" declares Margery, slowly.
ange for her her reasons ?"
one," says Tommy. " But

derstand that there are to
his case," interrupts Mar-
ot have Muriel's motives
ed. Do you hear !"
discovered it," cries Mrs.
ertain moment.
s Angelica, eagerly.
I was going to say to Meg
into the room. It escaped
w I have it—recaptured.
with you."
he is left upon the field
ured frame of mind.
ning if I can't discuss the
amongst themselves," he
tly. " It is all very fine
to be so independent,
sin, and a sort of a guar-
in fact, I feel as if they
pon my shoulders now,
is, of course, too much
late purchase to see any-
nose, and Peter" (mildly)
est fool I know !"
the twins bursts into a
able laughter.
ot well," he says slowly.
etter look to it. If that
ontinues much longer, I
or the consequences."
ay, Blanche ?" asks Dick,
dresses each of the twins
es.
back, somebody, mildly
ts Mr. Paulyn generally,
g. Now then, my poor
Well enough to ex-

cries May, "that what
of Peter is exactly what
sterday, that you were
nhung.' That was how

ovement on my little
Mr. Paulyn, unmoved.
anting, is still a speci-
d to think me the big-
nly proves the truth of
You agree with me,
into the foreground the
among the window-

, in a tone that warns
be unsafe to follow up

matter with you this
asks Margery, who had
ong. "You look to me
uldn't think you would
"

," returns Mr. Bellew.
thin him, and his anger

matters stand."
ave the hardihood even
aks out he in a vehe-
s wrath at last getting
He does not wait for
, but turns abruptly
mazed and indignant,
hispers to herself, with
im !"

ONTINUED.)

ICEBERGS.

e Gets Amongst Moun of Ice.

ays:—The Norwegian
apt. Cram, which arriv-
Wellington, N. Z., re-
9, when in latitude 51,
50, 45 west, she sighted
ach of which appeared
nd one mile in length.
tween 40 and 50 more
m 300 to 800 feet high
to one mile in length.
m. that day icebergs
at it was impossible to
safety he was obliged
, in which position it
ght the next morning;
s found to be complete-
icebergs, extending
d reach. Fortunately
breeze, by which she
of the ice, but only by
w had to steer the ves-
They finally managed
arch 11 in lat. 50.06 S.
sailing between the

glish Club Life.

ish club member, with
a year, involves econo-
ge American would be
that by going to work
more. It means lodg-
reet, at considerably
ings would cost here,
ngs, a luncheon some-
at the club or at the
possible to dress de-
so that the young man
club the year round ;
little run in the coun-
riend's yacht or his
is or in Norway.
don clubs of the quiet
e d'hote dinner at 3s.
have in addition for
pint of excellent clar-
ners at clubs of very
go beyond the table
laret. Even men in
rcumstances are con-
xious that the meal
ve shillings.
often provided for a
ber of small income
he club or elsewhere,
s a matter of obliga-

ch a man excite no
case is too common.
epted life at $1,500,
age Englishman sees
such acceptance, or
ss of a man perhaps
ns.—[San Francisco

ked.

out to start to the
" Let me see—here
s the lunch-basket
glass, and here's the
I guess we've got
hildren, we haven'
ve we?"
(standing meekly
Shall I get in now,

Why, sure enough,
as something lack-
e.

HEALTH.

Diseases Not Due to Microbes.

The microbic origin of infectious diseases was one of the greatest discoveries in medical history. It has largely revolutionized medical science.

There was a further advance when it was proved that the harm done by the microbes was not direct, but due to a violent poison they produced, somewhat analogous to the poisons normally thrown off by the cells of our tissues; and these are innocuous so long as they are duly carried out of the system by the eliminating organs.

It was at first thought that the discovery would cause a revolution in medical practice, and enable physicians to cure patients with medicines which would destroy the parasitic microbes. What may be done in this direction is still among the problems of the future.

The chief advantages of the discovery are that it emphasizes the supreme importance of general sanitation, and that it may lead to extending the principle of vaccination to most infectious diseases. But according to Doctor Trouessart, of Paris,—we quote from the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal,—we are in danger of carrying the microbe pathogeny too far, and of overlooking the part that belongs to the organism.

He affirms that it will always be impossible to explain all pathology by microbes, and emphasizes the fact that the functions of the living cells themselves may be perverted or destroyed by other agents than micro-organisms. When the functions of cells are perverted, the excesses of secreted or excreted matter become real poisons, similar in their effects to those produced by microbes.

The fact is the cells of the tissues have an organization and properties similar to those of the microbe, and when their functions are diseased become veritable parasites, which the organism hastens to eliminate by the well-known process of inflammation.

All poisons, whatever their origin, must be eliminated by the kidneys, the intestine or the skin. The fact that the cells and microbes are so similar in constitution and properties indicates that it is unsafe to administer remedies that would be effective against the microbes.

Pastor Kneipp's Water-Cure.

Pastor Kneipp, the famous water doctor from Worrishofen, in Bavaria, the modern place of pilgrimage of the water enthusiasts of all countries, is now in Berlin, lecturing to his followers on the wonderful effect of his water-cures. Says a Berlin letter to the London Daily News: Nearly two thousand persons assembled to hear from Father Kneipp's own lips the mysteries of his system. Pastor Kneipp makes a very sympathetic impression. His long black cassock covers a medium-sized strong body, on which rests an energetic head. Although his hair is rather gray his bushy eyebrows are deep black. From the way he holds himself and his lively movements, nobody would take Pastor Kneipp to be 72 years of age. He is a wandering advertisement for his doctrine, to which, as he says, he owes his life and strength, and which he has lived up to since 1842.

He said that what could not be cured with water was altogether incurable. Water was the panacea for all these evils. A good remedy must be everywhere easily available, especially to the poor. It must be able to be borne, and suited to the different complaints. Herr Kneipp comes to the conclusion that hydropathy, and especially his method, unites all these advantages. He insisted that he was not a medical man. He had never read a medical work. He himself had been given up as incurable forty-seven years ago. He had cured himself with water, and his love for his neighbor had led him to apply the same cure to his fellow men. And good results had proved that his method was the only right one. Finally, Pastor Kniepp pleaded for the use of simple food and clothes, as these things, combined with the use of water, would produce a healthy human race. For Pastor Kneipp hydropathy is the alone saving principle which can be applied everywhere. As one wants nothing but a bath, a watering can, two rough towels, and water, one can apply it at home and in the hospital. It costs nothing and needs no fine building. "In my old wash-house," he said, "I recently treated a minister and a general from Munich, and both would rather remain in the old washhouse than in the new bathhouse."

Tomatoes and Cancer.

One of the delusions that is prevalent in many parts of the country is that tomatoes are the direct causes of cancer, and that those who eat them are pretty sure to run the risk of developing cancerous growth at some time. So fixed is this delusion in parts of the country that people will not touch this most healthful of vegetables. The fact is there is no connection at all between eating tomatoes and cancers. Those who eat plenty of tomatoes are now more apt to outlive those who do not, for the vegetable has a direct and beneficial action upon the stomach and kidneys. They should be eaten whenever possible. Recently it was announced that the London Cancer hospital had forbidden all patients in it from eating tomatoes, as they were a predisposing cause to cancer. In response to numerous inquiries if there was any foundation to the rumor the chairman of the hospital committee, Dr. Mardden, announced officially that "tomatoes neither predispose to nor excite cancer formation, and that they are not injurious to those suffering from the disease, but on the contrary are a wholesome article of diet particularly so if cooked." This should be sufficient to dispel the illusion in this country too.

Liberal Use of Butter.

No dietetic reform would be more conducive to improve health among children, and especially to the prevention of tuberculosis, than an increase in the consumption of butter, says an exchange. Our children are trained to take butter with great restraint, and are told that it is greedy and extravagant to eat much of it. It is regarded as a luxury, and as giving a relish to bread rather than in itself a most important article of food. Even to private families of the wealthier classes these rules prevail at table, and at schools, and at public boarding establishments they receive strong reinforcements from economical motives. Minute allowances of butter are served out to those who would gladly consume five times the quantity. Where the house income makes this a matter of necessity there is little more to be said than that it is often a costly economy. Enfeebled health may easily entail a far heavier expense than a more liberal breakfast would have done.

Cod liver oil costs more than butter, and it is, besides, often not resorted to until too late. Instead of restricting a child's consumption of butter, encourage it. Let the limit be the power of digestion and the tendency to biliousness. Most children may be allowed to follow their own inclinations and will not take more than is good for them. The butter should be of the best and taken cold. Bread, dry toast, biscuits, potatoes and rice are good vehicles. Children well supplied with butter feel the cold less than others and resist the influenza better. They do not "catch cold" so easily. In speaking of children, I by no means intend to exclude other ages, especially young adults. Grown-up persons, however, take other animal fats more freely than most children do, and are, besides, allowed much freer selection as to both quality and quantity. It is not so necessary to raise any clamor for reform on their account.

Look to The Diet.

The cholera increases in Russia and else where as the weather grows warmer, and we must be prepared for it in this country as the hot season approaches. We must look to our diet as never before, for in the face of every dread disease we must consider as all important the diet, sponging, the bath and similar hygienic measures. One of the truest things about medicine to-day is that we have less medication and more of proper diet and surroundings. Put the patient in the most favorable condition to resist disease and it is better than taking drugs. The truly scientific advances of medicine are based upon this. Medication comes in vogue as a fad or fashion, but diet and sanitary surroundings are always the same. Science has stamped out of existence by hygiene the dreaded plagues that devastated vast populations, and cholera and yellow fever are prevented from sweeping across the country by quarantine, sanitary surroundings and proper diet. Small-pox no longer spreads its contagion from one community to another because vaccination has been used as a shield to stop it. Puerperal fever that formerly threatened the life and happiness of so many thousands of homes, is now prevented by its great enemy, asepis. Cholera must be fenced in by quarantine, but everyone can help to place himself in a favorable condition by looking well to the diet. Nourishing diet is essential, and this must not be neglected for any mixture that may tempt the palate more. If our bodies are nourished well they can resist disease better.

A. S. Atkinson, M. D.

Just to Fix the Style in Her Head.

She was seated before a long mirror in one of the largest millinery establishments in Toronto. Two dainty creations of lace, straw, and flowers were balanced on her finger tips. She was gravely comparing their merits, while the saleswoman stood by smiling. And so her dearest friend caught sight of her.

"Why, Dora, you here! Come help me to decide. How much did you say this one was?"

"Only $39.42, awfully cheap," cooed the saleswoman.

"I'll try it on."

The young lady turned to the glass; her friend watched her with envious eyes. How did Flora ever get so much money?

"Lovely!" cried the saleswoman, as she turned from the mirror.

"Which do you prefer, Dora?"

"They are both lovely," said Dora, in a faint, nothing-to-eat-since-morning voice.

"And quite reasonable, too," went on Flora. "Now, if I decide to take this one, could I have that cluster of flowers moved just a trifle to the right?"

"Certainly, nothing easier."

"I'll try on the other before deciding."

Dora could bear no more. She fled to the elevator. How poor and cheap looked the hat she had put on so proudly an hour ago, and she had meant to crush Flora with it!

Two hours later they met on King street. Dora glanced at her friend's head.

"You had it sent home, I see," she said.

"Sent home nothing, goosie; didn't you see me wink at you? Why, I had only 49 cents in my pocketbook all the time, but my old hat had to be trimmed over. I did it to gain time to fix the styles in my head. I can do it beautifully now. Here's a sale of imported flowers for 17 cents a bunch; let's go in and look at them."

They went.

The British Columbia Trouble.

Mr. Theodore Davies, the Premier of British Columbia, proposes to try if sober argument will not allay the feeling of irritation that has caused the mainlanders to talk of secession. He will beard the lion in its lair by defending the policy of his Government at the centres of excitement. If he determines promptly to deal justly by all the interests involved, that decision will accomplish more than any amount of talk. The postponement of the redistribution cannot now be prevented, but it should be remedied at the earliest possible moment. More than that, the people should be assured that no action will be taken regarding the Parliament buildings until a representative House shall have pronounced upon the scheme. Such concessions as these should preserve the unity of the province, which is of more importance than any party victory.

His Last Will.

An Irishman, who was pretty well to do but who had been ill for a long time, thought he was going to die.

Calling his wife to his bedside, he said to her: "Well, me darling, I think I'm going to leave thee."

"Sure then, Pat," said she; "and if you do, what shall I do with the money?"

"Faith," said he: "bury me clean and decent."

"And what shall I do with the remainder?" she asked.

"Spend it at leisure," replied Pat."

"Shall I spend it before we bury you, or when we are coming back?"

"No bedad," said Pat; "spend it when we're going, for I shan't be with you coming back."

BRIEF AND INTERESTING.

Quakers are said to be unusually long-lived.

Verdi, the composer, is the son of an innkeeper.

Some species of seaweed grow to the length of 500 yards.

Spain has fewer daily papers than any other European country.

A load of two tons can be readily carried by a full grown elephant.

"Ouida," the novelist, was born at Bury St. Edmund's fifty-three years ago.

Consumption is believed to be more prevalent in Ireland than in either England or Wales.

The Chinese wall is more than 1,2 0 miles long, generally over 30 feet high and 24 feet thick.

Those who notice the rapid growth of their finger-nails should be happy, for it is considered to indicate good health.

Pigeons were employed in the mail service in Bible times. They acted as letter carriers when Joshua invaded Palestine.

Lilies are raised as a regular field crop in the Bermudas. In one of the largest fields over 100,000 may be seen in bloom at the same time.

The venom of the cobra if swallowed is harmless.

Philadelphia is now to have a college of undertakers.

Silk hats were first manufactured with success in 1830 in France.

According to Andrew Lang, Great Britain has 100,000 novelists.

The Czar's throne is said to be worth four times as much as Queen Victoria's.

Good players of the harp are said to be the scarcest of all musical performers.

The great anæsthetic, chloroform, was discovered by Guthrie, 1831, and was first employed in surgical operations in 1846.

The best Chinese razors are made of old horseshoes.

The Pope dines habitually alone, and on the plainest of food.

Only 10 per cent. of German schoolboys are said to go in for athletics.

The Orloff diamond is believed to be responsible for sixty-seven murders.

Light-haired people, as a rule, are longer lived than the dark-haired.

The total import of palm oil into England is about 50,000 tons, valued at over £1,000,000.

More tobacco is used by the Austrians in proportion to the population than by any other nation.

Of the total number of ships which annually pass through the Suez Canal nearly 80 per cent. fly the British flag.

A French prince advertises that he desires to sell his title and arms, "the whole guaranteed by authentic parchments of the reign of Henry IV."

Fifty millions sterling are supposed to be lying at this moment in the hands of banks and banking companies in Scotland in the shape of unclaimed deposits.

A quarter of each generation die before attaining the age of seventeen; but a man thirty-two years of age may expect to live for another thirty-two.

The most powerful and heaviest gun in the world weighs 135 tons, is 40 feet in length, and has a 13½-inch bore. Its range is 11 miles, with a projectile weighing 1,800 lb.

Sir Andrew Clark, M.D., once prescribed by cable, for a patient in Victoria, British Columbia. The messages passed between the London doctor and his patient almost hourly.

The Emperor of China is the supreme head of his subjects, and is supposd to receive his instructions as to the management of the vast territory committed to his charge by decrees from heaven.

Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P., who has been fighting the dock unionists at Hull, and his brother, Mr. Arthur Wilson, are the largest private shipowners in the world, and two of the richest men in the country.

The laughing jackass, when warning his feathered mates that daybreak is at hand, utters a cry resembling a group of boys shouting, whooping and laughing in a wild chorus.

One of the few women who were privileged to call Mr. Gladstone "William" died recently near Liverpool in her eighty-seventh year. She was Mary Ann McKean, and for more than half a century she was in the service of the Gladstone family.

The producing power of the banana is forty-four times as great as that of the potato. The dried fruit is readily converted into nutritious flour; it may be also manufactured into sausages; beer can be made from it; while the skin can be turned into cloth, and the juice made to do service either as ink or vinegar.

The tobacco pipe is never seen in Spain in use among the natives, nor are tobacco pipes to be purchased in any of the shops. Cigars and cigarettes, manufactured in the Government factories in Spain, or imported from Cuba or the Philippines, can alone be procured, and are universally smoked by the people.

A postage stamp, equal in value to five cents, is pasted each week in a little blank book which every servant girl in Germany carries. The stamp is the donation of her mistress, enforced by law. Should the girl get sick, the stamps are redeemed by the Government, or she may keep them unredeemed until she is old, when the Government pays their face value.

A curious incident connected with the Servian army is the manner in which most of the regiments carry the big drum. It is not, as in most other countries, slung in front of the man who plays it, but is placed upon a small two-wheeled cart drawn by a large dog, which has been so trained that it keeps its place even through the longest and most tedious of marches.

A Canadian has invented a simple and ingenious device to be attached to all bottles containing poisons. It consists of a mechanism fastened to the bottom of the bottle, and so arranged that every time the bottle is lifted or moved it rings a little bell. With a death's head for the eye, and a kind of death rattle for the ear, it seems as if accidents ought to be entirely avoided.

Prince Odescalchi, who lives in Rome, is renowned for his great wealth, and, be it added for his great generosity. It seems to have been supposed that he was almost as simple as rich, for he recently received two letters asking for the modest sum of 50,000 francs in each case, a refusal to be followed by his immediate assassination. The money was in each instance to be put in a certain hiding-place as intimated. The Prince fulfilled each request, but at a distance the police were on watch disguised as monks, and pounced upon the innocent ones as soon as they had secured the packages.

Speaking of the good which a singer may unconsciously accomplish by exercise of her vocal powers, Mme. Antoinette Sterling said that one evening at a concert she sang "Darby and Joan," and a few days afterwards she was told by a friend that a gentleman and his wife who happened to be present were so affected by the song that they had become reconciled to each other after a quarrel which had made their home wretched for months.

A curious list has recently been made of the Kings and Emperors of Europe who have been overtaken by misfortune. It appears that 364 have been ousted from their thrones, 108 have been condemned to death and executed, twenty-one have committed suicide, thirty-four are on record as having been placed under restraint in consequence of having become insane, 123 have been killed in warfare, twenty-five have been tortured to death, and 251 have been officially declared to have been assassinated. The number of monarchs who are suspected of having been assassinated is infinitely greater. It will be seen from this that the possession of a throne is not without its extremely objectionable and disagreeable features.

THE CAMPANIA'S DECORATIONS.

A Bright Englishwoman Did the Work Which Has Excited the Wonder and Admiration of All.

For the past week or so the papers have had much to say about the beautiful decoration of the new Cunard steamship, the Campania. The following letter from England will give added interest to the details.

It is not perhaps known in America that the magnificent new Cunarder which arrived in New York on Saturday on her maiden voyage, having made the fastest initial trip on record, was entirely upholstered, decorated and fitted up by a woman; and yet such is the case. Miss Charlotte Robinson, decorator to the Queen—the first business woman to receive recognition from Her Majesty—holds a foremost place in her line to-day, which was won by no "fair field or favor," but by determination, capacity and perseverance, added to true artistic instincts, and a natural and highly cultivated gift of design.

It is now eight years since a bright, ambitious, self-confident girl, equipped with an excellent education, found herself confronted with the problem of earning her own living, or, as she says, "sitting idle, living on a little." She had received a thorough training in art, design and modeling. With characteristic independence she at once determined to strike out in a new direction, scorning the well-worn way of governess or "companion."

In spite of the ominous shakings of head and warnings from her family and friends she rented some rooms in her native city of Manchester, at £200, or $1,000 a year. She stocked them with artistic furniture. Some laughed at her "fad," others held up their hands in horror at her for not hiding her identity, but boldly putting her name on her door, and she was reproached by all for the "degradation of serving in her own shop." There ensued many days of trial and discouragement; when no sales were made, when stock accumulated and became "out of date" on her hands, and when crafty dealers turned her inexperience to their own advantage; and when the intrepid, and, as yet, not hopeless young dealer was everywhere greeted by her pessimistic friends with that most exasperating formula: "I told you so." Finally a few orders came in, and were filled with such originality and boldness of design, artistic workmanship and thoroughness in execution, that gradually they multiplied, and many who had scoffed at this new and "unfeminine departure" came to entreat Miss Robinson's advice and assistance in the decoration of their homes.

With the Manchester exhibition came Miss Robinson's chance; her stand of furniture and fittings, many of which were altogether novel, and had been made from her own graceful design, proved one of the most attractive in the building and drew the attention of royalty, with the result that the appointment of "Decorator to the Queen" was conferred upon her. Miss Robinson's success was now assured, and her influence on the English standard of taste in the interior decoration became extended by her acceptance of the post of adviser in such matters to the readers of the London Queen, and by the opening of a branch of her business at 20 Brook street, London, and between which dainty depot of what might truly be called decorative "confections" and her establishment in Manchester, Miss Robinson divides her week.

Miss Robinson does not confine herself merely to furnishing the abodes of the newly-married or replacing the commonplace with the artistic in English homes. She revels in mammoth orders, such as fitting up hotels, theatres, etc., and now her latest achievement is the superintending of all the interior fitting and decorations of the Campania, the largest and finest ship afloat. "It was such fun," she says, in her bright way, "to lay my plans before the grave and reverend directors of the Cunard Company, before whom I was the first woman artist who had ever appeared." Their surprise was overcome by their admiration for the beauty and originality of her scheme of decoration, which they heartily approved. Miss Robinson's personality is radiant with the charm of never-failing spirits and vivacity. Work has not spoiled her "infinite variety;" nor has the battle of business life banished her true gentleness and femininity.

He Might Venture a Tip.

"If I might venture," said the guest, in a low tone, as the dignified waiter assisted him in the matter of putting on his overcoat, "to give you a tip—"

"Yes, sir," said the waiter, relaxing considerably.

"I should advise you to try earnestly to break yourself of the habit of fingering your mustache in a severe, abstracted manner while you are taking a dinner order. My hat please. Thanks.

THE NARONIC'S JAIL-BIRDS.

Escaped Convicts Sank With the Ill-Fated Ship.

It has just come to light that among the unfortunates who went to a watery grave on the ill-fated White Star freighter Naronic, which has never been heard from since she sailed from Liverpool three months ago, were several criminals and jail-birds. Some were convicts who had broken jail. It is a common practice among criminals who want to keep out of reach of the police to sail on freight steamers or cattle boats plying between New York and foreign ports. They go under assumed names and no one knows them. They make a few trips until they believe it safe to venture ashore when the officers of the law have ceased all efforts to find them.

WHEN THE NARONIC LEFT LIVERPOOL

on February 11 there were aboard of her at least four well-known criminals. Besides these, it is now learned that a dozen or more of men who used to hang around the cattle yards in New York, were lost on the Nartonic.

On the morning of July 8, last year, nine convicts made their escape from Massachusetts State Prison at Charlestown in a more daring manner. The attempt had been planned for months before the opportunity came to carry it out. The ring-leaders were James M. Bradley, alias "Walter Maitland," and "Williams," one of the most desperate criminals in the land. The men dug through the prison floor to a sewer which drained the prison. They were led by Bradley, who was armed with two revolvers. The sewer was half full of water, but the convicts swam a distance of 1,500 feet to the mouth of the sewer, which opened into a railroad freight yard. There they broke into a shed, stole all the cloth s and overalls belonging to the switchmen and railroad employees and made good their escape. Some of the men were subsequently recaptured, but it is known that at least three out of the nine who beat their way out of the Charleston prison met their fate on board the ill-fated Naronic.

THESE WERE RINGLEADERS BRADLEY,

Jack Conners and Daniel Mullen, all notorious crooks. "Jim" Bradley was a burglar with a long record, a notorious thief and confidence man and was considered one of the cleverest safe breakers in the country. He was arrested for numerous Post-office robberies in New England towns and a few years ago made his escape from the Greenfield jail in Massachusetts. He broke out of the Charlestown prison twice. At the time of his first escape last July he was serving a five years' sentence for burglarizing a safe in a jewelry store in Boston. He had been in prison scarcely four months when he led a gang of nine convicts, including himself, to freedom and liberty. On the 30th of last October Bradley was arrested in New York by Detectives Aloncle and Formosa of Inspector McLaughlin's staff. He gave his name as Henry Langdon and at first stoutly protested that a mistake had been made. He was positively identified, however, and gave in when he saw the game was up. Bradley was a fine-looking fellow, slick as they make them and every inch of a gentleman in his behavior. This was on November 25. Since his second escape the police of this and other cities have been hunting high and low for him. Within the week the authorities have received information that Bradley had skipped on the Naronic's last voyage and lost his life on her.

ICELAND AND ITS PEOPLE.

The Country That is Almost Devoid of Comfort.

Iceland is little better than a desert. The peculiar configuration renders intercourse difficult and, along with the barrenness of the soil, makes the conditions of existence extremely hard. People with so little to make life attractive might be pardoned if they were to sink into a stolid indifference to everything but the struggle to keep alive. The size of Iceland is greater than that of Ireland, and the population numbers 70,000 souls; but the only inhabitable portion is a narrow strip of pasture land extending like a girdle round the coast and up the deep, narrow fiords.

The interior of the country is a howling waste of sand and ice, traversed by darting glacial rivers, and utterly incapable of supporting more than a few scattered inhabitants. Grass is the only considerable crop. The hills and valleys are treeless and afford at best but a scanty pasturage for horses, cows and sheep. Roads and bridges scarcely exist. A Danish merchant at Reykjavik has a wheeled carriage, but in the interior such a conveyance is unknown and would be useless if known. The backs of horses are the only means of transportation across country.

Small boats carry travelers over dangerous rivers, while the horses swim on ahead. Hardly anything that ministers to comfort, to say nothing of luxury, is produced in Iceland. Every nail in an Icelandic house, every pane of glass, every bit of wooden flooring, every insignificant bit of furniture, has to be transported laboriously from one of the seaports to its destination.

That the Icelanders are poor goes without saying. There is little or no home market, for every Icelander has the same products to sell as his neighbors. The circulation of money is, therefore, very small. If a farmer has direct dealings with the agents for foreign markets and is sufficiently prosperous to have a little surplus each year he may handle a little money, but in general the trading at the seaports is literally trading. An Icelander barters a certain number of horses or sheep or rolls of dried fish or bales of hay for a supply of groceries and other necessaries of life.

His First Experience.

A country boy who had been brought up in a remote district of Scotland had occasion to accompany his father to a village near which a branch line of railway passed. The morning after his arrival, when sauntering in the garden behind the house in which they were staying, he beheld with wondering eyes a train go by. For a moment he stood staring at it with astonishment, and then, rushing into the house, he said:—"Faither! faither! come out; there's a smiddy ran off w' a raw o' horses, an' its awa' doon by the back o' the toon!

Right at the foot of a great glacier in New Zealand there is a tropical growth of plant life and a hot spring, with water issuing forth at a temperature of over 100 degrees.