

A correspondent of the London *Daily News* suggests that the railway companies should attach a ladies' carriage to every train.

A gentleman of New York has so persistently followed up the vendors of vile books and pictures, agencies for the sale of which have ever been in operation amongst the city schools, that no less than six of the dealers have been lodged in the penitentiary and their places broken up. Few persons are aware of the extent to which this demoralizing traffic has gone.

The *Journal de Rouen* announces that Napoleon III. has contracted a loan of 7,000,000*fr.* with some of the most important London houses. One clause in the contract gives his ex-majesty the right of increasing the loan to 45,000,000*fr.* on the condition of giving the bankers three days' notice. The lenders have no other guarantee than the chance of Napoleon III. remounting the throne of France. The *Journal de Paris* says that this news, incredible as it may appear at the first glance, is not impossible, as it is well known the English dearly love speculation. The Tichborne affair, adds the writer, has furnished us a proof of that.—*Paris Letter.*

The *New York Times* publishes the details of a terrible series of catastrophes which occurred to the sealing fleet, on the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland:—Up to a late mail, over forty vessels, including four steamships, had been heard from as total wrecks, having been dashed to pieces amid huge icebergs and plains of ice during a terrific hurricane. On an average, each of those vessels carried about one hundred men, who were employed as seal hunters, and of those four thousand human souls only one hundred and seventy-five have been accounted for. The large majority of those unfortunates have left families behind, exclusively dependent on them for support.

A large part of the cannon captured in the last French war is to be employed for a purpose which could scarcely be divined at the time of their casting at Bourges. The Emperor has presented gratuitously to several parishes which have hitherto possessed no church-bells, in compliance with the prayer of their petitions, the requisite quantity of metal for the long desired ornaments to their churches, out of the French cannon in the Strasburg artillery depot. In this way no less than twenty parishes on the Rhine alone have been provided with bell-metal. The cathedral of Cologne also obtained five hundred centners and that Frankfurt-on-Main two hundred and sixty centners.

The *Great Eastern* has not achieved the great results for which she was constructed,—a failure commercially and financially. She has, however, proved to be just in time for the calls of science, which have rendered her invaluable in an unlooked-for capacity. Since 1865 she has laid the Atlantic cable, the British, Australian, China, Submarine, British India and British Indian Extension, and other important lines, and now she is chartered to lay a fourth trans-Atlantic cable, and is only waiting its completion to start. The cable is to be manufactured by and laid under the auspices of the Telegraph Construction Company of England. She may be expected off Sandy Hook some time in August.

Great preparations are, it seems, being made in Egypt for the approaching International Exhibition, at Vienna, at which, says the *Levant Herald*, there is reason to believe the Turkish and Egyptian departments together will give a very complete idea of the East in all its industrial, commercial, artistic, and social aspects. The programme of the section has been arranged by two well-known Austrian men of science. Herr Brugh the antiquarian, and the architect Herr Schmorenz. The latter has been entrusted by the Khedive with the preparation of several characteristic Egyptian constructions to be erected in the exhibition grounds. Prominent amongst them will be a regular Egyptian House, with harem and selamluk. An Arab fountain will play close by, serving as a pendant to a Turkish fountain in Ottoman section, and on a story above it, exposed to view, will be an Arab school.

## Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

The Church of St. Thomas, Madrid, has been destroyed by fire. Eleven persons were injured.

At a meeting of the American and Foreign Union, held in New York last week, it was stated that it had planted a number of Churches in Northern and Central Italy and in Mexico. The income in 1871 was \$82,530.

The annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society took place on the 10th, the Archbishop of Dublin in the chair. The Rev. W. P. Walsh, local secretary, read a report, showing that the contributions from Ireland were in excess of those for the previous year, a cheering fact, under the specially trying circumstances of the Irish Church.

The Irish Presbyterian *Missionary Herald*, speaking of the Jews, says:—The number of Jews in the world is estimated at 7,000,000. Missionary effort among them is of recent date. About 120 Missionaries of all churches are labouring for their conversion. About 20,000 have been enrolled as Christian members, besides over 5,000 who are secretly so, but fear to avow themselves "for fear of the Jews."

The General Synod of the Irish Church has resolved not without some hard words, to postpone till next year the subject of the Revision of the Prayer-book, and to re-appoint the Committee of Revision. The proceedings of this year are by no means full of agreeable promise for the future, and it is only too easy to sympathise with the fears of the Archbishop of Dublin that the Irish Church has arrived at a most dangerous point, and has been nearer to shipwreck than ever it was before.

At Bordeaux two priests, Canon Mouis and Mr. Junqua, have openly separated themselves from Rome, and protested against the new dogma. It is asserted that a large number of other priests are disposed to follow their example. Mr. Junqua's lectures at Bordeaux have been very largely attended by the clergy as well as the laity. Canon Mouis has gone to Brussels to establish Old Catholic services in that city. Meanwhile Father Hyacinth has been lecturing at Rome to crowded and most intelligent audiences.

We hear from Berlin that the Reichstag will soon be flooded with petitions from all parts of the Empire asking for the expulsion of the Jesuits. As a protest such an expulsion is, no doubt, desirable. But as far as results go, they might as well petition the Reichstag to abolish the small-pox. The Society has been expelled from every country in Europe, but has never actually abandoned its ground. If it is forbidden in the German Empire, it will be only the name that is expelled, the Society will remain under one of those many forms which it knows so well how to assume in times of difficulty.

A committee was appointed to advise with the Bishop and Dean in regard to the preparation of a draught constitution for the cathedral about to be erected in Edinburgh out of the funds of the Walker bequest. Dean Ramsay stated that the cathedral would cost about \$0,000*l.*, and that over and above there were would be 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.* a year for the benefit of the Church at large. A resolution was adopted to the effect that the Synod, while desirous that hearty support should be given to the English missionary societies, pledges itself to use its best endeavours to send a Missionary Bishop to Independent Kaffraria.

At the recent Missionary meeting in London, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, his lordship enforced a great principle of missionary operations by a striking illustration. He said: "I heard, with great satisfaction, that noble word, 'aggressive' in your report. Christianity, in its missionary efforts, must be 'aggressive.' I remember when we took possession of part of Burmah many years ago, the Duke of Wellington was called upon to give opinion as to the best frontier between our territory and that of Burmah proper. I was in office at the Board of Control at the time, and the Duke, in pointing out the frontier he had marked, said: 'Take this for a principle in all military matters (and I think it equally good in spiritual) that no frontier is good for defence unless it is equally good for attack.' Aggressive (as well as defensive) Christianity must then be the watchword of all successful missionary societies."

## Literary and Scientific Notes.

A collection of twenty-five pins, very well made, has just been found in the subterranean vaults of Thebes, made more than 3,000 years ago.

The following are the ages of some of the most celebrated French authors now living: Guizot, 85; George Sand, 69; Michelet, 74; Miguet, 76; Victor Hugo, 70; and Thiers, 76.

Allow some dry hay to remain two days in water, then filter and leave it two more days, and it will thickly swarm with active living creatures. A corpuscle of blood is about the 1-3,200 of an inch in diameter, and yet it is, says the same authority, a giant by the side of a lay infusorial. A score of them might shade themselves under its casting shadow!

An English traveller in Greece has found the site of the Temple of Diana, the pavement of which is twenty feet below the level of the ground, while the main chariot road leading to it is nearly as deeply buried. He has found many portions of the sculptured columns, which he is sending to the British Museum, and he intends to clear out the whole area of the temple.

A locket worth from fifteen to thirty shillings when made of gold can be manufactured in gilt metal for a penny. One that had at one time a large sale in Great Britain was made with hinges and a clasp, with good likenesses of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and was sold at wholesale for about a half-penny. Hence the profit of Milton gold, prize boxes, and dollar stores.

Bleeding from a wound on man or beast may be stopped by a mixture of wheat flour and common salt, in equal parts, bound on with a cloth. If the bleeding is profuse use a large quantity, say from one to three pints. It may be left on for hours or even days if necessary. The person who gave this receipt says in this manner he saved the life of a horse which was bleeding from a wounded artery; the bleeding ceased five minutes afterwards.

Theorizers on earthquakes and volcanic disturbances will find a bit of interesting information in the news from Iceland. Mont Hecla is always in a mild state of eruption, but on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of April there was an unusual commotion with volcanic shocks in some parts of the island. It happens that the California earthquakes commenced on the sixteenth of April, and were most severe on that day. These phenomena, widely separated by distance as they are, may be connected by scientific thinkers.

Linseed oil is now, by a newly discovered process, made the basis of a very useful manufacture. It has been discovered that the oil of flax seed may be solidified by oxidation into a resinous substance, which by combination with other materials becomes very similar to caoutchouc, and can be dissolved into a cement, wrought into sheets, or by the process of vulcanization be brought into the condition of a hard, solid material. It can thus be formed into ornamental or useful articles of infinite variety, and is already mixed with ground cork and spread on canvas, made into water-proof floor-cloths, which are perfectly pliable, soft and noiseless to walk upon, and which are far more durable than the ordinary kinds.

Certain colours are observed to exert an unfavorable effect upon the health and spirit when put upon the walls of rooms. It is well known that the arsenical green of wall-papers is injurious to the health. A correspondent of a scientific journal states that he had occasion, for several years, to examine rooms occupied by young women for manufacturing purposes, and he observed that while the workers in one room would be very cheerful and healthy, the occupants of a similar room, who were employed on the same kind of work, were all inclined to melancholy, and complained of a pain in the forehead and eyes, and were often ill and unable to work. The only difference he could discover in the rooms was that the one occupied by the healthy workers was wholly whitewashed, and that occupied by the others was colored with yellow ochre. As soon as he observed the difference he had the yellow ochre washed off the walls and they whitened. At once an improvement took place in the health and spirits of the occupants. In subsequent observations and experiments he invariably found that the occupants of rooms coloured yellow or buff were less healthy than those in whitened rooms.