

"Shorter" Pastry and "Shorter" Bills.

We are talking about a "shortening" which will not cause indigestion. Those who "know a thing or two" about Cooking (Marion Harland among a host of others) are using

COTTOLENE

instead of lard. None but the purest, healthiest and cleanest ingredients go to make up Cottolene. Lard isn't healthy, and is not always clean. Those who use Cottolene will be healthier and wealthier than those who use lard—Healthier because they will get "shorter" bread; wealthier because they will get "shorter" grocery bills—for Cottolene costs no more than lard and goes twice as far—so is but half as expensive.

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The Anglican Church Congress, which meets in Birmingham, England, on October 3, is to discuss eminently practical and vital questions. Among them are "The work of the Church among the artisan population; How to reach the careless and non-churchgoers; How to break down prejudice against the Church; Missions among the people; The Church and the poor; The Church and the press; Preaching and a preaching order; Home and foreign missions.

LOOKED LIKE A SKELETON.

GENTLEMEN,—Last summer my baby was so bad with summer complaint that he looked like a skeleton. Although I had not much faith in it, I took a friend's advice and tried Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. He soon got better. I truly believe it saved his life.

Mrs. HARVEY STEEVES, Hillsborough, N.B.

Germany, which a few years ago had an army of tramps estimated at nearly 200,000, begging from town to town, demoralising, and in many instances terrifying rural communities, has organized anti-beggary societies, whose members agree to give nothing to beggars who apply at their doors, but these societies provide and maintain relief stations and "Herberges," where by a few hours of labour the applicant may earn a ticket which will entitle him to food and lodging at this herberge, or plain boarding-house, but no liquor can be obtained there. The statistics of 1890 show that there were in that year 1957 relief stations and 364 herberges in operation in Germany, at which 1,662,606 breakfasts, 972,490 dinners, 1,871,591 suppers, and 2,223,000 lodgings were provided.

Dr. Lyman Abbott's tireless industry in many lines is freshly illustrated by the appearance, announced in recent American papers, of the new hymnal on which he has been engaged for several years. Henry Ward Beecher prepared a hymnal for use in Plymouth church, which was among the first of a kind now universal in America, containing hymns and tunes together. In form, Dr. Abbott's work is a revision of this, but is substantially a new book in the amount of its fresh material, to which the best hymn-writers and composers have contributed. The best hymn writing of late has been done in America, notably by Unitarians; but not so the best hymn-music—at least, as judged by English standards. A great improvement made by Dr. Abbott is in the reduction of the number of hymns, of which the new Plymouth hymnal is said to contain but 620. What with fondness for the old and desire for the new, recent hymnals have grown into anthologies, which in combination with the tunes make volumes somewhat ponderous.

British and Foreign.

The Hebrew, Greek, Latin and German books of the late Rev. Owen Edwards, M.A., Melbourne, have been bequeathed to the library of Bala College.

The new Hungarian law, which awaits the Emperor's signature, provides that there shall be one law for all sects, that civil marriage shall be compulsory, and take place in a church, and that divorce shall be regulated by civil tribunals. On this last point the Roman Catholics will make a determined resistance.

The John Ker Memorial church, Merchiston, Edinburgh, is to be opened about the beginning of November, by Rev. Dr. Andrew Thomson. The services on the first Sabbath of November are to be conducted by Dr. Munro Gibson and Dr. Alexander Mair, and on the following Sabbath Dr. George Matheson, Prof. Hislop and Rev. Lewis Davidson are to officiate.

The Comparative Summary of the Southern Presbyterian Church shows a gratifying advance all along the line; an increase of 18 candidates, 10 licentiates, 32 ministers, 80 churches, 230 elders, 257 deacons, 963 additions on examination, 6,040 communicants, 391 adult baptisms, 239 infant baptisms, 1,278 Sabbath-school members and \$21,950 contributions.

A happy incident is chronicled from Pretoria, South Africa. A number of German naval officers were approaching Pretoria in carriages, and on the way they passed a number of Englishmen who immediately doffed their hats with the cry of "Three cheers for the German Emperor." This courtesy was happily responded to by the tars, who rose in their carriages with a cry of, "and three cheers for his grandmother," who, as everyone knows, is our most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

The two branches of the American Presbyterian Church, which were one but are now separated, present this array: 293 Presbyteries, 9,944 churches, 8,289 ministers and licentiates, 1,727 candidates for the ministry, 33,888 ruling elders, 14,741 deacons, 1,043,635 communicants, 1,044,463 Sabbath-school members. Last year they licensed 313 preachers, ordained 304 to the ministry, received 137 ministers from other denominations (and dismissed 47), organized 269 new churches (and dissolved 85), received six (and dismissed seven), added 71,847 to their communion rolls on profession, baptized 57,475 persons (25,964 adults and 31,511 infants), and raised \$16,859,891 for their Church causes. Can any solid reason exist for the continued separation of these two bodies? Once there could be; can there now?

Prof. McCook, in the August Forum, discusses the causes and cure of vagrancy. Of the 1,349 American tramps he questioned, more than half were found to have trades, professions or employments requiring more or less skill, and 41.4 were unskilled labourers. Of these 1,187 were able to read and write. Liquor was a notable cause of vagrancy; back of that the want of purpose, moral stamina and solid elements of character. Of 1,314 questioned, only thirty claimed to be total abstainers. Of 1,329, 113 admitted that they had no religion; the rest had a quasi-regard for the tenets of one or another of the sects. The approximate number of tramps in the country is 45,000—a body larger than the regular army of the United States, and supported by the voluntary contributions of the people, amounting annually to \$8,000,000.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 17th, 1892.

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Joseph Whelan.

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