

One of the most plausible schemes for re-immortalizing Columbus is that now proposed by Lady Blake, wife of the Governor of Jamaica, in a letter to the *London Times*. Her idea, that a Marine Biological Station should be established at Jamaica, where the opportunities for the close observation of the minutæ of water life are numerous and varied, is endorsed by many leading scientists, and by those English popularizers of new ideas, the *Graphic* and the *Queen*. A subscription in aid of this object has already been instituted. This memorial would certainly be more in keeping with the spirit of the bold navigator than any memento of the best or monumental variety with which we are so wearily familiar.

The Darwinian theory is not acceptable to most of us, and it is with delight we read that Professor Virchow, the eminent German anatomist, has struck a heavy blow at it. In his address at the Anthropological Congress in Vienna he asserted that the protoman has not yet been discovered, and that we cannot prove the descent of the separate races from one another. "At this moment," he said, "we are able to say that among the people of antiquity no single one was any nearer to the apes than we are. At this moment I can affirm that there is not upon earth any absolutely unknown race of men. Every living race is still human; no single one has yet been found that we can designate as simian or quasi-simian." Ingenious theories must fade away before the stern logic of facts, but theorists will not admit it just yet.

Protestant circles in England are somewhat excited and indignant over the movement to erect a statue to Cardinal Newman in the finest open square in Oxford. Unthinking bodies, such as the Oxford City Council, consented to the proposition, which was started by a Catholic Duke, but the incongruity of erecting such a monument within a hundred yards of the spot where Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer were burned at the stake, is presenting itself forcibly to people of all creeds. No one questions the right of admirers of Newman to erect a monument to his memory, but it should be done with due regard to the feelings of Protestants. The age is one of toleration, but even now it is necessary to avoid friction between the adherents of widely differing creeds, and it is unwise for the Catholics to pursue this special plan of doing honor to the mighty dead. Other ways more consistent with the real state of affairs could easily be found.

After the disheartening figures of the British drink bill, to which we referred in a recent issue, we need something more cheering in the temperance outlook, and we find it in a report from India. Lord Roberts states that after the close of the Afghan campaign that there were 12,000 teetotalers in the ranks of the Indian Army. It is very pleasing to be informed that among the regiments quartered in that trying Indian climate total abstinence has not only held its own, but that it has made astonishing progress. The number of soldiers now enrolled on the side of temperance has swelled to 17,500—nearly one in four of the whole Indian Army. This large percentage of total abstainers will have an increasing tendency, just as everything that is the fashion will have followers. When it was considered the proper thing to drink, few men had the moral courage to abstain, but now that difficulty is removed, and there is no excuse for reckless indulgence.

Apropos of the Russian famine it is not without interest to learn that since the beginning of written history, there have been known about three hundred and fifty distressing famines. In 1064, the overflow of the Nile having failed for seven successive years, there was a terrible famine in Egypt which lasted several years and was followed by a pestilence. England was desolated by famines in 1059 and 1158. In 1344 a famine in India extended over all Hindustan, and in 1347 numbers of Italians died of absolute starvation. Hunger killed 3,000,000 during the great famine in India in 1670, and there were also great famines there in 1769 and 1812. In 1822 Ireland suffered untold pangs, owing to the failure of the potato crops, and the same heart-rending scenes were repeated in 1847, when a similar calamity occurred. Bengal suffered from famine in 1866; in 1870 there was one in Siam, and in 1874 and 1877 famines occurred in India as well as one in China during the last named year. It is hard to estimate the suffering resulting to humanity from these terrible afflictions. The record is a sad one.

We can scarcely imagine what a pest rabbits have become in Australia. The trouble is matter of every day comment, but in reality the evil has been growing to such an extent that the inhabitants of the infested country are in despair. Around Cobar and Bourke, in the western division of New South Wales, the condition is reported as serious. The estimated increase of the pest in that comparatively small area during the last three years is 13,000,000. The departmental experts estimate that 89,000,000 acres, nearly half the total area of the colony, are infested. In the dry country the rabbits have taken, in the absence of softer food, to eating wood, particularly the tender bark of the scrub vegetation. By eating this as far as they can reach they effectually "ring-bark" and kill the scrubs, and thus, in the case of edible varieties, destroy one of the means of keeping sheep alive during long periods of drought. It is stated that traps at the great tanks and water holes in a dry season, when water is unobtainable elsewhere, are the best method of destroying the animals. It is also said, and this we take *cum grano salis*, that the rabbits have taken to climbing trees and eating every green thing they can reach.

The *March Century* contained a poem by Thomas Bailey Aldrich which paid a handsome tribute to an English poet, whom he did not name, but who has "purple blood of poets in his veins," and who is evidently, in the opinion of Mr. Aldrich, just the man to wear the Laureate's crown when the time comes for another to fill Tennyson's position. Much curiosity has been excited as to whom the poem refers to, but speculation is vain. Different people give different names for the "finder of undreamed-of harmonies," and those who know won't tell.

One is sorry to hear very grave doubts expressed as to the efficiency of the Keeley gold-cure for drunkenness. The merest gleam of hope for inebriates is always hailed with delight, and if a sword that could cut the Gordian knot of habit could only be secured there are countless homes all over the world that would rejoice for the first time. Cases are cited which appear to be genuine cures at Dwight, but they are so often contradicted that we know not what to think. The enormous profits of the "Keeley Company" impress one with the idea that Dr. Keeley and his associates are not working solely for love. The company is composed of the doctor, a brother-in-law, and a young chemist of Chicago. The profits in sight are \$1,000,000 a year from the Dwight establishment alone, and there are thirty-three branches in different parts of the country. One of the astonishing things about drunkenness is that people who have no scruples about exposing themselves to view in an intoxicated condition time and again, are delicate about undertaking or acknowledging the necessity for treatment. Fifty thousand people have been treated at Dwight, but there are thousands of others who do not like to go into the institution, to whom the "cure" is mailed for home treatment. If it really cures, let Keeley be encouraged, even if he is making a huge fortune out of it. The man who cures drunkenness deserves something more than gratitude.

The cost of war, reckoned in dollars and cents only, without taking into account the lives sacrificed or the misery and sorrow caused, is very great. The recent struggle in Chili is a fair example of the financial cost of war. The report of the Joint Commission appointed by both Houses of Congress of that country on the financial projects of the Government gives an exact statement of the paper money in existence, including the banks and dictatorial issues. The *London South American Journal* gives a digest of this paper which is interesting. It is as follows:—"The dictatorial issues, it would seem, amount to \$20,642,925 in paper, and \$774,358.50 in subsidiary coinage, a part of two-tenths fine and part with a reduction of twenty one-hundredths in the weight. In December, 1890, the banks' issue did not exceed \$20,285,000, the Government issue was reduced to \$21,287,616, while the metallic reserve had been augmented to close upon \$4,000,000. Such was, briefly, the financial position of the Republic on the eve of dictatorship, which, to sustain itself, spent \$20,000,000 at the disposal of the Treasury in the Republic and in Germany; contracted debts for \$9,000,000 more; made use of nearly \$1,500,000 of the metallic reserve; and issued in illegal paper money and debased coinage a total of \$21,417,310." As the report states:—"These acts, viewed in their financial aspect, mean a loss to the Republic of upwards of \$20,000,000 and an increase of debt of upwards of \$45,000,000, of which last amount upwards of \$20,000,000 is in paper." Small wonder that Chili cannot afford to participate in the World's Fair!

The close connection between physical training and morals is not yet fully apprehended by the majority of people, but those who have given thought and observation to the subject are firm in the belief that there is nothing which has a greater tendency to improve the character and morals of men than judicial and physical training. We have often heard of a "sound mind in a sound body," and the saying contains a truth which it were well if all our young people could get at. The gymnasium is a feature of modern life which has more value than the outward show. Those who are familiar with the requirements of gymnastic exercises, know that young men taking part in them are obliged to be strictly temperate, not only with liquids but with solid food, and the simplicity of the regimen, together with the exercise which tends to develop the muscles, has a splendid effect on both body and mind. One reacts upon the other, and when every individual is raised to the highest symmetrical development by the system now in vogue, which aims at all round culture rather than the production of a few great athletes, the maximum of health and physical beauty is attained and the brain benefits in proportion, so that morbid and criminal impulses are driven out. The testimony of men who have had long experience in the training of young people goes to show that if every child, from youngest to oldest, attending school in any country, could receive forty minutes of drill by a competent instructor each day, and have that training supplemented by instruction in the important laws of health, the total of crime and the numbers of the criminal classes would, in the following generation, be decreased one-half. The result of much thought on the subject is that a high value must be placed upon physical training as a help to good morals, and we must not, because we sometimes hear of cases which appear to prove the opposite side of the contention, allow ourselves to despise it as a means to an end. We acknowledge religion as the strongest moral influence we have, but because it has occasionally happened that ministers of the gospel have disgraced their calling, we do not lose our faith in religion. So it is with all good things: there will be a percentage of exceptions to the rule in everything, and we must look rather at the net result than at individual cases. We shall find, we doubt not, that the sum total of good resulting from physical training will far outweigh any defects that may be noticed.

K. D. C. Restores the Stomach to Healthy Action.
K. D. C. Acts Like Magic on the Stomach,

K. D. C. The Greatest Cure of the Age.
K. D. C. The Dyspeptic's Hope.