

have only fourteen teeth in each. In white people the wisdom teeth, which appear at seventeen years, or at a more advanced age, have only two teeth, and these are smaller as compared with black races, with whom they are voluminous and possessed of three roots. The tendency of wisdom teeth is to diminish in size, due either to our dependance on cooked food or to intellectual development, which in augmenting the skull has to encroach or draw on the face. In hydrocephalus it is well known the augmentation of the cranium reduces the face.

In regard to Esau traits, the examples of persons covered with hair are numerous. In Burmah, a mother gave birth to a male child who, when ten months old, had a thick moustache and beard; later the features became covered with hair. At St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, there was a girl aged twelve, whose neck, bust and arms were so covered with hair as to resemble a monkey. Professor Lombroso had a female patient of the same age with a beard and moustache; the whole body was also similarly covered, save the hands and feet. Then there was the Russian peasant, the "Man Dog," exhibited in 1875, whose face and head, back and legs were covered with a brown woolly hair over one inch long. Imperfect teeth always exist with these anomalies. Professor Topinard states the Ainos tribes are veritable Esaus, being covered with hair six and a half inches long.

HERE AND THERE.

INDUSTRIOUS if not well-meaning writers continue to assure the Canadian public that the recent change of Government in England has resulted in the Mother Country once more resuming her legitimate place in the council of nations. Now that Gladstone has been eclipsed by Salisbury, the growl of the British lion is heard with respect if not fear. To Jingoists this sort of thing may be comforting; to honest men it is very pitiful; to the average intelligence it is insulting. In no material point has the Tory Government departed from the policy of their predecessors. In every point of consequence they have swallowed their previous protestations. They, and not the enemies of England, have "backed down," and the latest cablegrams assure us that Russia's terms have been accepted by the minister, who dubbed that country a nation of liars and swindlers, whilst the Irish rebel leaders still dictate terms to the *soi-disant* defenders of "our ancient constitution." And this is the policy which dishonest and interested writers assure their readers is regaining the *prestige* of England.

DESPITE their almost invariable blundering, certain American and Canadian writers continue to discuss the inner workings of English politics in amusingly positive terms. Now we are assured that the Tories will retain power after the elections; anon a complacent quidnunc avers that Home Rule is inevitable, not alone for Ireland but for Scotland. (Why should Wales be left in the cold?) English political students—even those upon the spot—it should be observed, are much more modest: the more intelligent amongst them confess to considerable uncertainty about possible developments. But one and all see the absurdity of proposing to divide the empire into four in order to save it from being split into two.

LORD HOUGHTON's death has removed one of the best known and the most popular if not the most important figures of English society. In his youth he had been a poet of no mean order and a social enthusiast, though he could hardly ever have been a martyr. In his later years he was an epicurean philosopher and a literary amphitryon. In the latter capacity he was the most genial and entertaining of hosts. Everybody had breakfasted with him, and to know that everybody had breakfasted with him was his delight. Indolent in his general habits, he would compass heaven and earth to make the acquaintance of one notoriety. So well was this understood that the person who for the first time sat down at Lord Houghton's breakfast table could not help feeling that he was welcomed as an accession to a menagerie. With his passion for notoriety Lord Houghton combined a kindred passion for autographs, his collection of which was superb. He had a most interesting autograph of Cromwell. He could show on the same page of his album a set of love verses written by Robespierre as a youth and a death warrant signed by him as Dictator. When Grant went to the inevitable breakfast, he was regaled with the sight of a round robin which he had signed as a cadet at West Point. This Laughing Philosopher used to speak of himself as merely a complete phenomenon, and to declare that he looked forward with perfect calmness to the hour of his dissolution. The tidings however that the hour has come will be received with sorrow by countless friends.

THOSE who have seen or heard of "La Bible Comique," "La Vie de Jesu," or any other of the blasphemous publications issued by the French Société Anti-Clericale, will be curious to note that "Léo Taxil," otherwise Gabriel Jogand, founder of the association and editor of its publications, has made a public recantation in Paris, to the intense disgust of his converts. The free-thought president, in the course of some denunciations of the recreant atheist exclaimed:—"After having obtained 17,000 adherents, after having created the great anti-clerical movement, you abjure it all, and this at the supreme hour of the struggle. This is more than infamy; it is a crime. It would have been better had you killed the men than deceived them thus." Thus do certain so-called freethinkers respect freedom of thought. M. Léo Taxil declared that he was thoroughly disgusted with the Republic, and after an exciting scene the following motion was put to vote and unanimously adopted: "Considering that Gabriel Jogand, called Léo Taxil, one of the founders of the Anti-Clerical League, has abjured all the principles which he defended, and has betrayed freethought and his

co-religionists, the members of the league present at the meeting of July 27th, without pronouncing on the motives which have dictated his infamous conduct, expel him from the Anti-Clerical League as a traitor and a renegade." The President then ordered M. Léo Taxil to withdraw, and he left the hall amid furious denunciations from the entire assembly.

It is very well known that any person discovering a printer's error in an Oxford Bible will be paid a guinea if he will take the trouble to point it out to the Controller of the Press—provided, of course, that it has not been discovered before. The editions of the Sacred Scriptures issued by the University are very numerous, and from one or another of them errors are now and again picked out, and several times during his term of office the present controller has been called upon for the guinea, and has paid it. When the Revised Bibles were about to be issued, says *Leisure Hour*, the question arose as to whether guineas should be paid for printers' errors in this enormous issue of entirely new print. Every edition, of course, is an independent work of the compositors and proof-readers; and in an undertaking of such magnitude it could hardly be doubted that mistakes would in the aggregate be numerous, and prudence seemed to suggest that no undertaking should be entered into until the work had for a time had the benefit of the gratuitous criticism of the public. However, after running the gauntlet of public scrutiny for a good month, only three printer's errors have been discovered in all the editions. In the pearl 16mo edition there is an error in Ezekiel xviii. 26, where an "e" is left out of righteous, and the word is printed "rightous." In the parallel 8vo edition there are two mistakes. In Psalms vii. 13, "shatts" appears instead of "shafts," and in Amos v. 24, in the margin, "overflowing" should be "everflowing." Of course there may be others to be found yet, but that so far only these should have been brought to the notice of the authorities is astonishing, considering the magnitude of the enterprise.

It may be hoped that the decision of the American Rowing Association in the Laing-Enright-O'Connor case will put a check to the growing practice of betting upon amateur contests, and the still more reprehensible system of arranging races in which "backers" have a monetary interest. The moment that relations are set up between amateurs and makers of betting books or pools there is danger of collusion and fraud. It is in the true interests of gentlemanly sport that the meaning of the term "amateur" should be clearly defined, and that a strict adherence to the spirit of the definition should be insisted upon by regatta committees. The N. A. O. A. could adopt no other course than that explained by Mr. Garfield in face of the evidence connecting the three Canadian oarsmen with betting transactions, even though it did not transpire that they figured in those transactions as principals.

THE *Globe* does our neighbours scant justice when it ridicules the "freeing" of American Niagara, alleging that the Falls hackman demands and collects eight dollars an hour from unwilling "fares." On the contrary, under the new regime, he who runs may read the tariff in black and white on the public thoroughfares in Niagara City, and that tariff is exactly one quarter the figure quoted by the *Globe*. Thanks to the public spirit of New York State, those charming coigns of vantage, Prospect Park, Goat Island, Luna Island, are now as really free as is the badly-kept Canadian shore—a great boon to heads of families who have come to look upon an occasional trip to the Falls per the good ship "Chicora" as amongst the most attractive of summer outings.

It is said that a New York physician has discovered a new remedy for sea-sickness, which is, he declares, caused by a lack of blood in the brain. It is to invert the sufferers; in other words, stand them on their heads, when the blood will immediately flow to the brain and all unpleasant sensations will cease. The treatment, it is satisfactory to learn, need not be long continued; in ordinary cases twenty-four hours would be quite sufficient. It may be that women would rather endure sea-sickness than endure being cured in this way. Yet sea-sickness is a miserable experience, nor can it be supposed there is any universal preventive against it. A great many people aggravate their liability to it by keeping on taking nips of this, that and the other—chiefly brandy—to keep it off. In the case of a short trip old travellers think it is best to take a good meal about three hours before starting, so as to give strength; and after that to abstain either from eating or drinking until the voyage is accomplished. At this season of short holiday trips, this hint may be worth remembering, and people who think of it may not require to stand on their heads in an open boat.

THE New York *Town Topics* bewails the prevalence of piracy amongst newspaper writers. There can be no question the practice is too common; but those who throw stones should be careful of their surroundings. The *Critic* and the *Sun* are twitted with having appropriated a paragraph on the formation of a Ladies' Club from *Town Topics* without properly accrediting the cutting. On another page of the same issue our contemporary reproduces as original a paragraph on the "electric party" which previously appeared in *THE WEEK*. *Voilà une autre chose.*

THE day seems fast approaching when all the show mountains of the world will be provided with railways. Mount Blanc and the Matterhorn seem safe for a few years longer. But Englishmen tremble at the thought that Ben Nevis and Snowdon are too surely condemned ere long to go the way of Rigi and Vesuvius. Mount Kearsarge, one of the eminences of the White Mountain range, in New Hampshire, is a favourite resort of