CURRENT NOTES.

No discouragement serves to abate the thirst for Arctic exploration, failure only leading to a change of meth' ods and advance by a new route. Dr. Nansen, will it is said, attempt to penetrate the icy circle around the south pole before again trying to make the "furthest north," and voyages of exploration in antarctic waters are also to be undertaken by Dr. Frederick A. Cook and Borchevink. But Lieutenant Peary Outlined at a recent meeting of the American Geographical Society, a plan of approach to the north pole, quite certain to insure the continuance of the work in that direction. The results already accomplished by these explorers, and the methods of living and working devised and pursued by them, leave little doubt that the pole can be reached, and give the weight of authority to any scheme of advance they may suggest. The failure of Nansen's ship to drift across the pole from the northeast, while not absolute proof of the uselessness of further efforts from the Asian side, lends probability to Lieutenant Peary's theory that the Greenland route best fulfils the conditions of approach, furnishing at once a base of supply and of attack. The probability will be increased should the explorations now being made by Mr. Jackson in Franz Josef land also fail, for the route through Baffin's Bay, Smith Sound and along the Greenland coast to the archipelago stretching away to the northward, discovered by Peary, will then remain, so far as present knowledge goes, the most practicable one. Even that will be feasible only in certain favorable seasons; and in the impossibility of knowing when such seasons may occur, an exploring party will, to take advantage of them, have to be on the ground with its equipment and supplies, ready to advance promptly when opportunity offers. For this the Greenland route possess the advantage of being accessible far to the north from the sea, by which supplies can be brought by ship, and thence conveyed by sledge to the utmost extremity of the mainland, a part being stored at various points on the northwestern coast, to which the party might be driven on its return.

With a final base of operations and supplies established on the extreme northern coast, and with abundant stores cached along the route to the rear, an exploring party could work in comparative comfort and safety, and from the nearest known land base to pole, the main object to be gained. The distance from the point reached by Lockwood and Brainard in 1882 to the pole and return is less than that from Whale sound to Independence bay and return, which Peary twice covered in safety; and he thinks a small party could, in a favorable season and from a base at or near that point, make a successful dash for the pole. The advance party should, he says, have the assistance of a number of Eskimos, whom he has learned to value highly, and should be headed by the leader of the entire expedition, a position upon which he has insisted in his own successful journeyings. Another prime requisite is the raising of a sufficient sum of money to assure the expenses of the work for a decade, if necessary, so that there shall be no risk of its abandonment just when its object might be attained, a sum which would no doubt be forthcoming were Lieutenant Peary himself to head the enterprise. No one is better equipped for it than he, and no one has made a more careful study of the conditions essential to success, or could so fully command the co-operation of the natives.

A TRUE GHOST STORY.

The truth of the following story is vouched for by a London paper:

A young lady arrived late at night on a visit to a friend. She awoke in the darkness, to find a white figure at the foot of the bed. While she watched, the bedclothes were suddenly whisked off, and the apparition vanished.

After an anxious, not to say chilly night, the visitor went down to breakfast. At the table she was introduced to a gentleman, a very old friend of the family, who had, she learned, also been sleeping in the house. He complained of the cold.

"I hope you will excuse me," he said, to the hostess, "but I found it so cold during the night that, knowing the room next to mine was unoccupied, I took the liberty of going in and carrying off the bedclothes to supplement my own."

The room, as it happened, was not unoccupied, but he never learned his mistake.

LORD TENNYSON'S MEMORIAL.

It is announced in London that in her capacity as Governor of the Isle of Wight Princess Beatrice will next summer publicly unveil the memorial of the late Lord Tennyson, to be erected on the cliffs at Farringford. It gives the inhabitants of the island great delight and satisfaction for the Princess to appear in her official role, and, furthermore, she is, like the Queen a passionate admirer of Tennyson's poetry, so that her unveiling of this memorial to the late Laureate will be something more than a perfunctory duty. Princess Beatrice herself frequently reads Tennyson aloud to the Queen.

It is said that Dr. Nansen, the Norwegian explorer is much annoyed when he sees himself referred to as a Swede.

HOUSEHOLD.

SUGGESTIONS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

Dried peas and Lima beans are much cheaper than the canned, and can be cooked so as to be almost as good. Both are very palatable when properly cooked. When buying, especially peas, choose those that are greenest looking, as they will be more tender. Reject, in looking the mover, any that are white, as they were too nearly ripe to be good. They need to be soaked a long time in tepid water. Put them to soak at noon the day before they are wanted and keep the water warm. The next day put them on to cook in cold water, simmer gently for three hours; season with salt, pepper, butter, cream, and a very little sugar—a scant teaspoonful. Lima beans do not need to soak so long.

Gingerbread, to be really nice and do credit to its maker, should not be over an inch thick when it is baked. It should have the "crackly," somewhat sticky top and the dark, rich-looking interior that constitutes the ideal and should be made on New Orleans molasses. Always bake gingerbread in broad, shallow tins.

Always put a roast of beef into a quick, hot oven, then cool it to a good roasting heat. This is to sear the pores so the juices of the meat will not exude into the gravy, making the meat dry and tasteless.

Glycerine thickened with litharge—pure white lead—to the consistency of putty makes a valuable cement. It is pure white, and will stick almost anything, and resists the action of both fire and water.

HAPPINESS OF HOME.

Love is the crown of a happy wedded life, and it is studded with many jewels, but what queen is there who would think of always wearing her crown? It should always be held as so precious an object in life that its keeping should ever be in the inmost recess of the heart. It should never be exhibited in public, it should never be the theme of gossip. Depend upon it, neighbors, friends, and all within your little world will know in their own way how great is the happiness and love of your home, but it will appear greater to them the more carefully it is guarded from the sacrilege of prying eyes. It should only be brought from its abiding place at intervals, and these times should come in married life. Just as they did in the days of courtship. There should be an afternoon or evening at least once in each week in which each is ready to devote themselves to the renewal of their love pledges, and to freely unbosom themselves in the appreciation of all those qualities which they first admired in each other before they were made one and indivisible.

At all other times, "good feeling, tact, and common sense" should be the ministers of grace in the household to conduct the affairs harmoniously, equably, and happily.

DOMESTIC RECIPES.

Lemon Sauce.—One cup sugar and three heaping teaspoonfuls of corn starch, mix well, add two cups of boiling water and cook eight or ten minutes, stirring frequently. Add the grated rind and juice of one large large lemon, and a tablespoonful of butter, and serve at once. If the water boils away and the sauce becomes too thick add a little more hot water.

The above recipes are from the American Kitchen Magazine, a fact which is sufficient guarantee of their excellence.

Foamy Sauce.—Cream half a cup of butter; add one cup of powdered sugar, one teaspoonful of vanilla, and two tablespoonfuls iof any kind of fruit syrup. Just before serving stir in one quarter of a cup of boiling water; stir well then beat in the white of one egg previously beaten to a froth, and continue the beating till the sauce is foamy.

Fruit Syrup Sauce.—Put over the fire one cup of fruit syrup-cherry, peach or strawberry—juice from canned fruit will answer. Mix half a cup of sugar and a tablespoonful of corn starch and stir into the boiling syrup. Let boil five minutes, then stir in a tablespoonful of butter. Serve hot.

Sauce for a Rich Pudding.—Make a rich boiled custard with a pint of hot cream, the yolks of four eggs and half a cup of sugar. Flavor with lemon, vanilla or maraschino. This is good with fruit pudding.

Milkbread—Makes excellent bread and butter and may be eaten equally well fresh, or when a day old. Take two pounds of self-raising flour, work into it six ounces of butter and a pinch of salt. Make into a light dough with warm milk, form into a long loaf three inches thick, and bake at once.

Sandwich Without Meat.—If an unexpected lunch box has to be prepared and there is no meat available for sandwiches take the yolk of a hard-boiled egg and mash it smooth with a tablespoon of melted butter; add half a tablespoon each of salt, white pepper, mustard and one-quarter of a pound of common cheese grated. Then stir in a scant tablespoonful of vinegar and spread between thin slices of bread. Such sandwiches will be hailed with delight.

Banana Pie.—Beat the yolks of two eggs very light with one cup of crumbled cake, a half cup of sugar, butter the size of a walnut and a little rich cream. Flavor with lemon or vanilla, then stir in two large bananas, cut in thin slices, pour the mixture into a pie pan lined with good paste and bake in a quick oven. While it is baking beat the whites of the eggs very light with a little rosewater, and three tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar. Take out the pie, drop the meringue in clots over top of it and set back in the oven until it is a pale brown.

A French Ragout.—Two pounds of the round and cut it into squares. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter in a pan with as much dry flour and let it brown. Then add the meat and brown that also, adding a small onion, salt and pepper. Stir in slowly enough boiling water to cover the meat and simmer, not boil, until the beef is tender, which will take from two to three hours. As the water evaporates add more.

Braised Calf's Liver—is excellent. Wash and wipe a calf's liver and lard it thickly over the top. Place in the bottom of a pan several slices of salt pork. Cut into small pieces an onion, one carrot, a turnip and two stalks of celery, spread them over th epork and place the prepared liver on them. Dredge the liver thickly with flour, salt and pepper. Place in the pan some sprigs of parsley, a bay leaf, three cloves and three cups of stock or hot water. Put the pan in a moderate oven and cook two hours, keeping the pan covered unti lthe last twenty minutes. Baste frequently with the gravy in the pan. Put the cooked liver on a hot platter, and if the gravy in the pan is not thick enough add a little browned flour to it, season with one tablespoonful of lemon juice and one of Worcestershire sauce, strain over the liver and serve at once.

FOR A CHRISTIAN HOME.

1. We may be quite sure that our will is likely to be crossed during the day, so let us prepare for it.
2. Every person in the house has an evil nature as well as ourselves, and therefore we are not to expect too much.
3. Look upon each member of the family as one for whom Christ died.
4. When inclined to give an angry answer, let us lift up the heart in prayer.
5. If from sickness, pain, or infirmity, we feel irritable, let us keep a very strict watch over ourselves.
6. Observe when others are suffering, and drop a word of kindness.
7. Watch for little opportunities of pleasing, and put little annoyances out of the way.
8. Take a cheerful view of everything, and encourage hope.
9. Speak kindly to dependents and servants, and praise them when you can.

A STATESMAN'S WAGER.

How Lord Randolph Churchill Sprinted Across Westminster Bridge.

The late Lord Randolph Churchill was scarcely less famous as a wit and joker than as a statesman. His colleagues in the house of commons were oftentimes the victims of his pranks, and many a good story in which Randy figures as the hero is still told in the lobbies.

One night while Lord Randolph was conversing with several friends in the cafe attached to the house, a question arose as to the time it would take a pedestrian to cross Westminster bridge. Different opinions were expressed, but no two of the disputants were able to agree. At length Lord Randolph, who had been a silent auditor of the discussion offered to wager that he could cross fro mthe Middlesex to the Surrey side of the bridge while "Big Ben," the great bell in the clock tower of the parliament buildings, was striking the four quarters and the hour of 12. The wager was accepted by one of the members of the company, and it was arranged that at the hour named witnesses should be stationed at each end of the bridge to watch the performance.

A few minutes before midnight a select party of well-known members were seen to emerge from a little door near the speaker's quarters in the parliament buildings, and stalk sedately across the bridge. At the farther end the party paused, and was soon surrounded by a curious throng. Several other distinguished legislators soon afterwards appeared and politely requested passersby to keep to the left.

Just as "Big Ben" began to strike the first quarter, the lithe figure of a man, wearing a top hat, and evening clothes was seen to leap out of a little group o fmen on the Middlesex side. Some waggish friend raised the cry of "Stop, thief!" and in a jiffy half a score of wondering men and boys were fast on the heels of the doughty sprinter. A policeman hearing the cry and observing the fleeing man, started in pursuit.

As "Big Ben" continued to clang the pace grew hotter and hotter. One by one the pursuers began to fall away, but the big policeman hung grimly to his task. When the center of the bridge was reached the quarters had been rung and the great bell had already begun to strike the hour. A cheer arose from the watchers on the Surrey side, and Lord Randolph, who had until then been running up an incline, now had the descent in his favor. A few moments later the panting policeman came upon his man, surrounded by admiring friends.

"What's up?" stuttered the breathless and bewildered bobby.

"Two strokes to spare!" puffed the victorious Lord Randolph.

The officer stared, blushed, apologized, wiped his brow and went his way.

MR. GOSLINGTON'S YOUNGSTER.

The youngster is liable at any time of night, said Mr. Goslington, to wake up and ask what time it is. I don't know why it is so, but so far as my observation extends all very young children are greatly interested in knowing the time of night and the later it is the more interested they are. Midnight seems tremendously late to them, and 1 or 2 o'clock a strange and impressive time. They seem to feel it is an experience simply to be awake at that unearthly hour.

LARGEST LIBRARY.

The largest library in the world is the National Library of France, founded by Louis XIV., and which contains 1,400,000 books, 300,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, 150,000 coins and gold medals, 1,300,000 engravings and 100,000 portraits.

SUPERIOR TO HUMAN SIGHT

SCIENCE OUTDOES NATURE AND CONSTRUCTS A NEW ORB.

Electric Waves Which Penetrate Everything—Signals Sent for More Than a Mile by a Wonderful and Invisible Force.

Science has constructed an eye which sees wonderful lights that are invisible to man. The strangest part of it all is that what this eye looks into is a mystery which a slight defect in human vision has prevented mankind gaining the privilege of seeing. Experiments showed, years ago, that the world floated in what is known as ether. It has now been discovered that in this ether there are invisible lights and waves.

These lights are produced by the electric waves in the ether, and they are possessed of wonderful power. No substance is to them opaque. Not only can they penetrate the atmosphere and all other transparent creations, but granite, iron doors and mounds of earth, not to mention human bones, are to them as glass.

All these things are vouched for by a scientist who is becoming a power in European circles—Prof. Jagadis Chunder Bose, professor of physical science at the Presidency College at Calcutta. Prof. Bose is a Hindoo, and a native of Bengal, but he is easily at the head of Indian scientists, and that is a land where scientific lore dates back far beyond the inspiration of the Koran—a fact which carries exceeding weight. Prof. Bose has just laid his discoveries before the British Association of Science, a body of men who are so practical that theory is always at a

DISCOUNT AMONG THEM.

One of the greatest difficulties which Prof. Bose found in his investigation was the defection of the invisible light. After a series of experiments it was found to be absolutely necessary to contrive some sort of artificial vision, and the work was begun. The result of it all is the electric eye, by means of which the invisible can be seen.

In the construction of this artificial eye these essential parts are necessary: A sensitive surface known as the retina, on which the image of the external object is focused by the eye lens; a conductive strand, known as the optical nerve, which carries the visual impulse to the brain. The twitching produced in the brain by this impulse gives rise to the sensation of light.

Despite the fact that it is artificial in every way, and savors not at all of the human, yet it really works on principles similar to the eyes through which we look. In the first place there is the sensitive layer, and the invisible light falilgn on this, results in an electric falling on this results in an electric impulse. This impulse carried by a conducting wire produces a twitching motion in that part of the mechanism just back of the eye, that corresponds to the human brain, and the fact of sight is made apparent by the magnified motion of the spot of light which is reflected from the moving part.

A strange fact in connection with this is that this so-called electric eye becomes tired, just as our eyes do, and, as when that fatigue produces an itching sensation in the human eye, we rub it, so it is necessary to rub the electric eye. The effect in both cases is similar. It

SEEMS TO PRODUCE REST.

Now, while this strange orb of science is very wonderful in its way, what it reveals to us is far more strange than the eye or the principle upon which it is constructed.

Sound is produced by the vibration of matter. Light is due to the vibration of ether. There are sounds that are inaudible, queer as that may seem, Just so, there are lights that are invisible. The idea of the penetration of ether waves may be gained by casting a stone into a pond or any body of water whose surface is reasonably smooth. When the stone strikes the water a circle is instantly formed, or, rather, a series of circles, and these circles constantly widen until they are apparently lost in the ripples of the main surface. Again, if the string of a violin be struck, the quivering wire gives up its motion to the air, which carries it to our ear, and the motion thus communicated to the brain, produces the sensation of sound.

The machine which Prof. Bose has invented is a perfect instrument, by which the electric waves in the ether are readily produced and their properties detected and examined. These waves falling on a suitable receiver, produce the marvelous signal referred to and makes it possible to signal from one room to another, or from one place to another, without the slightest apparent means of communication. With the possible exception of metallic plates of ordinary thickness, there is no known substance, which offers material opposition to the passage of these rays. To them pitch, coal-tar and even the human body itself, flesh or blood, are as transparent as glass itself to this wondrous light.

It must not be understood that this apparatus produces in the human being the power to see at any and all times these electric light waves that are invisible under ordinary circumstances. By means of this instrument the human eye, placed at the rear of the electric eye, is able to detect flashes of light, the electric waves that can by means of this same instrument be transmitted an indefinite distance and produce signals at a given point, which is altogether invisible to the manipulator of the invention.

IRON MAY BE MADE TO FLOAT.

If a small rod of iron—a straight piece of wire for instance—be greased, it can be made to float on water. The grease apparently prevents the breaking of the surface of the water, and the iron lies cradled in a slight depression or trough. Scientists believe the floating is due to a film of air condensed on the surface of the metal, because if the rod is heated to redness, and as soon as it cools be placed on water, it will sink; but if it be exposed to the air for a short time it will float.

FORCES OF GREECE AND TURKEY.

Greece Has a Smaller Army, but Her Navy Is in Better Fighting Trim.

The army of Greece is small when compared with that of Turkey, but her navy, although also small, is in much better fighting shape. The total peace strength of the Greek army is estimated at 22,002 men, as follows: Infantry, 14,700; cavalry, 2,648; artillery, 3,420; engineers, etc., 1,234. In the first reserve there are 59,500 men, and in the second reserve 125,000, making in all a total war strength of land forces of 209,422.

The total peace strength of the Turkish army is estimated at 144,300 men, divided as follows: Infantry, 96,000; cavalry, 23,200; artillery, 16,500; engineers, etc., 8,600. In the first reserve there are 23,000 officers and 295,000 men, and in the second reserve 21,360 officers and 392,000 men, making a total war strength of 867,300 men.

The navy of Greece consists of five armorclad vessels. The oldest, built in 1867 and 1869, are the Basileus Georgios, 1,770 tons, carrying two 10-ton Krupp guns on the upper deck, four light and two machine guns, with a speed of twelve knots, and the wooden vessel Basilissa Olga, 2,600 tons, carrying four 5 1-2 ton and two 3 1-2-ton Krupp guns, with a speed of 10-knots. The steel-built Hydra, 4,885 tons, and her sister ships the Spetsai and Psara, were built in France in 1889-90. Each is protected by an over-all steel belt of 11.8 inches at the water line, above which is another belt 2.9 inches thick. Each carries three 10.6-inch and four 5.9-inch guns, besides seven 6-pounders and eighteen other small and machine guns. There are seventeen torpedo boats over 86 feet in length, one torpedo depot and two Nordenfeld submarine torpedo boats.

The unprotected vessels consist of two corvettes, 1,300 and 1,800 tons, two cruisers, 1,000 tons each, launched 1884-85; twelve gunboats, six built in 1881-84, and three revenue vessels. The navy is manned by 185 officers and cadets, 247 employees, 587 petty officers 1,643 sailors, 503 stokers. etc., total, 3,165 men.

The navy of Turkey is in a very weak condition owing to the fact that most of the best ships have been sold to other powers. There are but three vessels which can be regarded as seagoing armorclads of fighting value.

The others are of such small displacements or are so old as to be only fit for convoying cruisers and local defense vessels. While the navy looks formidable in numbers, most of the vessels would be useless in a marine engagement.

The best vessel in the navy is the Abdul Kader, a first-class modern cruiser of 8,000 tons, armored with 14-inch plates and carrying ten 10.2-inch and two 6.6-inch Krupp guns, with a possible speed of 17 knots. Then there is the Hamidiyeh, built in 1885, 6,700 tons, carrying ten 10.2-inch and two 6.6-inch Krupp guns with a central battery and speed of thirteen knots; the Mesondiyeb, built in 1874, of 8,990 tons, twelve-inch armor, carrying 10.2 ten-inch and two 6.6-inch Krupp guns, central battery and speed of thirteen knots; the four sister barbetted cruisers, Aziziyeb, Mahomondiyeb, Osmaniyeb, and Orkaniyeb, each of 6,400 tons, carrying two 11-inch, eight 5.9-inch, and six 3.9-inch Krupp guns, with a speed of twelve knots. These, however, were built in 1864. The Assar-i-Shefket and Nedjim-i-Shefket, of 2,050 tons each, built in 1868, carrying one 9-inch and four 7-inch Armstrong guns, have a speed of eleven knots; the Assar-i-Tevfik, 4,600 tons, built in 1868, carrying eight 9.4-inch and two 8.2-inch Krupp guns, with a speed of 13 knots; the Hufzi-i-Rahman, built in 1868, of 2,500 tons, carrying two 9-inch, two 7-inch Armstrong guns, and one 5-inch Krupp gun, and the Feth-i-Boulend, built in 1870, of 2,720 tons, with four 9-inch Armstrong guns, and a speed of 14 knots.

The navy is manned by 6 Vice-Admirals, 11 Rear Admirals, 208 Captains, 289 Commanders, 228 Lieutenants, 187 ensigns, and 30,000 sailors, besides 9,000 marines.

ENGLAND AND THE EMPEROR.

John Bull Does Not Like the Kaiser, But He Will Have to Toady to Him.

Unpopular as is Emperor William at the present moment in England, it is easy to conceive the disgust which has been created by the discovery in London that the brilliancy of the festivities in connection with the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne will depend in a gread measure upon His German Majesty. The Emperor of Austria, King Humbert of Italy, King Oscar of Sweden and the Kings of Greece, Portugal and Denmark are known to have made their going to England for the occasion dependent upon whether Emperor William himself chooses to attend. It is felt by these sovereigns, who are interested in the maintenance of friendly relations with Germany, that they could not possibly afford to be present in person at the celebration in London if Emperor William, who is the senior of all the Queen's grandsons, were to remain away.

This is a source of intense mortification to the Prince of Wales, who had hoped to have the pleasure of entertaining the rulers of Austria, Italy, Sweden, etc., in London without the presence of Emperor William. The latter may be relied upon, if he comes, to upset all arrangements made by the Prince of Wales, and to run the whole celebration to suit himself without the slightest regard either for his hosts or for their guests. Indeed, it is quite possible that on the strength of his being the eldest grandson of Queen Victoria, and a full-fledged Emperor, he may attempt to usurp the functions of the Prince of Wales as host to the foreign Royalties.

The situation in one ward is this—that if he does come here there will be no end of trouble, annoyance and general disagreement and ill-feeling while if he remains away his absence will entail that of most of the other crowned heads of Europe who otherwise would attend.