

## Notes and Gleanings.

There are 1,000,000 lepers in India, China and Japan, and 2,000 in the United States. A society has existed for thirty years to provide asylums for lepers and to care for their untainted children.

The Armenians claim direct descent from Noah, on the ground that he settled in their country after the flood. Armenia has been conquered successively by forty-two different nations.

The oldest love letter in the world is in the British Museum. It is a proposal of marriage for the hand of an Egyptian princess, and it was made 3,500 years ago. It is in the form of an inscribed brick.

A German scientist living in Japan says that the next generation of Japs will attain the normal height of Europeans. This he attributes to the adoption of European style of sitting instead of the Oriental fashion, which was detrimental to the development of the legs.

A German western train, carrying the American mails, recently made the journey from Plymouth to Paddington (246 miles), including a stop at Bristol, in three hours and forty-seven minutes, beating the best previous time by seven minutes. The rate of speed was over sixty-five miles an hour.

The Austrian marriage laws are very severe. They prohibit marriages between Christians and Jews, and between Christians and infidels. A marriage between a Protestant woman and a man who said he had no particular creed has just been annulled by the Supreme Court.

According to a correspondent of the *Globe* who has lived in Tibet, wives can be bought in that country. The average price is fifty gallons of wine and \$500 in money, and the market is open to the world. In this country the market price is vastly higher, sometimes going up to the millions, plus a title. The wine is included in this purchase.

Germany is the land which is pointed to an illustration of moderate or harmless drinking. But the special commission appointed by the Emperor to report on the drink traffic gives \$750,000,000 as the annual drink bill, or one-eighth of all the earnings of the people. To waste all this would not be harmless, but it is worse than wasted, a thousand fold.

There are 190,227 professional beggars in Spain, of whom 51,918 are women. In some of the cities beggars are licensed to carry on their trade. Seeking alms is recognized as a legitimate business, and the municipality demands a percentage upon the collections. Seville is the only city in the kingdom which forbids begging in the streets.

The most unique correspondence school is located in the state prison at Charlestown, Boston. The prison paper, the *Mentor*, has a department devoted to the school of correspondence. The individual lessons are assigned each Saturday, and collected the succeeding Saturday. The teachers are inmates of

the prison as well as the pupils, and do their work in their cells.

According to a report from New Orleans, a fully authenticated case of leprosy has been cured. The patient, a French boy fifteen years old, who, according to his report, has had leprosy for three years, and has been in the Louisiana Lepers' Home for two years, will be discharged from that institution within a month without a trace of the disease. The boy's name is carefully concealed by the authorities.

In the future the school teachers of New York may continue to hold their posts after being married. For years only single women were allowed to teach, but a long and determined agitation has resulted in the ban on the ceremony being removed. It can scarcely be doubted that marriage usually increases a woman's ability to teach, as husbands in every community will bear witness. Sometimes, unfortunately, it also increases the necessity.

The great secret of the success of the Mormon propaganda lies in the energy, the persistence, the wisdom with which they carry on their so-called missionary work. Upwards of two thousand missionaries are continually in the field in the United States and Canada, most of them young men, but all under the supervision of experienced leaders, and directed from headquarters established at central points. In his devotion to the one ideal, if in no other thing, the Mormon missionary is a bright and shining example.

Girl chimney sweeps are quite common in St. Petersburg and Moscow. The Girls' Chimney Sweep Guild was founded by a widow of a chimney sweep who died, leaving six daughters to be cared for. His wife brought up the daughters to follow the calling of their father, and from this beginning the union grew until now it has a membership of several hundred. The rules of the union require that no female sweep shall be less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five years of age, but apprentices are admitted at the age of eight years. The marriage of a member is taken as equivalent to a resignation from the union. All members are required to sign the temperance pledge and to be regular in attendance at church.

### THE JAPANESE SPY SYSTEM.

It was a remarkable confession that a Russian staff officer made the other day when he said that "the Japanese intelligence department, which knows everything, is really fully informed in regard to our strength, and there is no harm in the rest of the world knowing that we have 20,000 soldiers and 10,000 sailors at Port Arthur." There is no question that the spy system inaugurated and carried on by Japan is not the least efficient of the devices utilized by that power for playing the game of war to advantage. The fact is, in the Russian maps and profiles there are many mistakes, but in the Japanese there are few. Tokio knows more about Manchuria than does St. Petersburg, partly through information gained in 1894 and partly through the patient work done by Japanese spies preceding the present war. No small part of the Japanese success is

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due to the exact knowledge which has been placed in the hands of Japanese commanders. Through it they have been able not only to win victories, but to avoid disasters, and at all times to act with certainty. Japan's campaigns are furnishing object lessons for all nations, and we may believe that among the changes of the future, the art of war will reveal none more striking than the utilizing of a well-considered spy system, by which not only will victory be better assured, but much disaster otherwise irretrievable will be averted.

### THE RESULT OF FAITHFULNESS.

In a southern town, ten years ago, the Presbyterians opened a mission in a suburb noted for its wickedness. One Sabbath evening, as the pastor and an elder and two ladies were on the way to hold service there, a friend met them and urged them to go back. "It is as much as your life is worth to proceed; a gang of a dozen roughs across the street have been stoning the building and shooting into it, and vowing that no religious meetings shall be held there." The two ladies voted to go forward, and the meeting was held, despite the violence. Ten years have passed. Of that gang of disturbers, one-half have been converted and are consistent church members. And of the families of those men, more than a dozen have been won to Christ. Such a blessing does God bestow upon faithfulness.

### FIFTH DISTRICT MEETING.

The annual session of the Fifth District will convene with the church at Bellisle Bay, beginning on the first Friday in July next, at 10 o'clock a. m. The following is the order of social and business meetings:

Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> a. m.—Conference. 2 p. m., business: (a) Enrollment of members; (b) Reading of Church Reports; (c) Reading of Sunday School Reports; (d) Appointment of committees. 7.30 p. m., public worship (preaching).

Saturday, 8 a. m.—Business: Election

of officers; reports. 11 a. m., preaching. 2 p. m., unfinished and new business. 7 p. m., public meeting of W. M. Society.

Blank forms have been mailed to all churches in the District. Any failing to receive them can notify the undersigned.  
I. W. CARPENTER,  
Carpenter, Q. Co. Clerk.

### Programme of Sixth District Meeting.

Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2 to 4 p. m.—Sabbath School Convention. 4 to 5.30 p. m., devotional exercises, led by the pastor; reading church reports; appointment of Sum. Com.; 7.30 to 9.30 p. m., Sabbath School Convention.

Saturday, 8 to 8.15 a. m.—Devotional exercises, led by Rev. Mr. Currie; 8.15 to 10 a. m., reading of minutes; election of officers and District executive; report of Sum. Com.; general business; 10 a. m. to 12 m., social conference. 1.30 to 5.30 p. m., devotional exercises, led by Rev. B. H. Nobles; minutes; appointment of nominating and other committees; general business; fixing time and place of next District Meeting; reports of committees. 7.30 to 8 p. m., devotional exercises, led by Rev. A. Perry; minutes; unfinished business. 8 to 9.45 p. m., missionary meeting (women's); address on temperance by Dr. McLeod.

W. H. HEINE,  
Clerk.

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