

NOTES AND COMMENTS

SOME of the largest cotton manu- facturing corporations of Massachu- setts have obtained legislation en- abling them to do business in other States than Massachusetts, which States they propose to build and operate mills in the Southern States, nearer the base of supplies of cotton and coal. Labor also is very much cheaper than at the North.

On a cold day in Japan mine host has a glowing bed of coals in his room—a square hole in the middle of the room filled with sand. Over this he hangs horizontally a fish, or blanket, to keep the heat in. With his feet stuck under this blanket and his red fingers spread out over the hibachis, or little movable dishes of coals, a fellow doesn't freeze.

It seems likely that one of the most important benefits to civilization of Stanley's African expedition will be the introduction of African mahogany to Western commerce. There is even now a flourishing trade in this wood, which is sold more cheaply in the United States than it is in Liverpool. Central America, Brazil and the West Indies have hitherto contributed the world's chief supply of mahogany. It was one of Sir Walter Raleigh's discoveries, and it first began to be used in making furniture toward the close of the seventeenth century.

The most finished negro scholar in the world to-day, according to the Boston Transcript, is Edward Wilmot Blyden, who represented Liberia at the court of St. James. He is a valued contributor to many English magazines, is a linguist of pronounced ability, and is one of the most profound thinkers the negro race has yet produced. He is the author of a work entitled, "Christianity, Islam and the Negro Race," which has had two editions in London. Dr. Blyden is a pure negro, without a trace of white blood in his veins.

FIGURES are always coming up to worry people who have no head for them. They cannot lie, and there they are. Statistics on the reasonable expectancy of life indicates that if a man is a drunkard at 20 he will live 15 years longer; if sober, he has 44 years more to live. At 30 the proportions of years of life remaining under the same conditions are four, ten and thirty-six. If a man is a drunkard at his fortieth year, he cannot reasonably hope to live to be older than 51. But if he is temperate at that age the expectancy of life extends to 69.

CARTER, who pleaded guilty of stealing \$30,000 from the New York National Bank of Commerce, was for years a confidential clerk in the bank and the money stolen, which was taken at periods stretching over a score of years, was used to make an aged mother and father more comfortable and help to educate several children who were growing up around him. This is no palliation of the offense legally, but there is a moral in it just the same. With six years of prison life staring one in the face, one's reflections may savor of regret.

M. GIRALTT, Henard and Paulin have received the three first prizes of \$1,200 each for plans for the Paris Exposition of 1900. All three preserve the Eiffel tower and the Machinery building of the '89 exhibition. M. Henard proposes a palace of illusions with mirrors for walls, and also a continuous moving platform along both banks of the Seine. M. Paulin builds a floating Indo-Chinese and Japanese tower on the river. Among the suggestions in the other plans that received prizes are that the Louvre be turned into a sort of Midway Plaisance, that a marine basin be built in the Trocadero garden and that another Crystal Palace be built.

A PHILADELPHIA barber who has become a convert to the germ theory of disease has discharged the boot-black and coat brusher connected with his shop, and refuses even to keep a brush on hand for the individual use of his customers who may want to shine their shoes or dust their coats. He holds that the doctor is right, and that the germs of consumption and other diseases are so plenty that they settle on every article of the human wearing apparel; and he is not going to have his brushing going on about his place that will disturb disease germs and send them hunting for a new home down his throat, where they can do more damage than on clothing.

"Three thousand notices," says Philadelphia Record, "will go to American artists informing them of the generous offer of a prize of \$1,000 by William L. ELKINS, of New York, for the best picture painted by an American painter and stating the conditions under which the competition will be conducted. The disposition of this interesting artistic rivalry will be under the control of the Academy of the Fine Arts, and the artists will be given ample time to which to put forth their best work. The exhibition of their work will prove one of the most interesting displays ever made by the Acad-

they will greatly enhance the reputation of Mr. Elkins as a liberal and far-sighted patron of the fine arts."

THE cost of our navy up to date, including machinery and gun plants, is about \$70,000,000. The hulls and machinery alone have cost \$58,000,000. The entire amount appropriated by Congress for the navy since its inception is \$87,179,183.80. For the current year, \$9,995,025 was appropriated at the last session of Congress—\$4,000,000 of this sum being intended for armament for ships now building and \$5,995,025 for expenses of construction and machinery. The cost of our naval establishment in recent years, counting the expenditures for new ships, has averaged from \$28,000,000 to \$25,000,000 annually. Compared with this, the annual cost of the British navy is \$87,120,000; that of the French navy, \$52,000,000; of the Russian, \$30,000,000; of the German, \$28,208,000, and of the Italian, \$20,400,000.

Medical investigations during the past year have been mainly directed to the study of microbic life. Much has been learned concerning these infinitesimal parasites of more highly organized life. The great event of the year in medicine has been the practical application of this growing knowledge to the treatment of diphtheria. The discovery of that treatment was no mere lucky chance, but the legitimate outcome of systematic work. Drs. Leffler and Krebs first discovered the existence of the bacteria of diphtheria. All Roux and Yersin made a study of the microbe, and discovered that it yielded a toxine or poison which was the active principle in disseminating the disease. All this was valuable aid to the doctors in diagnosing the disease. It remained for Dr. Behring, however, to discover the remedy. He conceived the idea that when a living organism was impregnated with the toxine, nature rallied all her energies and within the chemical laboratory of the patient's body evolved an antidote to the poison, or in other words, anti-toxine. He proved his theory by inoculating animals with small doses of the diphtheric germs, until they had had been rendered immune from the disease through the anti-toxine developed within the system. The next step was merely to extract that anti-toxine from the blood of the animal and inject it into the system of a patient suffering from diphtheria. Successful experiments everywhere, and especially in the Pasteur Institute at Paris under the direction of Dr. Roux, demonstrated the potency of the new remedy. Paris by public and private subscriptions raised \$60,000 for the purpose of generating anti-toxine. In Berlin also a subscription was raised for the purpose. Austria decided that anti-toxine should be prepared by the State. In England, whose citizens are of a more sluggish temperament, and in the less progressive southern countries of Europe the new discovery has not as yet made so much headway. In America it is just beginning to be appreciated. If the remedy should realize the sanguine expectations which have been built upon it, there is no doubt that it will open a new era in medical science and eventually lead to the knowledge of how to control all infectious diseases.

Effects of Mountain Climbing.

Most persons are familiar with the baneful effects of sea sickness, but a far less number are acquainted with the unpleasant sensations of mountain sickness. This malady has hitherto been attributed to the rarefaction of air, but it has of late been demonstrated that a portion of the unpleasant symptoms may be traced to the unusual fatigue and the great consumption of oxygen. It is a well understood fact that rapid breathing of large quantities of air will produce giddiness and headache and sometimes nausea and faintness. There is a great deal of real heroism and, doubtless, some excellent healthful exercise in the climbing of mountains, but most tourists will approve of the proposition to build some sort of elevators by means of which high altitudes can be reached. The prodigal waste of strength attending these climbing expeditions seems unwise when by mechanical means one may reach the topmost peaks of high mountains "and view the landscape o'er."

Lobster Laws.

The game laws of Massachusetts provide a heavy fine for any one who either catches or sells lobsters measuring less than 10 1/2 inches. Quite recently a large consignment of lobsters to a New York firm were seized in Boston, and the entire lot, consisting of seventeen barrels or some 8,028 lobsters, were dumped in Boston harbor. This is the largest seizure of its kind on record. The fine for each lobster is \$5, and the shipper, if prosecuted, will be liable to a fine of over \$18,000.—Scientific American.

Out of every 100 lives insured in England only five are women.

A NEW FISH STORY.

A Remarkable Undigested Dinner of a Shark.

A letter of peculiar interest was received a few days ago by the secretary of the New York and Pacific Steamship Company. It was under date of the 21st of November, 1894, and was written by the agent of William B. Grace & Co., at London. The letter stated that "We beg to hand you herewith a copy of a letter received from from the London Board of Trade. The bundle of papers therein referred to are simply a number of cargo tally notes which were tied up by the supercargo, and which he supposed were lost overboard. They are dated at different dates, but all of them in October and November, 1892. We shall be glad if you shall try to ascertain from the officer of the Capac the approximate date this bundle was lost overboard, and we have to-day written to the Board of Trade asking them if they can find out the date the shark was killed, as it would be very interesting to know how long the bundle had been in the stomach of the shark. The papers are very slightly discolored, and the writing and printing upon them is perfectly legible. The package is about nine inches by three inches."

This letter refers to a package of inventories, invoices and other documents placed in the hands of the purser of the steamship Capac, which sailed from the South American ports in the fall of 1893. In some way they were lost overboard, but as there were duplicates the loss was not regarded as a serious one, and, in fact, no particular attention was paid to it until this letter was received from London. A subsequent letter sent by Mr. Cecil Trevor, of the harbor department of the Board of Trade of London, furnished a further explanation. Mr. Trevor said in his letter that he was instructed by the London Board of Trade to transmit to the New York and Pacific Steamship Company a package of papers bearing the name of the steamship Capac, which was found in the body of a shark caught at Tere de Cas Dessaintes, Guadeloupe, and which had been forwarded to the London office by the French ambassador at that court. Investigation by Messrs. William R. Grace & Co. revealed that this bundle of documents had been lost overboard nearly a year ago from the steamship Capac on its way from South American ports to New York. The letters show that a shark had swallowed this bundle of documents in the south seas, had swam more than a thousand miles when caught, and after being opened these documents were found in its stomach very slightly discolored by the acids of that organ. They were taken to London and from that office had been shipped to this country and are now in possession of Messrs. William R. Grace & Co. They have no other interest than that which is associated with the fact that a shark swimming in the seas of the South Atlantic will find its way to the Greater Antilles, carrying in its stomach, practically in a state of perfect preservation, something that it has seized and swallowed in the waters of the lower Pacific.

Compressed Wood.

The advance in the price of some of the hard woods required in various special branches of trade has directed attention to the possibility of producing some less expensive material as a substitute, and in one branch of trade this has been carried out with very successful results. For the manufacture of loom shuttles boxwood has hitherto been very largely used, but the price of this kind of wood has become almost prohibitive, and it has been found that by compression of cheaper classes of timber—teak being about the most suitable for this purpose—a substitute meeting all the requirements can be obtained. For carrying out this plan a Manchester firm has just completed a powerful hydraulic press to be used in compressing timber for loom shuttles. This press consists of a strong cast iron top and bottom, with four steel columns and a steel cylinder, with a large ram. In the center of this ram is fitted a smaller one, with a rectangular head, fitting into a die which is placed on the top of the large ram. The timber is put into this die, and a pressure of fourteen tons per square inch is applied. The pressure is then relieved, and the large ram descends. The top pressure block, which fits the die, is then removed, and the small ram, rising, pushes the timber out at the top of the die. The timber so created is made very dense and uniform, and so close grained that it is capable of taking a very high finish. For the manufacture of shuttles it has been found as good as boxwood, and there is no doubt it will be applied to other branches of industry where expensive hard woods have to be used.—New York Telegram.

Life Imprisonment for a Dog.

Peter Glick, of North Carolina, seven years ago condemned his dog to imprisonment for life for killing a chicken. The dog has been shut up in a corn crib ever since. A party of Christmas revelers tore down the crib and turned the dog out.—New Orleans Picayune.

To the Younger Cooks, the beginners in the art of bread and cake making, there is no aid so great, no assistant so helpful, as the Royal Baking Powder. It is the perfect leavening agent and makes perfect food. Do not make a mistake by experimenting with any other.

The Crab as a Fisherman. The crab sometimes catches a fish, and it catches it without hook and line. It lies in wait, perhaps in some creek, with its claws extended in front, and open. Perhaps a school of killies come along, and it may be that a killie on the outskirts of the school may swim unsuspectingly along through the clear water between the upper and lower parts of one of the motionless open claws of the crab. When it is well within them the claw snaps suddenly together and that particular killie goes no further.

The ritualistic use of candles in churches was forbidden in England in 1548. As late as 1561 the French had no scenery, and the performers never left the stage.

GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY. Many years ago Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., compounded this medicine of vegetable ingredients which had an especial effect upon the stomach and liver, rousing the organs to healthful activity as well as purifying and enriching the blood. By such means the stomach and the nerves are supplied with pure blood; they will not go duty without any more than a locomotive can run without coal. You can not get a lasting cure of Dyspepsia, or Indigestion, by taking artificially digested foods or pepsin—the stomach must do its own work in its own way. Do not put your nerves to sleep with so-called celery mixtures. It is better to go to the seat of the difficulty and feed the nerve cells on the food they require. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Biliousness and Nervous Affections, such as sleeplessness and weak nervous feelings are completely cured by the "Discovery." It puts on healthy flesh, brings refreshing sleep and invigorates the whole system.

Mrs. K. HENKE, of No. 806 North Halsted St., Chicago, Ill., writes: "I regard my improvement as simply wonderful, since taking Dr. Pierce's stomach and nerve remedy in connection with his 'Pleasant Peppets.' I have gained in every respect, particularly in flesh and strength. My liver was dreadfully clogged and I suffered greatly from dyspepsia. No physician could give relief. Now, after two months I am entirely relieved of my stomach and nerve troubles. My appetite is excellent; food well digested; bowels regular and sleep much improved."

SEND YOUR Produce TO F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade St., N. Y. Receive of all kinds of country Produce, and Game, Live and Dressed Poultry and Dressed Cakes. Specialties: Berries, Grapes, Apples, Peas, Honey, Onions, Potatoes and Butter. Correspondence and Consignments solicited. Specials furnished. References: Dun's or Bradstreet's Commercial Reports, to be found at any bank.

In a Peck of trouble—the woman who washes with-out Pearlina. Her work is never done, and it's never done well. With Pearlina she can do twice as much, and have it done better. There is little work, less wear, never the least harm. Try Pearlina, and see it dirt for dirt; when you see dirt—go for Pearlina. Beware of Peddlers and some unscrupulous grocers will tell you, "this is as good as" or "the same as Pearlina." IT'S FALSE—Pearlina is never peddled, if your grocer sends you an imitation, be honest—send it back. "The Best Is, Aye, the Cheapest." Avoid Imitations of and Substitutes for SAPOLIO

An Alfalfa Creamery. Near Bakersfield, Kern county, Cal., a tract of land has been secured by a large creamery company of Elgin, Ill. It was found by tests that cattle fed on alfalfa with no scientific care, produced more butter than the best stock in Illinois fed on the scientific plan. The results were so remarkable that the creamery, which is one of the largest in the West, will be removed to California this year. Pennsylvania has ninety-nine street railway companies. U5

"WHITE AS A SHEET" MANY people look like "pale death" from ANEMIA—poverty of blood. It's most often caused by general debility from lack of Nutrition. A remedial agent of undoubted efficacy is RIPANS TABLETS. They "put the house in order" by restoring the digestive functions. Those who use them judiciously are properly nourished and soon RUDDY WITH HEALTH!

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