THE INFLUENZA.

La Grippe Extending the Area of its Unwelcome Influence.

Count Szegyenki and Conductor Richter, of Vienna, have the influenza.

Mild influenza prevails in Athens.

Sixty officials in the Dublin post office have the influenza.

Barnardo's homes for destitute and orphan children, at Stepney, are visited with great severity by the influenza, so is also the Jesuit College at Canterbury.

The influenza is spreading in Italy. It has appeared at Verona, Messina and Modena. The pupils of the military school at Modena have been sent home.

The rapid increase in the number of cases of influenza at Waurzburg, Bavaria, has rendered necessary the erection of several temporary hospitals. There are 40,000 cases of the disease in Munich. The epidemic is spreading in Dresden.

The influenza has appeared at Peterboro, Ont. Mr. James Kendry, manager of the Auburn woollen mills, is nursing an attack of la grippe, which he brought home with him from a recent business trip to New York.

A Madrid telegram says: The mortality here from influenza is great, but the malady seems to be decreasing. Gayarre, the tenor, is not expected to recover. The disease is spreading in the Provinces, and has assumed a severe form at Barcelona.

A New York despatch says: The number of grip sufferers among the "finest" reached high-water mark yesterday, when 304 of them were laid up for repairs on half-pay. Capt. Garland, of the Madison Street Station, is the only high official who is sick, but he was out for a few hours, although not on duty. During the trials sixteen complainants or defendants were reported to be ill. The sick list includes 1 captain, 5 sergeants, 8 roundsmen, 8 doormen and 270 patrolmen, out of an available force of 3,423 men, a fraction over 9 per cent. The fact is, the prevalent malady is spreading in all directions, and yesterday two more names were added to the list of those whose attacks of the grip, being followed by a more serious indisposition, terminated fatally. They are Mrs. Horace A. Huchins and Du Plessis M. Helm.

Two fatal cases of pneumonia, which were developed from "la grippe," were those of the Rev. Dr. W. W. Patton, President of Howard University, Washington, D.C., who died at Westfield, N.J., and John A. Osborn, of Brooklyn, a United States Commissioner.

WHERE IT HOLDS REVEL.

It is from the tenement districts, however, and from the dispensaries and hospitals that the most harrowing accounts of this malady reach the public ear. Every hospital in the city is completely filled with sufferers. Within the past twenty-four hours upward of two hundred patients have been sent to the Charity Hospital from the medical department of Bellevue. Over a hundred have been accommodated in the hospital itself, and still they come. Word has been sent from the Island that there is no room for any more patients in the institutions there, every available bed being already occupied. Yesterday morning there were fully three hundred people assembled without the doors of the dispensary on East Twenty-sixth street prior to the opening at 9 a.m., and nearly every one was more or less afflicted with grip symptoms. Some were pitifully ill, with feverish faces, haggard eyes and hollow cough.

The Board of Health does not seek to disguise the fact that la grippe holds the town, but declares its entire inability to check the spread of the malady. Disinfectants and isolation are powerless to prevent the progress of this epidemic, which is atmospheric. Dr. Edson said yesterday that there are probably 100,000 cases in this city, but that the Board of Health can only attend to the contagious diseases reported.

WHAT TO DO.

The health authorities advise all people, so soon as they perceive the slightest indications of a cold developing to shut themselves up indoors, avoid getting chilled and send without delay for a doctor. With proper precautions against taking a fresh cold, bronchitis and pneumonia may be avoided, and without these complications "the grip" is not deadly.

Yesterday a cablegram was received from a very eminent French physician, who has been most successful in treating the disease in Paris, to the effect that the happiest results have followed the use of exalgine in every instance, and strongly recommending it to the medical fraternity in America.

A Paris cable says: The serious nature of the influenza epidemic is shown by the mortality statistics. During the past week 2,334 deaths occurred against 1,033 for the corresponding week last year. This is due to an increase in the diseases of the respiratory organs. The ravages of these complaints are clearly shown in the following significant table: The deaths in Paris for December, 1889, were 5,969; for December, 1888, 3,911; increase, 2,058. Pneumonia last week caused 346 deaths against 67 for the same week last year, and other diseases show a similar terrible increase. M. Bertin, chief cashier of the Bank of France, is among the latest victims. The mortality here is still abnormally great. On Tuesday there were 389 deaths, and on Wednesday 334. The reopening of the schools already closed is postponed.

The St. Sulpice Seminary, the greatest school in France, is closed.

After Many Years.

A Sault Ste. Marie despatch says: A little girl has been living here with an aged couple as their adopted child. She was led to believe her natural parents dead. The child some years ago learned her true name, and has since busied herself writing to every one of the same name. She has just received a letter from her mother, Mrs. Anna Bradbury, Council Bluffs, Iowa, who informs her that the couple with whom she is living had abducted her when 3 years of age. She is now 18, and very happy over the outcome of her correspondence. The mother is now on her way here.

The will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth T. Hicks, a wealthy Quakeress of Westbury, L. I., bequeaths $25,000 each to the Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Children and to Swathmore College, Pennsylvania.

SIR JOSEPH HICKSON.

Something About the Railway Magnate Whom the Queen Has Honored.

A Montreal despatch says: There was a feeling of widespread satisfaction in railway and business circles generally to-day over the report that the Queen had been pleased to confer the honor of knighthood upon Mr. Joseph Hickson, general manager of the Grand Trunk Railway Company. Such an announcement has been long expected by Mr. Hickson's friends. While it was acknowledged that no honor however high could add to the general esteem in which Mr. Hickson is personally held by all classes of the community in which he has lived for many years, the feeling was general that both on account of his high personal character and the distinguished services he has rendered in the commercial life of Canada, he was entitled to some signal mark of honor. The Grand Trunk system is the oldest railway system in the Dominion, and was proving of incalculable benefit to the country when other enterprises, of which the public has good reason to have some knowledge, were not even dreamed of. In the successful building up of the Grand Trunk Railway system no one has taken a more active part than Mr. Joseph Hickson. He has been the heart and soul of the company, and by his sagacity and farsightedness the Grand Trunk has reached a position second to none on the continent of America. Mr Hickson has for years led a quiet, unostentatious life, attending to his multifarious and trying railway duties with the regularity of clockwork, and has not sought public notice. The honor of knighthood will thus be all the more appreciated in that it has been unsought and comes as the well-merited reward of long and distinguished services in the railway and commercial life of Canada. The news was received at the general offices of the company here to-day with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Hickson has always been popular with the officials and employees of the company, and the knowledge of the honor conferred upon their chief has been received as almost a personal pleasure. Mr. Hickson's distinguished career from 1862, the year he came to Canada, up to the present, is too familiar to our readers to require any extended notice here. His life for the past twenty-eight years has been the history of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, to which he has devoted himself with untiring devotion and ability. The company, in its onward march, has had what seemed almost unsurmountable obstacles to overcome, but through them all Mr. Hickson's sagacity, experience, and tenacity of purpose have carried them successfully. Thousands throughout the Dominion will join with Mr. Hickson's personal friends and admirers in wishing long life and prosperity to Sir Joseph Hickson.

A DASTARD'S REVENGE.

A Rejected Suitor Poisons the Family Coffee—Two Deaths.

A Joliet, Ill., despatch of Thursday says: John Dall, a single man, lived on a farm near the village of Mokena with his mother, Mrs. Amelia Dall, 70 years old Connected with the household were a a hired man named Schuffler and a girl named Mina Schenek. Yesterday the girl prepared dinner, and when the coffee was served each of the family noticed it had a strong, bitter taste. The stuff was thrown away and a new lot made. This was also bad, but not enough so to prevent the family partaking freely of it. Soon after dinner they all became alarmingly sick. The hired man and girl drank fresh milk, which caused vomiting and saved their lives. Mrs. Dall died after a few hours of excruciating pain, and last evening John Dall breathed his last. The physicians called in could not determine the character of the poison. A white powder was noticed in the first pot of coffee. John Schafer, a former employee of Dall, and a rival suitor for the hand of the servant-maid, was suspected as the guilty person. When the sheriff arrested him at Mokena to-day he tried to commit suicide with a razor.

Wedding in High Life.

A London cable says: The wedding of Hon. Lancelot Douglas Carnegie, second son of the Earl of Sothesk, with Miss Marion Alice de Cournay Barclay, second daughter of Henry Ford Barclay, of Monkhorns, Woodford, Essex, was solemnized yesterday at the Church of All Saints, Woodford Wells. The entire place was *en fete*. Flags were displayed, and there was a triumphal arch at the entrance to the park. The church could only accommodate one-fourth the people present. Lord Carnegie, the bridegroom s eldest brother, was the best man. Mr. Barclay, the bride's father, gave her away. She wore a white satin bodice and front draped with Brussels lace, looped with orange blossoms. The bodice and sleeves were edged with silver drop fringe. She had a long court train, embroidered with scolls of white velvet, shaded with silver. The tulle veil covered a wreath of orange blossoms and a tiara of diamonds, the gift of the Countess of Southesk. She wore a diamond necklace, the gift of the bride's father. Her bouquet was orange blossoms and white lilies. She was attended by two little pages.

Dr. Cronin's Long-Delayed Funeral.

A Chicago paper says: The mutilated remains of Dr. Cronin still repose in the black coffin in the dismal vault of Calvary cemetery. No date has yet been decided upon for the final interment, but it will probably take place early in the spring. There will be a demonstration on the occasion that will probably exceed in magnitude the great outpouring on the day of the funeral. Delegations of prominent Irishmen from the leading cities in the country will participate in the proceedings.

A Cemetery as a Source of Water Supply.

A Trenton, Mich., despatch says: The rapid spread of scarlet fever in this town suggested that a sample of water from the only well furnishing a supply for the town be sent to Ann Arbor for an analysis. The chemist gave a portion of the sample to a rabbit, and it died almost instantly. An investigation elicited the fact that the well drew its supply from the cemetery.

It is reported that Russia has ordered in France one million and a half repeating rifles.

TWENTY-SIX SUFFOCATED.

Disastrous Results of a Fire in a Pauper School.

A London cable of Wednesday says: The boys' section of the paupers' school in the district of Forest Gate, in connection with the Whitechapel and Poplar Unions, took fire last night while the inmates were asleep and was burned. Twenty-six boys, who were in the upper stories, were suffocated. Fifty-eight other boys were safely taken from the building amid terrible excitement. Two matrons of the institution escaped by sliding down the water pipes, and several boys escaped in the same way. The superintendent of the school repeatedly rushed through the flames and brought out a number of inmates. There were 600 persons in the institution. The bodies of those who were suffocated were carried to the main hall of the building, which was still profusely decorated with Christmas greens. The female department, in which were 250 girls, was not touched. The boys retired last evening in the highest spirits, having been promised presents and a New Year's *fete* to-day. The scenes in the main hall, where the bodies of the dead boys lie, are harrowing. Relatives and school-fellows of those who perished are loud in their lamentations. The fire was caused by an overheated stove. It originated in the clothing-room beneath the boys' dormitory. The smoke and flames issuing from the stove-flue alarmed those sleeping on the top floor, and they made their escape. The fire engines were promptly on the spot. The employees of an adjacent railway station rushed to the scene and rendered valuable assistance. The cries of the boys who were unable to escape were terrible. The bodies of two boys were badly burned, but it is believed they were suffocated before they were burned. The ages of the dead range from 7 to 12 years.

LICENSED YET FINED.

A Kind of City Licenses Texas Law Will Not Respect.

A San Antonio, Texas, despatch of Thursday says: Since yesterday the City Clerk has issued licenses, in accordance with a new ordinance, to proprietors of gambling establishments and keepers of houses of prostitution and inmates of the latter. The fees thus far aggregate $7,000, and not more than a third of the persons required to secure such licenses have yet done so. District Attorney Paschal declares he will prosecute all parties procuring such licenses, despite the city ordinance, which will cause a conflict between the city and State officials. A woman who a few days ago paid $250 to the city for the privilege of conducting a house of prostitution for six months was to-day arrested by a deputy sheriff and fined $100 by Justice McAlister. The woman had to pay the fine or go to jail. Mayor Callahan this afternoon instructed Chief of Police Shardine to raid all places to-night and arrest all persons found therein who have not procured a license.

INSATIABLE ENGLISHMEN.

It Looks as If They Intended to Buy up the United States Piecemeal.

A New York despatch says: An English syndicate, it is said, is trying to purchase the famous Granite Mountain Mine, of Montana. S. M. Rumsey, of St. Louis, President of the company, according to a despatch from that city, frankly admitted this when asked. He said that some time ago he received a letter from a New York broker asking if the mine or a controlling interest could be bought, and replied that it probably could if enough money was offered. There was some correspondence, and, finally, the New York broker made an offer of $45 per share for all or a controlling portion of the 400,000 shares, placing the value of the mine at $18,000,000. This offer has not been rejected, but Mr. Rumsey said he very much doubted its acceptance. The present negotiations, so far as can be learned, are being conducted by a New York financier's agent. He has had personal conferences on the subject, and is very well known to President Rumsey and others of the company.

Contracts With Book Agents.

A Montreal despatch says: The value of printed condition contract forms, such as used by agents soliciting subscriptions for books, pictures, etc., has been established in the Circuit Court by Mr. Justice Gill. A number of people along the Ottawa Valley subscribed to "Picturesque Canada." The plan adopted by the agent was to obtain the signature of the subscriber to a printed form. In many cases the subscribers learned for the first time what the purport of that agreement was when they received a letter from the firm of Belden Bros., the proprietors of that publication, that suit would be entered to collect $21.60 from them unless they paid the amount at once. The publishers had inserted among the conditions one to the effect that the city of Montreal was the place of making the contract, and that therefore all the legal proceedings for the breach of the same were to be taken here. Messrs. Trenholme, Taylor & Buchan, for a number of subscribers, contested such a proceeding and asked Messrs. Belden Bros. to take a test case. After hearing the evidence the Court held that a condition such as that in question in the present case was governed by the same principles as the conditions on the back of a railway ticket or bill of lading, that it did not bind without absolute proof being made by the plaintiff that the condition had been pointed out to the subscriber, and the latter had expressly agreed to the conditions.

Order of the Garter.

"Honi soit qui mal y pense," said the gallant English monarch Edward III. as he picked up a silken band of blue, clasped with silver, which the beautiful Countess of Salisbury lost as she stepped a stately measure with his majesty at the great court ball more than 500 years ago. "Honi soit mal y pense," and he clasped the ribbon about his left leg just below the knee, thus creating himself the first knight of the Order of the Garter, whose emblem, a dark blue, gold bordered band with a buckle and pendant of silver, bearing the old motto, has been and is still worn by all the great knights and famous men in England.—*New York Sun.*

—The McGinty joke is down with the grip.

PREPARING FOR KEMMLER.

Experimenting With the Murderers' Rapid Transit Apparatus.

An Auburn, N. Y., despatch of Wednesday says: Yesterday afternoon the special commission appointed to test the machines to be used for execution by electricity purchased an old horse and a four-weeks-old calf and took them into the prison. The animals were subjected to tests, and last evening Dr. Macdonald described the result to the reporters. He said that they were successful, and had demonstrated that the alternating current possessed the power to cause death instantaneously. The old horse was killed first. A quantity of cotton waste was fastened to his head and around his right hind leg just below the gambrel joint; then the wires were arranged and the current turned on. The contact of the current with the horse's body was less than half a minute; he was killed instantly. The current registered about 1,000 volts. The horse did not struggle. In the case of the calf, Dr. Macdonald said that the current was of the same voltage as the one used on the horse; the contact on the calf was less than ten seconds. As soon as the calf fell over Dr. Fell went to work on its body to see if animation had simply been suspended. He performed the operation tracheotomy, opening the windpipe, and applied his patent resuscitating apparatus; and artificial respiration was kept up for half an hour, but there was no sign of returning life. The heart of the calf could not be made to beat again, and the members of the commission were in high glee, because Dr. Fell's apparatus had been used with success in five cases upon human patients. Dr. Fell was brought here by the commission for the special purpose of making the test. The machine in Auburn prison can generate a current of 2,000 volts.

FALL OF THE PLAZA.

Collapse of a Crowded Platform—Many People Injured.

A City of Mexico despatch says: Telegrams from Villa Lerdo give full particulars of the fall of the Plaza. Last Tuesday, while a bull fight was in progress, about 10,000 people were crowded into the building. When the second bull was being killed nearly every person present rose and stood applauding and stamping their feet, when suddenly one side of the Plaza commenced to give way. A rush followed and the extra movement of the thousands of spectators helped to bring about the fall of the structure. It bulged out rapidly and collapsed, precipitating the unlucky inmates to the ground, the distance of fall ranging from ten to twenty-five feet. Many were buried beneath the debris. Among them were many ladies of the best families of the town. In their desperate situation many fights occurred among the men, and many were stripped of every stitch of clothing. The crowd on the opposite side of the building, numbering several thousands, became panic-stricken and fell and trampled on one another in their attempts to reach the outside of the Plaza. The bull-fighters were also seized with fear and made their exit with the bull closely following. The trampling of the helpless and the agonized cries of the men and women made the place a scene of pandemonium. It was not until outside help came to the people pinned down by the planks and timber that the unfortunate victims were released from their painful positions. Many physicians were called and the wounds of the people were attended to. The number of wounded will reach into the hundreds, but while the injuries of a great many are serious and painful, it is not thought that any will prove fatal.

WITH A CRASH.

Two Trains Meet on a Single Track with Frightful Results.

An Indianapolis despatch of Tuesday says: A frightful and fatal wreck occurred at Komoko this morning on the Panhandle Railway, one mile north of the depot. Train No. 13, north bound, Conductor Thomas Lamb, left the junction at 2.15 a. m., schedule time. When about a mile north it met No. 14, south bound, in care of Conductor V. S. Noland. It was running about 50 miles an hour. The two trains crashed together, totally demolishing the engines and burning the baggage car and coaches of the south bound train, which tumbled on top of the engines. The injured were confined to engine and express and baggage cars. George Cummings, engineer of No. 14, was buried in the wreck, and died immediately after being extricated. Tom McCullough, engineer on No. 13, lies at the Clinton House, Komoko, with his head crushed, and cannot live. Baggage-master J. Kerlin, injured in the head, was taken to Galveston, where he died at 9 o'clock. Thomas Harber was hurt seriously. These men all lived at Logansport. Adams' Express Messenger Glant was seriously, though not fatally, hurt about the body. Two men, named Woods and Webb, were badly hurt in the general smash up, but not fatally. A number of passengers in the coaches were shaken up badly, but the Pullmans escaped, many of the passengers not being wakened. The cause of the wreck is a mystery, as the engineers of both trains are unable to testify, but a general opinion is that the north bound engineer was trying to make a "sneak" to the side track at Jewett, four miles north, to pass No. 14, which was slightly behind time.

Cocaine Hallucinations.

MM. Magnan and Saury report three cases of hallucination due to the cocaine habit. One patient was always scraping his tongue, and thought he was extracting from it little black worms; and the other made his skin raw in the endeavor to draw out cholera microbes; and a third, a physician, is perpetually looking for cocaine crystals under his skin. Two patients suffered from epileptic attacks and a third from cramps. It is important to notice that two of these patients were persons who had resorted to cocaine in the hope of being able to cure themselves thereby of the morphine habit, an expectation which had been disappointed. For more than a year they had injected from one to two grains of cocaine under the skin, without, however, giving up the morphine injections, which were only reduced in quantity. The possibility of substituting cocainism in the endeavor to cure morphinomania is a danger, therefore, which must be carefully held in view.—*British Medical Journal.*

THOUGHTS ON OLD AGE

By One of the Most Youthful of American Octogenarians.

(Oliver Wendell Holmes in Atlantic Monthly.)

I am afraid that old people found life rather a dull business in the time of King David and his rich old subject and friend, Barzillai, who, poor man, could not have told a teal from a canvas-back, nor enjoyed a symphony concert, if they had had those luxuries in his day. There were no pleasant firesides, for there were no chimneys. There were no daily newspapers for the old man to read, and he could not read them if there were, with his dim eyes, nor hear them read, very probably with his dulled ears. There was no tobacco, a soothing drug, which in its various forms is a great solace to many old men and to some old women—Carlyle and his mother used to smoke their pipes together, you remember. Old age is infinitely more cheerful, for intelligent people at least, than it was two or three thousand years ago. It is our duty, so far as we can to keep it so. There will always be enough about it that is solemn, and more than enough, alas! that is saddening. But how much there is in our times to lighten its burdens! If they that look out at the windows be darkened, the optician is happy to supply them with eye-glasses for use before the public, and spectacles for their hours of privacy. If the grinders cease because they are few, they can be made many again by a third dentition, which brings no toothache in its train. By temperance and good habits of life, proper clothing, well warmed, well drained and well ventilated dwellings, and sufficient, not too much, exercise, the old man of our time may keep his muscular strength in very good condition. I doubt if Mr. Gladstone, who is fast nearing his 80th birthday, would boast, in the style of Caleb, that he was as good a man with his axe as he was when he was 40, but I would back him—if the match were possible—for 100 shekels, against that over-confident old Israelite, to cut down and chop up a cedar of Lebanon. I know a most excellent clergyman, not far from my own time of life, whom I would pit against any old Hebrew rabbi or Greek philosopher of his years and weight, if they could return to the flesh, to run a quarter of a mile on a good, level track.

We must not make too much of such exceptional cases of prolonged activity. I often reproached my dear friend and classmate, James Freeman Clarke, that his ceaseless labors made it impossible for his coevals to enjoy the luxury of that repose which their years demanded. A wise old man, the late Mr. James Walker, President of Harvard University, said that the great privilege of old age was the getting rid of responsibilities. These hard-working veterans will not let one get rid of them until he drops in his harness, and so gets rid of them and his life together. How often has many a tired old man envied the superannuated family cat, stretched upon the rug before the fire, letting the genial warmth tranquilly diffuse itself through all her internal arrangements! No more watching for mice in dark, damp cellars, no more awaiting the savage gray rat at the mouth of his den, no more scurrying up trees and lamp-posts to avoid the neighbor's cur who wishes to make her acquaintance! It is very grand to "die in harness," but is is very pleasant to have the tight straps unbuckled and the heavy collar lifted from the neck and shoulders.

How to Treat Children.

Don't deceive or frighten children into obedience by bugbears.

Don't tell the faults or cute sayings of your child in his presence.

Don't manifest a spirit of partiality. Children are sure to detect this.

Don't encourage in a small child that for which you will punish him when older.

When you promise a child something don't forget to fulfil the promise to the letter.

Don't be constantly menacing a child with "I'll whip you," or "I'll put a stick over you."

Don't ever let him see in you a trace of the "I'm-bigger-than-you-and-you've-got-to-mind" spirit.

Don't punish a child in anger, but let him know that you dislike the task and perform it for his good.

Don't do and say things for the sake of causing him to show anger, and then scold because he does so.

Don't trample mercilessly under foot the wishes of a child, but respect them as far as possible.

Don't say, "Oh, do hush up!" or "Don't bother me with so many questions" when a child questions you.

Don't feel it beneath your dignity to give a child the reason for a refusal, if practicable to do so; if it is not, your former conduct should have inspired such confidence toward you that he will cheerfully submit, though he does not understand your motives.—*New England Farmer.*

Elements of Happiness.

In a reading class which met in New York the other day the question was propounded: "What are the ten elements necessary to happiness in a woman's life?" The answers were curiously varied, and the two here selected show how differently two women can regard a given subject: 1, no nerves; 2, a good digestion; 3, money galore; 4, self-satisfaction; 5, independent widowhood; 6, a capability for enjoyment; 7, the faculty of forgetting; 8, the knack of always saying the right thing in the right place, instead of thinking of it afterward; 9, to expect little from one's friends; 10, to die at 40. 1, a clear conscience; 2, perfect health; 3, congenial work; 4, some measure of success 5, a few tried friends; 6, to be considered attractive; 7, to retain forever a few illusions; 8, to be able to relieve some of the misery one meets; 9, to be philosophical; 10, and keep from falling desperately in love.

—The Earl of Dudley has sold Turner's "Grand Canal, Venice," formerly in the Manley Gallery in England, for a price exceeding $50,000. It is said to have been bought for Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt.

—Said the Governor of North Dakota to the Governor of South Dakota: "Isn't it rather a long time between blizzards?"