

It is pleasing news that we hear about the class of settlers coming to Canada this year. The regular immigration season has opened in the old country, and already great activity prevails in shipping and booking circles. It is said that those who have started for fresh fields and pastures new are of an exceptionally good class and well provided with money.

It is really alarming to think that none of the books now being published will be in existence by the middle of the next century, because of the inferior quality of paper used in their make up. Experts say that even the best paper now used is without lasting qualities, and that the print will cut through the pages in fifty years. Some books, no doubt, we would not be sorry to have pass into oblivion in this way, but alas! the wheat will be destroyed with the tares—if all we are told is true!

The London *Spectator* in an article entitled, "The Age of Prudence," is somewhat congratulatory over the fact that the population of England is not increasing as rapidly as it did some time ago. The increase, as shown by the last census, is a little over three millions, or 11.65 per cent. of the numbers returned in 1881. In an old country like England it is really undesirable that "the devastating flood of babies" should go on increasing, for there is not room for them to grow up, so, therefore, it is matter for congratulation that the world is, as the *Spectator* puts it, entering upon an age of prudence.

The man Deeming, alias Williams, and many other names, now safe in custody at Melbourne, Australia, for various brutal murders, has confessed to two of the Whitechapel murders and the murder of his wife and four children at Rain Hill, near Liverpool, England. There seems to be but little doubt that this is the genuine "Jack the Ripper," and it is to be hoped it is so. It appears as if hanging is too good for such a wretch, but that will be all he will get. Deeming has been proved to have been living a life of crime for years, and all his misdeeds will probably never be discovered. He is being tried for his Australian crimes. He added bigamy to murder there.

There is generally a war-cloud hanging over Europe, and just now there are indications that it may burst. Russia always seems to be at the bottom of the trouble, and this time she is massing troops in Poland, which is somewhat alarming to Prussia. The most notable feature in connection with the affair is the presence of several balloons at a great altitude over the Russian fortresses, and the balloons come from the German frontier. They appear to be under perfect control and are out of the reach of long range rifles. This will add a new terror to war, for it is far from likely that any device can be found out whereby explosives dropped from a balloon out of the reach of the longest range rifles can be guarded against.

Those who take an intelligent interest in the beginning of the movement for the higher education of women, will regret to hear of the death of Miss Clough, who was principal of Newnham College. A woman of decided personality and of deep influence, she worked with heart and soul for the objects she had in view, and lived to see success crown her efforts. Both Girton and Newnham are now well established and no longer have cold water poured on them or are made the sport of caricaturists, as was once the fashion. England with more than 900,000 more women than men, recognizes the need of adequate openings for those who do not marry, and is thankful for all the privileges they possess. Miss Clough did more perhaps than any other person for her sex in the way of higher education, and although she leaves no legacy of literature behind her, the college in which she labored is a lasting monument of her devotion.

According to Sheikh Djemal ed Din, who airs his grievances in the *Contemporary Review*, Persia is experiencing a reign of terror. He says Persia is decimated, his country is laid waste, and numerous calamities are stalking through the land. The Shah and his Vizier are blamed for the state of affairs, and as described by the writer in question they really appear to be bad enough. "No account," he says, "of the horrors now being perpetrated in Persia can be overstated; not a tenth part will ever leak out—underground dungeons, torture rooms, devils in human shape, greed, avarice, unbridled lust, unscrupulous violence, and the Shah himself, the careless spectator, or interested perpetrator of the worst crimes that sully human nature and defile the pages of Oriental history." This is a terrible arraignment, and he says that while a stifled cry for "justice!" is ready to burst from the heart of every Persian, the idea is universal that the Shah's misrule is known and countenanced by both the English and Russian Governments. He, therefore, goes to England, "to ask," he says, "your people to get questions asked in Parliament about the alleged atrocities now being perpetrated in Persia in defiance of the Shah's firman communicated to the Powers. Your Minister would then be instructed to approach the Shah's Ministers and ask for an explanation on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. The moral effect of such an action would be immense, so great is still the prestige of England. But the Shah thinks you don't care how he acts, and if you will not, or dare not, help us anyhow, Russia is on the alert. She is anxious above all things to get to the Persian seaboard, and for the furthering of this project she will certainly not hesitate to avail herself of the present disposition of the Persian people." How much of the Sheikh's story may be reliable and how much attributable to fanatical zeal, we cannot say, but if it is true that Persia is seething with discontent, England will not be slow to head off any action Russia might take.

Japan must be making rapid strides in modern civilization and western methods of electioneering. Our dispatches state that votes have been selling for five to five dollars each in Tokio. Riots innumerable have been indulged in over the elections, and many people have been killed. Swords and fire arms were brought into requisition, and the police were powerless to stop the fight. Besides these general encounters many prominent men have been murdered. The strife is between the Liberal and Nationalist parties. Depositing a ballot is not as simple an affair in Japan as in this country, and these reports go to show that the Japanese have out-Heroded their teachers in bribery and corruption.

American wives who do not possess a proper abhorrence of unfaithfulness to their marriage vows may take warning from the direful results attending the lawless behavior of two ladies who have recently come unpleasantly before the notice of the public. One is Mrs. Deacon, whose husband, on discovering her infidelity, shot M. Abielle, her partner in guilt, at Cannes recently, the other is Mrs. Hetherington, who misbehaved herself with George G. Robinson of Yokohama, and whose husband took summary vengeance on his supplanter by shooting him. Both these outraged husbands are natives of the United States, and their behavior under these circumstances is likely to remove the idea that American husbands are easy going, and induce a wholesome respect for them abroad. Most people will agree that if ever a man is justified in committing murder it is when he finds another taking his place with his wife, and few people will have the hardihood to argue in support of a wife's infidelity. The guardianship of the honor of a family and the legitimacy of children rests with the wife, and the woman who allows herself to be led away from these sacred duties deserves no mercy. She is not like a young girl, ignorant of what she is about, and none of the excuses readily allowed for innocence and ignorance can be permitted to the faithless wife.

In an article by Prof. Frederick Starr in the current number of a U. S. educational paper, we find our ideas as to the educational value of museums ably voiced. The writer begins by speaking of elementary science work in common schools, and the necessity of having classified specimens in order to lead the children to think for themselves, and by such means provide a stimulus for collectors. In high schools the museum should be on a larger scale, and the local fauna, flora and geology should be most fully represented. He goes on to point out the limits of the college museum, and the scope of the same department in the university, and concludes with some remarks on public museums, which we beg leave to quote: "I believe firmly in the educational influence of the public museum. Public museums are new to us in America. Our great museums may be counted on the fingers, and there are not many small ones. Our museums, too, are seldom under government control, but are private property of associations or societies, many of them with no adequate fund, and few, if any, paid officers. Often they depend for success, or even for life, upon interested individuals, whose removal means disaster. But public interest increases, and great museums will be more numerous in the near future. Such museums ought always to be educational centres, and should have a definite relation to every school, of every grade, within their reach." This is the very point we have been endeavoring recently to impress upon our readers. The museum has a splendid field of work amongst the rising generation.

People given to thinking at all are often sorely puzzled to account for the apparent suffering which seems to be inevitable all through Nature. We see that countless numbers of lives have to be sacrificed that one other may survive, and the deaths are in many cases violent; in order that the fittest may survive the weaker have to be overcome, and what troubles most people is that the infliction of pain seems to serve no good purpose. It is now contended that under purely natural conditions very little if any sensitiveness to pain is possessed in the realm of Nature. This argument is supported by a comparison of the sensitiveness of various races of men, and it is shown that education has much to do with producing a highly developed nervous system. Whites are far more sensitive to pain than negroes or Indians, and Dr. Feikin, who has had wide experience in surgical operations on patients of all nationalities, asserts that the susceptibility to pain of an average European, as compared with an average negro, is as three to one. Reasoning from this knowledge it is fair to premise that while actual sensation is localized, the brain only feels, and if the brain is not developed there will be little pain. Animals are far below all human races in the scale of being, and if the difference in the sensitiveness of a white man and a negro is as three to one, what must be the ratio to the former of various lower forms of life. The fact that a crab will go on eating while it is in its turn being devoured, is cited as evidence that pain, as we understand it, is not felt at all, and the case seems to bear out the reasoning. We must not, however, be carried away by this theory, or allow ourselves to relax in our efforts to be kind to all animals we come in contact with. Our domestic animals, such as the horse, cow, dog, cat, etc., are undoubtedly sufficiently educated to feel pain very acutely, and it is our duty to treat our dumb servants or pets with every kindness. "The merciful man is merciful to his beast," will hold good as usual, even if Shakespeare's assertion that, "The poor beetle, that we tread upon, in corporal sufferance feels a pang as great as when a giant dies," should be proved incorrect.

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.