

relatives, "What God has united, no man shall put asunder." Prince Bismarck has preserved all the simplicity of her youth. She is a perfect specimen, in the best sense of the word, of the German *hausfrau* (housewife). She is very quiet, bears her honor as the most natural thing in the world, holds fast by the humbler days, and has but one great object in life—to make her husband and children happy. She cares for them in a peaceful, motherly way, and her serenity and patience, which have always secured for Bismarck a quiet home, have certainly contributed to his success through life. "She it is," he once said to a friend, "who has made me what I am."—*Blackwood's Magazine*.

KNOW WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT.

It is one of the most common reflections that very important effects may grow from quite unintentional and unconscious causes. If nothing is unproductive in human life and intercourse, then much the larger amount of consequences proceeds from such sources; for the undesigned, the seemingly fortuitous agency of people, is immensely more prolific of results of some sort than what is undertaken with a set motive. If personal responsibility attaches to this kind of causation, it might very well wake us up to a less absent-minded way of living. Perhaps it might be exacting too much of us always to be planning what now and what next in the every-day interchanges of the family and society. It is very delicious to drift on the current sometimes, letting the rudder and the sails take care of themselves. On a smooth stream and with no squall-clouds about, this may be safe, as possibly it occasionally may be necessary to our mental and physical moods. But it ought to be the very exceptional and not the common condition. As the law, people should know what they are doing, and that this is a right and sound thing. What kind of motors some human beings are, in this haphazard and semi-unconscious state, Ruskin has depicted in his unique and sinewy way:

"Now it so happens, as we all know, that by far the largest part of things happening in practical life are brought about with no deliberate purpose. There are always a number of people who have the nature of stones; they fall on other persons and crush them. Some again have the nature of weeds, and twist about other people's feet and entrap them. More have the nature of logs, and lie in the way, so that every one falls over them. And most of all have the nature of thorns, and set themselves by waysides, so that every passenger must be torn, and all good seed choked; or perhaps make wonderful crackling under various pots, even to the extent of practically boiling water and working pistons. All these people produce immense and sorrowful effects in the world. Yet none of them are doers; it is their nature to crush, impede, and prick; but deed is not in them."—*Rev. Dr. J. F. Tucker, in Sunday Afternoon*.

MR. JOHN MORLEY ON PRIESTCRAFT.

Mr. John Morley, in the "Contemporary Review," throws down the gauntlet to the priests thus:—"You have so debilitated the minds of men and women by your promises and your dreams that many a generation must come and go before Europe can throw off the yoke of your superstition. But we promise you that they shall be generations of strenuous battle. We give you all the advantages that you can get from the sincerity and pious work of the good and simple among you. We give you all that the bad among you may get by resort to the poisoned weapons of your profession and its traditions—its bribes to mental indolence, its hypocritical affectations in the pulpit, its tyranny in the closet, its false speciousness in the world, its menace at the death-bed—with all these you may do your worst, and still humanity will escape you; still the conscience of the race will rise away from you; still the growth of brighter ideals and a nobler purpose will go on, leaving ever and ever further behind them your dwarfed finality and leaden, moveless stereotype. We shall pass you on your flanks, your fiercest darts will only spend themselves upon air. We will not attack you as Voltaire did; we will not exterminate you; we shall explain you. History will place each dogma in its class, above or below a hundred competing dogmas, exactly as the naturalist classifies his species. From being a conviction, it will sink to a curiosity; from being the guide to millions of human lives, it will dwindle down to a chapter in a book. As history explains your dogma, so science will dry it up; the conception of law will silently make the conception of the daily miracle of your altars seem impossible; the mental climate will gradually deprive your symbols of their nourishment, and men will leave your system, not because they have confuted it, but because, like witchcraft or astrology, it has ceased to interest them. The great ship of your Church, once so stout and fair and well laden with good destinies, is become a skeleton ship; it is a phantom hulk, with warped planks and sere canvas, and you who work it are no more than ghosts of dead men, and at the hour when you seemed to have reached the bay, down your ship will sink to the lowest bottom, like lead or like stone."

ELEPHANTS IN A QUICKSAND.

On the river Ganges (says an English military journal) there are many quicksands, and, during our expedition, a somewhat distressing scene happened. An elephant incautiously came within the vortex of one; first one foot sank, then another; and, in endeavoring to extricate himself, matters became worse; no portion of either of his legs was at last visible, and the bystanders had given up the poor animal as lost. Being fortunately unusually powerful, he, three times, with what appeared to all supernatural strength, drew a foot from the closely clinging earth, placed it where, by sounding with his trunk, he found the most solid; not until the third time did the ground bear his pressure, when he gradually released himself. During the whole period of his troubles his cries were exceedingly dolorous, and might have been heard a couple of miles; his grunt, when they were at an end, was indicative of satisfaction. The internal application of a bottle of strong spirits soon dissipated his trembling and restored his equanimity. Many unfortunate

elephants are lost in these treacherous sands, when large quantities of grass or branches of trees are not at hand to form an available support for them. After a certain time the poor beast becomes powerless, and the owner can only look with sorrow at the gradual disappearance of his noble animal, and lament the pecuniary loss he thereby suffers, for all human aid is futile. They have been known to be twelve hours before entirely sinking.

WINDS.

Winds are advertisements of all they touch, however much or little we may be able to read them; telling their wanderings even by their scents alone. Mariners detect the flowery perfume of land-winds far at sea, and sea-winds carry the fragrance of dulse and tangle far inland, where it is quickly recognized, though mingled with the scents of a thousand land-flowers. As an illustration of this, I might tell here that I breathed sea-air on the Frith of Forth, in Scotland, while a boy; then was taken inland to Wisconsin, where I remained nineteen years; then, without in all this time having breathed one breath of the sea, I walked quietly, alone, from the middle of the Mississippi Valley to the Gulf of Mexico, on a botanical excursion, and while in Florida, far from the coast, my attention wholly bent on the splendid tropical vegetation, I suddenly recognized a sea-breeze, as it came sifting through the palmettoes and blooming vine tangles, which at once awakened and set free a thousand dormant associations, and made me a boy in Scotland again, as if all the intervening years were annihilated.

Most people like to look at mountain rivers, and bear them in mind; but few care to look at the winds, though far more beautiful and sublime, and though they become at times about as visible as flowing water. When the north winds in winter are making upward sweeps over the curving summits of the Alps, the fact is sometimes published with flying banners half a mile long. Those portions of the winds thus embodied can scarce be wholly invisible, even to the darkest imagination. And when we look around over an agitated forest, we may see something of the wind that stirs it, by its effects upon the trees. Yonder it descends in a rush of water-like ripples, and sweeps over the bending trees from hill to hill. Nearer, we see detached plumes and leaves, now speeding by on level currents, now whirled in eddies, or, escaping over the edges of the whirls, carried rapidly aloft on grand, up-sweeping domes of air, or tossed on flame-like crests, smooth, deep currents, cascades, falls, and swirling eddies, singing around every tree and leaf, and over all the varied topography of the region with telling changes of form, like mountain rivers conforming to the features of their channels.—*John Muir, in Scribner for November*.

RECENT MIRACLES.

The "Bulletin de l'Association de St. Francois de Sales" mentions among the most recent cures effected by the agency of the late Pope Pius IX. that of a young nun at Paris, who was relieved of a frightful attack of colic by the application to her body of a pair of white silk drawers which had belonged to the late Pope, and happened to be in the possession of the convent; also, that of an Augustinian nun at Sienna, who was cured of a bad cancer in the face by the application to it of a portrait of Pius IX.; and that of a medical man at Malaga, who was cured of a number of diseases by touching an old stocking of Pius IX., and who took immediately an oath never to apply to his clients any other means of cure but that which had succeeded so well with himself. In Texas a stillborn child was brought to life by the touch of a cross blessed by Pius IX.; and in the Convent of the Infant Jesus, at Coire, near Lyons, a man who had a cancer in the tongue and serious internal diseases invoked one night, when suffering acute pains, the aid of the late Pope, and, after being comforted by his apparition, was found completely cured next morning. These cures are cited, among others, to make good the claim of immediate beatification set up for Pius IX.

ARE FAT PEOPLE HEALTHY?

Why are fat people always complaining? asks some one who entertains the popular though erroneous notion that health is synonymous with fat. Fat people complain because they are diseased. Obesity is an abnormal condition of the system, in which the saccharine and oleaginous elements of the food are assimilated to the partial exclusion of the muscle-forming and brain-producing elements. In proof of this, it is only necessary to assert the well-known fact that excessively fat people are never strong, and seldom distinguished for mental powers or activity. Besides, they are the easy prey of acute and epidemic diseases, and they are the frequent victims of gout, heart disease, and apoplexy. Allan's Anti-Fat is the only known remedy for this disease. It contains no acid, is absolutely harmless, and is warranted to remedy the most confirmed case of obesity or corpulency.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East Indian missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy, for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh, asthma, and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send, free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, with full directions for preparing and using, in German, French, or English. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. W. Sherat, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N.Y.

JUST PUBLISHED—SENT FREE.

Complete History of Wall Street Finance, containing valuable information for investors. Address Baxter & Co., Publishers, 17 Wall Street, New York.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE Paris Exposition closed last Sunday.

ARTIFICIAL teeth are made from paper in Berlin.

QUININE dissolved in milk is said to lose its bitterness.

A TEACHER who will "preserve order or break heads" is advertised for in Kansas.

FRANCIS MURPHY began a temperance campaign in New York city last Sunday with much enthusiasm.

MR. SPURGEON will not marry a person of his congregation to one who is not a professor of religion.

THE telegraph poles in Philadelphia are to be removed from the streets, and the wires to be laid under ground.

M. LESSERS, of Suez Canal celebrity, estimates that the mercantile marine of the entire world consists of 57,000 vessels.

MR. MOODY is holding afternoon Bible-readings in the Mount Vernon M. E. Church, Baltimore, which is crowded to overflowing.

ONLY seven officers who took part in the engagement were left to commemorate, on October 21st, the 73d anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar.

It is said that out of about 5,000 inventions which are laid before the British Commissioners of Patents yearly, about 2,000 are rejected as valueless.

THE subscriptions in Glasgow to the fund for the relief of the City of Glasgow Bank shareholders have reached \$465,000 and in Edinburgh \$135,000.

THERE is another announcement regarding the relations of Germany with the Pope, to the effect that the attempt to harmonize matters is abandoned.

ARNES' "Educational Monthly" says that in Germany it is against the law to have windows on both sides of the school-room, as the cross-illumination injures the eyesight.

It is reported that the Russian government is making preparations for the trial of 340 Nihilists, who are now confined in prison at Odessa, many of whom have been in prison since 1876.

A LONDON firm has undertaken a contract with the German government to raise the "Grosser Kurfurst," sunk in the British Channel by her consort, the "Koenig Wilhelm," for the sum of \$250,000.

THE "N. Y. Christian Advocate" states that not one of the 10,300 Methodist preachers stationed the past year, declined to go his appointment, and no charge declined to receive the preacher sent them.

A PROTESTANT church has been opened at Coquimbo, Chili. In Valparaiso three Protestant Churches—Episcopalian, Congregational, and Lutheran—have long existed, and are numerously attended.

THE French steamer "Anadyr," on a recent voyage to Shanghai, was suddenly stopped by a collision with an enormous ray or flat fish, estimated to weigh from 8,000 to 10,000 pounds, which was lying asleep on the water.

THE Chicago Public Library, with its 60,000 volumes, has a larger circulation than any other in the country, with one exception. It has a large collection of German, French, Dutch, Norse, Swedish, and Bohemian books.

A DESPATCH from Calcutta points to an order just issued for the formation, from the Madras and Bombay armies, of a new division for the frontier, as a clear indication that the government expects an unfavorable reply to its ultimatum.

THE population of Switzerland is less than 3,000,000, and the number of persons murdered in the country last year was 108. These figures are quoted to prove that the abolition of capital punishment has not lessened the frequency of homicidal crimes.

THE "Friend of India" says "but for English missionaries the natives of India would have but a very poor opinion of Englishmen. The missionary alone, of all Englishmen, is the representative of a disinterested desire to elevate and improve the people."

THERE have been heavy snows in Eastern Europe, which has impeded travel in some places. The Apennines and the Black Forest are covered, and the Swiss passes are blocked with snow. In France the rivers are very high. The Seine threatens inundation.

A NATIVE South African was greatly grieved when his dog swallowed three leaves of the New Testament. He had been a capital hunter, and he feared, judging from the effects on those who had come to love the book, that it would make him tame and so spoil him.

OF 191 Congregational ministers who died in the last three years, 97 were over 70 years of age and 155 were over 50 years. The average age of the whole was 65½ years, and of their ministerial service 34½ years. This shows that the ministry is favorable to long life.

THE Papal hierarchy having been established in Protestant Scotland, a great Roman Catholic monastery and educational institution has been opened at Fort Augustus in the heart of the Highlands. The site was given by Lord Lovat, and the buildings were to cost about \$200,000.

THE Emperor William has decorated Bismarck with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Red Eagle, with the sceptre and crown, the only Prussian decoration which Prince Bismarck had not before received, and which is said to have been only once before conferred, namely, by Frederick William the Fourth on Minister Mantoufel.

A WOODCHUCK has turned his burrowing to practical account for the lessee of fourteen acres of woodland in Chester, Pa. While escaping from dogs five years ago he brought to the surface pure specimens of graphite, which led to the opening of a mine that has proved productive.

THE gentlemen appointed to investigate the affairs of the Glasgow City Bank estimate the loss at over six millions sterling. This means ruin to four-fifths of the shareholders, it being calculated that of the 1,200 persons holding stock, the burden of payment will fall on the last 200.