FRENCH NATIONAL DEBT.

THE COUNTRY IS ON THE ROAD TO RUIN.

Railway Concessions May Be Used to Improve State's Position.

France, says a popular legend, is the country of sunshine, fair women, and good wine. It is also the land of taxes. The State starts out with the assumption that the French citizen is a revenue unit who exists solely to supply the Government with as much money as can be squeezed out of him, says Joseph Brandreth, in the London Daily Mail. Yet in spite of this it is unable to make the two ends meet. Let us see how the French Government manages its income. It was estimated that this year the total revenue from all sources would amount to £142,062,820, and that the expenditure would run into £142,051,696, thus leaving a small balance on the right side. These estimates, however, were so amended in debate that as the result of votes of increased expenditure the small balance to the good was converted into an estimated deficit of £1,131,737. As, however, the actual revenue returns generally exceed the estimated income, it was thought that the surplus of receipts would cover this deficit. The calculation has turned out to be wrong, for, as compared with the Budget estimates, there is for the first nine months of the year a deficit balance of £3,600,000, and every likelihood that by the end of the twelvemonth the French Government will be face to face with a deficit exceeding £4,000,000.

AN ALARMING POSITION.

This is an alarming situation, for the State is at its wits' ends to invent new taxes, the French being already taxed up to the eyes, both directly and indirectly, in a hundred different ways unknown to the grumbling Briton. France is not at war, she has no costly colonial expeditions to pay for, no unusual cause of expense, and yet she is unable to live within her means. England, too, is, we know, in an embarrassed financial condition, and has added enormously during the past two years to her national debt, but then this is due to the Transvaal, and with the close of the war the cause of England's financial embarrassment will cease. In France it is otherwise, for in a period of peace the national expenditure is increasing at such a rate that the outlook is one of a chronic state of deficit. If this is the case in time of peace and without any unusual cause of expenditure, what, it may be asked, would be France's position if she had to face the cost of a great and ruinous war

But how comes it that France cannot live within her income? The question is easier put than answered, for the most eminent French statesmen and economists are themselves at variance on the subject. Among the causes, however, is the costly administration of the country, which entails the existence of a whole army of more or less useful officials.

France suffers from a plague of functionaries, of Jacks-in-office. It is the sole ambition in life of a vast number of middle-class Frenchmen to secure a Government position of some kind or another, however small. Members of Parliament are pestered with applications for Government posts, all generally backed up and recommended by influential constituents. Does a member refuse to exert his influence in this direction, he will probably lose his seat at the next elections, for the disappointed applicant's friends and his friends' friends will vote against a man "who doesn't find any places."

TOO MUCH LEGISLATION.

It is certain also that the large number of "reforms" and of new laws which are being continually voted by the Chamber of Deputies without any regard to the financial consequences thereof has a most disastrous effect on the annual budget. Thus, in a single year—1898—the amendments and new laws voted during the five months' debate on the 1899 budget resulted in a permanent increase in the national expenditure of some £1,200,000 per annum. There is the army, too, on which France spends an average of £26,000,000 per annum, not to speak of £12,000,000 for the navy. This expenditure is, by the very nature of things, always tending to increase. A cutting down of the military effectives would be very unpopular, and there is little hope of retrenchment in this direction unless in the somewhat improbable event of France, Germany and Russia mutually agreeing to reduce their armaments. Since 1875 France has spent the enormous sum of £1,000,000,000 on military preparations, and a third of this amount placed to a sinking fund would have sufficed to reduce the funded debt by 27 per cent.

Large sums are annually swallowed up by civil and military pensions (about £9,500,000), by education £8,000,000), and in the fiscal and general administration of the country, none of which items is the Government able and willing to reduce.

A STUPENDOUS NATIONAL DEBT

What can be done under such circumstances? Contract a new loan? It would be absolute folly to do so except as a last and dangerous resource. According to the Bulletin Officiel de Statistique, issued in May, 1901, by the Minister of Finances, the funded debt, together with the floating debt and annuities to railways, amounted on January 1 last to the colossal sum of £1,203,765,865, or 30,096,632,622 frs., of which the funded debt alone accounted for £1,195,487,252, and the annual interest and charges on which require something like £22,000,000.

To further increase the funded debt under such circumstances means travelling fast along the road to national bankruptcy. As the debt cannot be increased, various attempts have been made to introduce an income tax. These attempts, however, have met with a storm of protests from all but the laboring classes—who have nothing to lose—and the Socialists, for it is well known that such a tax would, in France, quickly assume an inquisitorial character.

The State has one great resource—the railway companies. All the railway concessions expire within the next thirty or forty years, and the lines then become Government property. By agreeing to prolong the concessions for another twenty-five or thirty years, the State would be able to raise £100,000,000 from the great railway companies, and this is what will probably happen sooner or later. Meanwhile, as the State is apparently spending money in anticipation of the above deal, it can only fall back on the taxpayer.

The French taxpayer is a good, easy-going, jog-trot kind of animal; he grumbles, kicks, and—pays.

The State is evidently determined to try the taxpayers' powers of resistance to the utmost, but let the French politicians beware! They are wilfully shutting their eyes to the future, and the time may not be far distant when the tax-bearing animal, goaded to desperation by the weight of his load, will throw it into the mud, together with those who are seated on top.

DANGERS TO OCEAN CABLES.

Must Resist the Attacks of Many Submarine Monsters.

Unexpected perils await submarine cables, even in the depths of the ocean, says the London Telegraph. Though the largest waves in a storm probably do not appreciably disturb the water beyond the first 100 fathoms, if indeed, they go so far, currents are sometimes strong enough to fray the cable against some submarine crag, and various living creatures will do it a mischief. Among them fishes have long been suspected, and now the charge has been proved in a cable connecting Sydney with Nelson. A defect was detected, and on examining the piece a shark's tooth was found imbedded in the sheathing. As that consisted of the usual thick iron wires and their outer covering, the aggressor must have given a hard bite. The motive is not easily divined. Could the shark have mistaken the cable, in the imperfect light, for a new species of conger, or did it, which seems more likely, blunder against it at a place where it did not touch bottom, and relieve its temper by a vicious snap?

A swordfish will express its resentment against a vessel by driving the bayonet at the end of its nose into the planks, and a narwhal will use its lance of ivory in similar fashion; each, like the shark, to its own detriment, for it illustrates the maxim, "Can't you leave it alone?" by losing the weapon of offense. The conflict between the shark and cable occurred 330 fathoms below the surface, a depth which formerly was supposed to be almost lifeless. But deep-sea dredging during the last thirty or forty years told a different story. In the open ocean living creatures generally do not descend below a few hundred feet, though they are often enormously abundant in this upper layer—the home of countless fishes, crustacea, and in many places of clouds of tiny foraminifera and radiolaria, with a corresponding

ABUNDANCE OF SEAWEEDS.

But living creatures follow the ocean slopes downward to very great depths. Sponges, at least certain kinds, go far below the thousand-fathom line. A hydrozoon two yards long was dredged up by the Challenger from 2,300 fathoms, and occasionally a coral or some near relation may be found at a great depth. A well known species of the former was brought up on a telegraph cable from more than 1,100 fathoms, and Dr. Carpenter obtained a mollusk, generally found in shallow water, from not much less than 15,000 feet. Even at depths as low as Mount Everest is high, living creatures have been obtained, but they are comparatively low in organization. Still, fishes have been captured at the lowest depths, in which cases they are often blind. Even where they have eyes those in that region of eternal night would be useless, if they were not able to turn on the light at will by being provided with phosphorescent organs. It is, however, unusual to find a shark so deep as nearly a couple of thousand feet from the surface. Their teeth have, indeed, been dredged up from profound depths, imbedded in nodules of manganese oxide, but these have been dropped from the jaws of fishes which have lived and died in the upper waters and settled quietly down to the bottom.

Sharks in general keep near to the surface, a habit which makes them such a terror to bathers. Still, one kind of a shark, more nearly related to the dog-fishes than to the dreaded blue shark, is brought up from depths greater than those mentioned. The genus, which contains several species, has a wide range, and spearlike teeth, one of which may have done the mischief. On the Portuguese coast there is a regular fishery for a species of this fish, which is about five feet long; it is caught with lines, at depths of 400, and occasionally 500 fathoms. As it is accustomed to live under a pressure of about eighty atmospheres, it is dead—practically suffocated—when brought to the surface.

HUMAN HAIR.

Grown to Order in Belgium and Holland.

There is an ever-increasing trade done in human hair, and a number of the peasant girls living in Belgium and Brittany can always be persuaded to part with their locks in exchange for a small consideration and for this purpose many dealers have agents travelling in these districts to beguile the simple girls.

Many people believe that much of the false hair sold at the present day is taken from the scalps of dead women. This is, of course, ridiculous, as the human hair, after death, becomes too brittle to be twisted into the forms demanded by fashion. To say that much of the hair disposed of as "human" at high prices is only cunningly-manufactured imitation would be more in accordance with the facts.

Marseilles is probably the headquarters of the false hair trade, and it is estimated that over 40,000 pounds of the commodity are exported annually from that town. Fully two-thirds of this finds its way into Italy, France being the second best customer.

In the preparation of the hair over five hundred people are engaged in Marseilles alone, whilst four of the largest manufacturers export between them something like 100,000 chignons every year. In Paris, it is stated a hair-dresser does a similar trade to the tune of 15,000.

The hair first arrives at the manufacturers' in huge sacks and consists of all colors. It is emptied into immense boilers and every particle of grease is thoroughly removed, afterwards being thrown into a bath of potash. When dry it is finally passed through common flour.

The color mostly in favor at present is of a reddish brown and chignons of this shade fetch anything from $10 to $25.

Aunt Surplice—"How peacefully still and solemn it always is on Sunday." Little Nephew—"Yes, Auntie. That's because so many children's papas stay at home."

INSTANCES OF GALLANTRY

LIEUT. CLEMENTI-SMITH'S NAME MENTIONED.

12 New Zealanders Pursued 200 Boers For Three Days.—Stirring Incidents.

Lord Kitchener's mail despatch, dated October 8th, published by the War Office, reports numerous instances of gallantry, from which the following are taken:—

11th Imperial Yeomanry—Lieut. E. Clementi-Smith (since died of wounds), on September 11, 1901, in Harrismith District, advanced alone to occupy a position Boers were making for, and though wounded through right shoulder continued to fire from left, keeping enemy off till he was reinforced.

6th New Zealand Mounted Rifles.—Lieut. P. L. Tudor, with only 12 men crossed the Caledon River on September 16, 1901, and kept touch with 200 Boers for three days, and displayed great gallantry on September 27, in holding a position for three hours against 50 Boers.

3rd Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps.—Private J. Brion, at Gaskraal, Orange River Colony, on 28th August, 1901, his patrol of six men being surprised by some 50 Boers, the corporal, two men and all the horses being killed, took over command, refused to surrender, shooting two Boers who attempted to take him, and held out till relieved.

Civilian. — Engine-driver R. M. Growden, for his presence of mind at Boschrand, when his engine was derailed and upset by the enemy, he remained on it till he had opened all the safety valves, thereby saving the explosion of the boiler. He was severely scalded in doing this.

Royal Field Artillery (28th Battery).—Gunner H. Wooding, for lifting two shells from a portable magazine in which the cartridges were burning furiously.

24th Imperial Yeomanry.—Trooper J. Millerson, at Aaronslaagte, Orange River Colony, on August 26, 1901, shot through thigh and horse killed by ambushed Boers, called on to surrender, refused and continued firing till relieved.

2nd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers.—Private T. Kelly, a rearguard retiring and a man dismounted within 400 yards of enemy, Kelly returned for him and brought him away.

2nd Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment (Mounted Infantry)—Private C. Wakefield, on 31st July, 1901, was one of ten men pursuing the enemy's convoy, and, when the remainder had been dismounted by the officer's orders to open fire on it, Private Wakefield, on his own initiative, galloped alone to the head of the convoy and stopped it. Had he not done so, some of the carts would probably have escaped in the dark.

Bechuanaland Rifles.—Lance-Corporal Sutherland, for retaining two prisoners when 30 Boers opened fire on him and he was alone and his horse killed.

2nd Dragoon Guards, attached Welsh Imperial Yeomanry.—Captain P. M. Sykes, for fire example in firing 50 rounds himself at close range after being wounded during action at Rhenosterfontein, September, 1901.

2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment.—Private Archibald, at Tyger Kloof, Orange River Colony, on 29th September, 1901, volunteered to look for three missing men, and did so successfully under fire of 40 Boers.

Royal Scots Fusiliers.—Private W. Galon, Private B. Knowles, on Aug. 27, 1901, near Alkmaar, part of garrison of a blockhouse consisting of seven men in vicinity of train derailed and attacked by enemy, volunteered to go out and defend the train, which they did, and kept the enemy off till support arrived.

Derbyshire Regiment.—Sergeant C. Chambers, Lance-Corporal R. Dixon, Private J. Caneny, Private E. Picard were survivors of No. 4 Section though surrounded, refused to surrender, and fought on till only one man was left unwounded; out of 13 men 5 were killed, 7 wounded, 4 of whom have since died. Private F. Bancroft, in same action, rushed out from cover in broad daylight and bayonetted a Boer who was firing at his section. Private W. Bees, one of Maxim attachment, which had 6 men out of 9 hit, hearing wounded calling for water, went 500 yards ahead of his gun and filled a kettle and returned, passing on his way within 100 yards of some rocks held by enemy, from which they were firing heavily. Private J. Brierley, the Maxim gun wanting water, fetched some under heavy fire from 60 yards range.

48th Somerset Imperial Yeomanry.—Sergeant-Major T. Jorden, led his troop to repulse attack, and, though twice wounded, continued to lead and repulse attack in most gallant manner.

Scottish Horse.—Trooper G. Webster advanced with three comrades, and when all were wounded continued alone, called on to surrender, refused, and continued to fight till reinforced, when he advanced again. Sergeant C. E. D'Anson for continuing to serve out and carry up ammunition, though himself wounded.

CRYING BABIES.

The Cry of an Infant is Nature's Signal of Distress.

Babies never cry unless there is some very good reason for it. The cry of a baby is nature's warning signal that there is something wrong. Every mother ought to get to work immediately to find out what that something wrong may be. If the fretfulness and irritation are not caused by exterior sources, it is conclusive evidence that the crying baby is ill. The only safe and judicious thing to do is to administer Baby's Own Tablets without the slightest delay.

For indigestion, sleeplessness, the irritation accompanying the cutting of teeth, diarrhoea, constipation, colic, and simple fevers, these marvellous little tablets have given relief in thousands of cases and saved many precious baby lives. Do not give a child so-called "soothing" medicines; such only stupify and produce unnatural sleep. Baby's Own Tablets are guaranteed to contain no opiate or other harmful drugs; they promote sound, healthy sleep because they go directly to the root of baby troubles. Dissolved in water these tablets can be given to the youngest infant. Mrs. Walter Brown, Milby, Que., says:—"I have never used any medicine for baby that did as much good as Baby's Own Tablets. I would not be without them."

Baby's Own Tablets are for sale at all drug stores, or will be sent direct on receipt of price (25 cents a box) by addressing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Sozodont Tooth Powder 25c

Good for Bad Teeth
Not Bad for Good Teeth

Sozodont Liquid 25c Large Liquid and Powder 75c All stores or by mail for the price. Sample for postage 3c.
HALL & RUCKEL, MONTREAL

JAPAN AND CHINA.

Possible These Countries May Draw Close Together.

Marquis Ito, one of the most eminent Japanese statesmen, in a recent speech, remarked that Japan stands between two widely different and opposing civilizations. She is the only country that understands the ideas in which China lives and moves and has her being, and those which are dominant in Europe and America. Her mission is to interpret the one to the other, and thus to keep the peace between them.

This is a mission which does not seem impossible of fulfilment. The correspondence which recently passed between the Emperor of China and the Mikado, in connection with the Chinese apology for the murder of the Japanese Chancellor of the Legation, indicates that it may have been in the minds of both. The Emperor expressed the hope that the Mikado "might be graciously disposed to draw closer the bonds of friendship uniting the two empires." The Mikado reciprocated the wish and declared his earnest desire that the great work of reform, dependent upon the Emperor's sovereign will, might soon be in effective operation.

This seems like something more than the language of courtesy. If the Emperor's will really is sovereign, if it is not overruled by the reactionary Empress dowager, there is hope that the Emperor will undertake reforms, and will do so in alliance with or under the tutelage of Japan.

An alliance between Japan and China would not be likely to take an aggressive form toward other nations; but it would impose a check upon the aggression from without. It would postpone indefinitely the dismemberment of China. It would furnish an Asiatic balance of power which would promote the general peace; and it might be the means of leading China, by slower steps, along the path of progress which Japan has followed for thirty years.

EYES ON AFGHANISTAN.

Britain Watching the Doings of the New Ameer.

In spite of the favorable news from Cabul, the Afghan situation is carefully watched by the British Government and will be for months to come. Lord Curzon, the Indian viceroy, is making his tour of the provinces, but he postponed it more than a fortnight lest there go from Cabul some whisper of unrest.

Thus far the only feature which has given rise to anxiety is the news that the new ameer, Habib Ullah, has exercised remarkable clemency in various directions. He has promised large reductions in taxes and in tariff dues, has hinted at reforms of various kinds, and has released numbers of prisoners from the jails. By some these measures are condemned as signs of weakness.

Not by such methods, it is said, did Abdur Raman subdue the fierce tribesmen as they had never been subdued before. In Afghanistan gratitude does not exist. Every concession is looked upon by the Afghan as proof of the weakness of the ruler. History shows there is only one way to govern the Afghan, and that is the way of Abdur Raman, whose iron heel crushed all signs of discontent.

On the other hand it is pointed out that the Afghanistan of to-day is different from what it was thirty years ago. Abdur Raman weeded out the most turbulent among the population, and the others are beginning to realize that there are advantages in settled government. This militates in favor of the solidity of the new regime.

Certainly there has not been as yet any of the anarchy in Cabul or elsewhere which was so frequently prophesized as the inevitable result of the death of the old ameer. However, the country is not out of the woods. In London and Simla the opinion has all along been that nothing serious would happen before the spring, even if it happened then. The most serious rebellions against the authority of Abdur Raman did not occur until he was firmly seated on the throne.

Love of strife and plunder is still strong in the Afghan. So, too, is the love of revenge. Abdur Raman put many thousands of his enemies and possible enemies to death, and the Indian authorities believe that the relatives of those deceased enemies are not too well disposed toward Habib Ullah. All things considered, no responsible British authority thinks for a moment that everything will necessarily continue to go well at Cabul.

"What great blessing do we enjoy that the heathen know nothing about?" inquired the Sunday school teacher. "Soap!" was the answer that came out like the crack of a pistol from the small boy at the foot of the class.

Do Not Delay.—When, through debilitated digestive organs, poison finds its way into the blood, the prime consideration is to get the poison out as rapidly and as thoroughly as possible. Delay may mean disaster. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will be found a most valuable and effective medicine to assail the intruder with. They never fail. They go at once to the seat of the trouble and work a permanent cure.

Lady Sneerwell—"Have your daughters accomplished much in music?" Unfortunate Father—"Yes—the lodgers below have moved."

Minard's Liniment for sale everywhere

"Yes, I have seen the day when Mr. Rich, the millionaire, did not have a pair of shoes to cover his feet." "And when was that, pray?" "At the time he was bathing."

SOZODONT Tooth Powder 25c

THINGS THE KING CAN DO

HE COULD STOP THE BOER WAR WITH A WORD.

His Majesty's Powers Are Far Wider Than Most People Imagine.

If you happen to have a nitre-mine in your back garden, the King is perfectly at liberty to send someone to dig out the mineral. The old law which gave the Crown this right has never been repealed. The enactment was made in days when saltpetre was a much rarer and more expensive commodity than it is at present, and when the very existence of the kingdom might depend upon a sufficient supply of gunpowder.

The King may be called the figurehead of the Constitution; but his powers—generally known as the Royal Prerogative—are

FAR WIDER THAN MOST

people suppose. If he chose to exert all the rights which are his in the letter of the law, he could create such a revolution in his realms as would tax Parliament's utmost powers to cope with.

Suppose that King Edward VII. made up his mind that the Boer war must be stopped at any sacrifice. He might make peace by royal proclamation, and hand over Cornwall to the Boers at the price of their laying down their arms. On the other hand, if he were, like his ancestor Edward III., never content unless fighting, he might proclaim war against France, with the object of forcing the return of Brittany to the British realm.

The law of England lays down that the Crown may not keep up an army of more than a certain size; but it does not make it obligatory to maintain any soldiers at all. Consequently, our King might disband the entire army, dismissing everyone, from the commander-in-chief down to the smallest drummer-boy. He could do the same thing with the navy, discharging admirals and A.B.'s alike; and then might render the country quite helpless by selling off

ALL THE SHIPS OF WAR,

all cannon, dockyard properties, and the millions of pounds' worth of coal, food, and stores which they and the military arsenals contain.

With regard to the royal prerogative over the services, it may be remembered that, less than thirty years ago, Queen Victoria did exercise her powers in very decided fashion. In 1872 there was a bill brought before Parliament to put an end to the purchase of commissions in the army. The House of Lords threw it out. But the power of the Crown overruled the decision of the Upper House, and purchase became a thing of the past.

When a criminal confined in gaol is released before the end of his term, it is by royal pardon. If the King pleased, he could immediately pardon all criminals, and so at once empty every gaol in the kingdom.

As for the Cabinet, which British subjects look upon as the actual governing power of the realm, it is not once mentioned in the British Constitution. It is perfectly within royal prerogative to turn the Cabinet out of office, and for the King to appoint his own ministers, choosing such as he pleases out of the Privy Council. George III. actually did this. Lord Bute

WAS HIS OWN CHOICE

as Prime Minister. Most of the Civil Servants rank in law as menial servants to the Crown, and could also be summarily dismissed.

Oxford, Cambridge, and other great universities owe their foundation, and the many special privileges they enjoy—such as returning members to Parliament, and freedom from certain taxes—to the Crown. The King, if he so desired, might tomorrow, by royal warrant, elevate each parish in the whole of these islands into a university, with the full privileges such institutions enjoy.

Or he might make a wider change still. He has the power immediately to elevate every single man, woman and child among his subjects to the peerage, and make every crossing-sweeper an earl and every tramp a duke

By the old statute known as "ne exeat regno," the King may, of his own authority, forbid any or certain of his subjects from leaving the country without permission, and, at the same time, he may command any subject who is residing abroad to at once return home. By way of enforcing the latter command, he is entitled to seize the property of the person who refuses to obey, and to enjoy the revenues arising from such property until the recalcitrant one returns.

All the realm of Britain, and the seas surrounding it, are supposed to be vested in the Crown. Consequently, if any subject

DIE WITHOUT HEIRS,

and without leaving a will, all his property reverts to the Crown. In the same way all treasure trove belongs to the Crown.

So, too, wrecks become Crown property; and certain royal creatures can be claimed by the Crown. The principal of these are whales, royal sturgeon, and swans. At one time no one but the King might own a swan, except by royal grant.

Just as the King may grant a charter to a university, so he may make a port, and, in doing so, trample on other ports' pet privileges, without let or hindrance. An instance in point is Poole, in Dorsetshire, which was made a port at the expense of Melcombe, which was at the time a place of some importance, but has since greatly diminished.

None but the King, or someone to whom he has delegated authority, may erect a beacon, or seamark; and another curious

PRIVILEGE OF THE CROWN

is that its agents may enter any man's land to erect fortifications, if such are deemed necessary for national protection. At present a number of most powerful forts lie hidden in the beautiful coverts of the Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, along the Cornish coast, just beyond Devonport.

The King is Patron Paramont of all benefices in England. If the patron of any living for any reason neglects to fill a vacant parish, the King is at liberty to appoint his own nominee, who will immediately take over the vacant living, and enjoy its revenues.—London Answers.

Mamie—"Trust her? You surely don't think she could keep your secret?" Josie—"Well, I've trusted her with other things and she kept them."

Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff.

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M. B. CONN
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Suffered With Tha
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Five Different
Literally Res
Death by
Kidney

Middleton, P.E.I., Dec —Mr. M. B. Connick, the well-known blacksmith of this place, known all over the Island as the man whom Dodd's Kidney Pills saved from death as by a miracle, has often been interviewed regarding his case and is ever ready to supply the facts.

"I had been a victim to kidney trouble for fifteen years before I took Dodd's Kidney Pills," said Mr. Connick in a recent conversation.

"Did you know it was Bright's Disease, Mr. Connick?"

"Not at first I didn't, but when I found it out I was startled, I can tell you. In those days, you know, Bright's Disease was incurable. I went to five different doctors. They could do no good. Finally my wife and I went to one who told us right out there was no use taking my money. I could not be cured. I felt that it was all over."

"How did you come to take Dodd's Kidney Pills?"

"Well, one day a customer and I were talking of the death of a neighbor, and my customer said he was quite sure if he had taken Dodd's Kidney Pills he would have been cured. That set me thinking. For the last six years I had been forced to hire a man to do my work. Well, I began to take Dodd's Kidney Pills and before I had finished the third box I was at work again. I can shoe a horse as well to-day as ever I could in my life."

"Do you mean to say that three boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills cured you of Bright's Disease of fifteen years' standing?"

"Yes, sir, that's exactly what I mean. I was so stiff and sore I could not stoop to pick up anything—couldn't put on my shoes. If my wife was here she would tell more about Dodd's Kidney Pills than I can."

Mr. Connick is now fifty-eight years old and the picture of health and strength.

A British patentee must be careful not to infringe on any of the specifications of the 1,544,419 patents already issued, or he will be liable to sixfold costs.

"So you are looking for a position," said the merchant to the youth with the high collar and noisy necktie. "What can you do?" "Oh, anything," replied the young man. "Of course, I don't expect a junior partnership at the start, but I want to be sure of an early rise." "Very well," replied the merchant, "I'll make you assistant caretaker. You will rise at four o'clock every morning and sweep the floors."

A Cure for Rheumatism.—The intrusion of uric acid into the blood vessels is a fruitful cause of rheumatic pains. This irregularity is owing to a deranged and unhealthy condition of the liver. Any one subject to this painful affection will find a remedy in Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. Their action upon the kidneys is pronounced and most beneficial, and by restoring healthy action, they correct impurities in the blood.

Gladys—"Did he kiss you by surprise?" Ethel—"Dear me, yes! Why I hardly had time to pucker up my lips."

Stops the Cough and works off the Cold.
Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No Cure, No Pay. Price 25 cents.

Young folks grow most when they are in love. It increases their sighs wonderfully.

I was cured of Acute Bronchitis by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
J. M. CAMPBELL.
Bay of Islands.

I was cured of Facial Neuralgia by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
WM. DANIELS.
Springhill, N. S.

I was cured of Chronic Rheumatism by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
GEORGE TINGLEY.
Albert Co., N. B.

The Groom (very wealthy)—"Why did you marry an ordinary chap like me?" The Bride—"I haven't the slightest idea; mamma managed the whole affair."

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Special prices in lots
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WORK AT HOME.
We want the services of men, women and children to work for us, whole or spare time—knitting men's socks and other articles at their own homes. We supply yarn and material, and send in. For further
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Cilead preparation. It
ores, Chapped Hands,
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cal ne Co., Toronto.

AND CANCER.

ar-general for Ireland
ly 20 per cent. of the
Emerald Isle die of old
e, he says; 212 Irish
n now living over 100
proportion far above
of most nations. In
prevalence of cancer
Report notes the evi-
most prosperous, the
and least Celtic coun-
st from this dread dis-
ose sections where the
is purest and a butter-
milk, meal and potato diet is most prevalent are most exempt from cancer. It would be a curious thing were it established, not only, as at present seriously suggested, that the humble potato is a counter-active to cancer, because there existed for three centuries in several European countries a most malicious prejudice against the wholesome tuber.

Skepticism.—This is unhappily an age of skepticism, but there is one point upon which persons acquainted with the subject agree, namely, that Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil is a medicine which can be relied upon to cure a cough, remove pain, heal sores of various kinds, and benefit any inflamed portion of the body to which it is applied.

In the time of James I. there were no fewer than 69 Royal forests in Great Britain.

For Over Fifty Years
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used by millions of mothers for their children while teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic, regulates the stomach and bowels, and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Sold by druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

There are in the United Kingdom only 603 farms of over 1,000 acres apiece.

There never was, and never will be, a universal panacea, in one remedy, for all ills to which flesh is heir—the very nature of many curatives being such that were the germs of other and differently seated diseases rooted in the system of the patient—what would relieve one ill in him would aggravate the other. We have, however, in Quinine Wine, when obtainable in a sound unadulterated state, a remedy for many and grievous ills. By its gradual and judicious use, the frailest systems are led into convalescence and strength, by the influence which Quinine exerts on Nature's own restoratives. It relieves the drooping spirits of those with whom a chronic state of mental despondency and lack of interest in life is a disease, and, by tranquilizing the nerves, disposes to sound and refreshing sleep—imparts vigor to the action of the blood, which being stimulated, courses throughout the veins, strengthening the healthy animal functions of the system, thereby making activity a necessary result, strengthening the frame, and giving life to the digestive organs, which naturally demand increased substance—result, improved appetite. Northrop & Lyman of Toronto, have given to the public their superior Quinine Wine at the usual rate, and, gauged by the opinion of scientists, this wine approaches nearest perfection of any in the market. All druggists sell it.

India holds the world's record as a cattle owner with 48½ million beasts.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia.

Dundee, Scotland, exports over 1,500 tons of marmalade a year.

Train up a servant in the way she should go, and the first thing you know she's gone.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

A MODEL CHILD.

Dickie—"Papa, were you a gooder boy'n me when you were as little as me?"

Pa—"Yes, indeed, Dickie. I was always a very good boy; but, somehow or other, I had a great many serious and painful misunderstandings with my parents."

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury
as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.
Sold by Druggists, price 75c per bottle.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Three rivers as big as the Rhine would just equal in volume the Ganges, three Ganges the Mississippi, and two Mississippis the Amazon.

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

The foreign population of the British Isles numbers 198,000. Germans hold the first place in point of numbers, Russians second, French third.