

Notes and Gleanings.

—Ucalyptus gum is the agent in a new quick-tanning process, said to be a great success in Victoria, Australia. It increases the rapidity of the work by forty per cent.

—A small village in Hungary, bearing the name of Szepeshely, has become famous by its being inhabited only by Roman Catholic priest and Protestant ministers.

—There has recently arrived in Germany the hide of an elephant that was sixteen feet nine inches high, this being over three feet above the largest elephant ever known hereto.

—The number of murderers per million inhabitants is in England 5.13; in Germany, 5.45; in France, 11.55; in Austria, 15.42; in Italy, 76.11; and in Spain, 44.70.

—The Duke of Westminster has acquired 160,000 acres of land in the most fertile section of the Orange River Colony, and will leave England for South Africa to inspect the property. He proposes to colonize the territory with English farmers.

—Two Australian scientists have found a race of natives on the island of Mornington who have no huts, clothes, or canoes, and who are much more primitive than the aborigines on the mainland of Australia.

—Some of the old Nile lakes, which were formerly dry salt planes in summer, and covered with a few inches of alkali water in the wet season, have been reclaimed under the British government, and are now worth from \$200 to \$300 an acre. They produce magnificent crops.

—Mr. Vanderbilt's estate of Biltmore consists of 147,000 acres in North Carolina. The house cost \$7,000,000, and is perhaps one of the most expensive dwellings in the world. It covers an area of 200 by 375 feet. The boundary fence is 300 miles long, and there are thirty-eight miles of macadamized driveways in the park.

—The Emir of Afghanistan presented the Shah of Persia with the costliest book in the world. It is a copy of the Koran bound in solid gold and studded with pearls, diamonds and rubies. The binding is valued at \$400,000, the manuscript is of negative value, for it is full of distortions of the truth and questionable morals.

—Experiments in Germany have demonstrated the practicability of keeping railroad trains on the same track in instant communication with each other, and with the stations along the way by means of a third rail, which acts as an electric wire connected with apparatus in the locomotive cab. This apparatus can be used as a telephone, and it also works automatically in signaling stoppages of a train. It is reported that the French government is to equip all the state lines with the system.

—Of the soil of Africa the European nations are almost complete owners. Great Britain had 2,500,000 square miles before the absorption of the Dutch republics, and not including Egypt and the Soudan, which would add 1,000,000 more. Portugal has about 850,000, Spain 200,000, Germany 800,000 and Italy 600,000. Can civilized nations acquire rights without also incurring obligations. If a nation takes another people's land, the least that can be given in return is enlightenment and the gospel.

—An effort is being made in England to raise sufficient money for the erection of a memorial to John Kays, the inventor of the "fly shuttle." In every loom before his time, the shuttle was passed by hand through the warp from one side to the other. The invention about doubled the capacity of the operator, and

the innovation aroused the ire of the weavers to such an extent that Kaye was made the victim of a mob attack at one time, and his house and property destroyed. He died in poverty, and the location of his grave is unknown.

—Prof. L. R. Garner, a naturalist of note, has sailed for the west coast of Africa to study the language of monkeys. He will make his headquarters at Gaboon and Cape Lopez, from which points he will proceed from time to time on trips into the jungle. Prof. Garner carries with him one of the most complete phonograph outfits ever manufactured, provided with diaphragms so sensitive that they will record the slightest jungle noise. He also takes along an iron cage in which he will sit while making observations.

—A converted priest, Mr. Joseph McCabe, so the *Presbyterian Standard* says, has been telling the truth about Catholicism in Spain, in a way the Catholics do not at all relish. Mr. McCabe spoke of the "bulls," the old indulgence against which Luther protested, which in Spain are signed and sealed documents, which any one may purchase for fifteen cents, granting a plenary indulgence. Dr. Rivier, a Catholic defender of the faith, writes in the *Catholic Union and Times* that "the penance for certain venial sins of not too serious a nature, can be commuted to a small fine."

THE MINISTER.

Says the *Journal and Messenger*: We do not admire a prig in the pulpit any more than in society at large, and we do not want to see our ministers assuming that they are better than other men of pure lives—a class, or profession. But we sympathize with the remarks of the *Universalist Leader*, when it asks: "How can a minister expect people to take his church, his calling, or himself seriously, when he so continually cheapens all three in the presence of his people?" The man who thinks that he shows a broad and generous spirit because he allows men to speak contemptuously of either the church or the ministry in his presence, makes a mistake. The *Leader* well says: "The church is the biggest thing on earth, and the chief concern of the minister, else he has no place in its ministry. If he does not respect his calling, no one else will. If he does not respect himself, no one else will; no one will value him more highly than he values himself. If he does not believe in his church as the most vital institution in the community, he cannot expect others to be drawn to it, though he preach like an angel." Many a church has lost standing in a community because of the lack of self-respect on the part of its pastor. We have heard of men who seemed to think that they were doing God's service when they consorted with common men in common places, allowing themselves to be addressed and treated as familiars by men of low degree. To "condescend to men of low estate" does not require that we put ourselves on the same plane with them. We may go down to lift them up, but we must not stay down, as though that were the proper place to occupy, as though we loved to be there.

THE HEBREWS. — Professor Haman, who is a leading authority on this subject, says the Hebrews now number about ten millions, of whom a good two-thirds are settled in Europe. Russia contains 5,500,000, Austria-Hungary, 1,860,000, Germany 568,000, Roumania, 300,000, and Great Britain 200,000. Next to Europe comes the United States with 1,000,000. Asia, the original home of the race, contains 250,000, Africa 270,000, and Australia 17,000.

Professor Haman believes that more than 200,000 Hebrews embraced Christianity during the nineteenth century.

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LUNACY STATISTICS AND DRINK.

Dr. Forbes Winslow, D.C.L., LL.D., writing in the *London Daily News* last week, says:

The issue of the 57th report of the Lunacy Commissioners contains appalling and sad news. From it we gather that 32 per cent of lunacy at the present day is caused by drink.

During the last five years the average admitted each year, the assignable cause being drink, is 3,143, by far the highest of all the physical causes.

Of the total number of registered lunatics, *i. e.*, 113,964, about 36,465 are at the present moment detained as certified lunatics, whose condition has been so brought on by drink.

These facts, says Dr. Winslow, are so alarming that public attention ought to be drawn to it forthwith, with a view of seeing whether something cannot be done to check its sure and steady progress.

"I have," he adds, "this morning received a very interesting letter from a member of the police force who, during the tenure of his office, had the charge of the van conveying prisoners, and upwards of 47,000 came under his observation. Of this number, he informs me, he can only recollect three who were teetotalers. He says he found most of the female prisoners young mothers, frequently with a baby in their arms, which accompanied its mother to prison to be initiated at that early age into prison life. That nine-tenths of these women had lost all self-respect, thus educating and breeding drunkards. No honest man with a drunken wife can bring up his children properly. It is the mother's influence which exerts the greatest power over the child, and is responsible for its good or evil training.

"Alcohol in every form ought to be shunned and avoided, as being one of the greatest gifts from the devil that we possess, and which, from what I have stated, is responsible for making a sane nation into a mad one."

A flock of ostriches at Phoenix, A. T., now numbers more than 1,000 birds. Their increase is rapid because a pair—barring accidents—will raise a brood each summer for seventy years.

RAILWAY PROGRESS.

The Cape-to-Cario railroad projected by Cecil Rhodes is to be carried forward. Recently the King of the Belgians signed a concession giving an Anglo-Belgian Company the right to build the same through Belgian Congo. This diverts the line north of Rhodesia from the Belgian capital. The man who twenty-five years ago predicted an unbroken line of railway from Patagonia to the Arctic Ocean may yet be proved to have been a true seer. Little by little railroads are creeping over the whole habitable globe, and stretching over vast expanses that will forever remain uninhabitable, in order to connect great nations.

It is proposed to construct a railway from Haifa on the coast, below Mount Carmel, to the Sea of Gennesareth, taking in Nazareth and other towns in Galilee.

Marriages.

CHASE-TAPLEY.—At the residence of Herbert Sprague, Fredericton, Sept. 29th, by Rev. F. Clarke Hartley, Mr. Humphrey Chase, of Canning, to Miss Celia Chase, of Sheffield.

PRICE-CLARK.—At the parsonage, Fredericton, Sept. 28th, by Rev. F. Clarke Hartley, Mr. Herbert E. Price, of St. John, to Miss Effie M. Clark, of Gibson.

CULLIGAN-DENNISON.—At the parsonage, Fredericton, Oct. 21st, by Rev. F. Clarke Hartley, Mr. Hayward Culligan, of Marysville, to Miss Carrie Dennison, of Revere, Mass.

MCLAGGAN-MCKAY.—At the parsonage, Fredericton, Sept. 23rd, by Rev. F. Clarke Hartley, Mr. Clarence McLaggan, of Marysville, to Miss Emily McKay, of Nashwaak.

GARLAND-CLARK.—At Sunny Brae, Moncton, Oct. 20th, by Rev. Gideon Swin, Geo. A. Garland and Myrtle May Clark, both of Moncton, N. B.

Deaths.

GABLE.—In Boston, Mass., on the 20th inst., Mrs. Jarvis E. Gable, aged 81 years, formerly of Fredericton. She lived and died in the faith of Jesus. Two daughters and four sons mourn her death. The burial was in Fredericton beside her husband who predeceased her thirty-six years.

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