PROGRESS, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1893.

Reading. Sunday

A GREAT MOSLEM TEMPLE.

The Mosque of Omar and its Traditions-The Character of Omar.

The great Mosque of Omar on the site of Solomon's Temple on Mount Moriah, is regarded as the most magnificent building and receives direction from him can never in the city of David. There are few structures, either ancient or modern, that are believer. held in such reverence. Here, say the adherents of Mohammed, the great prophet ascended to heaven, and their traditions tell that the print of his sandalled foot is still seen on the rock from which he took his final flight.

Some thirty years ago, it was strictly forbidden that any one, not a Moslem, should enter the mosque, or even tread on the ground on which it stands. This rule, however, has been relaxed, and nowadays pilgrims of any creed are allowed to enter, the first, of course, paying a "backsheesh" to the officials. As to travellers, the consuls of the various countries usually secure permission for them to visit the mosque. The consul sends a dragoman with an official letter to the "Mutarsarit" (governor), who directs the party in charge of the pole being crowned by a great dragon. A El-Haram to receive the strangers. Visitors have to discard their shoes at the thres- the steps, and on all sides are people with hold. Except in cold weather, the courtroom of the mosque if always crowded, some of the visitors being mere curiosity seekers, and others students, who pore over the pages of the Koran with the design of consecrating themselves to religious duties. The square is one of the pleasantest places in the city, being exposed to the exhilarating breezes that come from the direction of the Mount of Olives.

in the mosque. On festivals, such as the "great feast" (the first after Ramadan, the "fasting month") the mosque of Omar, is the gathering place of many thousands of days great quantities of mock money have the country people, who come there once a year for worship and pleasant excursions. They linger around the mosque during the day and find a shelter with some acquaintance overnight.

On their homeward journey, these rural pilgrims, especially the women sing the songs of joy peculiar to the Moslems, in which they celebrate their visit to "the rock," from the top of which they believe their prophet took his way to heaven. This rock, they declare, is suspended between heaven and earth, being literally supported in air.

decay. The gate to the right is the main ing with smoke. The others are loaded interest. In 1870, it says, the adherents entrance, and adjoins the western wall of with mock money and all kinds of food numbered about 70,000. It was then that

catastrophe. When in the closet the Christian finds that some fault or secret sin interrupts communion with his God he should never disregard it, but examine himself to see where he is in fault. The way of access by which he speaks with God

remain slack without serious danger to the

THE WORSHIP OF "KWANON,"

One of the Most Peculiar of China's Many Strange Idolatries.

Once a year the people about Swatow, in China, go to a temple on a small island near-by to worship the Chinese "Queen of heaven," to whom mercantile men think they owe their success upon sea and land. Miss Daniels a missionary at Swatow, who visited the temple describes in the Gospel in all lands, the temple, the idol, and the worship:

"The temple dedicated to the goddess stands high, and is reached by a flight of stone steps. It is highly ornamented in flowers, fowls fishes and beasts, the ridgenoisy theatre operates a few feet in front of the tables for suppling food or mock money. Going up the steps one sees directly in front of the temple an altar for making offerings to the spirits of such of the de-parted as have no children to worship them. To the right of this is a huge paper image, its head as high as the top of the temple, its face and hands as hideous as you can imagine. This is the ruler of these departed spirits, and it is his duty to settle dis-Religious services are held unceasingly agreements among those spirits who are inclined to quarrel. To the left of the altar is a turnace, in which bushels of ashes been offered.

"Within the temple. a' the farther end, sits the goddess in har chair, with a heavy canopy above, all elaborately wrought in silk. With her attendant on either side she is quite unmindful of the earnestness with which two devotees are tossing their bamboo slips, eagerly watching for the favorable position of one black and one white side up, to show that their petition will be granted. In front of the goddess is a row of three altars, each about ten feet long and three wide. One is covered with air. The mosque is now in a state of partial lighted tapers and incense pots, in which incense sticks are burning filling the buildbrought tor offerings. Here are the entire the Jews." Several "dacroories" (black heads of swine stained a bright pink and tion. In 1887 they were estimated at roasted, towls of all kinds, fish ot all kinds, trom 200,000 to 300,000, and at the present and the best of truits, all ot which are time the writer claims that a moderate and offered, then taken home and eaten by the

NEWS AND NOTABILIA.

The Catacombs of Rome contain the remains of about six million people.

In England three hundred years ago, anyone absent from church on Sunday was fined one shilling.

There are 9,000,000 English-speaking people who profess no particular religion, and there are 1,100,000 atheists.

The 1895 International Convention of Christian Endeavor Societies is to be held at San Francisco. Next year's convention much like those coins as possible. will be held at Cleveland, Ohio.

Canon Edwards Cust, Archdeacon of Richmond- no relation of the Dean of York-entered the other day on his ninetieth year, so that the united ages of the Dean of Ripon and himself, whose birthvears.

In 1850, it is said, there were about ten Norwegian pastors in the United States. Now the Norwegians in the North-west have three large church bodies with 682 pastors and 1,705 congregations. The Lutheran synod of Wisconsin numbers 83,-783 communicants, and sustains 8,805 parochial schools.

In Christiana, in Norway, there is an enhagen be supplied with churches only as well as Christiana is, the number of parishes would have to be increased from thirteen to twenty-eight.

The returns of the various methodist churches in New Zealand, which have been secured as the basis of negotiations for reunion, are as follows: Wesleyans, 102 ministers and 56,130 adherents; primitives, 25 ministers, 5,220 adherents; free methodists, 14 ministers, 1.905 adherents; bible christian, 9 ministers, 1,069 adherents-a total of 150 ordained ministers and 64,324 adherents.

A touching old rural custom still prevails in the western parts of France during the harvest season. On the edge of a field bordering the highway a sheat of grain is left standing, to which all the peasants of the village contribute, and which is called "the stranger's sheaf," as it is the property of the first tramp or other homeless wayfarer who may care to carry it away and profit by its price.

The Christian World, of London, has been publishing a series of articles on the Stundists. In the last humber it gives a summary of the statistics which is of great commenced to attract special atten reasonable estimate would put their numbers about 250,000.

Guinea, at a meeting held in Port Moresby, in aid of the London Missionary Society, included: 325 spears, sixty-five shell armlets, ninety-two bows, 180 arrows, besides shells, drums, shell necklaces, feather and other ornaments, valued at £10. A correspondent reported in the 'Standard' in the spring of 1892, an unusual offertory at a small town in Suffolk. When the money

was counted, pieces of cardboard carefully silvered over, and of the exact size of threepenny bits, were taken from the bags, a

HIS FIRST EXTEMPORE SERMON.

The Incident that led a Clergyman to Abandon Written Discourses.

Rev. Arthur Robin writes in the illustrated Church News :- The first extempore days occurred in the same week, are 175 sermon I ever preached was to an itinerant congregation of two dogs. It came to pass in this wise. Thirty years ago it took me a whole day to set down a sermon in some sort of shape. I used to write for the pul-pit all Monday. Biship Wilberforce told me he had never heard the like thereof. On his authority it was a record, and I believe it still stands as a record that has never been cut.

On Wednesday evening, in the glorious summer time of 1867, when I was a curateaverage population of 13,000 for each in-charge in hospitable, picturesque Burnchurch, and in Copenhagen an average of ham, just by the Beeches, I was going to 26,000; or, including the suburbs of Fred-ericksborg, even of 28,000. Should Cope-lics on a village green. I had a weatherbeaten sermon in my pocket, which, I much fear, had atoretime done such duty to divers of the simpler sort in sundry other places. While I journeyed by the

hedges through the lanes, my only companions in the solitude of the nearing twilight were a big St. Bernard and a prize pug-dog. With them alone for a congre-gation I found myself preaching my first extempore sermon. Under the circumstances there was nothing to check or chill my own self-confidence, consequently in my harangue I neither stumbled nor fell. I neither stopped for an idea nor paused for a word. If I could thus, without once

coming to grief, address an unconverted world, through a St. Bernard and a pug, in what was a faultless flow, why, I then bethought me, should I otherwise go to the dogs, it contemptuous of the familiar written word within my pocket. I preached with all this passion in the little schoolhouse on the green? The dogs had behaved quite beautifully. My natural timidity had never been known to have begotten an impromptu yet. I was nerved

by the success of the al fresco address, and I kept the weather-beaten treatise, of less spontaneous times, where it was. My rustic congregation was manifestly all agog with delight, and I was all aglow. It was not, what I said, but how I said it. Between manner and matter, happily for me, there was no one fit to judge, and because of the success of the full-dress rehearsal with the dogs I was just a little above myself. I felt, indeed, to be wound up for all time when the smock frocks gaped upon me, and when the pretty little schoolmistress, who, with her own hands, devoutly and devotedly prepared that room tor divine service, simply said, as I disappeared into the night, "Oh, Mr. Robbins. it was all so beautiful, so wondertully beautiful. You will never write another sermon will you?" And I never did. Innocently and artlessly, peradventure, the little mistress thought I was certainly created to lower the record of Demosthenes himself, after he had experimented with the stones in his mouth, and then spake plain. I never told her when I bade her



SEE THAT THE MOST DELICIOUS o — CHOCOLATES. GANONG BROS., L'td.

THE FINEST IN THE LAND." St. Stephen, N. B.

ADVERTISING PAYS.

Brooklyn,

Dear Sirs:

I have seen your advertisement in a Saint John paper for your medicine of Groder's Botanic Dyspepsia Syrup. I would like to know how you sell it, and how much would it cost to send it to Brooklyn, United States. My mother is sick something like that lady whose photo you had in the paper and it cured.

> Yours truly, LOUIS SNELL, 290 Columbia St. South Brooklyn, United States.

We are making great improvements on our "Block," (there is no doubt about that,) and we are going to have large first-class new Stores, by and by.

the city, known as "the wailing place of men from the Soudan), are posted at the different corners of the mosque to prevent the intrusion of "unbelievers" and to check disorder of any kind. They are family. paid from the "mosque fund." The mosque is very rich, its guardians controlling the revenues from many buildings that belong to the Moslem church, and which devout Moslems have bequeathed to it. Some wealthy Mohammedans have left their entire property, "in the name of the prophet," to this temple.

Omar, Abu-Hafsa lbn-al Khatab, was the second of the great Moslem Calips, and lived in the sixth century. He was the third cousin of Abdallah, the father of number acknowledge that their goddess Mohammed, and in his early career was a can hear nothing, can say nothing, and can violet enemy of the prophet, but afterwards became a stanch friend. After Moham-in no way help them, and they worship be-cause it is their custom. Others say they med's death, Omar caused Abubekr to be did not come to worship, but are out for proclaimed Caliph, and he became prime minister, afterwards succeeding to the Caliphate. In his reign Syria was conquered for the Crescent, Jerusalem was besieged and captured and the keys of the Holy City were handed to Omar in person by the messenger of Sophronius the high priest. He spared the lives of the inhabitants, and granted them religious liberty. Let us go into the house of the Lord," All the other important cities of Pales-tine capitulated in rapid succession. Omar's nature, however, was sincere and not all were dealt with as leniently by his victorious armies as the people of Jeru-salem. Many stories of his remarkable sense of justice are preserved in Moslem literature. He was assassinated in the mos-

que at Medina by a Persian slave named Aba Lulu Firuz and was buried in that city close to the tombs of Mohammed and Abu-Bekr. Omar was the first ruler who kept armies under pay, and assigned pen-sions to faithful public servants. He is also said to be the first to establish a municipal police force and to promulgate laws defining the relations and the responsibilities of masters and servants. Thus, in some sense he was a public benefactor, but his frightful career of sanguinary conquest and slaughter is one of the saddest pictures in the world's history.

The Cost of a Slack Wire.

In the course of a recent discussion on the propriety of spending public money for repairs, a certain vote was opposed. One of the advocates of the expenditnre related the following incident : A few years ago there was a serious accident on the Lachine God is shed abroad in our hearts by the canal at Montreal. The wire from Holy Ghost, which is given unto us." the deck to the engine room of a cer- Rom. 5. 1, 2, 5. tain steamer that was passing through the canal had become slack. The officer in charge on deck pulled the wire to ring the bell in the engine room and stop the steamer as she entered one of the locks. The rey, where Mr. Gladstone so often stays, wire being out of order, the bell did not tell from his horse and was killed. It was ring, the steamer kept on at full speed, the lock gates were smashed by the collision, the waters were suddenly let out, and many

"Beyond these altars are mats upon which the worshippers kneel after having made their offerings; and gongs are beaten with a deafening noise while they prostrate themselves before the idol.

"We turn aside and wander a short distance from the temple, where we find a number of women whom we tell of our God. Some listen, others examine our dress and inquire after our tamilies. When we ask pleasure; others hold that the goddess does not help them. Thus, we spend four hours talking with these poor women; and hope that some may have heard the Gospel, to accept it in the future."

Messages of Help for the Week.

"I was glad when they said unto me, "O come let us sing unto the Lord: Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving." Psalms 122, 1, and 95, 1, 2.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Tim., 3, 16.

'There is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." I. Tim., 2, 5.

"He is able to save them to the uttermost that cometh unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7, 25.

"These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing, ye might have lite through His name." John 20, 31.

"By grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." Eph. 2, 8

"Being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by taith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of

It is more than twenty years ago since Bishop Wilbertorce, riding with Earl Granville to Mr. Leveson-Gower's seat in Sursaid at the time that be desired a sudden death. Singular confirmation of this is afforded by a story just told in an obituary vessels inside were greatly damaged. There notice of the Rev. George Crabbe Rolfe, for a church. Such an offertory it has been was also an obstruction to business for sev- fifty-four years vizar of Hailey, Oxon. customery for some time to have on one

Archdeacon Sinclair is very fond of riding and cycling. As London does not afford the opportunities he would like for the indulgence in these exhilarating exercises, he makes the most of his annual six weeks of holiday. During these bolidays he often makes for Thurso Castle, the ancestral seat ot his family, which, built on the very brink of the Pentland Firth, looks straight out to Iceland beyond the huge headlands of Thurso Bay and the Orkney Islands. In August, 1891, the Archdeacon went down on his tricycle, doing the 720 miles in sixteen days.

ago an earnest Church woman said to me- of all went to the dogs.

"Talk about Catholicity and Christian unity ! You should have been at the little church in Woodlawn near the Fair grounds Syrians and Christians.

The church beadle is about to be revived, says an English paper. In the old times he was a very gorgeous and import-ant individual; but for a long time now he has been regarded with a feeling not at all proportionate to that which his dimensions and his gilt buttons ought to inspire. In St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey he wears a black gown, and in most City churches a uniform which seems a combination of postman and railwav guard. But in St. Agnes's Kensington Park, the beadle has been restored to his ancient prestige. He is duly vested, and sits in state in the chancel. except when, armed with his staff, he marches at the head of the choir. He it is who is responsible for the reverent conduct of the worshippers and the expulsion of any wrongdoers. If he attend to his duties properly he will be the most important person at marriage ceremonies, like his prototype in Paris churches, the "suisse," who gives the three knocks on the floor with his staff when the wedding procession enters.

Odd Offertories.

EXCURSIONS An English paper names fresh laid eggs as the most unusual offertory ever taken in was also an obstruction to business for sev-eral days at a crowded season of the year, and a great fleet of upward and downward bound craft were detained with very great detriment to their cargoes. Indeed, the whole loss was estimated roughly at scarcely less than one million and a quarter dollars. The speaker asked his hearers to consider how much would baye been saved by spending a quarter of a bis intrepid horsemanship. To this the

A Chicago correspondent of the London good night, and I have never told anyone Church Times says: Down in the grounds else till now, how I preached my first exof the Columbian Exposition a tew days tempore sermon, and in what manner I first

The Seed and the Fruit.

When the gospel seed is sown the harvest last Sunday, to have seen a practical illus-tration of both. There were present, be-may appear in unexpected places. A lady sides our own people, English, French, Germans, Swiss, Swedes, Syrians, Egyp-in Melbourne, Australia, had proof of this recently. She says: "I was visiting in the tians and Dahomeyans, and at the altar hospital one day in connection with the rail white and black christians knelt side Flower Mission, when I noticed a new case, by side. One of the fiercest looking war- a woman with a dark skin and very dark riors among the Dahomey villagers greeted hair. Thinking she was asleep I passed on, the rector of this church one day with but on coming down the ward again she 'How do, Missionary! And proved to be opened her eyes and stretched out her a Christian in spite of his savage adorn- hands for some of my flowers. I gave her ments." It is also a fact that the greater some, and found she was one of the Syrian number of the so-called Turks in the Turk- women who carry about small things for ish quarter of "Midway Plaisance" are sale in the streets. When I asked her it

first, and learned to love him as a little girl in a school at Damascus, and she was now teaching her children about him, too. "I left her one of my favorite texts,

beauty;' and the following Wednesday, 'I remember the text you taught me, and I have been saying it over to myself, "Mine She soon got better and left the hospital, and I have not seen her since, but I have her name (Babea Ceamy) in my bible ; she wrote it herself, that I might remember to pray for her.'

she knew my Saviour her face lit up so brightly, and she said, "Oh, yes!" Then she told me that she had heard about him

'Thine eyes shall see the King in his directly she saw me, she said so eagerly, eyes shall see the King in his beauty !"

INTERNATIONAL S. S. CO.

AUTUMN

TO BOSTON AND PORTLAND.

In the meantime we are selling Clothing cheaper than ever before. We don't pretend to offer all our Goods at "Manufacturer's Prices," because that would be worse than foolish on our part, but some Lines we have marked down at cost price, and others below.

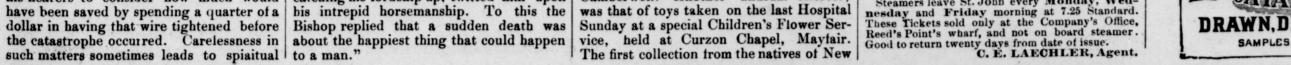
We offer you those bargains not only one day but any and every day alike.

BLUE STORE,

Cor. Mill and Main Sts., North End.



Steamers leave St. John every Monday, Wed-





Germaind

