BIG AND LITTLE HEADS.

An Investigator Who Says Size Has Nothing to Do With Intelligence.

A tall, broad-shouldered man, writes a New York correspondent, with gray hair and whiskers, and the general air of a worldly innocence that characterizes the scientific person, visited the Aztec Fair. The matador's swords and caballero's spurs failed to attract his attention, and he was not interested in the frying of tortillas by buxom female descendants of the Montezumas. Adjusting his spectacles across his nose and taking a brief survey of the hall with his beaming blue eyes, he rubbed his palms together, and in a gratified way softly murmured, "Oh! this saves me quite a journey," and drew a note-book and small steel tape from his pocket. Marching up to the nearest hombre, who was industriously fashioning silver wire into delicate jewellery, the tall man gently but firmly drew the tape-line around the astonished greaser's head, carefully noting the measurement, and made an entry in his note book. Smiling blandly and reassuringly upon the exhibit he proceeded to measure the Mexican's head in various ways and make notes. Before the bewildered fellow could collect his wits the tall man had moved around to the next booth and slipped his tape around another skull, serenely oblivious to the sensation he was creating among the puzzled Mexicans. At last he tackled a vaquero who could talk English and wanted to know the purpose of the measurements. The investigator explained that he devoted his whole time to travelling over the world measuring people's heads, and some day he would write a book about it, showing what folks had the biggest heads of the lot, not counting promising young actors or newly-elected Congressmen. The vaquero was disappointed to learn that the tall man was not an eccentric American philanthropist with an amiable desire to present new sombreros to the whole crowd. The gentleman was Dr. Sims, who long ago retired from practice, and took up theorizing and investigating. In reply to my questions the doctor said: "These chaps, I find, have very small heads and consequently small brains. They are not Aztecs, of course, but belong to the mixed Spanish and Indian race of Mexico. The fact that their head is small is only another proof of my theory, or rather of my generalization from long observation, that the largest heads are in the cold countries, and the size of the skull and weight diminish as you get nearer the equator. I have measured heads from Lapland to Egypt, and from India to New Zealand, and the results prove the truth of the general statement. The Laplanders have the largest heads and the equatorial races the smallest. But the Laplander is by no means a prodigy of mental activity. In fact, he is inclined to be rather stupid. Now, I have discovered that the brain has nothing to do with the operation of the thought. The mind, as it is called, is not located in the brain. The brain is a vital organ like the heart, and supplies heat to the body through the nerves. Sever the nerves in a sheep's neck and the heat of the body diminishes in regular proportion so many degrees a minute. The experience of Arctic explorers has shown that men with big heads endure the cold best. The brain is a life-giving organ. It is the dynamo that sends heat and electricity along the nerves to all parts of the body. In cold climates more heat is required, and heart and brains are larger than in warmer climates. People living near the equator require little body heat, and their heads are small. But the intellect is not affected by the size of the head. Big men have big heads, but the smart men are by no means big. The biggest brain that was ever weighed was that of a congenital idiot. The next heaviest was that of Ivan Tourgieneiff. The latter was Russian, and the Russians have big heads because their country is cold. I could cite facts by the hour to prove my theory, and some day the anatomists will all agree with me that the old notion of brain power is entirely erroneous." The doctor sighted another foreign head across the hall, and, whipping out his tape-line, he disappeared in the crowd, walking over small people without noticing their protests in his anxiety not to lose sight of the new specimen.

Johnny's Spelling.

"How do you spell knee, mamma?" said a small boy, looking up from his slate.

"K-n-e-e, Johnny."

Silence for several moments, while the letters were going down laboriously. And then he asked:

"How do you spell grow.

"G-r-o-w."

More scratching with the pencil.

"Now I've got it!" Johnny exclaimed. "K-n-e-e, ne, g-r-o-w, gro—negro!" —*Youth's Companion.*

The Man For the Job.

Simpson—Well, Muggins, how's business.

Muggins (our artist)—Oh, ripping! Got a commission this morning from a clergyman. Wants his children painted very badly.

Simpson (with that pleasant way of his) —Well, my boy, you're the very man for the job.

They don't speak now.—*Judy.*

Let the Children Try This.

I tell you a cure for dyspepsia that is neither patented nor original:

"If the white bootblack blacks the black bootblack's boot, will the black bootblack's boot be blacked? If the white bootblack blacks but one of the black bootblack's boots, what will the black bootblack do?"

Directions—Draw in a long breath and then repeat the above cure as rapidly as possible.—*Boston Globe.*

In current British Parliamentary manuals a blank is opposite the designation of Baron Gardner, of Uttoxeter, Stafford, the peer entitled to the place being missing. The blank will now be filled, as it is shown that the rightful fourth baron is Alan Hyde Gardner, who, with his father, gained eminence in resisting the Sepoy Mutineers in 1857. He was born in India of a native mother.

Mrs. Collier, of Oakland, Cal., has brought suit for divorce against her husband because he frequently went fishing, did not supply her with a sufficient quantity of butter and eggs and often complained because he had to eat a cold supper after a day of piscatorial sport.

FROM FAME TO PAUPERISM.

A Great Orator Reduced to Beg for Alms in His Old Age.

A remarkable and even pathetic incident occurred at Kalamazoo, in this State, the latter part of last week, says a Detroit despatch. A very old man, past 80 years, appeared in the office of the Superintendent of the Poor to solicit public assistance. He had no overcoat and was dressed in a thin, threadbare suit of black. The silk hat on his head, like the white hair beneath it, had seen the storms of many winters. He carried a small parcel and two canes with which to support his steps. It was with difficulty that the official, after the aged man had told his name, recognized in him the famous Augustus Littlejohn, an orator of such splendid ability in his prime, forty years ago, that no one who heard him ever forgot the almost irresistible magnetism of his eloquence. Arriving from Niles Mr. Littlejohn had applied to the poor authorities for assistance to enable him to reach Schoolcraft, which place he desired to visit. The assistance was instantly furnished him, as one whose talents and past services to mankind entitled him to something better than miserable poverty in his old age, and armed with a pauper's ticket he left for Schoolcraft that afternoon.

Augustus Littlejohn was a great man among a generation now passed away. He was the Gough of the forties. Old settlers who have heard him repeatedly say that he surpassed Gough in the vividness of his descriptions and the wonderful and altogether indescribable dramatic force of his utterances. He lectured repeatedly all through Michigan and Indiana on temperance, with enormous crowds attending his lectures everywhere. He was known also throughout the east as well as in the west. Thousands all over the country were reclaimed by him from intemperance. He was of the noted Littlejohn family, of Herkimer, N. Y., a family distinguished for its talent. Bishop Littlejohn, of Long Island, and the late Hon. De Witt C. Littlejohn, of Oswego, N. Y., were nephews of his. Now in picturesque, but nevertheless miserable, poverty the old man is obliged to ask for public alms. It will be startling news to most of those who knew him in his prime, or those who are only acquainted with his splendid reputation, to hear that the matchless orator of nearly half a century ago is still alive, so long has he been hidden away from public observation and knowledge.

Brain-forcing in Children.

At its meeting recently the Nineteenth Century Club listened to a discussion on "Brain-forcing in the Education of Children."

Dr. William A. Hammond said that a little girl was brought to him with St. Vitus' dance. In her school satchel were books on English grammar, arithmetic, geography, history, primary, astronomy, temperance, physiology and hygiene ("whatever that may mean," he interjected), French grammar, French reader, and a book on "Science." He found the child had six and a half hours to study nine subjects; it was using its brain capital faster than its receipts; it had intellectual bankruptcy staring it in the face. If a child should not look at a book until it was 10 years old it would read better at 11 than a child who had studied its letters when it was 3 years old. "It would be much better if a child studied two or three subjects instead of twelve; grammar should be banished until the senior year of a university course; no child ever learned good English from a grammar. Grammar is the most ingenious device ever known for driving poor little brains into permature decrepitude. The only reason why it does not do more harm is because nine-tenths of the people don't know anything about it."

Miss Mary E. Tate, Principal of Grammar School No. 45, defended the present system in this city. She said that "overwork" was due largely to mothers and doctors.

"A doctor knows there is no way to reach a mother's heart," she said, "so soon as by saying, 'Your child's brain is too active.' A physician said that of me, and my mother told of it with pride."—*New York Sun.*

The Judge was No Joker.

Police Magistrate—Prisoner at the bar, have you any children?

Prisoner—No, Your Honor.

P. M.—Why not?

Prisoner—Well, I am not married.

P. M. (who hates a giggle at his expense) —That's very fortunate for your wife.—*Boston Beacon.*

An Unmistakable Symptom.

A new baby had arrived at little Johnny's residence, and the youngster was admitted to take his first look at the little stranger.

He surveyed it calmly for a moment, and then looking up exclaimed enthusiastically:

"His face is just like the color of Uncle George's. Gosh, but he must be a hard drinker!"—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

Prof. Udson, a violinist of Warren, O., was engaged to Miss Jenny Thompson, of Copenhagen, when he quit that city for America. A few weeks ago he sent for her, and the day after Christmas she arrived in New York city with her grand piano and many trunks. She was met by her lover, who took her directly to Warren, where three days later they were married at the institution where the husband teaches music.

Cornelius Driscoll, of Lower Cove, N. S. is 101 years old, and hale and hearty. He eats well and daily does light work.

THE TOBOGGAN CRAZE.

The rinktum has vanished,
The skatum has fled;
The rollum is banished,
The wheelum is dead.
Tobog's now the daisy
That now rules the day;
Let's tobog till we're crazy
Ri-tu-ral-li-la!

What is the difference between a dude and his boots? One is calf skin and the other is calf's kin.

Bill Nye writes: "Can you suggest a title for my new comedy? I want something catching." Why don't you call it "Only a Case of Measles?"

There are two things in this world that I can't understand; one is, that you catch a cold without trying; that if you let it run on, it stays with you, and if you stop it, it goes away.—*Burdette.*

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMAYR.

There were 34 deaths in Kingston last month, eight of which were from consumption.

Owing to a rumor that Dr. Abbott, of Belleville, who died suddenly recently, had come to life, an investigation showed that his remains are still in the vault there.

Ottawa is likely to prove a formidable competitor with Kingston for the possession of the proposed School of Practical Science for Eastern Ontario.

Mr. W. Peters and his family, of Kingston, came near losing their lives on Thursday night by suffocation from coal gas. The members of the family are confined to bed.

Two Civil Service employees got well thrashed in the Windsor Hotel, Ottawa, on Thursday night, by a stranger, whom they insulted because he would not shout for the Tory party.

A special meeting of the Tororto City Council was held yesterday afternoon, when the legislation to be asked from the Ontario Legislature at its present session was considered and adopted.

Miles Dempsey, who lived near Demorestville, Prince Edward County, was instantly killed on Thursday by a kick from a young horse which he was breaking. Deceased was 35 years of age and married.

An old gateman of the Grand Trunk Railway named John Woods lost his life at Montreal yesterday morning, being run down by a locomotive during the heavy snowstorm. He was an old employee, and attended the switches and semaphores.

McGill Graduates' Society Executive Committee offer a prize of $50 for the best ode in honor of the Queen's Jubilee, to be read at the annual University dinner at the end of April. The competition will be open to all Her Majesty's subjects, manuscripts to be in before the 15th April.

Mr. James Foot, who was taken from the second story window of his house at St. Thomas in a boat during the recent floods, while suffering from a severe attack of inflammation of the lungs, died yesterday from the effects of the exposure. Deceased was 71 years of age, and had been a resident of that city for the past fifty years.

Mr. John Lytle, of Amherst Island, while driving home to Amherst Island, accompanied by Miss Wilson, broke through the ice. He managed to get out upon the ice, after which, with much difficulty, he seized the young lady by the hair and rescued her. The valuable team of horses were drowned. Miss Wilson is very ill from the effects of her wetting.

Edwin Sales, a hotel keeper at Courtland, a few miles from Aylmer, has been in poor health and also financial difficulties for some time past, and on Thursday night he made a most determined and successful attempt at suicide. Taking a loaded shot gun and locking himself in his bed-room, he placed the muzzle to his forehead and fired. The whole top of his head was blown off, and his brains scattered over the walls and floor. The report of the gun was heard by the family, and when the door was forced he was found lying on the floor dead. A razor was found in his pocket. He was about 45 years of age, and leaves a wife and four children.

The Anarchists threaten a dynamite campaign in France.

Four hundred houses were destroyed by fire in Rangoon yesterday.

The proposition which has been put forward, that the Pope shall be accepted as arbiter in the Bulgarian dispute, is strongly opposed by Russia.

A despatch from St. Petersburg states that the Russian Mediterranean fleet has been ordered to renlezvous in Japanese waters, where Russia intends at the earliest possible moment to assemble a considerable squadron.

The Prince of Waes has notified the Governors of New Soith Wales and Victoria that both himself and the Princess find it necessary to recall their acceptance of an invitation to 'visit Australia this year on the occasion of the centenary celebration of the two Irovinces." The letter says it will be imposible for the Prince and Princess to leave England during the next twelve months.

Sir Michael Hicls-Beach, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in the House of Commons last evening, in answer to inquiries, affirmed the truth of reports that Moonlighters had attacked the houses of three farmers in Mill Street, county Cork, and cut off the hair of every woman met in the houses. The only reason given for the outrage, said the Chief Secretary, was that the women had been seen speaking to the police. Sir Michael also said the Government would not release the Crossmaglen convicts.

Court circles are in a state of enthusiastic expectancy with regard to the coming celebration of Queen Victoria's coronation. The greatest social feature of the Jubilee will be a magnificent State ball in costume. The last State ball, which took place in June, 1851, more than ten years before the death of the Prince Consort, was a costume affair. The dresses were in imitation of the time of the restoration of Charles II., and it was the most splendid court spectacle of the present reign. It is hoped that this year's ball will be quite as grand, and every effort is being put forth to make it so. It is stated that the Queen designs that the costumes to be worn at the June ball shall be in the style of the middle of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, circa about 1580.

William Robinson, who was bitten in the lip by a strange dog on December 28th, died yesterday in the agonies of hydrophobia, at Greenwich, Conn.

Thos. F. McGown, a well known citizen of Duluth, fell from a private box to the orchestra in the Theatre Comique on Thursday night and was killed.

The coroner's jury has returned a verdict that the death of Raymond R. Belmont, who shot himself in the basement of his father's house in New York, was accidental.

The Council of Dakota yesterday defeated by an emphatic majority the bill giving incorporated cities the exclusive control of the liquor traffic within their limits. The same body passed the Local Option Bill by 33 to 10.

Freight traffic on the railways has been completely stopped in Eastern Ontario by the severe snowstorm of last Friday, and passenger trains have suffered considerable delay.

The Montreal winter carnival was brought to a successful close on Saturday night.

Thirty-two cases are inscribed for hearing by the Supreme Court, which meets to-morrow for its first session this year.

The old settlers of Manitoba have forwarded to Ottawa a petition forty-nine feet long regarding the settlement of land claims.

The commemorative medals and diplomas to be presented to exhibitors at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition were received by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa on Saturday.

Mrs. Morse, the lady who was injured a few days ago by the falling ice from a roof on St. Catherine street, Montreal, died yesterday morning at her home, Burnside place.

An interesting debate on the subject of Imperial Federation was held in Kingston on Saturday night between students of Toronto and Queen's Universities, the latter arguing in favor of and the Toronto men opposing the idea. The judges decided in favor of federation.

A young man named Arnold, just released from the Central Prison, sprang upon a soldier, who carries the mail to the Royal Military College, Kingston, on Saturday, on the principal street, and seizing him by the cheek with his teeth took a piece out. The soldier was passing quietly along the street at the time.

Two or three girls belonging to the Salvation Army were brutally attacked on St. John street, Quebec, yesterday afternoon by a crowd of respectably-dressed rowdies, who pelted them with lumps of snow and ice, knocking one young woman to the ground. The victim might have been killed but for the timely arrival of the police. No arrests were made, though the street was full of people at the time.

On Saturday morning, as Sarah North, aged about 50 years, was attending to her usual work in one of the Asylum cottages at London she fell down a cellar in the house and fractured her skull, from the effects of which she died in a short time. She had been in the institution about ten years and belonged in the neighborhood of Stratford. An inquest was held at 4 o'clock and a verdict of accidental death returned.

Mr. Daniel Cook, of McLeod & Cook, saw millers, Teeswater, was crushed to death while unloading saw logs at the mill on Saturday afternoon. Nobody was in the yard at the time, and when the body was found life had been extinct for some time. Death must have been instantaneous, as he was lying beneath the saw logs very badly crushed and his spine broken. It is supposed that he slipped and fell, pulling the logs on top of him. He leaves a wife and young family.

The Limerick hunt had to be abandoned on Saturday, owing to the poisoning of the fox-hounds.

The British troops in India will be armed with repeating rifles, and the Martini rifles will be transferred to the Sepoys.

The British Admiralty Department has ordered two additional gunboats to Halifax to protect the Canadian fisheries.

The Paris *L'Univers* announces that the Papal Nuncio at Madrid, Mgr. Rampolla del Tindaro, has been appointed Pontifical Secretary, succeeding Cardinal Jacobini.

A Russian lady, said to be the divorced wife of a consular official at Philadelphia, has committed suicide at Wiesbaden by shooting herself in a cab.

A Lyons firm has received an order for twenty thousand gross of white silk handkerchiefs, stamped with the Queen's head, to be sent to India as Jubilee presents.

The English Court of Appeal has rendered a decision upholding the validity of the Twand-Edison-Cheesboro patent for carbon filaments for incandescent lamps.

A project is on foot in London to send 5,000 Jewish colonists to Mexico to be distributed among the agricultural districts. The proposed colonists are the victims of Russian persecution.

The election in North Antrim to fill the Parliamentary vacancy caused by the resignation of E. Macnaghten (Conservative) resulted in the return of C. E. Lewis (Conservative.)

Referring to the Home Rule question, Mr. Gladstone says he is desirous of retaining the present number of Irish representatives in Parliament to deal with Imperial affairs.

The Spanish Government has assented to the financial autonomy of the Basque Provinces on the basis of their contribution of 50 per cent. extra to the exchequer.

Advices from Mandalay say the rebel leader Thanbwa, of Woontho, refuses to surrender, and is destroying villages whose inhabitants are suspected of inclining toward the British.

At midnight on Saturday gangs of Orangemen and Catholics pelted one another with stones on the Falls road in Belfast. They were dispersed by the police. One man was stabbed and some policemen were bruised.

Some Socialist speakers addressed a crowd at the Nelson monument, Glasgow, on Saturday, on behalf of the Lanark miners. After the meeting the crowd pelted the mounted policemen with mud and stones. The policemen charged and scattered the mob.

At Loughrea yesterday two hundred police were refused food and shelter. Michael Davitt arrived in the morning. He refused to accept a copy of the Government proclamation prohibiting the proposed Nationalist meeting. Davitt addressed the meeting in the afternoon in the League rooms, which were barricaded. He spoke at Woodford in the evening.

The meeting announced to be held at Youghal, Ireland, yesterday, and proclaimed by the Government, was held at Terry Point, Waterford. Mr. Tanner spoke. The crowd burned copies of the proclamation amid cheers and groans. After the meeting the crowd returned to Youghal and had some encounters with the police.

Mrs. Horace Mann, widow of the great educator, died in Boston on Friday, aged 80 years.

The Chicago Coal Exchange has resolved to advance the wholesale price of anthracite coal fifty cents a ton.

On Saturday night in a quarrel Robert Wilson, aged 17, of Corning, N. Y., shot and killed George Woods, aged 21.

Thomas M. Joseph, of Galveston, Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Odd-fellows of Texas, is said to be $30,000 short in his accounts.

Wm. Teed, aged 14 years; Eugene Gritzinger, aged 14, and Henry D. McTight, 13, wer drowned in Garden City Lake, L. I., yesterday afternoon by breaking through the ice.

The N. Y. *Times'* Washington despatch says several army officers within the past few months have duplicated their pay accounts, but settlements have been effected without disagreeable notoriety.

On Saturday evening, during the absence of his wife, John Jacobson, of Omaha, Neb., strangled his infant child to death and then hanged himself. Temporary insanity was the cause.

On Friday night, at San Francisco, George Messmer, a laborer, shot Frederick Muller and Mrs. Muller, the sister of Messmer's divorced wife, then shot himself and will die. Muller is fatally wounded, and Mrs. Muller seriously.

The officials of the Northern Pacific Railways are having built at St. Paul, Minn., an experimental iron car intended to supply heat, light and pure water to passenger trains. The car is to immediately follow the engine.

The Use of Words.

A Canadian says the word "toboggan" should be pronounced with the second o, long, as in open.

Citizens of Depere, Wis., are about to take a vote to determine whether the name of their city shall be spelled with a small or with a capital P.

A student of Indian tongues declares that the word "Chicago" was used by the Pottawatomie Indians long ago to designate a place where wild onions abounded—literally, an onion patch.

The word "polyg" is in constant use among the people of Utah in conversation and in print to designate a Mormon. "Cohab" is applied to a person convicted of unlawful cohabitation and less frequently to a person of improper habits.

The verb "to jounce" and the substantive, "jouncer," are becoming current in certain society circles as terms by which to denote respectively "mash" and "masher." The idea involved is that of the reduction of the victim to the condition of jolting helplessness typified by the jellyfish.

The term "pigeon English," used to designate the *lingua franca* which passes current between English-speaking people and the Chinese, is said to be a corruption of "business English," the word "pigeon" being the nearest approach that a Chinaman can make to the pronunciation of the English word "business."

Miss Fortescue, the actress, told a Chicago reporter the other day that the adjective "elegant" is never used in London in cultivated conversation. "Over here it is rightly, and I notice frequently, used," said she; "but in England we use it but for one thing in the whole world, and what do you think that is? In advertisements of flats, 'elegant new flats to let,' you know."

It is the proper thing in St. Paul and Minneapolis now to call a dude of a certain class a "fade." To come strictly under this designation a dude must be not too old nor too stout, and his most prominent characteristics must be a melancholy mien and a habit of profound silence where speech is not absolutely necessary. He should smile only rarely, and in taking leave of a person should vanish gently as if fading away.

Heating Three Rooms with One Stove.

A correspondent in Indiana, who favors the readers of the New York *Metal Worker* with an occasional letter, sends it the following communication containing suggestions which may be of value to many of our readers having similar work to execute and which we gladly reproduce: A doctor had a new office built last summer, with three rooms on ground floor. These he was desirous of heating with one stove and sheet-iron drums. I told him I would do the work under his directions, he being responsible for the results, which he agreed to. The stove is a base-heating wood burner, which was placed in the waiting-room. A pipe was run from the stove in the waiting room through the partition into the consultation room, and connected with the drum therein. A pipe also connected the drum in the consultation room with the drum in the study, and from thence was carried into the chimney near the ceiling. In the pipe running from the stove to the consultation room was a "T," from which was run a pipe to the chimney in the waiting room. This pipe was provided with a close damper just placed above the T. To my amazement and surprise he reports it works nicely even with the indirect shaft on the stove. The drums were of ordinary pattern, having a division running from the top to near the bottom. The building is one storey, the chimney not more than 50 feet high from the ground. It impressed the fact on my mind never to be too positive about an untried scheme. But I should not have done the work on my own responsibility, nor would I want to do a similar job and warrant it to work satisfactorily.

An Oregon huntress, Mrs. Lillie Prok, of Olalla, has killed seven bears this winter.

There's no danger of the young man who goes to see his girl striking for shorter hours.

Daniel Danner, of Mattizon, Mich., lost a pet squirrel over two years ago. The other day it returned and resumed its old relations.

A yearling calf harnessed to a good-sized hand sled, and trained so that it will obey every command of its driver, is one of the attractions at Sioux City, Iowa.

John Penzel, of Jackson, Mo., an aged German, has made two sound and serviceable coffins, one for himself and one for his wife, and they stand in his house ready for use. When his own was finished he tried it on, and found that he hadn't allowed for his left leg which is bent at the knee and stiff, so he made a new cover, which permits him to lie comfortably in the coffin after it has been closed properly.