

man. The officers below the grade of Colonel are little better than the average soldier; above that grade they devote their time to drinking and dissipating and seldom see or think of their subordinates. Love of country they have not, and would be just as happy in China with plenty to eat. On the other hand, the troops of San Salvador are tolerably well disciplined and much better officered than those of any other Central American State. They are well paid and fed, and have that strong feeling of patriotism due to the national persecution they have felt from Honduras and Guatemala. Considering the state of their armies, therefore, there is nothing wonderful in the fact that 10,000 Salvadorians should have put to rout 25,000 Guatemaltecos.

The trouble between the warring republics is not one of Salvador's seeking. For twenty years the President and Government of Guatemala have been striving to bring about a Central American Union, on such terms as would aggrandize the Guatemala rulers. This union as proposed by her ambitious neighbor was never desired by the Salvadorians who have received much ill treatment and abuse from Guatemala. A few months ago the Salvadorians observed a suspicious intimacy springing up between their President, Menendez, and Barillas, the President of Guatemala. Shortly after it was discovered that Menendez had promised to throw his Government into the union against the will of the people. The result was a revolt, the death of Menendez, and the accession to power of Ezeta, the provisional President. On the ground of avenging Menendez's murder, and regulating the affairs of a sister republic which had not asked or desired aid, Guatemala declared war against Salvador. The result to Guatemala is that her army has been entirely defeated, a reign of anarchy has been introduced, while Barillas is said to have fled the country. Few will commiserate the intermeddling state. While pity cannot be withheld from the poor dupes that were led to death by their ambitious and selfish rulers, the result of the contest will give satisfaction to those who respect the rights of communities and States to manage their own affairs without the interference of meddling parties from without.

Should the Knights of Labor henceforth find themselves opposed by many who have hitherto been disposed to look with favor upon their organization and the ends which it had in view, they will have themselves chiefly to blame. Their ill-advised resolution in connection with the recent strike on the New York Central abroad, "that not a single passenger, nor a pound of freight" should be carried in or out of New York by its main artery, rendered them open to the charge of conspiring against public order, and against the organism of society. While they employed legitimate means in securing their ends, that is, used their unquestioned right to strike, however they wished and pleased, no fair minded person could deny them; but they should have sought a more judicious and less extreme course.

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surrendered their freedom to any man or society, nobody outside of the company had any right to interfere.

How any subject can respect, much less love a ruler who is capable of devising such an infinitely cruel law as the recent edict of the Czar against the Jews in his Kingdom passes all comprehension. Besides depriving this greatly persecuted people of all educational advantages, closing the universities against them and excluding them from the professions, this cruel edict requires them, if they would live in Russia at all, to dwell in towns and cities whose population does not fall below a certain specified number. It is easy to foresee what the result of this requirement will be. Driven from the rural districts into the over crowded towns, thousands are sure to perish either by the diseases consequent upon congestion or by starvation consequent upon loss of livelihood. Here is the *ne plus ultra* of cruelty in persecution, a parallel to which history does not afford.

There is at present in our country a representative of the French government who has been sent out to examine and report upon the subject whether Canadian phosphate can be profitably imported into France in order to aid in the recuperation of exhausted wheat lands. This commissioner, who is director of the Central Laboratory, Paris, states that the guano deposits are becoming depleted, and that artificial fertilizers are too expensive for the French agriculturist. He expresses himself highly pleased with his observations, and will report accordingly. Should the French government act upon the recommendation it would result in such an expansion of our phosphate industry as even the most sanguine had never imagined.

The Royal Templars of Temperance, a semi-military temperance organization with the insurance feature added, have just held camp in Montreal. Though the order is only ten years old, it is now about 50,000 strong. Of this number 20,000 are Canadians, divided among the Provinces as follows: Ontario, 4,000; Quebec, 2,000; Manitoba, 2,000; Maritime Provinces, 1,000; British Columbia and Northwest Territories, 500. The gain during the past year was 3,000. In the beneficiary department certificates of insurance are held to the amount of \$5,273,400. The average age of the members of the insurance department is 39.92. During the year \$40,000 was paid out to widows and orphans of deceased members, but the surplus in this department was increased from \$19,500 last year to \$26,139, of which \$25,000 is bearing 4 per cent. interest. The Templars claim that owing to the circumstance that all the insured are total abstainers, the cost of insurance in this order is considerably less than in those societies which do not discriminate against the moderate drinker. To establish this claim beyond question a comparison of books would be necessary. It must be admitted, however, that a strong presumption as to its validity is found in the fact that insurance companies which have classified their policy holders on this basis, are unanimous in pronouncing the total abstinence a better risk.

Principal Diamond of the Ontario Institution for the Blind, objects to the application of the term "asylum," which, he says, conveys a very incorrect and inadequate conception of what the institution really is. He prefers that it shall be known as an industrial school, where industrial training is superadded. That such a character is demonstrated by the institution of the late Trinity University is shown by the fact that it has received a grant of \$100,000 from the Government of Canada for the purpose of training blind youth. Eight years has elapsed since the institution was founded. The principal of the institution, Mr. Diamond, has written a letter to the Government in which he says: "The letter is remarkable

much patient effort on the part of the teachers, and how much steady application and persistence on the pupil is demanded when every subject has to be mastered by blind methods." In the light of this speaking fact the people of Ontario will require to revise their notion of this valuable institution, if hitherto they have thought of it as simply an asylum for those of sight denied.

The recent mutinies of the Guards at London, the Artillery at Exeter, and the Army Staff Corps at Chatham prompts the Montreal Star to enquire into the causes which have led to such disgraceful conduct. There must be some strong reason when troops so highly favored, receiving higher pay, better clothing, and condemned to less fatiguing duties than the Cavalry and Infantry of the line, manifest such insubordination. The Star finds the explanation in the indifference of the commissioned officers to the welfare and comfort of the men; in the arrogant and haughty bearing of the non-commissioned officers, who, finding their way open through the indifference and laziness of their superior officers, to exercise their little brief authority, do not hesitate to tyrannize over the rank and file; in the worse than blundering of those "army reformers," who, with "uniformity" their watchword, have been all too successful in doing away with many peculiarities in name and uniform in which thousands of soldiers took an honest pride; and last, in the changed condition of things which sends the recruiting officer to the cities instead of the rural districts for his recruits, many of whom now enter the ranks with the spirit of the Racial Club and the ideas of the Socialistic labor reformer, and with no love for the exercise and observance of the severe military virtues which characterized the soldier of the former age. This view of the case, especially in reference to the personnel of the present British army, is confirmed by the report of the commissioners appointed to enquire into the recent troubles. Their report states that the insubordination was due to the influence of Socialists, who in considerable numbers have obtained an entrance into the ranks of the home regiments, and made many converts among the men with whom they became associated. In the light of these facts one must conclude that the British army of to-day is not the army of a generation ago, and that the qualities which distinguished the men who fought England's greatest battles are not as conspicuous as once they were. Let us hope that the deteriorating process shall not proceed so far as to require the inscription upon our banners, "The glory has departed."

Never before did the little island of Heligoland present such an animated appearance as on the 9th inst., when the ceremony of formally ceding it to Germany took place. So great was the crowd that had gathered to take part in the interesting event, that there was imminent danger of people being pushed over the cliffs. Considerable enthusiasm prevailed among the Heligolandians who have taken kindly to the transfer, and who, on the following day, presented Emperor William with an address professing their loyalty and submission. The island, which is to be added to Prussia, will be strongly fortified forthwith. For this purpose, it is estimated, the sum of \$7,500,000 will be required. Evidently Chancellor Von Caprivi is determined upon realizing his idea, to so strengthen this point as to allow of the withdrawal of a considerable force from the frontier. Heligoland is likely to prove more valuable to its new owners than it was to the old.

Moved by the many press references to their colony in Southern Alberta, Charles O. Card, son-in-law of the late Brigham Young and leader of the Mormon colony in Canada, has written a letter to an Ottawa paper in defence of himself and his fellow colonists. The letter is remarkable

not so much for what it says as for what it omits to state. No reference whatever is made to the subject of polygamy, about which Canadians are so much concerned, and which constituted the chief theme of all the press comments. Instead of this Mr. Card pleads that his people are peaceable and industrious (which nobody denies) and that no obstacle should be thrown in the way of their efforts to develop the resources of the Canadian North West. The refusal of Mr. Card (for it is demanding too much of charity to suppose that the omission was accidental) to discuss this question or to state the attitude of the colony towards our marital laws, and his attempt to draw a herring across the trail, will only strengthen the suspicion that all is not right within the colony. What the people of Canada want to know is not whether Mormons are industrious and energetic citizens, but whether they observe the Canadian law which prohibits persons of polygamic tendencies from following their inclinations. Will Mr. Card please take note of this and govern himself accordingly?

A somewhat amusing illustration of the old saw, "familiarity breeds contempt," comes from London, England. Lester Francis Duncan, publisher of the *Matrimonial News*, notwithstanding his three score years experience of men and things, and his supposed perfect knowledge of how matters matrimonial are managed, has just been condemned to pay \$50,000 damages for violating his sacred promise to Miss Gladys Knowles, a young lady twenty-one years of age. Of all men in the Kingdom one would have supposed that Mr. Duncan would have been the last to be caught in such a trap. It seems a pity, too, for such an experience coming at sixty-four years of age is almost sure to discourage any further undertakings looking towards hymen's blissful state.

The following remarks on co-operative advertising, from *Printer's Ink*, will be appreciated by large advertisers who have tried bot systems. Those who are still following the old lines under the impression that they are saving what the "advertising agent" makes, have only to test the co-operative plan once to become convinced that they have been laboring under a huge mistake: "To the overworked advertising manager who is experiencing all the annoyances incident to making contracts with a great number of papers, issuing from more or less insignificant hamlets throughout the country, the co-operative system comes in as a most valued aid. He is delighted to find that through this means he can procure insertions in a large number of papers with not as much trouble and expense as a single publication often gives. One contract and a couple of electrotypes are all that is required. It is not strange, therefore, that with the men who have the work of placing advertisements the co-operative system should be regarded with favor."

A Calcutta correspondent of the *New York Tribune* gives an interesting account of the manner in which a company of Hindoos undertook to defraud the government under cover of the provision which grants a bounty for the destruction of venomous serpents. The occupation of hunting and killing the cobras and other reptiles in a free state was not sufficiently remunerative, and was besides attended with great danger. So the cunning Hindoos caught a number of the snakes alive and imprisoning them in a carefully constructed pen from which it was impossible for them to get out, started up cobra farming. The snakes multiplied at an amazing rate, and by killing off a part of the colony from time to time, a handsome revenue was realized. The suspicions of the Government were aroused, however, by the business like way in which the cobras were brought in, and their investigation soon exposed the whole scheme and broke up the enterprise. Just