

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

R. S. Haliburton gives as the origin of the name Bay of Fundy, the Portuguese "*Baya Funda*" deep bay, and of Cape Race, *Cabo Raso*, bare cape.

The true source of the Mississippi was found by Captain Gladier to be in a lake in lat. 47d. 13m. 25s., and situated three feet above Itasca. The source of the river is therefore 1578 feet above the Atlantic, and its length 3184 miles approximately.

The French have the command of the Niger from Bourre to Boussa, some 700 leagues of water course. From the north of Africa a French railway runs from Arzen to Mecherra, and in a few years will be extended to Imsalah, which is already connected with Timbuctoo by Caravan routes. The French will certainly also push from Porto Novo on the Gulf of Guinea to Boussa on the Niger, and thus complete their communication between the Mediterranean and the Gulf of Guinea.

The Official Gazette of India reports that the number of persons killed by wild beasts and snakes in 1883 was 22,905, that is 780 more than in 1882. Deaths from poisonous animals 20,057. From tigers, 985; Wolves, 287; Leopards, 217. Loss of cattle 47,478, 771 more than 1882; only 1644 cattle were killed by poisonous animals. 19,890 dangerous animals were killed during the year. The animals are victorious by a large majority. Canada is a Paradise compared with India.

The Journal d'Hygiene publishes a comparative table of the probabilities of life for moderate drinkers and total abstainers. According to this the expectation of life of a moderate drinker at twenty is 15.6 years; at thirty is 13; at forty 11.6; at fifty, 10.8; at sixty, 8.9, of a total abstainer, at twenty, 44.5; at thirty, 36.5; at forty, 28.8; at fifty, 21.25; and at sixty, 15.285.