

omfort are greatly and expenses are unjustifiably increased.

How is the mistress to extricate herself from such a maze? She must believe that it is not more hands, but knowledge and management, that is needed, and that one capable servant would be of more use to her than three, whom she cannot guide, and who cannot guide themselves.

If, on commencing housekeeping, you feel that you are rich enough to hire one servant, choose a good one; who will be less expensive and more useful than one who needs to be taught everything.

If your means appear to warrant your hiring two, consider whether the second is likely to prove an addition to your comfort, and whether the money that would be so spent might be more wisely laid by for a rainy day.

If you are to think twice before taking a second, think many times before you have a third. Remember that not only expenses but responsibilities and cares, are necessarily, in some measure, increased to the mistress by each servant that she has, and that, as our copy tells us, she may be better served by two than three, and better by one than by two.—*English Churchman*.

ANECDOTES of animals are always amusing; and moreover, if observed accurately and told without embellishment, may some day serve to solve a great problem in philosophy, the distinction, namely, between the spirit of man that goeth upwards, and the spirit of a beast that goeth downward to the earth—a problem that the great Bishop Butler could not solve, and left a blemish on his argument, but a monument to his candor. The subject of the one I am going to tell happened many years ago when I was an urchin of eight or ten, but I remember it well.

One fine summer morning it was my province to aid in driving a flock of sheep to the brook, to be washed, preparatory to shearing. The man who had charge of them led the procession with the salt dish in hand, in which he ostentatiously rattled some lumps of salt, and from time to time made pretence of throwing a handful on the ground, to draw the flock onward from place to place, while I followed to drive on the loiterers.

The old patriarch of the troop, a fine old buck, led the van of the quadrupeds, and carefully examined every spot where the false motion of throwing salt was made, till he was fully satisfied in his mind that no salt was deposited. He then paused, shook his head with its ample honours, and waiting till the shepherd was about a rod in advance, charged upon him from the rear with his whole momentum, fairly raising him off his feet. I saw, and from the first comprehended the manœuvre, but there was so much fun in it, it was impossible to give the alarm; and when the man turned to "blow me up" for my tacit complicity, I was rolling on the green sward in a convulsion of laughter so contagious he was forced to join in it, and let me off without a rebuke.

Will it do to attribute to so simple an animal as a sheep, so high a moral sentiment as indignation at deceit? Perhaps not; but we may at least make the "practical inference," that those having charge of flocks cannot securely lead them along with more occasional handfuls of—wind.—*Church Journal*.

STRAITS OF MAGELLAN.—Of a more inhospitable coast it is almost impossible to conceive. Its general aspect is of a perpendicular wall rising abruptly from the sea, with here and there some peak towering sternly above the gaunt and iron-bound shores. The mountains spire up to a great height, connected by singularly sharp saw-like ridges, as bare of vegetation as if they had been rendered so by the hand of Art. About their bases there are generally some green patches of jungle, but upon the whole nothing can be more sterile and repulsive. I remember celebrating Christmas with several of my companions by trying to accomplish the ascent of one of these steep mountains. After infinite labor, working our way up by clinging to the bushes and shrubbery, we abandoned the undertaking, utterly exhausted before we had made half the ascent. Our descent was not so laborious, as all our slips and falls were in the right direction. Even where the land is more level, the soil is covered with a soft spongy mass of decaying vegetable matter, apparently several feet deep, into which the wanderer sinks almost up to his middle, at every step, and of which the elasticity is so great, that after having passed over it one hardly leaves a trace behind. The forests, too, made up of large trees and jungle, are impenetrable. Having once wandered off with a companion to some distance, we wished to return by a dif-

ferent route, and endeavored to pass through a small wood; but, encountering so many obstacles—sometimes creeping among the bushes, sometimes over a fallen giant of the forest covered with a thick coat of moss, and the decayed wood of which afforded a soil for thickets of seedlings; sometimes buried almost to the armpits by the faithless surface yielding to the tread; sometimes crossing a bridge fearful as the arch of *Al-Sirat*; sometimes almost throttled by the snake-like branches—we were fain to return to our old road, bad as it was. In addition to all this, the sun shows himself but little; Jupiter Pluvius reigns supreme; the sky, even in clear weather, being overcast and cloudy, and a clear day a very rare occurrence.—*Cor. Nat. Intelligencer*.

CHANGES IN THE MEANING OF WORDS.—During part of the seventeenth century and earlier, a Dane-man meant a German, *Mynheer* being called a Hollander. A modern reader, ignorant of this change, when he found a dictionary compiler pronouncing English based on Dutch, might be apt to doubt the author's fitness as a judge of language. Less technical writers suffer from the changes in the meaning of more common words; and a reader, not aware of the changes which have taken place, may be in continual danger of misreading his author, of misunderstanding his intention, while he has no doubt whatever that he is perfectly apprehending and taking it in. Thus, when Shakespeare, in Henry VI., makes the noble Talbot address Joan of Arc as a "miscreant," how coarse a piece of invective does this sound! How unlike to that which the chivalrous soldier would have uttered, or to that which Shakespeare, even with his unworthy estimate of the noble warrior maid, would have put into Talbot's mouth! But a "miscreant" in Shakespeare's time had nothing of the meaning which it now has. A "miscreant," in agreement with its etymology, was a misbeliever, one who did not believe rightly the articles of the Catholic Faith; and I need not tell you that this was the constant charge which the English brought against Joan, namely, that she was a dealer in hidden magical arts, a witch, and as such had fallen from the faith. It is this which Talbot means when he calls her a "miscreant," and not what we should intend by the name.—*R. C. Trench's "English Past and Present."*

PROSPERITY OF NEW YORK.—It is now felt on every hand, that trade is fast reviving here. The city hotels are filled with country merchants from every part. The city is full of strangers. The consequence of this is, a great impetus to business, as well in retail stores, and, generally, those who break bulk, as by importers and commission merchants. The prices of all desirable styles of fall and winter goods are advancing. But provisions, with few exceptions, are falling.

THE BOSTON CENSUS.—The result of the census of Boston has just been obtained. The total population of the city is 162,629. The number born in foreign countries, with their children under twenty-one years of age, is as follows:—Irish, 69,293; Germans, 4,586; other countries, 12,511—a sum total of 10,000 more than the native population and their children. Out of the 23,841 increase during the past five years, 16,296 was by the Irish population, 1,920 by the Germans, and 4,634 by other foreigners, making the increase of natives only 997. It is estimated, however, that Boston business men with their families to the number of 80,000, reside in the neighbouring towns.

#### News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Canada, September 29.

GEN. SIMPSON'S OFFICIAL DESPATCH OF THE STORMING OF SEBASTOPOL.

Before Sebastopol, September 9, 1855.

My Lord,—I had the honour to apprise your Lordship in my despatch of the 5th inst., that the Engineer and Artillery Officers of the Allied Armies had laid before General Pellissier and myself a report recommending that the assault should be given on the 8th inst., after a heavy fire had been kept up for three days. This arrangement I agreed to, and I have to congratulate your Lordship on the glorious results of the attack of yesterday, which has ended in the possession of the town, dockyards, and public buildings, and destruction of the last ships of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea. Three steamers alone remain, and the speedy capture or sinking of these must speedily follow. It was arranged that at twelve o'clock in the day the French columns of assault were to leave their trenches, and take possession of the Malakhoff and adjacent works. After their success had been ascertained,

and they were fairly established, the Redan was to be assaulted by the English; the Bastion, Central, and Quarantine Forts on the left, were simultaneously to be attacked by the French. At the hour appointed our Allies quitted their trenches, entered and carried the apparently impregnable defences of the Malakhoff with that impetuous valour which characterises the French attack; and, having once obtained possession, they were never dislodged. The tricolor planted on the parapet was the signal for our troops to advance. The arrangements for the attack I entrusted to Lieut. Gen. Sir William Codrington, who carried out the details in concert with Lieut. Gen. Markham. I determined that the Second and Light Divisions should have the honour of the assault, from the circumstances of their having defended the batteries and approaches against the Redan for so many months, and from the intimate knowledge they possessed of the ground. The fire of our artillery having made much of a breach as possible in the salient of the Redan, I decided that the columns of assault should be directed against that part, as being less exposed to the heavy flanking fire by which this work is protected. It was arranged between Sir W. Codrington and Lieut. Gen. Markham, that the assaulting column of 1,000 men should be formed by equal numbers of these two divisions, the column of the Light Division to lead, that of the 2nd to follow. They left the trenches at the preconcerted signal, and moved across the ground preceded by a covering party of 200 men, and a ladder party of 320. On arriving at the crest of the ditch, and the ladders placed, the men immediately stormed the parapet of the Redan and penetrated into the salient angle. A most determined and bloody contest was here maintained for nearly an hour, and, although supported to the utmost, and the greatest bravery displayed, it was found impossible to maintain the position.

Your Lordship will perceive, by the long and sad list of casualties, with what gallantry and self-devotion the officers so nobly placed themselves at the head of their men during this sanguinary conflict. I feel myself unable to express in adequate terms the sense I entertain of the conduct and gallantry exhibited by the troops, though their devotion was not rewarded by the success which they so well merited, but to no one are my thanks more justly due than to Col. Windham, who gallantly headed his column of attack, and was fortunate in entering, and remaining with the troops during the contest. The trenches were, subsequently to this attack, so crowded with troops, that I was unable to organize a second assault, which I intended to make with the Highlanders, under Lieut. Gen. Sir Colin Campbell, who had hitherto formed the reserve, to be supported by the third division under Major-Gen. Sir William Eyre. I, therefore, sent for these officers, and arranged with them to renew the attack the following morning. The Highland Brigade occupied the advanced trenches during the night. About 11 o'clock the enemy commenced exploding their magazines, and Sir Colin Campbell having ordered a small party to advance cautiously to examine the Redan, found the work abandoned; he did not, however, deem it necessary to occupy it till daylight. The evacuation of the town by the enemy was made manifest during the night. Great fires appeared in every part, accompanied by large explosions, under cover of which the enemy succeeded in withdrawing their troops to the north side by means of the raft-bridge recently constructed, and which they afterwards disconnected and conveyed to the other side. Their men-of-war were all sunk during the night. The boisterous weather rendered it altogether impossible for the Admirals to fulfil their intention of bringing the broadsides of the allied fleets to bear upon the Quarantine Batteries; but an excellent effect was produced by the animated and well-directed fire of their mortar-vessels, those of her Majesty being under the direction of Capt. Wilcox, of the *Odin*, and Capt. Digby, of the *Royal Marine Artillery*. It now becomes my pleasing duty, my lord, to place on record the high sense I entertain of the conduct of the army since I have had the honor to command it. The hardships and privations endured by many of the regiments during a long winter campaign are too well known for me to comment upon. They were borne both by officers and men with a patience and uncomplaining endurance worthy of the highest praise, and which gained them the deserved applause and sympathy of their country. The Naval Brigade, under the command of Capt. the Hon. Henry Keppel, aided by Capt. Moeron, and many gallant officers and seamen who have served the guns from the commencement of the siege, merit my warmest thanks. The prompt, hearty, and efficacious co-operation of Her Majesty's Navy, commanded by Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, and ably seconded by Sir Houston Stewart, had contributed most materially to the success of our undertaking; and, here, perhaps, I may be permitted to say that, if it had pleased God that the successful result of this memorable siege should have been reported by my ever to be lamented predecessor in this command, I am sure that it would have been one of his most pleasing duties to express the deep sense which I know he entertained of the invaluable assistance and counsel he received on all occasions from Sir Edmund Lyons. When at times affairs looked gloomy and success doubtful, he was at hand to cheer and encourage; and every measure that could tend to advance the operations was given with the hearty good will which characterises the British sailor. Nothing has contributed more to the present undertaking than the cordial co-operation, which has so happily existed from the first to the last services. I cannot sufficiently express my