

## INTERESTING ITEMS.

### Horse Racing on Sunday—Hard Times in London—The German Militia System—An Old Soldier &c., &c.

Temperance men in England complain that at bars ginger ale costs twice as much as the same quantity of beer.

The directors of the Chicago Driving Park have resolved that hereafter races shall be run on Sunday as well as on any other day.

One hundred and forty-seven thousand persons visited the reading room, in 1882, of the British Museum and only 70,000 that of the Paris Public Library.

It seems that the report that there was a plot to destroy by dynamite the German Emperor at the inauguration of the Niederwald monument, although at first contradicted, is quite true.

A meeting of the Paris bar has passed a resolution—which, of course, has no legal effect—that the receiver of a letter has the right to publish it without the consent of the writer or his heirs.

The first "Secretary of Scotland" will probably be Lord Aberdeen. Lord Rosebery is an able man, but as the appointment does not carry a seat in the Cabinet, it is not likely that he will accept it.

Some time ago Mr. Ellis Lyster, of Manchester, England, offered a prize of \$2,500 for the best safety lamp for use in mines. Over ninety lamps have been sent in, many coming from the United States and others from the Continent.

The London Religious Tract Society knows that last year it issued 30,000,000 tracts, and that its "trade receipts" were \$948,155, but unfortunately it cannot say how many persons read the tracts or benefited by their perusal.

In the course of last year the German Lifeboat Society saved 277 lives, the rescued persons belonging to 47 German vessels, and to 5 English, 4 Dutch, 4 Swedish, 3 Danish, and 2 Russian ships. The Society supports 87 lifeboat stations.

The National Library of France can boast about a million more books than that of England, but then it had a start of about a century. As early as 1617 a decree was made compelling publishers to forward to it every book they published.

There is at present a great dearth of Protestant theologians in Germany. Very few young men choose the Church as a profession, and, according to a recent account, the pulpits of several country parishes are vacant literally for the want of a pastor.

A sign of the imppecunious times in London is the substitution at the clubs of a nip of whiskey for 6 cents in lieu of sherry and bitters for 12. The receipts for wines and liquors in most clubs have, by reason of blue ribbonism going hand in hand with hard times, sensibly decreased.

It is said that only one small herd of buffaloes remain in Texas. This has been feeding on the Pecos River, in the Staked Plains region, but a band of hunters is hovering about it continually, killing the animals as fast as the meat can be cared for, and its days are numbered. This is the remnant of what was known a few years ago as "the great Southern herd."

Col. Malczewski, who died lately at his house in Prussian Poland, was 100. While serving in the Prussian army he was taken prisoner, and forthwith entered the French army and took part in many of Napoleon's campaigns. After Waterloo he went home, but in the rising of 1830 entered the Polish army, and, being taken prisoner, passed 47 years in Siberia. He was only released in 1879.

M. Pasteur officially announces that his researches have led him to the important discovery that if the poison of rabies is introduced into the bodies of monkeys it is greatly diminished in its virulence, and that in this milder form it may be inoculated into the bodies of other animals without producing any serious evil, but, on the contrary, destroying the liability to canine madness.

The heirs of Blenheim, which the Duke of Marlborough is trying to sell, include one of the very few services of solid gold plate existing in England. The Queen and the Dukes of Buccleuch and Wellington are understood to be almost the only persons possessing them.

There are in Great Britain three State papers, the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin *Gazettes*. The first makes a large income by reason of the various notices which the law requires to be inserted in it. Besides these papers there is the official police "Hue and Cry" for each country.

An advertisement in the Paris *Figaro* announces that a man of 35, titled, intelligent, and energetic, would accept any situation, even one perilous and requiring him to go far away, or marriage, in return for the payment of \$20,000 of debt. Any one who wants him must write to B. L. H. Poste Restante, Rue Montaigne, Paris.

The juvenile inhabitants of Berlin have grown so musical in their tastes that a petition to the city Police Department is now in circulation requesting that the practice of the art be by ordinance confined to such hours as will least interfere with the intellectual pursuits of the neighbors, who consider the eternal thrumming an insupportable nuisance.

A German, now resident in England, says that, having served for six years in the German army, he can confidently say that the military system of that country constitutes the most cursed tyrannical form of slavery that ever disgraced a civilized nation. Is it any wonder that England and the United States are completely overrun by Teutons anxious to taste abroad the sweets of freedom which they can never enjoy at home?

An eminent English Mint official, who prides himself on his ability as a coiner, states that England at the present time is losing a million a year on silver money, and that the calling in of the condemned half sovereign will cost her \$250,000 a year for some years. The recoining of old sovereigns into new ones also entails a heavy loss. The only paying department at the Royal Mint is that from which the bronze coinage is issued, and that shows an annual profit of \$360,000. While England is thus losing in gold and silver, it must be satisfactory to feel that, in what one of her Aldermen called the other day "the merry, merry brown," she is doing a money-making business in more senses than one.

The deep-sea fishes taken by the United

States Fish Commission steamer during its late cruise in the Caribbean are exciting much interest at the Smithsonian. Curiosity is intensified by those specimens of deep sea fishes which are nearly or entirely blind—the eyes becoming atrophied or obsolete from disuse, like those of the fish inhabiting the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky—while others have large eyes, and the blind fish of the cave are allied to some superficial marine fishes that have well-developed eyes.

A London paper, in its account of the meet of the Coaching Club, says the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury were conspicuous by having no guests on their coach, and they did not join the gay procession that wended its way to Hurlingham afterward. It will be remembered that Lord S. eloped with Mrs. Mundy, *nee* Morewood. What, however, has tended most of all to put England's premier Earl out of society has been his heartless conduct to his mother. It is said that on this account the Prince of Wales cut him dead.

An ill-timed cough or sneeze has often involved unpleasant consequences, but Mme. Dodeiau came to grieve the other day through merely a sigh. This lady, tired of her husband, a master butcher of Havre, eloped with a young man in his employ, after she had provided funds for a good time out of the butcher's cash box to the extent of \$2,000. M. Dodeiau's telegram brought a detective to the fugitive's hotel in Paris. There he found in bed a solitary young man, who swore roundly at him for violation of domicile. The officer was about to retire, when a half-stifled sigh arrested him. Search revealed a cunningly concealed closet, on opening which the erring and straying butcheress fell half fainting into his arms.

### A Big Blast.

The other day a crowd assembled at the limestone quarry north of Warm Springs to witness the discharge of a big blast, says the Salt Lake *Tribune*. Stone had been quarried out so as to leave a paling one hundred feet wide and over one hundred feet high. This face was nearly perpendicular, but had a bench or step extending up from the base forty feet. From this point a tunnel was run in on the dip of the ledge forty-three feet, and at the lower end a cross-cut forty-three feet long was made. At each end of this cross-cut a well was sunk nine feet deep, bringing the bottom on a level with the floor of the quarry. In one of these wells 100 kegs of powder were placed in bulk and wires were so arranged as to enable the two masses to be fired at the same time by electricity. The powder and the wires once in position, the wells were filled up with tamping. The manner in which the tunnel cross-cuts and wells were arranged made it easy to confine the explosive force of the powder so as to be more effective. Wires were stretched up the hill about seven hundred feet to a safe place, and a portable battery was carried to the spot. The crowd of spectators viewed the quarry and such features as were visible, and retired to the valley below, one thousand feet away, where they had a good chance to witness the explosion. Mrs. Frank Pascoe touched off the powder just at 4 o'clock by merely pressing a key of the machine, and at once the whole face of the quarry was raised, and fell in an immense mass of broken rock, from the size of an egg up to that nearly of a house. Mr. Pascoe estimates that the blast brought down and loosened up between thirty and forty thousand tons of rock. The report of the explosion was not heavy,—in fact, less than is often made by a stick of giant,—but the tumbling of the rocks made the earth tremble for quite a distance. The amount of smoke which rose in an immense cloud gave some idea of the amount of powder used, and for some time obscured the view.

### Sunlit Rooms.

No article of furniture should be put in a room that will not stand sunlight, for every room in a dwelling should have the windows so arranged that some time during the day a flood of sunlight will force itself into the compartments. The importance of admitting the light of the sun freely to all parts of our dwellings cannot be too highly estimated. Indeed perfect health is nearly as much dependent on pure sunlight as it is on pure air. Sunlight should never be excluded except when so bright as to be uncomfortable to the eyes. And walks should be in bright sunlight so that the eyes are protected by a veil or parasol when inconveniently intense. A sun-bath is of more importance in preserving a healthful condition of the body than is generally understood. A sun bath costs nothing, and that is a misfortune, for people are deluded with the idea that those things can only be good or useful which cost money. But remember that pure water, fresh air and sunlight homes, kept free from dampness, will secure you from many heavy bills of the doctors and give you health and vigor which no money can procure. It is now a well-established fact that the people who live much in the sun are usually stronger and more healthy than those whose occupation deprives them of sunlight. And certainly there is nothing strange in the result, since the law applies with equal force to every animate thing in nature. It is quite easy to arrange an isolated dwelling so that every room may be flooded with sunlight some time in the day, and it is possible that many town houses could be so built as to admit more light than they now receive.

### Occupation as a Preventive.

Never forget that idleness is ruinous to young people, and give your boys and girls plenty to do. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," or, to change the figure, it is very easy to run a locomotive when everything is in running order, but after a collision it is quite another thing. Take our advice. Put your boy on the right track and keep it clear. Ten chances to one he will go unhurt until he is twenty-five or thirty; and then—well, you need not break your heart because he breaks his. Accidents will happen, you know, they must come, sooner or later—but later is better. Give him something to do. As for your daughter, as soon as she leaves school her books are thrown aside, and she is expected at once to identify herself with household interests, or to become a lady of fashion, according to circumstances. Better the first than the last; but both are wrong. Give her something to do—something which involves routine. Let her keep up a slender course of study. Give her good books and papers to read. Find her occupation of some kind, or she will soon become restless and uneasy and ripe for any mischief.

## CAGING A TIGER.

### An Interesting and Exciting Episode at Singapore—The Neat and Effective Efforts of Malay Workmen.

The interest of the community of Singapore, India, was lately excited by the announcement that a fine tiger had been captured in a pit situated in a Chinaman's garden close to the eighth milestone on the Bukit Timah road leading to Tahore. This road, usually almost deserted, became alive with spectators proceeding either by carriage, on horseback, or on foot to and from the scene of the capture.

The pit in which the tiger was caught was circular, and measured 11 feet deep by three feet in diameter, contracting slightly at the bottom. It was dug in sandy clay, and as the sides were clean cut the tiger was not able to escape by scrambling up. The situation was on the margin of a jungle forest, and the pit, along with others, had been dug for the purpose of capturing wild pig. These pits are covered over with thin sticks and grass or leaves, so that any unwary animals quite unaware of the unsound state of the ground. It is presumed that the tiger was either in pursuit of wild pig, or was wending his way to an adjoining farmyard, when he got into difficulties.

As soon as the owner of the pit into which the tiger had fallen was aware of his prize, he covered the mouth of the pit with strong planks, and at once looked around for a purchaser, who was soon found. The sum of \$125, as (about £25) was paid for the tiger as it lay at the bottom of the pit, and it afterwards cost \$0.10 to have him caged and conveyed to Singapore. While negotiations were being carried on, spectators were permitted to look at the magnificent animal, for which purpose the covering of planks was partially removed. He did not at all relish these visitors, and gave marked signs of disapproval by growling and springing up. He had, however, very little room for movement, but on one occasion very nearly reached the top of the pit.

For nearly six days the poor captive lay in the pit (being fed very sparingly so as to reduce his energy), while preparations were being made for caging him. At first a large square hole was dug adjacent to the pit, and it was intended to have placed a cage in this hole, having done which the partition of earth between the hole and the pit was to have been knocked away and the tiger driven into the cage. After the hole was dug this plan was, however, abandoned, as it was clumsy and dangerous, and the operation of caging the tiger was put in the hands of six Malays, who, as a race, are noted for their knowledge of woodcraft and of the habits of animals. I, with two other officers and a lady of the garrison, were the only Europeans who were fortunate enough to witness the rare sight of caging a wild tiger, and I will attempt to describe the operation in detail.

The manner in which the Malays worked was much to be admired. Every arrangement was most complete, so that no accident could in all human probability occur, and when the most difficult parts of the work was going on, strict silence was maintained among the operators, each of whom seemed to know his role with exactitude, and all worked like one machine. There seemed no fear and no hurry, while, in addition to their endeavors to bring their labors to a successful conclusion, they seemed to have

### THROUGH SYMPATHY WITH THE VICTIM

whom they treated as gently as possible.

The first thing done was to rig up a strong beam at a height of about nine feet over the hole, and this was supported on well-secured uprights, to which it was firmly lashed with withes. Next there were prepared two cylindrical baskets made of green rattan. One of these baskets measured two feet in diameter and eight feet long. The other was made just sufficiently large to be passed into the large one for the purpose of giving additional strength. One end of each basket was open while the other was closed with the exception of a hole of about three inches in diameter, the use of which will be afterward explained. Having jammed the smaller basket into the larger one, the walls of both were firmly laced together throughout with withes, to avoid any chance of slipping. Finally two new hemp ropes, two and three-quarter inches in circumference, were prepared with running nooses. Small pieces of sticks were passed through the rope as stoppers, to prevent the loop from running before required to do so. As soon as a few long poles were cut and prepared, with a fork on some and pieces of wood lashed on others to form hooks, all was ready for the operation.

The planks covering the mouth of the pit were then slightly separated to admit of the ropes and poles being passed down. The noose of one of the ropes was lowered onto the tiger's head, which intrusion he resisted violently; but, by skill and patience, the Malays managed to get the noose over the tiger's head and round his neck. This was effected by maneuvering his paws and mouth with the poles. As soon as the noose was in position, it was drawn tight enough to prevent its being removed by the prisoner. The other rope was then passed down and secured in a similar manner. The operation of placing the two nooses round the neck occupied twenty-three minutes. The ends of the ropes were then passed through the cylindrical baskets, entering at the open end and passing out at the small hole at the other end. They were afterward passed over the overhead beam, and were held by a party of twelve coolies, ready to haul when directed to do so. The basket was then placed mouth downward over the pit, and the planks were moved just sufficiently to admit of the basket being lowered into the mouth of the pit. The exact elevation of the basket was regulated by a third rope, which was lashed to it and passed over the overhead beam and held by one man.

When all was secured and ready the word to haul was given, and the tiger was

### DRAWN UP HEAD FOREMOST INTO THE BASKET,

which was only large enough to receive him, and thus he was unable to struggle with effect. As soon as he was well into the basket the whole was drawn up and then laid on its side, when the mouth of the basket was at once laced up, leaving nothing but the tiger's tail protruding. When all was fast the nooses round his throat were slackened, so as to admit of his breathing freely. The nooses were, however, still left round his neck for after operations. The basket was now slung on a pole, and, with its contents, borne down the hill to the road, where a cage was in readiness to receive him. The cage was six feet long by two and a half feet broad, and was made of

stout beams and planks, except at the ends, which were enclosed with iron bars of an inch in diameter. Four of the bars at one end could be drawn up, and served as a door. The mouth of the basket was now firmly lashed to the end of the cage, where were the movable bars; and the ends of the ropes which were round the tiger's neck, were by means of a hooked stick passed backward over the tiger and through the cage where they were held by men ready to haul. The movable bars of the cage were now drawn up, and the mouth of the basket was cut by means of a long knife, but as the tiger seemed indisposed to move out of the basket, his hind legs were levered backward with sticks, while the men in the rear hauled on the ropes.

At first the backward movement was slow, but when the tiger discovered that all was apparently clear behind, he struggled out of the basket and flew to the back of the cage, where he was checked by the bars, and retained by the ropes round his neck, which were drawn in with lightning speed by the Malays who, were evidently prepared for this movement of the tiger. The movable bars were now replaced, and the basket was cut away from the cage. All that remained was to remove the ropes from his neck, which was done by means of hooked sticks; and then the poor beast, finding himself free to move, rushed frantically about the cage, although his movements were much prescribed. Covers were then put over the bars and this soothed him. The cage having been hoisted on to a bullock cart, was removed to Singapore, where the tiger is now on view, previous to being shipped to some dealer in England or America. He is a magnificent animal, beautifully marked, and in fine condition. According to such measurements as could be made as he lay in the basket, he is nine feet long from his nose to the tip of his tail.

While waiting to see him taken out of the pit we noticed the tracks of other tigers. Some of them were large, and probably those of the tigress, prowling about near her mate, while the others were tracks of cubs. They were quite fresh, as a thunder storm the previous evening must have obliterated any old tracks.

In conclusion, I must again say that all praise is due to the Malays who carried out the operation of noosing, raising, and caging the tiger. Nothing could exceed their skill and method of working.—*Correspondence London Field.*

### One Wing of the Chinese Army.

With these troops also bows and arrows are the favorite weapons, though a small proportion of the men carry matchlocks. Six times a month they practice archery on foot; and every string and summer, dressed in armor, they go through the same exercises on horseback. This division furnishes a guard of two men at each gate of the "forbidden city," whose duty it is to sit holding a rod bar across the gateway, and who rise only to princes of the blood. It also supplies the night patrols within the "forbidden city," who allow no one either to enter or leave the precincts unless he be the bearer of half a broken token which when fitted with the corresponding portion in possession of the officer on duty matches it exactly. The "light division," as its name indicates, is especially intended for services requiring strength and activity. The men are drilled six times a month with the scaling ladder, when they also fire three volleys with the matchlock; six times they wrestle and perform feats of horsemanship, one rider leaping on the back of another's horse, met at a gallop, while the rider of the latter similarly exchanges his seat at the same moment. While mounted they likewise fire three rounds with the matchlock, shoot three flights of arrows, and attack and defend with the sword and iron whip or flail. \* \* \* They have, besides, six trials monthly in horse and foot archery, and twice a year, for 12 days at a time, practice at a mark with a matchlock; each marksman takes five shots each day, and is rewarded or punished according as his varied success places him in one of the three classes of proficiency." This is the kind of military exercise which particularly delights the Chinese mind. Such exhibitions of agility as somersaults and leaps are, to their thinking, inexpressibly terrifying to the enemy, and when accompanied by shouts and cries, cannot fail, they consider, to spread dismay in the opposing ranks. The "shout of battle" has, through all time, been recognized as a power in the fight; but the "buxom valer" whose "grace is only in the heels," which is displayed by Chinese soldiers, can only inspire contempt among any troops but such as are even on a lower level of inefficiency than Chinese warriors. As Corporal Trim says, "one good thrust with the bayonet is worth them all."

### HEBREW THOUGHTS.

Do you live near a pig is fool.  
If the fox is king, bow before him.  
A miser is as wicked as an idolator.  
Teach thy tongue to say "I do not know."  
Thy friend has a friend, and thy friend's friend has a friend; be discreet.  
Despise no man and deem nothing impossible; every man has his hour and everything its place.  
To pray loudly is not a necessity of devotion; when we pray we must direct our hearts towards Heaven.  
He or she who gives charity becomes blest, or, as it is written: "A beneficent soul will be abundantly blest."

There are three crowns—of the Law, the Priesthood and the Kingship; but the crown of a good name is greater than them all.

Though it is not incumbent upon thee to complete the work, do not therefore cease from pursuing it. If the work is great, great will be thy reward, and thy Master is faithful in His payment.—*Translated from the Talmud.*

Victor Hugo, when about to make the journey in Germany which inspired his book, "The Rhine," called at the government office for his passports, when the following conversation took place with the clerk: "Your name, if you please?" "Victor Hugo," "Age?" "Thirty-three." "Profession?" The post lifted proudly his Olympian front and replied with majesty: "Founder of my school." "Very well. Write"—turning to a fellow-clerk—"write out a passport for M. Victor Hugo; age, 33; schoolmaster."

## HORRIBLE RELIGIOUS RITES.

### The Barbarous Practices of the "Penitents" of New Mexico.

\* There is within the limits of New Mexico a body known as Las Flagelantes or Las Penitentes. The latter name is more common with us here.

The Journal man on Friday had an opportunity of witnessing the methods of these people as exhibited at Nacimiento, in the northern portion of this county, and one of the strongholds of the order. The little adobe church was filled to overflowing with devotees of the order and idle curiosity seekers. Services were commenced with singing and then other exercises followed preliminary to the horrible work so soon to follow. An immense cross had been provided, the length of which was fully twelve feet, with a cross-bar of about six feet, and the whole weighing fully 175 to 200 pounds. Those who were to take part in the brutal, cruel exercises were three men ranging in age from twenty-one to twenty-eight years. All were stripped to the waist, and each carried a piece of soap-weed, which is very tough of fibre, and through which thorns from our native cactus had been pushed, making an instrument the very sight of which brought back thoughts of the days of the Inquisition.

One of the men with much effort took the cross upon his back and the procession was ready to start for a little hill about one mile distant. A sort of weird melody or chanting was set up and the scourge immediately applied to the back of each devotee by his own hand. Blood started at every stroke, but the lashing was kept up without cessation. Several times he who bore the cross fell under its weight, when with a horrible demoniac shout from his brothers in misery he was brought to his feet again and given renewed courage by a terrible scourging administered to him by those nearest.

It required fully an hour to make the journey, for the cross-bearer fell upon his face no less than seven times, a scourging being administered upon each occasion. The top of the hill reached, the cross was erected and he who had borne the instrument thither was stretched upon it, being tied hand and foot. Again and again he was made to feel the thorns, until at last from loss of blood he fainted completely away, and there he was left while all the others returned to the church. The victim of this fanaticism, this hideous barbarity, must remain upon that cross until the darkness may hide those who come to carry him away. Several have died under this usage, but even this never serves as a lesson for the future.

All day long this self beating is kept up being varied now and then by new and additional methods of torture. Long limbs of the cactus bush are lashed up and down the limbs, so that the sharp, keen thorns, pierce the flesh at short intervals, causing the crimson streams to cover the grounds on all sides of the poor, suffering, ignorant, fanatic. Fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters look on and only seem to enjoy the terrible physical sufferings of those who should be nearest and dearest to them, and even suggest new ways in which their afflictions may be increased. Is it any wonder that these devotees become crazed, or worse still, meet their death? In three cases out of five so we were informed, the exercises end in the death of the celebrants.

### Given to Lying.

What is the matter with the human race? What obliquity is it that induces people to tell lies out of which they can get no possible benefit? Are the majority of people consciously untruthful, or are they really the dupes of their senses? "I said in my wrath all men are liars." Perhaps he might have said it coolly and with scientific precision. Perhaps it is a question of physiology rather than of morals. The human frame is acknowledged to be a wonderful piece of mechanism. The Psalmist admired it, but he puzzled him. If he had been a scientist he would have been able to give physiological reasons for the opinion that there is not one perfect man—no, not one. Scarcely a perfect woman. It is known that two people do not see the same thing alike, and consequently they describe it differently. They do not hear the same statement alike, and they always repeat it with variations. Of all witnesses the eye is the least trustworthy. It appears to be the most subject to delusions. There is a reason for this. No two persons have eyes alike. The two eyes in one head are seldom alike; if they match in color they are different in form, different in focus. Not one eye in ten millions is in a normal perfect condition. The focus is either behind the retina or in front of it, and the eye is either near-sighted or far-sighted. What can be expected of such an imperfect organ in the way of correct observation? It appears to be still worse with the ear. It is at best a crooked organ, and nearly everything that passes through it gets a twist. And these two defective machines are allied with probably the most deceitful little member that ever was—the tongue. The effort of the tongue to put into sound and speech the so called impressions obtained through the complicated mechanism of the eye and the ear is a ludicrous failure. Any one who is familiar with a court of justice or neighborhood talk knows that. And owing to the sympathy of one part of the body with another, the thumb and the fore and middle fingers (which hold the pen) become infected. The situation of the inflexible steno-graphic pen for the flowing quill steel it was thought would tend to remedy this defect. But this obstacle in the way of writing does not check the tendency to pervertate any more than stuttering does in the case of the tongue; and it is just as difficult for a stutterer to speak the truth as for a glib-tongued person. The consequence of this infection of the pen fingers is that what is not strictly true now and then creeps into print. People are beginning to find out this physical defect, and many persons now will not believe what they read in a newspaper any more than if it were told them by an intimate friend. But they read it and repeat it; and owing to the eye defects before spoken of, they scarcely ever repeat it as it is printed. So we all become involved in a congeries of misrepresentation.—*Charles Dudley Warner, in Harper's Magazine for July.*

Little Florence C. was besieging her father to take her to visit her grandmother, who lived some miles distant. To get rid of her importuning he said: "It costs \$10 every time we go to see grandma, Florence, and \$10 don't grow on every bush." "Neither do \$10 grandmas grow on every bush," answered the little girl promptly, and her logic was convincing. They went.