the more elaborate corsets, at periods of increased activity. No doubt fashion has sometimes led to distortion of the female figure by means of stays, but if not laced too tight the modern corset, by clasping the waist and supporting the bosom and back, constitutes a convenient combination of the different forms of girdle which have been found useful by the women of all civilized nations from the remotest times. Of course during sleep they are put off, but during hours of exertion, social or otherwise, reasonable tight lacing is fitted to increase mental and physical activity. They, however, cautioned young ladies against carrying this to an injudicious extreme.

The Biggest Passenger Engine Yet.

The "Boston Advertiser" says:—There is a locomotive now nearly completed by the Hinkley Locomotive Works on Albany street which is intended to far surpass anything and everything in the railroad line in the United States, if not in the world. This wonderful engine was designed by G. S. Strong, of the Strong Locomotive Co., of New York, and is expected to make the lightning speed of eighty miles an hour with ten passenger cars on an ordinary road. It is the largest passenger engine ever built, and will run on the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe road, between Chicago and Fort Madison. The first thing that would strike the observer is the singular position of the engineer's cab. It is perched on top of the boiler about the centre, and is occupied by the engineer alone, as another cab is built behind the boiler for the fireman. The engine alone will weigh fifty-five tons, and with the tender, which is built to ride like a passenger coach, will weigh eighty-five tons.

A Way They Have in Turkey.

"Mahmud Djelladellen Pasha, the late Minister of Finance at Constantinople, has narrowly escaped strangling," says London "Truth." "He came into office a few years ago when a very poor man, but by means of systematic swindling of the most outrageous kind he has realized a fortune of 350,000 Turkish pounds. The sultan, on being informed of his fraudulent practices, ordered his arrest, and announced his intention of having him strangled and of confiscating his savings. It then turned out that Mahmud had been sufficiently farsighted to invest his fortune abroad, so that, if he were strangled the Sultan would not gain a piastre; and, after much negotiation, it has been decided that he is to pay a fine of 120,000 Turkish pounds and to be banished from the vicinity of Constantinople. This fine will not be employed to compensate the officials who have been robbed by Mahmud, but it is to go into the Sultan's private purse.

Mrs. Godolphin—"Now, what would be your terms, Mr. Jones, for giving me a course of say a dozen lessons in painting?" Jones—"Well, frankly, Mrs. Godolphin, I'm afraid it's too late in life for you to begin to start a career of art—that is, if you wish to take it up seriously." Mrs. G.—"Oh, but I don't. I only want to learn enough to be able to teach."

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Portions of the North-West of Canada abound in feathered game in countless thousands, but they are being slaughtered too indiscriminately and with such persistence that it is feared they will go the way of the buffalo in a few years if the pot hunters are not restricted in their business. The Calgary "Herald" says that game is already getting scarce around the town and in the vicinity of the settlements, and calls upon the Legislature to protect the prairie chickens, snipe and duck.

Mormon missionaries are making such progress in the rear townships that Rev. A. E. Whatham, the Church of England clergyman in Cardiff and Monmouth, has found it necessary to meet them on the platform and to challenge them to a discussion of their doctrines in print. Mr. Whatham now makes a very fair proposal to the Saints. He says he will combat them in the columns of their own official journal, and will leave it to a committee composed of four professors of divinity, two nominated by himself and two nominated by the Mormons, to say who comes out best.

The citizens of Detroit are complaining of the nuisance of overcrowded street cars, from which Toronto has suffered so long and is still suffering. A correspondent of the Detroit "Journal" suggests a resort to a well-equipped line of Herdic coaches. One advantage of the coach is that when halted it is driven up to the curb, and the passenger thus avoids the dirt and danger of going to or coming from the middle of the street. It seems to us that there would be little objection to the street railway system if the City Council could be prevailed upon to enforce a law forbidding overcrowding.

So jealous are the people of the Pacific coast of Chinese encroachments that even the employment of a Chinese cook on the Government steamer Sir James Douglas is made the subject for complaint against the Dominion authorities. The Celestial is much to be pitied. Rejected by Australia, the United States, and Canada, he has no encouragement to settle in Christian lands. But though Christians will not fraternize with him on earth they have not lost interest in him altogether. We are sending him missionaries to expound to him the principles of the religion we profess, in the hope that we may meet him on equal terms hereafter.

Our long day an addition will be made to our long list of legislative bodies. Ever since it has been under Canadian control the North-West has been ruled in certain minor local matters by a council under the Lieutenant Governor. At first the council was composed of nominated members, all of whom were officials; then, as population crept in, representatives were admitted, until the council was half nominated and half representative. At the last session of Parliament the council received its quietus, and a legislative assembly with somewhat restricted powers was created in its place. The Assembly has been elected, and it is to meet at Regina this week.

There has been a good deal of satisfaction expressed over the news transmitted by cable, that No. 1 Manitoba hard wheat is the highest-priced wheat on the British market. A Montreal journal says, however, that "the people of Manitoba would rather have the standard lowered, as they are not satisfied with the proportion of the whole crop which reaches that standard. They think that if the standard was lowered a very much larger quantity of wheat would reach it, and bring a price very little if any lower than the price paid for the comparatively small quantity which reaches the present high standard. The Manitobans prefer the material advantage of higher prices to the honour of having their wheat head the market list."

In a recent sermon Rev. Dr. Talmage attributed the suicidal epidemic to two causes, viz., infidelity and insanity. Medical statistics prove that insanity and religious mania lead to many cases of self destruction. It is very much to be questioned that suicides, at any rate in America and Great Britain, are more prone to commit suicide than other classes of the community. The assumption has been that agnosticism, by depriving death of the terrors of the orthodox hereafter, fosters the suicidal tendency. It has been shown over and over again that the ratio of suicides in every country is governed by the existing social conditions. It may be expected, for instance that with dear coal and bread this winter the percentage of suicides will be increased. Suicide is often resorted to as a refuge from starvation.

There is an American Philistine as well as an English Philistine, and the former is not one whit less offensive than the latter. The American Philistine abroad is thus hit off by Prof. Boyesen: "He brags of his opulence, patronizes the effete monarchies whose manners (which he designates as 'frills'), customs, and institutions fill him with a grand patriotic contempt. He discourses loudly in the reading rooms of the banks and exchanges on the superiority of the United States and all that appertains to them to Europe and all that appertains to it; spits on the floor (as an illustration of the national superiority), and makes himself generally obnoxious. To Europe he represents America, is the typical American, and cheerfully accepts his representative character." The American Philistine is a familiar figure in Canada.

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