

cessary to retain. As we do not in the least believe in the submissiveness of the British labourer when taken out of his customary groove—if he takes to the brickfield, to railway work, or to Australia, he becomes at once, in a day, the most brutally "independent" and personally insufferable of mankind—as we have a keen recollection of the way in which the introduction of machinery was resisted, when a countryside would be in a glare in a night, and insurances could not be effected, and as we believe the labourers in many districts to have been brooding and champing for some time past over wildly dangerous ideas, we look forward to the struggle with a sickening dread of the misery it must produce. The English labourer, once excited, is the most dour of men—obstinate, scornful, and, for all his horror of bloodshed, which is real, and rises to a virtue, capable of being cruel; and he is excited now.

Report of the Moabite Expedition.

We have had to wait the meeting of the British Association at Brighton to hear the result of the expedition for the exploration of Moab, which owed its origin to the committee of the Geographical Section. Maps, plans, photographs were the very tangible results laid before the Association on Thursday last. Papers were read by the two gentlemen to whom the expedition was entrusted.

Dr. Ginsburg related the misfortunes of the first week in the country, how Arabs from beyond Petra opposed the passage of the Rubicon of Moab, and the semi-settled semi-nomad owners of Kerak demanded an exorbitant black mail. Kerak itself had been previously surveyed by M. Mauss, a professional architect, working under the auspices of the Napoleonic dynasty. The trouble in France had delayed the publication of results; but by the kindness of M. Mauss Dr. Ginsburg was able to show a careful copy of his plan of Kerak, which materially elucidated the position and strength of that marvellous fortress. Further threats precluded the possibility of working the S. E. corner of the country beyond such sites as were within the compass of a single ride from Kerak. At this juncture Mr. Klein, the able missionary of the Church Missionary Society at Jerusalem, who formed the valued friend and interpreter of the party, was suddenly called home by the harrowing intelligence of the illness of two of his boys, neither of whom lived to see his father again. The recall of Mr. Klein determined the return of Dr. Ginsburg, who considered that all researches were useless without the presence of a thorough Arab scholar, such as Mr. Klein for the identification of Bible names by means of translation from Arabic into Hebrew. Whatever value this method may have, such knowledge might well be indispensable; but for the objects of topographical survey, geological and botanical observation, and the discovery of entirely unknown ruins, it was not so absolutely necessary. Those, therefore, whose specialties lay in the pursuit of such objects, remained in Moab when Dr. Ginsburg returned to Jerusalem with Mr. Klein direct from the brink of Arnon.

Dr. Tristram's paper gave an account of the next month's work. The direct line of country between Heshbon and Petra has been traversed and described by some half dozen travellers within a century; but east and west of this little or nothing was known before Dr. Tristram's visit. Names before scattered broadcast over the map of Moab, at the suggestion of Arabs, pointing from a distance, were identified and fixed, others corrected or erased, and many added to their number. Making Umm Rasas, briefly described by Professor Palmer, their headquarters, and working from it as a centre, the diminished party first struck virgin ground on the 17th of February.

The Pilgrim road from Damascus to Mecca was discovered some twelve miles further east than it was supposed to run, and found to form a very striking feature on the level and unusually featureless plain. For some 50 yards in breadth parallel furrows run in perfectly straight lines, the result of the tramps of camels and men in contiguous streams year after year. Ziza, the station of a squadron of cavalry mentioned in the "Antonine Itinerary," was another centre for exploration, from which the most remarkable and important discovery was made. The ruins of a magnificent palace, far more perfect than anything yet found in Moab of so early a date, were discovered on the borders of the desert, east-south-east of Heshbon, and form a new problem for our antiquarians at home. A quadrangle of freestone encloses a palace of brick. The quadrangle is 170 yards on each side, and furnished with semi-circular bastions. On either side of the only entrance is a facade of carved work, 180 feet in length and 17 in height. Animals, birds, flowers, fruit, and even men, are chiselled with great thoroughness of work and delicacy of touch. The whole is in a marvellous state of preservation. The vaulted roofs of the eight chambers of the palace yet remain. The plan and details have led Mr. Ferguson to conjecture the Persian conqueror Chosroes to be its author. Sir Henry Rawlinson questions the soundness of this opinion, on the ground that a military invader who merely crossed this tract on his way to Egypt never had sufficient hold upon the country to attempt such a work. Be this as it may, A.D. 600 must be somewhere about its date. The Arabic name Umm Shittah, gives no clue to the history of this remarkable place. West of the direct route referred to above, the gorge of the Kallirrhoe, with its hot baths, where Herod the Great tried for a cure, was most thoroughly explored, though not unknown before; but Makaur, which must surely from its modern name and its similarity of position to the description of Josephus, answer to Mach-

arous, was reached for the first time. Other travellers have seen it from a distance, or more probably had the direction of its site pointed out to them, and marked it erroneously on their maps; but Dr. Tristram is the first in modern times who has the honour of having actually stood on the very spot where John the Baptist suffered imprisonment and met his death. The names and details of ruined towns are too numerous to transcribe—as Mr. Stanford afterwards expressed it, Dr. Tristram's report "perfectly bristled" with new facts.

A work illustrated by the photographs, passed round while Dr. Tristram was speaking, could alone enable us to appreciate and appreciate these results. A remarkable addition to our knowledge of the Dead Sea basin is, however, one of the fruits of the expedition which lies on the surface.

Neither the Americans under Lynch, nor the French expedition under the Duc de Fuyes—though both had boats—appear to have remarked upon the great dissimilarity between the Judaean and Moabite shores of this salt lake of the East. The western side, as we all know, is a desert of mud, painfully bare, glaring to the eye, and almost entirely destitute of vegetation of any kind. It now appears that the eastern shore, owing to the different geological formation and consequent, comparatively speaking, abundant supply of water, is not only covered with smaller plants, but has a fair allowance of deciduous trees, and towards its northern extremity palms growing luxuriantly in the clefts of the rocks overlooking the sea itself, and climbing far up the mountains.

For all these additions to the knowledge of the world we have to thank the British Association, and Dr. Tristram for carrying to such a successful issue the trust committed to his charge. The true spirit of energy and determination has not all emigrated to America yet.

"The wise and active conquer difficulties by daring to attempt them, whilst Folly and Sloth shiver and shrink at the sight of toil and trouble, and make the impossibility they fear"—is a stirring adage, which still holds true, both to describe and stimulate an Englishman's aim and character.—*Aberdeen Herald*

Queen Victoria's Memorial of the Livingstone Expedition—England's Gratitude.

The act of Her Majesty Queen Victoria of England in causing a letter of thanks to be addressed in her name to Mr. Stanley, the *Herald* Search Expedition commander, is a gracious one, and in perfect consonance with many wise and thoughtful manifestations of her Royal will. That this letter is accompanied by a valuable memorial in the form of a magnificent gold snuff box studded with diamonds may add in a material way to its worth, yet beyond even the lustre of this gift of brilliants from a queenly hand will shine the telling words of recognition and congratulation which she directed to be their forerunners. Justice had been done to the *Herald* explorer by the enlightened and well-informed of England's people and governing classes; it only remained for the sovereign to add her word of esteem, and this she has done with as much delicacy as dignity. Her Majesty shows that the question of Dr. Livingstone's safety was one of especial interest to herself, and that the authenticated news of his safety relieved an anxiety which she shared with the humblest in her realm. The letter is short and formal, as such notes usually are, and has around it all the evidences of authority which will make it a state paper as long as the English throne rests on its foundation. Nevertheless it breathes a warmth and fulness of grateful feeling which no stiff official phrasing can obliterate, and so is creditable alike to the English woman and the Queen. That the enterprise was planned and carried out by others than Englishmen makes the significant royal gratitude of more value. Accorded to one of her own subjects it would bear a simple domestic interest, while extended to the citizen of another land it becomes of moment to millions who owe the royal lady no allegiance, and who will view it in its simple faith in courage, prudence and zeal applied to a noble end, uninfluenced by the glare and pomp of royalty. Thus viewed we rejoice at the appearance of this generous tribute to American pluck and enterprise.

The influence, too, which this royal letter should have in setting at rest all doubts, honest or dishonest, about the genuineness of Mr. Stanley's narrative is apparent. The advisers of Queen Victoria would certainly interpose to prevent her bestowing such high laudation upon an individual whose triumph could be questioned or whose veracity could be impeached in the details of his story. It will be observed that the letter is signed by Earl Granville, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who thus not only confirms the title of Mr. Stanley to credit, previously given to the *Herald* correspondent, but pledges the faith of his sovereign for the certificate it contains. While, therefore, sceptics on this side of the Atlantic are taxing their imaginations for doubts and nursing doubts on the authenticity of Dr. Livingstone's letter to the *Herald*, the experts of the English Foreign Office, with Earl Granville at their head, who are intimately associated with the great explorer's fame and accurately informed in all things relating to him, breathe no such suspicions. The success of the expedition in all the particulars published, from the meeting with Dr. Livingstone down to the traveller's letter of thanks to this journal, is proven. It would be tiresome to follow every feather-brain's vagaries who resurrects an old doubt or ransacks his ingenuity for a new one; yet we have brought down the principal ones with a forehead shot every time, and with the Queen of England's certificate, set in gold and diamonds, before the public, we can, for the present, "let the heathen rage."

A Narrow Escape at Sea.

The British ship Cathedral arrived in New York on the 16th August, with 12ft. of water in her hold. Her captain, Mr. Webb, made the following statement:—"We left Pensacola on the 24th July, with a cargo of 1200 tons of green sawn timber, bound for London, with 20 souls on board, all told. The weather was all that could be desired until Hatteras was reached on the 8th of August; while in lat. 34 22, long. 72 55, a terrific hurricane broke upon us from the east, with head seas, and during its continuance we lost mainsail and lower foretopsail. The vessel sprang a leak, and all hands were ordered to the pumps, at which they worked courageously, but the water poured in at 700 strokes an hour, the men became exhausted, and it appeared as if we must go down. I saw several ships, but did not signal them, as I hoped to bring the vessel safe into New York, to stop the leak. The carpenter, while at work at the pumps, had the back of his hand torn off, and died the next day from exhaustion and paralysis. His name was F. Clock, aged 40, married, and a native of Bremen. On the 12th a boat from the whalerman Elbridge Gerry boarded us in lat. 36 39, lon. 74, and helped us to work at the pumps for six hours. She was five months out, and had captured 110 barrels of sperm oil. If we had not had a cargo of timber on board I believe we should have sunk."



HARBOR GRACE, OCTOBER 11, 1872.

On Wednesday afternoon, the S. S. "Merlin" returned from her trip to Labrador with Messrs. Ridley and Munn. There would appear to be no change since last accounts. Shipments of fish were backward, owing to continued unfavourable weather; but good progress was being made with herrings, several cargoes having left the coast.

SOME time ago we were delighted with the laudable efforts of the Road Board to give the streets in general proper drainage; it is painful however to record that the work has only been partially attended to, and although repeated allusions have been made ament the unfinished state of the main street—more especially at the entrance to the Telegraph Office—nothing has as yet been done towards its reparation. Whose fault is it? Why, we know the means to prevent grumbling was freely offered. The Chairman of the Board we are well aware is active and efficient, and were his colleagues in office as desirous of attaining to a healthy and serviceable state of the town, little time would be lost in remedying the evil complained of. Yesterday the street in several places, was, and is to-day, literally studded with ponds. The surface drainage is incomplete and decidedly ought to be (while suitable weather lasts) immediately looked after. Now is the time for procedure; procrastination is dangerous, and we trust that the same attention given to our roads in former times, will be given to them by those whose duty it is to inspect and report as to their condition.

The "Newfoundlander" understands that the "Eclipse" and "Lapwing" remain here till the arrival of the next mail steamer from Pictou, and that the "Lapwing" will leave for England a few hours afterwards, thus giving the opportunity for prompt replies to mail letters. We also hear that the "Eclipse" will leave for Halifax and thence for England, soon after our next mail arrives."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[FOR THE HARBOR GRACE STAR.]

Advice.

Of all the most natural offices of human nature is that of giving advice—and be it good or bad it operates on human actions either in a good or evil direction. The child, as soon as it is able to lip its ideas gives to another its offer of advice. The aged will give advice to the young—regrettably often bad—because example, another practical advice, is in attendance. Advice should be good and given in a spirit of true interest. This trait in the habits of our race is proverbial, and advice derivable from writers on agriculture is easiest to digest. Potatoes are, as a matter of course to be set or planted in the opposite way, and to be preserved before they are dug, by means of a lawful process at present unexplainable owing to the effects of disease. One writer on potatoes recently remembered of his having left a beautiful seed potato (so he called it) in a pocket of his great-coat, and was astonished by the production in said district, of as many potatoes as served to keep himself and his companions in advice, being abstracted by his own hands, disease being only in one, and that particular one affected in the head. The face of the thing is, he endeavoured to prove they grew in the pocket, while the truth is they were placed there by a wag, knowing the agriculturist would deem it an important discovery.

TERBA NOVA'S SON.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Some time ago a rumor was circulated having reference to the finding of the hull of the *Village Belle* or *Dundanah* in the Straits of Belle Isle. The only trustworthy information we are aware of upon the subject is that which follows, furnished us by Mr. Callanan, mail officer on board the *Osprey* during her Labrador coastal service:—

RIGOLETTE, Sept. 5.

"I was speaking to David Irwin, master of one of the Hudson's Bay Company's schooners. He told me that when coming down the Straits in June last he saw a vessel supposed to be a brigantine lost on the Seven Islands near Anticosti, and supposed to be Capt. Jenkins. Her two spars were gone. The men's clothes were in the vessel, just as if the men had jumped out of her. She was supposed to have 300 seals in her. All her utensils were marked "Conception Bay." All her things had been sold. Some person had been on board before Irwin, but he refused to give his name.

"I was also speaking to a man by the name of Muldoon, who lives at Esquimaux Point. He told me there was a schooner lost there last spring, supposed to be Antle's schooner. Two schooners towed her in, when she sank. They got her up again, and took out the Captain's chest and other things. All was sold by the Dominion Collector. The seals were marked S.R.M."—*Chronicle*, Oct. 10.

It is the intention of the Temperance League, we understand, to make an endeavour this fall to carry the Permissive Bill in three or four more of the Districts of the Island—amongst others in Twillingate, and Fogo, in Carbonear and in Burn. In each of these there seems to be every prospect of success; and we are sure every man who wishes well to the country and who desires to see vice and immorality at a minimum in the land, will cheer them on in their work.

Next month the League will have the new and onerous duty of watching them of "watching" the districts of Bigus and Bay de Verts, in which places the law will then come into operation. Active temperance men will be employed to report all violations of the law, and the Magistrates will without doubt perform their duty in the premises. In this connection it will not be out of place to introduce the following paragraph:—

The teetotalers and "Templars" of Nottingham having established a "vigilance committee" for the watching of public houses, a communication was made to the Home Secretary, and the following answer has been received:—"Sir, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bruce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., and to state in reply that so long as there is no molestation or obstruction on the part of the teetotalers, there is nothing illegal in their watching the public houses and the police if they choose to do so.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A. F. O. Liddell."—*Ibid*, Oct. 9.

A friend at Rose Blanche, under date Sept 30, kindly informs us that the fishery there had been very dull the past month, scarcely any being caught, though there was plenty of squid for bait. Weather extremely mild. The summer fishery had, on the whole, been fair.—*Ibid*.

Private information, per "Tiger" from the Northwest advises us that fish of good size was being taken in several prominent localities, and that some boats had secured as much as eighteen qtls. Our information refers altogether to Bonavista and Green Bays.—*Ibid*, Oct. 8.

The weather for some time past, has been almost uninterrupted fine, particularly so for the season, and everything that could be desired as being most desirable for the general business of the country. On Friday last, rather a severe brush was experienced, which however was but of short duration, the succeeding Saturday and Sunday forcibly reminding us of the advent of October, by the cold and chilly winds which prevailed throughout those days. Since Monday, however, a most favorable change has taken place, the unpleasant weather of the preceding days, giving place to genial and refreshing westerly breezes. We fear that the rumours generally prevalent, as to the failure of the potato crop, are but too true. Should such unfortunately prove to be the case, it cannot fail to be the cause of much regret, as being likely to be productive of considerable privation amongst our operative population, more particularly in the outports, during the present winter.—*Courier*.

The *Telegraph* publishes the following extract from a letter from Bonavista, dated Oct. 4:—

"I am sorry to inform you that we have the rot very bad among the potatoes this year. I don't think there is one but has it more or less. It is a sad affair, when you consider how many were looking to a good crop, to make up in some measure for the short catch of fish. I am afraid there will be a good deal of poverty among our poor people this winter.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Edmund Hanrahan, Esq., to be a Member of the Road Board at Ferryland, in the room of the late John Stephenson, Esq. Secretary's Office, 2nd October, 1872.—*Gazette*.

The steamship *Alhambra* left Pictou for St. John's at eight o'clock yesterday morning.

NEWS ITEMS.

A MAN was bitten by a mad dog in a small Texas town, and the people rose in arms and killed 247 dogs before their madness subsided.

HAVANA despatches state there has lately been some sharp fighting between parties of insurgents and the Royalist troops at different points of the Island of Cuba.

THE English steamer "Dover Castle" was recently burned to the water's edge off the Chilean coast, the loss involving a large cargo of cotton, but no human lives.

THE use of the electric telegraph for private houses is spreading in the United States. During the last two months more than 600 instruments have been put up and are in operation in offices and dwelling-houses.

THE PUBLIC DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES.—The report of the Treasury Department shows that the national debt was reduced \$10,736,635 during the month of August. The total debt is now \$2,177,322,020.

A FRENCH paper assures its readers that the "supremacy of England" is seriously endangered by the "potato famine," and that England is going to contract a loan to import "praties" from France.

A MAGNIFICENT pianoforte has just been sent from London to the Empress of China. The manufacturers, doubtful of the ability of the celestial lady to play, have thoughtfully added a "grinding apparatus." The tunes chosen are "God save the Queen," the "Miserere" from "Trovatore," the "Lancers," "Quadrille," and the "Marseillaise."

UNION OF THE RHINE AND THE RHONE.—A short time ago it was intimated that the Prussian Government intended to form a canal by which the two rivers the Rhine and the Rhone might be united, and Germany thereby brought into communication with the Mediterranean. The "Patrie" states that the French Minister of Public Works is at present in communication with the Berlin Cabinet on the subject.

STRANGE EXPLOSION.—The French Attaché Militaire, at Berlin, coming home from the manoeuvres, threw his burning cigar into one of the spittoons, when a terrific explosion took place, knocking the colonel down and severely burning his face. It appears that the servant, finding a bag of powder in the apartments, mistook it for black sand, and filled all the "crachoirs" with it, so delighted was she with the gloss of the mischievous granules.

THE Countess of Dudley's almost priceless gems have recently received the noble accession of a tiara or coronet, which was only presented to her ladyship recently, by the Earl, on the occasion of her birthday. The ornament is a perfect blaze of magnificent diamonds; the centre stone a pear-shaped brilliant of wonderful lustre and perfect form, weighing 46 carats and a half. This one diamond alone cost Lord Dudley £30,000. The Countess's suit of pearls and diamonds, including six rows of strong pearls, is valued at something over £150,000.

EXTRAORDINARY SUPERSTITION IN SKYE.—In connection with a sad suicide which recently took place at Storr, the "Inverness Courier" says:—"A strange superstition has manifested itself—one which we thought was extinct long ago. When it was proposed to inter the remains of the young man in the churchyard at Portree, the inhabitants rose "en masse," and vehemently resisted the attempt to do so, we believe successfully. The absurdity is crowned by the reason assigned for the opposition—not, as might be expected, an idea that any indignity was offered to the remains of those already interred in the ground, nor any fear of the place being haunted, but that, if the funeral were permitted to take place, "no herings" would be caught in the neighborhood for seven years! In a similar case which occurred in one of the parishes on the west coast of the mainland a good many years ago, a controversy arose as to whether the body of an unhappy man who committed suicide should be interred among his relatives or at the back of the church, the superstition there not going the length of entire exclusion from the churchyard. After much wrangling, the matter was referred to the parish minister, who, of course, treated the herring theory with proper contempt, and decided for interment in the family burying-ground, which was effected amidst many grumblings and ominous headshakings. The sequel, however, was very curious. To the astonishment of all the inhabitants, and not a little to the satisfaction of the minister, the fishing in the adjoining loch that year proved the most successful and remunerative on record."