

HOME JOURNAL

People And Things The World Over

The late Mrs. W. L. Thompson, of Lethbridge, left twenty-three thousand dollars to the Y. M. C. A. of that city.

The death took place recently at Lacombe, Alta., of Joseph Stanton, a Crimean veteran, 75 years old, who belonged to the King's Own Scottish Borderers. Deceased served through the Indian mutiny.

The old locomotive, Countess of Dufferin, the first engine brought to Winnipeg by the C. P. R., which has been rusting in the C. P. R. yards, is being placed in a little park of the city opposite the depot, where the venerable old locomotive will remain as a relic.

Dr. Booker T. Washington, president of Tuskegee Institute, has joined the staff of The Outlook, and his contributions will soon appear in that publication. Dr. Washington is now abroad for this magazine, studying social and labor conditions of the sources of immigration to the United States. He will compare this class of Europeans with the colored laboring class of the United States.

Joseph Cooper, one of the oldest newspaper men in Ontario and an esteemed citizen of Lindsay, has passed away, aged 84 years. He was born in Killaloo, County Mayo, Ireland. He learned the printing trade and after a short experience at New York and Philadelphia, moved to Toronto, where he worked on the *Globe* and the *Leader* for some time. He was foreman for William Lyon Mackenzie in printing the *Message*.

The people of Newfoundland have been celebrating the three-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first English colonists on their island, which was long ago named the Ancient Colony. Newfoundland has been long in coming into its own, but the era of progress and prosperity has arrived at last; and with improved means of communication, new industries and expanding commercial activities, Newfoundland should soon be a credit to its years.

A very interesting ceremony took place in Montreal at the mother house of the Ladies of the Congregation, the remains of their founder, Margaret Bourgoynne, who brought the Canadian community into being 260 years ago, having been removed. The process of canonization is now going on in Rome, and while in the city his eminence, Cardinal Vannutelli, was asked to go to the community's old convent on Notre Dame Street and take cognizance of the remains, which his eminence did.

Mrs. Victoria de Bunsen, in "The Soul of a Turk," relates a legend concerning Abraham which will be new to many readers. She learned of it while at Edessa, the traditional Ur of the Chaldees. She was shown there a large oblong tank of water so filled with fishes resting just below the surface of the water that their fins and backs seemed almost wedged together so as to form "an almost solid layer of silvery life."

The guardian of the mosque throws some

meal into the water and the fish jump high to catch it, a great living pyramid, of which those who jump the highest form the pinnacle. The tradition is that Abraham, as a child, fished in the tank. Hence the fish were considered sacred. No single one has ever been caught or killed to this day. Indeed, death would overtake the man who transgressed this law.

The Rev. Edward Payson Hammond, for many years a well known evangelist in America and Great Britain, died in Connecticut from infirmities due to old age. The most notable of his conversions was that of General Booth. Mr. Hammond had a remarkably eventful life, with the whole world as his field of work. A graduate of Williams College in 1858, he began evangelistic work in Scotland, and after touring Europe he returned to this country in 1861. At Newark, in 1864, upwards of 1,300 persons were converted through the hymn "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by," written for him by Miss Campbell. Mr. Hammond joined Mr. Moody at Chicago, and

Crooked Heart

I loosed an arrow from my bow
Down into the world below;
Thinking: "This will surely dart
Guided by my guiding fate,
Into the malignant heart
Of the person whom I hate."

So by hatred feathered well,
Swift the flashing arrow fell;
And I saw it from above
Disappear,
Cleaving sheer
Through the only heart I love.

Such the guard my angels keep!
But my foe is guarded well
I have slain my love, and weep
Tears of blood, while he, asleep,
Does not know an arrow fell.

thereafter nearly every state in the Union and many countries were visited by Mr. Hammond. In 1868 General Booth credited Mr. Hammond with the influence which induced him to enter into his great career.

The Whole World Going Mad

Dr. Forbes Winslow says that the world is surely and not so very slowly going mad, and that some day in the not distant future there will be more insane people than sane. He is an expert in criminal lunacy, which will account for his use of statistics and may help to account for his pessimistic view of the mental condition of the universe. His statistics are gathered from England and Wales and cover the last forty years. In 1869, out of a population of 22,233,299, there were 53,177 registered lunatics, or one out of every 418 of the total population, whereas in 1909, out of a population of 35,756,615 the number of registered lunatics was 128,787, or an average of one out of 278 of the population. The apparently enormous increase has horrified the expert.

While the figures for 1909, one lunatic out of less than three hundred of the population, are

sufficiently terrifying, yet the increase during the forty years is probably not so great as the figures would show. For one thing he is dealing with "registered" lunatics. With the great increase in the interest taken and the work done for all afflicted persons, the chances are that few insane folk are not counted. People are anxious to get them into institutions for treatment. Then many and varied are the forms of unbalanced mind recognized in these days as insanity, while in former years it was only the violently insane of whom count was taken. Forty years ago the idiotic, weak-minded, or crazy member of the family was kept in concealment, treated as a disgrace as well as an affliction and considered incurable. Such members were kept so well hidden in hundreds of homes that their existence was not known, and the statistician had no means of adding them to his list.

Heroes of the Pit

Not long before his death King Edward established a new order, the members of which were to be miners who had performed some heroic act in connection with their daily work. Within the last five months there have been three mining disasters in England, and in all three of them men risked their lives to help their fellows. As a result, sixty-two men who had been conspicuous in the work of rescue and life-saving at the time of these catastrophes, came before King George a few days ago to receive the King Edward Medal, that is the badge of the new order. It does one good to see that more and more praise is being given to the heroism that has for its setting not a spectacular background, but the commonplace setting of the day's work. The King said, in part:

"King Edward took great interest in the lives of the miners. He knew the many dangers they had to face in their daily work, and he realized the devotion with which they are ready to risk their own lives when an accident happens. The Edward Medal, which I bestow today, was established by him in order to distinguish some mark of honor the many heroic acts performed by miners who endanger their own lives in endeavoring to save the lives of others.

"I am very glad to know that so many miners have proved worthy of receiving the medal. The home secretary informs me that the standard of bravery among miners is so high that it is no easy task to select the names recommended to me for the distinction. It is especially difficult when at a widespread disaster like that at Whitehaven, all those present are earnestly engaged in the work of rescue, and there is no one to watch and appraise the part taken by each man.

"It may be found that other men who took part in the work of rescue performed feats of bravery and devotion not less worthy of distinction, and the home secretary will not feel precluded from making to me a further recommendation if he should hear that among the many devoted workers there are others who risked their lives with courage equal to yours. I feel assured that every one of those now before me has amply earned the decoration I am about to bestow by conspicuous courage and devotion and by risking his life in the hope of saving those who have been overtaken by an appalling disaster."