

NOTES AND COMMENTS

There is nothing intrinsically improvable in the assertion made by a Roman newspaper that Italy has decided to cede Erythra to England in return for the latter power's support of her demand for a sphere of influence in China.

There is no doubt that for Erythra a purchaser could have been found in either France or Russia, but the district is worth more to England than it is to either of those countries, and Lord Salisbury will be fortunate if he should be able to secure it at the cost of China.

How much Italy would gain by an exchange of Erythra for a section of the Chinese coast is sufficiently obvious. Instead of the barbarous and warlike Abyssinians, whom the Italians have thus far proved unable to subdue, they would be brought in contact with the advanced and civilized life of the Chinese population.

A GYPSY'S WARNING. A strange incident happened recently at a cemetery in Leeds, England. The wife of a Leeds publican named Anna Farrar went to the cemetery to renovate his grave, and died suddenly while picking a wreath of evergreens on her husband's last resting place.

President of the company—I guess you better charge that. "Manager—Why he comes to be a nice, quiet kind of a boy, and I haven't noticed that he has neglected his work."

IT WILL OUT OR, A GREAT MYSTERY.

CHAPTER IV—Continued.

It was as well that his prairie training had given Jefferson Hope the ears of a lynx. He and his friends had hardly crouched down before the metallic whir of a mountain owl was heard within a few yards of them.

"To-morrow at midnight," said the first, who appeared to be in authority. "The whip-poor-will calls three times."

"It is well," returned the other. "I will tell Brother Drebbler." "But he is not here," said the first.

"Seven to five" repeated the other, and the two figures flitted away in the darkness. "He is not here," said the first.

"Hurry on hurry on," he gasped from the line of sentinels. "Everything depends on speed. Hurry on!"

Once on the high-road they made their way among the great boulders to slip into a field, and then they managed to slip into a field, and then they managed to slip into a field.

"By whose permission?" he asked. "Our," answered the first. "His Mormon experiences had taught him that that was the highest authority to which he could refer."

"Seven to five," returned Jefferson Hope, promptly, remembering the countersign which he had heard in the garden.

"Pass, and the Lord go with you," said the voice from above. "Beyond this post the path broadens out into a wide, open prairie."

CHAPTER V. All night their course lay through intricate defiles and over irregular and provisionally run out. They lost their way, but Hope's intimate knowledge of the mountains enabled them to regain the track once again.

"They will be upon our track by this time," he said. "Everything depends upon the speed of the pursuers. We may rest for the remainder of our lives."

"During the whole of that day they followed us through the defiles, and by evening they had reached the top of the mountain. At night-time they chose the use of a better guide."

At the annual meeting of the Belfast Chamber of Commerce, Mr. G. W. Wolff, M.P., who presided, said that the trade of the past year had been on the whole satisfactory.

27th ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION.

INCREASE IN NEW BUSINESS. DECREASE IN DEATH CLAIMS. DECREASE IN EXPENSE RATIO.

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Confederation Life Association was held at the Head Office of the Company, Yonge, Richmond and Victoria streets, Toronto, on Tuesday, March 14th, 1899, at 2 p. m.

There was a large attendance of those interested in the affairs of the association. Hon. Sir W. P. Howland, President, was appointed to act as Chairman, and Mr. J. K. Macdonald, Managing Director, as Secretary.

The Directors herewith lay before the Policyholders and Shareholders the report of the business for the year 1898, and in doing so they feel that both Policyholders and Shareholders will be interested in a perusal of the results of the operations for the year.

The business generally has been maintained, and a satisfactory volume of business has been secured on the lines which were guided by your Directors in the past.

There were received during the year 2,381 new policies for a total new business of \$3,838,393; of these 2,251 for the year were approved; 118 for 1897, and 112 for 1898. The business written since 1895, and including bonus additions, the new total business for the year 1898 was \$2,677,418, under 19,950 policies on 17,100 lives.

The valuation of the policy and annuity obligations of the Association has been made on the conservative basis used for the previous year, and is \$3,014,413 were approved; 118 for 1897, and 112 for 1898.

The auditors have continued to make their audit each month, and their report is in full accordance with the financial statements. By reference to the financial statements, it will be noticed that substantial gains have been made by the Policyholders during the year 1898.

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HOW TO GET STANG. Nature should be Assisted to Throw off Poisons that Accumulate in the System During the Winter Months.

Thousands of people not really ill require the aid of nature. Close confinement in badly ventilated houses and school rooms makes people feel depressed and out of sorts.

Nature must be assisted in throwing off the poison that has accumulated in the system during these months, and the best way to do this is by using Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

JOHN FERRIER. Formerly of Salt Lake City. Died August 4, 1899.

Lonely Tribes. Races Who Have No Communication with the World. Perhaps the most isolated tribe of people in the world is the Shuktschi, a people occupying the northern portion of the peninsula of Kamtschatka.

Barbed-Wire Telephones. Telephone monopoly is not feared where barbed-wire fencing may be used as a medium for telephonic communication.

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Wisdom in buying tea consists in buying the best. LUDELL'S VEGETABLE BATTERY. CALVERT'S CARBOLIC DISINFECTANTS, Soaps, Ointments, Toilet Powders, etc.

LUCKY MAN—TRIFLING LOSS. Occasionally, says a writer in the Cornhill Magazine, the penny-a-liner produces a gem of unconscious humor.

LIME AND FERTILITY. The actual amount of lime taken by crops is very small, but that little is essential. Wheat, for instance, takes its phosphate as phosphate of lime.

WAR AGAINST SPARROWS. The English sparrow, which has won so bad a reputation for quarrelsomeness on this side of the ocean, is evidently becoming unpopular at home.

THE GREAT FIRE at the Westinghouse. Was an awful calamity, but cannot be remedied. Now, Catarrhoze can remedy and is a positive cure for catarrh of the bladder.

WANTED. IDEAL AUTOMATIC SCHOOL DESKS. TEACHERS' DESKS. For sale at 25¢ per desk.

WANTED. BOILER MAKERS—Good wages, steady employment. Brantford is pleasantly located, living cheap.

WANTED. VISE HANDS—Good wages, steady employment. Brantford is pleasantly located, living cheap.

EVERY WISE MOTHER KNOWS THE VALUE OF INDIAN WOMAN'S BALM. AS A PARTURIENT MEDICINE.

FREE. This balm is a specific for all kinds of rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, etc.

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