

Mexico prints a weather forecast with the post-mark on letters passing through the mails.

A recent theory in regard to the interior of the earth that its stony crust encases a metallic centre, and that the internal heat is kept up by radium in the rocky portions of the earth's substance, there being no radium, it is supposed in the metallic nucleus.

The old supposition that heat is an imponderable fluid, which was generally abandoned in favour of the theory that heat is a mode of motion, is revived in a new form by a Canadian scientist, Dr. Park. It is said that the late Lord Kelvin endorsed this theory, which will be laid before the British Association next month.

A correction of the objectionable colour of the incandescent mercury vapor light has been found in the introduction of a carbon filament, carrying part of the electric current, and glowing at a red heat.

The Germans use a fireless locomotive about their railway yards. It is supplied with steam from a central plant as needed, and will run for five hours without replenishing.

Most wonderful of all the recent inventions in weapons of war is a new gun which, by the application of electricity, can impart to projectiles an initial velocity of fifty thousand feet a second. Incredible as this statement seems, it is treated as a simple fact in an article by Col. Maude in the *Contemporary Review*. Its meaning can be better understood by the further statement that one such weapon could throw shells from London to Paris at the rate of several thousand a day.

Black foxes are raised for their skins in Prince Edward Island, the skins selling in London for five hundred dollars each, or more, according to quality. The animals are very wild, so that no one can get near them but their keeper, and he only when he brings them food.

An Indian prince, son of the Maharajah of Kooch Behar, is taking a special course in agriculture at Cornell University.

Hydraulic graving docks are now made that lift a vessel out of the water for inspection and repair. The great dock at Bombay will raise a ship of 6,500 tons register. Double rows of iron columns contain hydraulic rams, which lift a pontoon on which the ship is floated.

A tract of land on the coast of the state of Washington, near the British Columbia boundary, has been leased by a Japanese company, and is to be used for the cultivation of tea.

Gold is said to have been found in paying quantities in the northern part of New Brunswick. It is just fifty years since the discovery of gold in British Columbia, and a few months short of fifty years since it was first found at Tangier, Nova Scotia.

There are less than a million men in the British army, including the militia and vessels. Austria has over two million; Russia and France each over three million; and Germany over four million. In naval strength, Great Britain comes first and France next; followed by the United States, Germany, Japan, Russia, Italy and Austria, in the order named.

Extensive preparations are being made in Austria for a jubilee pageant to be held next month in honour of Emperor Francis Joseph.

Since the introduction of malaria, some forty years ago, Mauritius has suffered infinite harm from the disease. Some English authorities on the subject believe that malaria was a principal cause of the decay of Greece and Rome, being probably introduced among the Greeks about the end of the fifth century, B. C., and among the Romans by the soldiers, Hannibal's army. The discovery that the germ of malaria is conveyed by mosquitoes is considered by Dr. Osler to be the most important event in the whole history of the British nation, as it will ultimately make tropical regions habitable. Already this discovery, with that made by United States officers in Cuba, that yellow fever is conveyed in the same way, is making it possible to build the Panama canal; and the latter discovery that the sleeping sickness has a similar origin, is, no doubt, the greatest benefit which the British have conferred upon the natives of Central Africa. Fierce beasts and deadly reptiles, even there, are less to be dreaded than our insect enemies.

The jewelled galleys of Caligula, sunk in a small lake in Italy, lie so near the shore that it is thought possible to bring them to land by the use of an inclined plane; and the Italian government is about to make the attempt. There are two of them, the larger one over two hundred feet in length.

An unfriendly feeling towards the Japanese has led to popular demonstrations in China, which take practical form, to a large extent, in a refusal to purchase Japanese goods. A fleet of five Japanese war vessels is said to have sailed for Chinese waters. While this does not look like conciliation, it may show the Chinese that they are not ready for armed conflict; and accepting a challenge to fight is usually a case in which delay is not dangerous.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

It is always a pleasure for the REVIEW to record activity on the part of school trustees in re-fitting and beautifying school premises. Neglected and unsanitary school houses are becoming fewer and farther between, let us hope, every year. May the good work go on until school rooms shall be as clean, as comfortable, and as prettily furnished as the rooms of our best dwelling houses.

The trustees of Zealand Station, York County, N. B.,