CURRENT TOPICS.

In the *Treitschrift jur Analytische Chemie*, Kuyper records the fact that he has ascertained by distillation the presence of alcohol in the brain and liver of two persons who had fallen into the water when drunk and had been drowned. In one brain he found about one-fifth of a cubic inch of alcohol, and in one liver a little over half a cubic inch. The results of Herr Kuyper's researches are considered of high importance from a medico-legal point of view, as permitting an absolute demonstration of complete alcoholic excitation in cases where true insanity is claimed as a cause for crime.

Andorre, or Andorra, is not only the oldest republic, but the oldest State, in Europe. Its present organization dates from the end of the eighth century, when Charlemagne, in his expedition against the Moors, conferred the privileges of an independent government on the inhabitants of the Andorra valley, midway between France and Spain, for their fidelity and devotion in conducting him through the passes of the Pyrenees. One of its two chief officers is named by the French Government, another by the Bishop of Urgel, in Spain; and it is in connection with the Bishop's nomination that a difficulty has arisen which threatens to bring about a crisis in the affairs of the microscopic republic.

Referring to some recent expert testimony as to blood stains, the *Microscope* says: "Human blood cannot be told from dog's blood, except under favorable conditions, and not invariably then." Mr. Woodward, of Washington, says: "The average of all the measurements of human blood I have made is rather larger than the average of all the measurements of dog's blood. But it is not rare to find specimens of dog's blood in which the corpucles range so large that their average size is larger than that of many samples of human blood." When it is remembered that the measurements of human blood by so-called high authorities vary from 1-3050 to 1-4630 of an inch, expert testimony on this subject takes on a serious aspect, and juries should receive it with great caution.

In illustration of the quality with which Gen. Gordon has to deal, it is related that in 1821 Ismail, son of Mehemet Ali, the conqueror of the Soudan, was ordered by his father to collect the tribute due from the tribes of Bedouins of Shendy on the Nile, half way between Berber and Khartoum. Ismail summoned a chieftain known as the Tiger, and told him to furnish a large amount of forage and fodder in lieu of a money payment. Next morning Ismail and his troops found with satisfaction piles of the stuff demanded placed around the camp, but their satisfaction was short lived. The stuff was soon set on fire, and those not burned were picked off by men lying in wait behind the burning piles. Mehemet, to avenge his roasted son, razed the town of Shendy, but the Tiger made tracks in good time into the fastnesses of the interior.

Dr. Charles Robert's report to the Anthropometric Committee, as to the average bodily growth of Englishmen, was based on the measurements of over 53,000 individuals, and contains some facts of general interest. Thus, it appears that between the ages of 11½ and 14½ girls are taller, and between 12½ and 15½ are heavier than boys of the same age. The public school boy at 14 averages nearly seven inches more in height than the industrial school boy at the same age. Prize winners are found to have a decided advantage in height. The curious circumstance is stated that Fellows of the Royal Society are more than two inches above the average height. It is not stated whether they held their heads higher before the fellowship was conferred or afterward. One of the chief objects of the investigation appears to be to enable parents to note in their children any departure from the normal standard, so that the trouble may be rectified by the early use of hygienic measures, etc.

An attempt at cremation at Cardiff, Wales, came before the Glamorganshire Assizes, where Dr. Price, described as a Welsh Druid, was charged with unlawfully attempting to burn the body of his infant child after neglecting to give notice to the coroner of its death. Presiding Justice Stephen charged the Grand Jury that a person who burns instead of buries a dead body does not commit a criminal act unless he does it in such a manner as to amount to a public nuisance. The Justice, after the fullest examination of the authorities, had come to the conclusion that cremation could not be considered even a misdemeanor, and he decided that to burn a dead body decently and inoffensively is lawful. He said that every practice which startles or jars upon the religious sentiments of the majority of the population is not for that reason a misdemeanor at common law. This decision will tend to call attention to the subject of cremation and make it as much of a sensation in Old England as it seems to be just now in New England.

Prof. Hull, who has returned with his party from Palestine, brings with him materials for the construction of a geological map of the Holy Land very much in advance of anything which could hitherto be attempted. The Professor is of opinion that at the time of the Exodus there was a continuous connection of the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. As regards the Dead Sea, he has discovered that it formerly stood at an elevation of 1,400 feet above its present level—that is to say, 150 feet above the level of the Mediterranean. The history of this gradual lowering of the waters will form a special feature in Prof. Hull's forthcoming report. He has also found evidence of a chain of ancient lakes in the Sinaitic district, and of another chain in the centre of the Wady Arabah, not far from the watershed. The terraces of the Jordan have been examined, the most important one being 600 feet above the present surface of the Dead Sea.

Charles I. was the first English sovereign who had a statue raised to him in London. It stands in Whitehall, the work of Hubert le Seueur in 1638. London next stood indebted to Tobias Rustat, a page of the back stairs, for the statues of Charles II. and James II. There are two of Charles II., one in front of Chelsea Hospital by Gibbons, and one at Windsor. One of James II. by Gibbons, the best of the royal statues, stands in a quiet spot at the back of Whitehall Chapel. William III. next finds an equestrian statue in St. James' square by Bacon, and Queen Ann three, one in front of St. Paul's and two in the squares called after her. George I. stands on the campanile of Bloomsbury Church, and there are two of George III., a very effective one by Bacon in the courtyard of Somerset House and an equestrian one by Wyatt in Pall Mell. George IV., by Chantry, finds place on one of the pedestals in front of the National Gallery, William IV. in Cannon street, and Queen Victoria on the Royal Exchange. There are two of Prince Albert, one by Bacon on the Holborn Viaduct, and one under the canopy opposite Albert Hall by the Irish sculptor Foley, which is greatly admired.

All æsthetic England is now in great grief over the prospective sale and probable scattering of the magnificent Marlborough collection of pictures which have hung, some of them for nearly two centuries, on the walls of Blenheim Palace. Though the house is only eight miles from Oxford the gallery has been famous mainly by reputation, and is familiar to but few. Only one of the pictures, "The Fortune Tellers," by Reynolds, ever has been exhibited in London. Foremost among the treasures is the "Madonna dei Ansidei," painted in 1505 for the chapel of the Ansidei family in the Church of the Servet at Perugia, and pronounced the most precious Raphael existing in any private collection. Then there are four by Rubens—his own portrait, his full-length portrait of Helena Fourment, the "Lot with his Wife and Daughters" and the "Return of the Holy Family from Egypt." Next in value are Vandyke's portrait of Charles I., which was in the collection of that unfortunate King, another Vandyke, the picture of Lord Strafford and his Secretary, and half a dozen of the best examples of Sir Joshua Reynolds. These are but specimen bricks in a collection the gems of which the British Government will try to buy and keep. But it would seem as if here was a chance for the members of the C. P. R. Syndicate.

Facts and Figures.

At present about 19,000 persons are exiled to Siberia annually, and about 60 per cent. are nobles.

In France there are 2,150 lady artists, of whom 602 are oil painters, 107 sculptors, 193 miniature painters, and 754 painters on porcelain.

Russia produces annually about $4,000,000 worth of honey, or over 18 000 tons, besides 5,000 lbs. of wax, worth $2 000,000. It is nearly all consumed in the empire, however.

There are said to have been 500,000 Christians in the world at the end of the first century, 10,000,000 in the time of Constantine, 30,000,000 in the eighth century, 100,000 000 at the time of the Reformation and 450 000,000 in 1883.

The imports of wool in the United States have increased since 1876 about 75 per cent., and last year was 70 575,478 lbs. The home clip has increased about 35 per cent., amounting now to 290,000,000 lbs. annually.

In New York city, according to some figures recently published, there are more than 800 rag dealers, and the pickers, who are mostly Italians, gather $750,000 worth yearly in the streets and roads, while the money realized for cotton rags alone in the United States is put at $22,000,000 per annum.

Clever Animals.

The most faithful mail messenger of Sullivan county is a dog belonging to the station agent at Winterton. When near the time for the arrival of the train the dog takes its place on the depot platform, and upon receiving the bag carries it to the post office.

A horse in Sayreville, Pa., has to haul sixty-five loads of clay and one load of coal dust every day. He receives no orders, yet never fails to go the right number of times to the clay pit, and then to the coal heap on the pier. He has his own idea of how much each load ought to be, and rears and kicks if too much is put on his cart.

For fifteen years a horse belonging to Col. Mott, of Westbury, has been driven at a certain hour to town for the family mail. Recently the animal was declared entitled to a rest, but at the usual time he broke from the stable and was soon at the post office. The animal has ever since appeared daily at the regular hour at the post office.—*New York Sun.*

A Good Deal in a Name.

Walter Wilson, of Montreal, ran away while his bride waited for him to come to their wedding. His brother, G. Reed Wilson, notified her that Walter had fled. Imagine the surprise of the people of Buffalo on reading this, for Walter Wilson is an alderman there, and his brother G. Reed Wilson is a conspicuous merchant of that city. Such coincidences are not rare. In Erie Levi Daniel Zinn disappeared from among his friends and relatives. His brother some time afterward saw the name of Levi Daniel Zinn on a hotel register. He hunted up the man who bore that name, and found him to be a stranger.

The Mexican papers boss the political nominations. No conventions are held and the journals begin a discussion of candidates about a year previous to the Presidential election. Next they "postulate," or nominate certain candidates. At the head of the paper will appear, "We postulate" so and so, naming the journal's choice. Then, on election day, the voters assemble at the polling places, and each deposits a written ballot for electors, who are to constitute the Electoral Board of the State. The law stipulates that the ballot must be written, and a table, with paper and writing utensils, is provided beside the ballot box, and the ballot must be written and immediately deposited under the inspection of the Supervisor. Sometimes the voters of the different parties will meet a few hours previous and agree upon some candidate, but usually each voter has made a choice of candidates without any pressure from party machinery.

THE QUEEN'S NEW BOOK.

Characteristic Clippings from "Life in the Highlands."

At length Brown ran off to a cottage and returned after some little while with a can full of hot water, but it was no longer boiling when it arrived, and the tea was not good. Then all had to be packed, and it made us very late.

One of the Duke's keepers had prepared a fire and got a kettle boiling, and here we took our tea. Afterwards I sketched, but we were surrounded by a perfect cloud of midges which bit me dreadfully.

And there the poor old woman, whom we had known and seen from the first here these twenty-one years, lay on her bier in her shroud, but with her usual cap on, peaceful and little altered, her dark skin taking from the usual terrible pallor of death. She had on the socks I gave her the day before yesterday. She was in her 89th year.

And very melancholy, and yet sweet, were my feelings when I landed and found on the path some of the same white pebbles which my dearest Albert had picked up and had made into a bracelet for me. I picked up and carried off a handful myself.

This was the only *contretemps* to our most successful, enjoyable day. How dearest Albert would have enjoyed it!

MacAllister had broiled some fish and got tea ready for us in a very small room upstairs in this little cottage, where there was a fire. I had my coffee. We ladies, and Leopold, all squeezed into this room. It was a very merry tea.

We met those dreadful reporters, including the man who behaved so ill on Saturday, as we were coming back.

Odd Happenings.

Mrs. Thompson offered a New York Justice twenty-four eggs she had brought in her pocket, in consideration of his promise to go light on her boy for stealing.

Francis Veile, a New York boy of 15, wants $20,000 damages for having his eyes picked out by Philetus Dorlan's game cock when Veile was but two years old.

Terrance Campbell, a one armed operator of Hartford, climbed a pole in three minutes the other day and cleared the wires of an entanglement.

B. S. Sheldon, of Buffalo, bought a Newfoundland dog for his boy to play with. The animal pined after leaving home, and a few days later drowned himself.

A citizen of Washington has insane moments when he believes he is going to burst, and his family have to pour cold water on him until the strange delusion passes away.

John Trapp, a New York upholsterer, because business was bad, said to his partner, "Come on, let's go out and hang ourselves." His partner refused, but when he left him alone for a time Trapp cut his throat with an upholsterer's knife.

One hundred citizens of Anoka, Minn., chartered a train last Sunday and went to St. Cloud to be shaved, the Anoka authorities having forbidden Sunday opening of barber shops. They returned in time for church in the evening and attended in a body with clean faces.

A Frightful Fungus.

One of the most remarkable fungi of which there is any record grew in the wine cellar of Sir Joseph Banks. He received a cask of wine as a gift, and, finding it too sweet, had it locked up in a cellar to ripen. There it remained for three years, probably during the time he was with Captain Cooke in his voyage around the world. At the end of that period he directed his butler to ascertain the state of the wine, but the cellar door could not be opened on account of some powerful obstacle within. The door was cut down, when the celler was found to be completely filled with a fungus so dense and firm as to require an axe for its removal. It was then discovered that the fungus had consumed every drop of wine and raised the empty cask to the ceiling.

It is reported that Plunger Walton will sail for the other side about the last of the present month.

In view of the fact that General Stone, of the United States army, spent many years in Egypt, and is conversant with the districts referred to, the following statement from his pen regarding the country where the conflict between British forces and Arab tribes is now in progress will not be without interest. General Stone says that To-kar is the little where village resided the chief of the district of Tó kart which district is a marshy tract of about twenty or thirty square miles, capable of good cultivation in ordinary seasons. This district has for a long time served as pasturage and a watering place for the flocks and herds of the Bedja Arabs, and since 1871 has been somewhat improved for agricultural purposes by families of Egyptian peasants who have there established themselves under encouragement from the Khedive's Government for the cultivation of cotton, vegetables and grain. A small intermittent river, called the Barka or Baraka, which rises in the mountains of northern Abyssinia, and flows, first westerly, then northerly and northeastwardly, here loses itself in the soil, but sometimes flows powerfully enough in wet seasons to force some water into the Red Sea at Trinkitat. The flow of water generally comes in the months of June and July, and when sufficient has come down to impregnate the soil the running stream appears. In ordinary seasons the whole district is marshy during three or four months, and when winter rains come this marshy condition is continued until early spring. The principal settlement in the district after To-ker is called El Teeb, which is on the direct road between To-kar and Trinkitat. The distance from Trinkitat landing to Teeb is about fourteen kilometers, say nine miles. From Teeb to To-kar the distance is from six to seven miles. Caravans of camels occupy about six hours on the road from Trinkitat to To-kar. The distance by camel road from To-kar to Kassala is about 200 miles. To the south of To-kar, at a distance of forty miles, is the northern limit of the country, occupied by the powerful tribe of Bedouins called the Beni-Ameer, through which country the route to Kassala passes. The Beni-Amer are very numerous, and are rich in flocks and herds. They are warlike and fanatical Mussulmans.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases. $1. Druggists.

According to the London *Truth*, sherry is going out of favor, and the only wines really largely consumed in England are claret and champagne.

A good Baptist clergyman of Bergen, N. Y., a strong temperance man, suffered with kidney trouble, neuralgia and dizziness almost to blindness, over two years after he was told that Hop Bitters would cure him, because he was afraid of and prejudiced against "Bitters." Since his cure he says none need fear but trust in *Hop Bitters.*

No Norwegian girl is allowed to have a beau until she can bake bread and knit stockings, and it would do your heart good to taste the bread and wear the stockings that 15-year old Norwegian girls can make.

"ROUGH ON COUGHS."

Knocks a Cough or Cold endwise. For children or adults. Troches, 15c. Liquid 50c. At druggists

At the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of a Methodist church in New York last week—a church named after a certain Bishop Janes—the cradle in which the bishop was rocked to sleep 76 years ago occupied a corner of the church.

*Among the most efficacious of remedial agents are the medical preparations from the laboratory of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, Lynn., Mass.

The earliest colonial coinage was in Massachusetts, in pursuance of an order of the general court, passed May 27th, 1652, which established "a mint house" at Boston. The coins ordered were of the value of 12d., 6d. and 3d.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."

Ask for Wells' "Rough on Corns." 15c. Quick, complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

A Paris paper says that the English gamblers at Monaco are the most determined, and lose the most. It is said that each day when the play begins the bank has in hand $200,000; as play becomes brisker this is sometimes raised to $600,000 more.

☞ A pint of the finest ink for families or schools can be made from a ten cent package of Diamond Dye. Try them.

"What does the word 'pedigree' mean, John?" "It means 'descent.'" "Write a sentence on the board containing that word." John went up and chalked off the following, "We pedigreed down the hill." —*Harper's Bazaar.*

*** "Great haste is not always good speed." Yet you must not dilly-dally in caring for your health. Liver, kidneys and bowels must be kept healthy by the use of that prince of medicines, Kidney Wort, which comes in liquid form or dry—both thoroughly efficacious. Have it always ready.

The annual rainfall in the States, according to the *Weather Signal*, is lowest in New Mexico (13 inches) and California (18 inches), and highest in Oregon (49) and Alabama (56). The annual rainfall in the British Islands among the mountains is 41 inches; on the plains 25 inches; 45 inches of rain falls on the west side of England, 27 on the east side.

Imitators vs. Substitutors.

Good points are worth remembering, for the reason that they assist us in avoiding many discomforts and protect us against the cupidity of overreaching people. When you learn from friends that Putnam's Corn Extractor is safe, prompt and effectual, don't allow druggists to palm off a worthless and perhaps poisonous substitute. His object is quite patent. He wishes to make a few cents' difference difference between a good article and a cheap imitation or substitute. Putnam's Corn Extractor. Sold everywhere. Beware of dangerous imitations. Polson & Co., proprietors, Kingston.

Fashion's Latest Folly.

Electrical jewellery is worn in Paris. The ornament consists of glass, cut and colored to imitate rubies, diamonds and other stones and fitted in an envelope surrounding a small incandescent lamp of low resistance. The light shines through the pieces of glass only and gives them all the appearance of the stones they are intended to imitate. The lamp is fed from a small battery, which is carried about the person.—*From a Fashion Journal.*

At Bethany, Pa., recently, Thos. Avery, while shovelling snow out of his yard discovered buried in the snow a hen which he had missed for ten days. She had packed the snow down and made a room the size of a bushel basket. Beyond the loss of flesh incident to the long fast the hen was unharmed.

Geo. W. Lee and Henry Peterson have been matched to row three miles with a turn for $400 a side on the Oakland course at San Francisco, Cal., on March 16th. Peterson is said to be a much better sculler than either Stevenson or Cotsford, both of whom Lee has defeated.

NEVER BE WITHOUT DUNN'S THE COOK'S BEST FRIEND BAKING POWDER. SOLD BY ALL GROCERS.

YOUNG MEN learn steam engineering and earn $100 per month. Send your name and 10c. in stamps to F. Keppy Engineer, Bridgeport, Ct.

Vital Questions!

Ask the most eminent physician
Of any school, what is the best thing in the world for quieting and allaying all irritations of the nerves and curing all forms of nervous complaints, giving natural, childlike refreshing sleep always?
And they will tell you unhesitatingly
"Some form of Hops!"

CHAPTER I.

Ask any or all of the most eminent physicians
"What is the best and only remedy that can be relied on to cure all diseases of the kidneys and urinary organs; such as Bright's disease, diabetes, retention or inability to retain urine, and all the diseases and ailments peculiar to Women"—
"And they will tell you explicitly and emphatically 'Buchu.'"
Ask the same physicians
"What is the most reliable and surest cure for all liver diseases or dyspepsia, constipation indigestion, biliousness, malarial fever, ague etc., and they will tell you:
Mandrake! or Dandelion!"
Hence, when these remedies are combined with others equally valuable
And compounded into Hop Bitters, such a

(Concluded next week.)

D. C. N. L. 12 84.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S
VEGETABLE COMPOUND,
Is a Positive Cure
For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best female population.
A Medicine for Woman. Invented by a Woman. Prepared by a Woman.
The Greatest Medical Discovery Since the Dawn of History.
☞ It revives the drooping spirits, invigorates and harmonizes the organic functions, gives elasticity and firmness to the step, restores the natural lustre to the eye, and plants on the pale cheek of woman the fresh roses of life's spring and early summer time.
☞ Physicians Use it and Prescribe it Freely. ☜
It removes faintness, flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulant, and relieves weakness of the stomach.
That feeling of bearing down, causing pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use.
For the cure of Kidney Complaints of either sex this Compound is unsurpassed.
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S BLOOD PURIFIER will eradicate every vestige of Humors from the Blood, and give tone and strength to the system, of man woman or child. Insist on having it.
Both the Compound and Blood Purifier are prepared at 233 and 235 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass. Price of either, $1. Six bottles for $5. Sent by mail in the form of pills, or of lozenges, on receipt of price, $1 per box for either. Mrs. Pinkham freely answers all letters of inquiry. Enclose 3ct. stamp. Send for pamphlet.
No family should be without LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S LIVER PILLS. They cure constipation, biliousness, and torpidity of the liver. 25 cents per box.
☞ Sold by all Druggists. ☜ (1)

WELLS, RICHARDSON, & CO'S IMPROVED BUTTER COLOR
A NEW DISCOVERY.
☞ For several years we have furnished the Dairymen of America with an excellent artificial color for butter; so meritorious that it met with great success everywhere receiving the highest and only prizes at both International Dairy Fairs.
☞ But by patient and scientific chemical research we have improved in several points, and now offer this new color as *the best in the world.*
It Will Not Color the Buttermilk. It Will Not Turn Rancid. It is the Strongest, Brightest and Cheapest Color Made.
☞ And, while prepared in oil, is so compounded that it is impossible for it to become rancid.
☞ BEWARE of all imitations, and of all other oil colors, for they are liable to become rancid and spoil the butter.
☞ If you cannot get the "improved" write us to know where and how to get it without extra expense. (40)
WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., Burlington, Vt.

KIDNEY-WORT
IS A SURE CURE
for all diseases of the Kidneys and
—LIVER—
It has specific action on this most important organ, enabling it to throw off torpidity and inaction, stimulating the healthy secretion of the Bile, and by keeping the bowels in free condition, effecting its regular discharge.
Malaria. If you are suffering from malaria, have the chills, are bilious, dyspeptic, or constipated, Kidney-Wort will surely relieve and quickly cure.
In the Spring to cleanse the System, every one should take a thorough course of it.
(1) SOLD BY DRUGGISTS. Price $1.
KIDNEY-WORT

CONSUMPTION.
I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed, so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, together with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease, to any sufferer. Give Express and P. O. address.
DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 181 Pearl St., New York.

DOWNS' ELIXIR
N. H. DOWNS' VEGETABLE BALSAMIC ELIXIR
Has stood the test for Fifty-Three Years, and has proved itself the best remedy known for the cure of Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough and all Lung Diseases in young or old. Sold Everywhere.
Price 25c and $1.00 per Bottle.
DOWNS' ELIXIR