

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Helen Allingham, a London artist and a niece of Rev. Brooke Herford, of Boston, is the first woman to be elected a member of the Royal Society of Water-color Painters.

An American paper thus describes Lord Stanley: "Lord Stanley of Preston, the governor general of Canada, is broad shouldered, patrician mannered, and 49 years of age. He wears a closely cropped black beard, is devoted to a cold tub, and has taken kindly to tobogganing."

Miss Lydia M. Von Finkelstein is the most popular lecturer now living. She is attracting great gatherings in Australia. She made in three seasons in Great Britain over £2,000 and has already cleared upwards of £5,000 in Australia with her tableaux entertainments illustrative of Eastern and Biblical life.

Mrs. U.S. Grant leads a quiet life, partly on account of delicate health, and partly from preference. Her eyesight has become poor, and she is seldom seen outside the family circle, except when she drives in the park in her well-appointed brougham. One of her most frequent and welcome visitors is General Sherman.

A student of Frank Jackson, who is a missionary to India, was called upon to fill a position temporarily vacated by an English teacher in a female school in Siam. In some way the Siamese girls heard of her connection with the novelist, and were electrified by the information. Surrounding her en masse they exclaimed, "Now we shall find out whether it was the lady or the tiger!"

Professor Huxley will no longer attend public meetings, alleging that he is not able to do so, owing partly to growing deafness and partly to a curious liability to become rapidly fatigued and voiceless by talking. This statement surprises his friends, as his great industry, range and activity led them to hope for many more years of good work from him, especially as he is not yet 65 years of age.

Henry Irving has been nominated for Parliament, and has declined in a letter in which he says: "It would not be possible for any actor in the actual discharge of his calling to aspire to parliamentary honors, as not only do the circumstances of his work forbid such a possibility, but that work itself needs a calmer atmosphere than is to be found in the strife of public needs and personal ambition of such a lofty kind."

Berlin newspaper correspondents were not allowed to send out the news of Bismarck's resignation on the night when it first became public. They rewrote their despatches so as to make them say that it was rumored that Bismarck had resigned, and the authorities let them go in that shape. Then the correspondents filed a second despatch saying, "The rumor is a fact," and the authorities could find no excuse for refusing to send it.

A fair to raise money for charitable purposes was held not long ago at Prince Bismarck's house in Berlin, at which the great statesman and his big hunting hound were prominent figures. The Prince walked around in the plain dress uniform of a cuirassier officer, chatted pleasantly with acquaintances, and now and then bought something. Princess Bismarck sold articles at the principal table, and other titled ladies presided over booths or tables in the different rooms.

There seems to be little doubt that Old Gabriel, the mission Indian who died not long ago at Salinas, California, was one hundred and fifty years old. His story, as handed down by the Franciscan missionaries, shows that when Father Junipero arrived in Monterey in 1769, Gabriel was already a grandfather. His long life was greatly due to his habits of personal cleanliness, which were strict, and the regularity with which he ate his simple meals. The other Indians, however, attributed his longevity to the fact that he was the first of their number to be baptized by the priest. Up to five or six years ago Gabriel's faculties were well preserved, but later on they failed rapidly.

A Baby's Memory.

A curious instance of dormant memory in infancy took place in our family. My mother went on a visit to my grandfather, who lived in London. She took with her a little brother of mine who was eleven months old, and his nurse, who waited on her as her maid. One day this nurse brought the baby into my mother's room and put him on the floor, which was carpeted all over. There he crept about and amused himself according to his lights. When my mother was dressed, a certain ring that she generally wore was not to be found. Great search was made, but it was never produced, and the visit over, they all went away, and it was almost forgotten.

Exactly a year after they again went to visit the grandfather. This baby was now a year and eleven months old. The same nurse took him into the same room, and my mother saw him, after looking about him, deliberately walk up to a certain corner, turn a bit of the carpet back, and produce the ring. He never gave any account of the matter, nor did he, so far as I know, remember it afterward. It seems most likely that he found the ring on the floor of the Brussels carpet where it was not nailed. He probably forgot all about it till he saw the place again, and he was far too infantile at the time it was missed to understand what the talk that went on was about or to know what the search, which perhaps he did not notice, was for.

The Jersey Shorthorn Cross.

A farmer, who occasionally sends a short account of his work, writes:—"Some time since I told you what a good cross the Jersey shorthorn was—that is, Jersey bull to shorthorn cow. I have no reason to alter this opinion. I find the heifers of the cross almost equal to the pure Jersey as milk producers, but I write now to warn you against the second cross, back to the shorthorn—that is, half-bred Jersey cow to the shorthorn bull. This produces the meanest beast possible. Some of mine are miserable specimens of cattle, mostly red, with dabs of black about the head, black eyes, and black muzzle. I did think of killing them, but will now let them live, and report later what they turn out like.

They who have never known prosperity can hardly be said to be unhappy; it is from the remembrance of joys we have lost that the arrows of affliction are pointed.—[MacKenzie.

Hatching Swans.

A very curious sight does the marshy shore at Abbotsbury present in the breeding season. Then the ground is dotted with nests, a pair of swans to each, one covering the eggs the other sitting or standing, a snow-white sentinel, beside his mate. The swans do not breed until they are 3 years old; they are strictly monogamous, and the male bird takes his full share in the incubation. The nests, formed of dry reeds, are of great size, and are made upon grassy tussocks among the osiers, the whole breeding ground, moist with runnels of water, being so freely intersected by narrow alleys of sound turf that the visitor is enabled to inspect them closely; nor does his approach disturb the equanimity of the birds, though if molested during brooding season, or while the brood is young, the swan is a bird that will defend himself, and still more his offspring, with considerable valor. They lay from five to eight large thick shelled white eggs, and the incubation is six weeks.

The swan is not indigenous to the British Isles, but is supposed to have been introduced from Eastern Europe or Asia many centuries back. Our climate, however, suits them well, and at Abbotsbury they have flourished exceedingly. The number there now is about 800; formerly [more] were kept, as many as 1000; while further back, again, tradition gives the number as 7000 or 8000. In winter time many sorts of wild birds put in an appearance, when the sooty plumage of innumerable coots forms a striking contrast with the snowy whiteness of the swans. Some few years back a black swan, that rara avis in terris, kept the white one company for a while, but none knew whence it came or whither it went. There are also hoopers, or wild swans, a smaller species. Wild species are, perhaps, always smaller than tame, though generally more beautiful; but this does not seem to be the case with the swan, as M. Baillon, King's Counselor and bailiff of Waben, at Montreuil-sur-Mer, remarks: "The abundance and the choice of food augmented the bulk of the tame swan, but its form has lost none of its elegance; it has preserved the same graces and the same freedom in all its motions; its majestic port is ever admirable. I doubt even whether all these qualities are found to equal extent in the wild bird." At Abbotsbury, however, the swans are not fed; they find ample provision for themselves in the algae and other marsh plants which grow on the banks of the Fleet.

The grace and power with which the swan moves in what we may call its native element are delightful. On land he is coupled with the dismounted dragoon to illustrate the extreme of awkwardness, and it must be confessed that his gait is most ungainly; but afloat he is superb. According to that keen observer and eminent naturalist, Buffon, the swan presents the finest natural model for the art of navigation. "Its raised neck and rounded swelling breast exhibit the prow of a ship cleaving the waves; its broad belly represents the keel; its body, pressed down before, rises behind into the stern; the tail is a genuine rudder; its feet are broad oars, and its wings half opened to the wind and gently inflated, are the sails which impel the animated machine."—The Cornhill Magazine.

The Educated Donkey.

"Did you see the donkey kick the clown's hat off just then?"

"Yes. He wanted to give him a lesson in politeness. Respect for age should have prompted the clown to remove his hat when he got off that joke."

The Petrified Priest.

While breaking new ground for a farm on the left bank of the Arkansas half a mile from Booneville, Col., the laborers exhumed the petrified body of a man, clothed in the habit of a Roman Catholic priest. The dress and shoes and hose had also become stone, and the figure might have passed for the cunning handiwork of some great master of sculpture. The two hands were clasped about an ivory crucifix, which hung from a rosary suspended about the neck, while the head of an arrow, still protruding from the breast, told the story of how the worthy father met his death; and the fact so plain to be seen, that the body was hastily buried without a coffin, and the grave unmarked by the smallest token, showed that he and his brethren or some faithful friend were fleeing from the Indians when he was killed. The petrified body was removed to the Church of the Annunciation, where it is now being visited by crowds from all over the country, and whence it will be given Christian burial in consecrated ground by the priest here. The face is that of a young man of refined and intellectual features, and the hands and feet are of elegant proportions. Those who profess to know declare that his shoes are of the fashion worn in the latter part of the 17th century, at which time, as is well known, devoted Spanish missionaries visited the country for the purpose of converting the Indians.

All Men.

young, old, or middle-aged, who find themselves nervous, weak an exhausted, who are broken down from excess or overwork, resulting in many of the following symptoms: Mental depression, premature old age, loss of vitality, loss of memory, bad dreams, dimness of sight, palpitation of the heart, emissions, lack of energy, pain in the kidneys, headache, pimples on the face or body, itching or peculiar sensation about the scrotum, wasting of the organs, dizziness, specks before the eyes, twitching of the muscles, eye lids and elsewhere, bashfulness, deposits in the urine, loss of will power, tenderness of the scalp and spine, weak and flabby muscles, desire to sleep, failure to be rested by sleep, constipation, dullness of hearing, loss of voice, desire for solitude, excitability of temper, sunken eyes surrounded with LEADEN CIRCLE, oily looking skin, etc., are all symptoms of nervous debility that lead to insanity and death unless cured. The spring of vital force having lost its tension very function wanes in consequence. Those who through abuse committed in ignorance may be permanently cured. Send your address for book on all diseases peculiar to man. Address M. V. LUBON, 50 Front St. E., Toronto, Ont. Books sent free sealed. Heart disease, the symptoms of which are faint spells, purple lips, numbness, palpitation, skip beats, hot flushes, rush of blood to the head, dull pain in the heart with beats strong, rapid and irregular, the second heart beat quicker than the first, pain about the breast bone, etc., can positively be cured. No cure, no pay. Send for book. Address M. V. LUBON, 50 Front Street East, Toronto, Ont.

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They have an earthquake in Java every two weeks. Wonder that a cup of Java ever gets an opportunity to settle.

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We once heard a man complain of feeling badly, and wondered what ailed him. A mysterious friend said, "Give a dollar, and let him guess." It was a cutting satire on some doctors, who don't always guess right. You need not guess what ails you when your food don't digest, when your head aches every day, and you are languid and easily fatigued. You are bilious, and Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets will bring you out all right. Small, sugar-coated, easy to take. Of druggists.

A good time for farmers to get in their hay is when it rains pitchforks, if there isn't any other shelter handy.

"Had Been Worried Eighteen Years."

It should have read "married," but the proof-reader observed that it did not draw his blue pencil through the error. Unfortunately there was considerable truth in his observation. Thousands of husbands are constantly worried almost to despair by the ill health that afflicts their wives, and often robs life of comfort and happiness. There is but one safe and sure way to change all this for the better. The ladies should use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

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