

Men and Women.

Joseph Pulitzer, of the New York World, who has become totally blind, has for a private secretary a young Englishman named Ponsonby, who is a nephew of Lord Ponsonby.

Lord Tennyson is hale and hearty at eighty years and says he expects to write at least one more poem before he stops. He has nominated Lord Lytton as his successor as Poet Laureate, but the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and Lord Salisbury each has a different candidate in view, it is said.

David Dudley Field is going to be presented to Queen Victoria. He has always declined heretofore.

Capt. W. D. Andrews, of Toronto has rescued during his lifetime sixty-nine people from drowning. He will be recommended by the Duke of Connaught as a fit recipient of the Albert medal, the highest honor given in England for saving life.

Mr John Livingstone, of Listowell, brother of Dr. Livingstone, who has been in Scotland for some week past, is now in his 79th year. He has been in Canada fifty years, during which he has made seven visits to his native land. He is now retired from business. He bears a strong resemblance to his illustrious brother, and is distinguished by his quiet thoughtfulness and retiring disposition. Mr. Livingstone is sojourning at Wemyss Bay, and sails for Canada on Friday.—*Christian Scotland Leader*.

Princess Victoria of Prussia, daughter of the late Emperor Frederick, and grand daughter of Queen Victoria, is about to marry a German Prince, and will have a dowry of ten million marks. Her annual allowance will be seventy-five thousand marks, besides such gratuities as Emperor William may bestow on her.

Christina, Queen Regent of Spain, is a great advocate of tobacco. She consumes a large quantity of Egyptian cigarettes, and there is nothing that her little "Bubi," King Alphonso XIII., enjoys more than when his mother permits him to strike a match and apply the flame to the end of her cigarette.

Frederick John Cridland, who has been in the British civil service for the past thirty-five years, holding various positions in this and other countries, has recently resigned the post of Consul at Charleston, South Carolina. During the war he was Consul at Richmond, Virginia, and for twenty years held a similar office at Mobile, Alabama. He held a subordinate position under G. P. R. James, the novelist, who was the British representative at Norfolk, Virginia, during the yellow fever outbreak in 1858, and distinguished himself by his intrepid work among the sick.

The Empress of Austria has started in a steam-yacht on a cruise which is to include the Scottish coast and some of the ports of France, Spain, Africa, and Majorca. She travels under an assumed name.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes recently observed his eighty-first birthday among his books and flowers at his summer home in Beverly Farms. A number of visitors called upon him and a variety of gifts arrived by mail or messenger. Like other people of literary eminence, Dr. Holmes is pestered by autograph hunters and with requests to have manuscripts examined and passed upon. With the latter he rarely complies, although he generally writes the desired autographs. His eyesight is failing him so that he has to employ an amanuensis to read and answer the most of his letters.

Read on publisher's page particulars of a free voyage to Europe.

Moderate gum chewing is positively healthful. Chew Adam's Tutti Frutti Gum; 5 cents.

Cran Relish.—Strain clabber into a thin muslin bag and hang it to drip; in four hours pack it down in a dish or bowl and press it like cheese. Then cut it into squares, which can be moulded in the fingers; wrap each square in either white tissue paper or in tinfoil. Another way is to add pepper and salt before it is pressed; and yet another is to flavor it with nutmeg and brown sugar before pressing.

THE PREMATURE BURIAL HUMBUG.

Medical Men do not Know of a Single Authenticated Case.

The subject of premature burial has been left alone in this country by the appearance of sensational paragraphs in the daily press. Not long ago the public were horrified by a story from Leeds of a gravedigger having heard sounds proceeding from a coffin recently buried. It required a Coroner's inquest, and the evidence of Mr. Scattergood, the lecturer on forensic medicine, to reassure the public that the rumor was false, the deceased woman having died a perfectly natural death, while, although its cause was typhoid fever, the burial had been by no means hastened, and it was clear that death had occurred at the time stated by those around her.

More recently there was a sensational story from Southampton of a clergyman who stopped the interment of a friend, whose funeral he had come some distance to attend, on the grounds that he saw some sign of life, which proved to be simply his own imagination. So far as this country is concerned, there has not been a single authenticated case recorded of premature burial, though there have undoubtedly been cases where persons have revived after apparent death, and many alleged cases of premature burial in addition to those previously alluded to. But all these have the appearance of sensational stories, manufactured for the "penny dreadfuls" and those newspapers which thrive on sensation.

Even on the Continent, in America, and in other countries where in consequence of the intense heat burial must take place within twenty-four hours after death, the authenticity of the stories of alleged premature burial has never been proved and it may be safely asserted that one genuine case would have led to an alteration in the law and the postponement of burial until after a longer period.

In England, on the contrary, there is less reason to complain of too speedy burial as of too prolonged an interval between death and burial. Mr. Seymour Hallen's suggestion of burial within thirty-six hours was not favorably received, and is, indeed, for this country too short an interval. A universally exact interval cannot be laid down; it must vary according to the time of the year, the weather, and other circumstances. In these days of cheap disinfectants a body can be kept without prejudice to the living for four or five days after death, which interval is long enough to satisfy the wishes of the most timid. There is a circumstance well known to the profession which, if it were better known to the public, would go far to reassure those whose minds may have been disturbed by these sensational paragraphs. Every day bodies apparently lifeless are received at metropolitan and provincial hospitals, having been found in every variety of posture, clothed, half clothed, or naked, and under varying circumstances. At the hospital the resident surgeon must give a prompt and decisive answer to the question, "Is he (or she) alive or dead?" To send a corpse to the ward or to keep it unduly long in the reception room would be a very stupid blunder; to send a living person to the dead house would be a crime. These cases amount in the aggregate to thousands annually, and yet we have never heard of a mistake being made. It is probably this circumstance which makes members of the profession skeptical of these stories of so-called premature burial, and causes them to reject with an incredulous smile the suggestion that so horrible a fate might occur to any of us.—*The Lancet*.

Humouring a Stranger.

A London stockbroker who was on his way to the city observed that one of his fellow-passengers in the bus was closely regarding him, and after a time the man leaned over and asked, "Didn't I see you in Liverpool in 1873?" The broker wasn't in Liverpool that year, but thinking to humour the stranger, he replied in the affirmative. "Don't you remember handing a poor shivering wretch a half-crown one night outside the Royal Hotel?" "I do." "Well, I'm the chap." "I was hard up, out of work, and about to commit suicide. That money made a new man of me. By one lucky spec, and another I am now worth £5000." "Ah, glad to hear it." "And now I want you to take a sovereign in place of that half-crown. I cannot feel easy until the debt is paid." The broker protested and objected, and finally, just to humour the man, he took the £5 note offered him, and returned the £4 change. The stranger soon left the bus, and everything might have ended then and there, if the broker, on reaching the office, hadn't ascertained that the "siver" was a counterfeit, and that he was £4 out of pocket.

In the Period of Expectation.

When the foot of the Greek first, and afterward of the Roman, trod the streets of Jerusalem, when the treasures of the Hebrew books were unlocked to the Gentile world through the Septuagint, then there happened, we may justly assume, one of two things. There was, as we know upon strong heathen testimony, before the advent of our Lord, a universal and traditional expectation in the East that a great power was to arise in Judea and to subdue the world. How came it that so remarkable a conception, foreign to the cultivated communities of the Greek and the Italian peninsulas, and apparently menacing the continuance of the Roman dominion, should have been prevalent in the East?

The East had, indeed, at certain epochs supposed itself entitled to the mastery of the world; hence, the wild expedition of Darius into Scythia and the repeated conflicts of Persia with the Greeks. It is not strange that this heritage should be reclaimed, for ideas of this kind are tenacious of life and easy of revival. But what is at first sight most strange is the choice of the spot from which deliverance was to proceed. It was not from any of the seats of ancient power, the fame of which was still on record, but from among the small, isolated, and undistinguished people who inhabited Palestine, and whose brief appearance on the stage of human affairs as conquerors in the time of King David was so slight in limit and in duration as to have inscribed no mark upon the page of general history. It had passed away, like the old empire of the Hittites; they were also a people whose manners and institutions repelled rather than attracted the sympathy of the world.

One supposition explanatory of this remarkable expectation might be that it had lived on from prehistoric times in feebleness and obscurity, but had come to the front when the East felt pressing on it from Rome the hard hand of power, wielding it for the first time by a permanent system into uniformity of servitude or inferiority, from which it panted for deliverance. But it seems more probable that the Jewish Scriptures, which had for two centuries become known by translation into Greek, were themselves the fountain head of this most remarkable anticipation; and in that case it probably proceeded in an eminent degree from the Messianic Psalms, which were of all the available evidence the part most in the eye and mind of the people.—*W. E. Gladstone*.

Dealing With Facets.

For a long time no systematic method could be found for dealing with the dacoit gangs. When information concerning any gang could be obtained, or when news was brought of depredations committed, men were of course sent out in pursuit with as much secrecy as possible. As, however, the dacoits had usually many hours' start, and could move almost as quickly as mounted men, these pursuits were in the large majority of cases unsuccessful. It has frequently happened that when they were so closely followed that escape was hopeless the dacoits managed to conceal their arms in some dense thicket and to appear as ordinary peasants, mixing freely with the other villagers, and even conversing with their pursuers, well knowing that the villagers would not venture to betray them.

On one occasion two officials, accompanied by troops, while scouring the country in pursuit of a gang that had just committed a serious outrage came upon two men and a boy, apparently engaged in reaping paddy; these were interrogated with a view of eliciting what knowledge they might have of the gang in question, which had apparently split up, as such gangs usually do when hard pressed. No, these men had not heard anything about the dacoits lately; knew they had been in the neighborhood some time ago, but had no idea where they had gone to. They themselves were villagers of — and their names were — and they were reaping paddy.

Not long after these very men were in an encounter with the militia; one of them was a native of the — gang, and held a high position afterward related. The other two men, who were reaping paddy, rushed up, saying (signers) are upon us, and remember to betray us it will be — quietly set to the — found by the — turning from — a number — holding — was — was

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this incident to the same English officer. "Do you remember," he said, "the day you were coming from — and met the villagers of — hunting hares?" "Oh, yes," he remembered perfectly. "What of it?" "Why," replied the dacoit, "it was I and the rest of Bob —'s gang, not the villagers at all. You came upon us so suddenly that we had no time to escape and so brazened it out." — *The National Review*.

The Bible Tested by Science.

But if scientific method, operating in the region of history, of philology, of archaeology, in the course of the last 30 or 40 years, has become thus formidable to the theological dogmatist, what may not be said about scientific method working in the province of physical science? For, if it is true that the canonical Scriptures contain innumerable points of contact with the — it is no less true that the — with natural history — put to the test —