

ion of twenty wives, all of whom were daily dismissed to the labors of the field, except one favorite dark beauty, who seemed exempt from this unfeminine occupation. A cup-bearer, too, figured at the festive board, reminding the travellers of Pharaoh and the kings of ancient times—a tall, stalworth native, whose head was bound in a large blue shawl in oriental style. The natives use black earthenware cups. These cups were so beautifully glazed, and of such curious workmanship, that the travellers were surprised to find that they were manufactured by the natives. The kraal, or hut, of the chief was surrounded for miles with those of his relatives. About one hundred of these vassals were summoned upon one occasion, and despatched to hunt buffaloes. Large crops of sweet potatoes, and Caffre corn were seen, as well as immense quantities of sugar cane. An expedition of about 40 volunteers, headed by the English crown prosecutor, had under plea of stopping the incursions of the "Bushmen," invading the territory of an old chief, the ally of the English, seized 800 of his cattle and several of the Bushmen boys as captives, and required him to cede all his unoccupied territory to the British, all because he had not prevented the incursions of the Bushmen. The vassals of the old chief, discontented at these proceedings, have fled in terror over the frontier.

Discoveries of considerable magnitude have, according to the Cape Town "Mail," been shed over the geography of the interior of Africa. The substance of it is, that the great lake before reported, discovered in South Africa, although receiving the waters of several rivers, has no outlet to the ocean. About seven days' journey to the north of this lake, a ridge of very high mountains crosses the continent, and beyond it a new "river system" commences, the streams all flowing to the north, and ultimately to the ocean. It on one of these streams, say the accounts, that Mozalekatske and his tribe have made a temporary resting place. This chief, some twenty-five years ago, was in subjection to a Zulu tyrant named Chaka, residing near the eastern coast, south of the latitude of 28 degrees. Escaping from the dominion of his merciless master, he fled with a large body of adherents over the mountains to the north-west, spreading devastation around him as he passed. He was driven still further northwest by the Boers, who, in their turn, have been pushed forward by the advancing civilization of the English. Thus, Mozalekatske, with his ferocious legions, have been retiring continually towards the equator, leaving behind them a deserted country, swept of inhabitants by his destroying march. He has now traversed at least a thousand miles from the point at which his wanderings commenced, at least a quarter of a century ago. Still his indefatigable pursuers dog the steps of the retreating lion, and have already begun to rout him from his latest lair in the centre of the continent. The Cape Town "Mail" hazards the prediction that before another quarter of a century shall have elapsed, the whole interior of South Africa, to the Equator,

will be occupied by civilized communities of the European race, and probably under the dominion of Great Britain. Among the discoveries in the new land of promise are ivory in considerable quantities, and many other articles of commercial value.

The Anglican, Independent, and Baptist clergy, have published a declaration protesting against the control assumed by the States in the government of the churches.—*Boston Traveller*, January 18th.

THE HUMANIZING INFLUENCE OF CLEANLINESS.

—A neat, clean, fresh-aired, sweet, cheerful, well-arranged and well-situated house exercises a moral as well as a physical influence over its inmates, and makes the members of a family peaceable and considerate of the feelings and happiness of each other; the connection is obvious between the state of mind thus produced and habits of respect for others, and for those duties and obligations which no law can enforce. On the contrary, a filthy, squalid, noxious dwelling, rendered still more wretched by its noisome site, and in which none of the decencies of life can be observed, contributes to make its unfortunate inhabitants selfish, sensual, regardless of the feelings of each other; the constant indulgence of such passions renders them reckless and brutal, and the transition is natural to propensities and habits incompatible with respect for the property of others or for the laws.

THE BIBLE.—The Bible itself (as Professor MacLagan has said) is a standing and an astonishing miracle. Written fragment by fragment throughout the course of fifteen centuries, under different states of society and in different languages, by persons of the most opposite tempers, talents, and conditions, learned and unlearned, prince and peasant, bond and free; cast into every form of instructive composition and good writing—history, prophecy, poetry, allegory, emblematic representation, judicious interpretation, liberal statement, precept, example, proverbs, disquisition, epistle, sermon, prayer—in short, all rational shapes of human discourse, and treating, moreover, of subjects not obvious, but most difficult—its authors are not found, like other writers, contradicting each other upon the most ordinary of fact and opinion, but are at harmony upon the whole of their sublime and momentous scheme.

A SQUIRREL sitting on a hickory tree, was once observed to weigh the nuts he got in each paw, to find out which were good and which were bad. The light ones he invariably threw away, retaining only those which were heavier. It was found, on examining those he had thrown away that he had not made a mistake in a single instance. They were all bad nuts. —*Woodworth's Stories*.

THE SABLE.—This animal resembles the marten, and is found in great numbers in Siberia and Kamtschatka. Its fur is very valuable, and the Russian government derives considerable revenue from its sale.