XMAS

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Interesting Fragments for Lay to well as Clerical Readers.

A new M. E. church has been built at Bankhillen, Ind.

A dozen Carmelite friars, expelled from Guatemala, have settled in Yonkers, New York.

The First Presbyterian Church at Port Hope has been so enlarged as to accommodate 300 more.

A movement is being made in Montreal towards having the Anglican churches open all day, for the purposes of private devotion.

Rev. Mr. Richards, of Newboro, has accepted a call to the vacancy at Lyn, in the Presbytery of Brockville.

Another thousand dollar contribution has been made to the Home Mission Fund of the Presbyterian Church.

The Presbyterian Church at St. Thomas, of which Rev. Mungo Fraser is pastor, have resolved on building a new church.

The Moravians are about to establish a mission among the Indians in the Island of Kodjah, 600 miles west of Sitka, Alaska.

The American Protestant Episcopal Church boasts of one bishop-a convert from Judaism, namely, the Right Rev. Dr. Schereschewski, the Bishop of Shanghai, in China.

The Papal Consistory, originally announced for the middle of December, and then postponed till Christmas, is further postponed till the 15th of January.

Mr. Beecher thinks the religious press equally guilty with secular newspapers in being unwilling to acknowledge its errors. Well, religious editors are but men after all.

The *Record* states that Rev. G. L. Mackay, Presbyterian missionary in Formosa, is on his way home for rest. He will be cordially welcomed. Few men have worked harder than Mr. Mackay has for the past eight years.

The Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina has unanimously adopted a resolution to the effect that as public preaching by women is opposed to the Word of God and the welfare of His people, the members of the Church should give it no countenance.

Rev. Charles McLean has been deposed at a meeting of the Glasgow Presbytery of the United Original Secoders for having officiated as the minister of a Baptist congregation at Cambridge. The reverend gentleman failed to answer the citation of the Presbytery.

Queen Victoria, it is said, will now hear no the dead and dying, whether now or last or when she was young. Rev. Mackay tells the story of a soldier who lay in extremis when the daughter of a cottage near Osborne, Isle of Wight, several years ago.

Mr. Labouchere states that "it is a fact" that Lord Beaconsfield has three times tendered his resignation to the Queen within six months, and that Her Majesty has each time begged him to reconsider his request to be relieved of his duties.

Among hot-air toys for attachment to a stovepipe or lamp chimney (the current of hot air setting the toy in motion) we find frightened goat-riders, millers with grist mills, churning Chinamen and milkmaids, negro banjo players, wood-sawyers and monkey coffee-grinders.

The International Geographical Congress which met at Hamburg lately, have given an impetus to Arctic exploration. Eight permanent stations are proposed and named as select centres of physical research in the Arctic Basin, and the United States is asked to establish two of them—one at Lady Franklin Bay and the other at Point Barrow.

Private semi-official letters from India announce that Lord Lytton's resignation of the Viceroyalty will be sent home by the next or following mail. His Lordship has been greatly annoyed by the responsibility for the Press laws being forced upon him, though the authorship of these curious regulations is attributed to General Sir Garnet Wolseley himself.

Samuel Neat, one of Boston's wealthy young men, has been mulcted $2,000 in a breach of promise suit, and subjected, besides, to the reading in court of his love letters, which were addressed like this: "My own and only precious little sweetheart," "My own dearly beloved loved one," "My only beloved one," and "Sweet, precious darling."

Hon. Henry Brand, the present Speaker of the British House of Commons, will, it is announced, retire from the office at the close of the present session. He is brother and heir to the title and estates of Lord Dacre, out he will, of course, be raised to the peerage by some other title during his brother's lifetime. Mr. Henry Raikes, new Chairman of Committees, is the approved Conservative candidate for the post as his successor.

London *Truth*; To elect a sufficient following for Mr. Parnell, money also was requisite. Hence the proposed mission to America. No one not an actual donkey could imagine that "servant gallism" in the States could afford the "help" adequate to purchase the fee simple of Ireland. As a matter of fact, I believe that it was precisely a domestic money question that prevented Mr. Parnell's contemplated visit to America.

Handsome society women in New York are following the Langtry fashion, and are photographed to sell—so says a naughty exchange. Five cents per copy is the average price received by a fair subject; and, if she is "popular," the revenue often keeps her in gloves for a whole year. One lady, said to be of high position, has been photographed several times in a page's costume that she wore at a fancy ball last winter.

Mlle. Sarah Bernhardt is having a villa built at Sainte-Adresse. It is an agglomeration of pavilions and angles of the most coquettish description. The walls of the rooms are to be decorated by some of our master painters and in the garden there will be the ruins of an ivy clad temple, dedicated to Vesta, Pistus, Eros or Apollo, the god of the arts. We shall know next year when the charming tragedienne takes possession of her new abode.

The Chippewa Indians have been very successful in raising sorghum on the reservation in Minnesota. The yield from twenty-five acres upon which the experiment was tried last season was 160 gallons of syrup per acre. The Chippewas are much pleased with the industry, and next year they will plant 200 acres with sorghum. The agent in charge of the White Earth Reservation reports it will grow and ripen upon any lands capable of producing corn. The Chippewas, about 1,000 in number, who were all wild Indians ten years ago, have also this season raised abundant crops of grain and vegetables, and are reported to be happy and contented.

Mr. Mark Napier, Sheriff of Dumfriesshire and Galloway, died in Edinburgh on the 22nd ult., in the eighty-second year of his age. He was a descendant of the celebrated Napier of Merchistoun, the inventor of logarithms, whose works he edited and whose "Memoirs" he published in 1834. He was called to the Scottish Bar in 1820, and became Sheriff in 1844. Sheriff Napier was well known for his voluminous historical memoirs of Scottish worthies, including "Montrose and the Covenanters" (two volumes, 1838), "Life and Times of Montrose" (1840), and "Memorials and Letters of the Time of John Grahame, of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee."

A Russian paper contains, among several hitherto unpublished anecdotes of the Emperor Nicholas, the following: One day the Emperor, who was one of the strictest and most inflexible of disciplinarians, met in a street in St. Petersburg a drunken dragoon, who was riding in a droshy. In a great rage the Czar stopped the droshy and angrily asked the soldier what he was doing. The imminence of his danger partially sobered the latter. He rose in his carriage, drew his sword, and, saluting the Czar, said—"I am taking a drunken soldier to the guard-room, your Majesty." The Emperor Nicholas smiled, gave the soldier a five-ruble piece, and told his coachman to drive him, not to the guard-room, but home.

The Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh have been celebrating their golden wedding. The "bold Buccleugh" is the premier Duke of Scotland in wealth and social and political weight, though not in heraldic degree. He has been a Conservative for half a century, was a member of Sir Robert Peel's Cabinet, and has always subscribed large sums to the Conservative electioneering fund. He is of immense wealth, lord of 450,000 acres, from which he draws a rental of £350,000 a year. This stretch of territory seems petty, compared with the domains of the Duke of Sutherland, who is master of over 1,200,000 acres, but the greater part of this is heath and bare rock. The Duke of Buccleugh, as father of the Earl of Dalkeith, whom Mr. Gladstone has ventured into the heart of Mid-Lothian to encounter, will be no ordinary influence to overcome. Lord Rosebery, also of immense wealth, of the same shire, leads the fight on Mr. Gladstone's side, and it is difficult to say how the struggle will end. Both speak with confidence, and both are creating "faggot voters."

"It is nearly sixty years since the Duke of Kent, having caught cold while visiting Salisbury Cathedral, died in the arms of the Duchess, who lost not only an affectionate husband, but the means of subsistence—subsistence is understood by royal persons. In fact," says the *Whitehall Review*, "the young Princess Victoria and her mother were face to face with poverty, in one of its comparative forms, when Prince Leopold took them under his protection. He had known something of straitened circumstances himself, having had only an annual income of £400 to live on before he married the Princess Charlotte and £50,000 a year. His lost no time, therefore, in bringing the aunt and cousin of his late wife, first to Kensington and then to Claremont, providing for the maintenance of their household until, in 1825, Parliament granted the young Princess an annuity of £6,000. Those kindnesses have never been forgotten by Queen Victoria; and it is by the light of this early passage in her life that the inscription which accompanies the white marble statue of King Leopold, which Her Majesty has just placed in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, should be read. 'Erected,' so it runs, 'by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in loving memory of Leopold, the first King of the Belgians, her maternal uncle, who was as a father to her as she was to him as a daughter.'"

Sir John Lubbock, in the *Nineteenth Century*, credits the Chinese with the invention of bank notes. It is related that about 119 B. C., the Court being in want of money, the Halifax of the day hit upon the following device: "When any princes or courtiers entered the imperial presence, it was customary to cover the face with a piece of skin. It was first decreed that for this purpose the skin of a certain white deer, kept in one of the royal parks, should alone be employed, and then these skins, which appear to have passed from one noble to another, were sold for a high price. True bank notes are believed to have come into vogue in China about 800 A. D., and were called feyt sien, or flying money.

Butter was unknown to the ancient Greeks, as may be inferred from the absence of any reference to it by Homer and Aristotle.

Cablegrams.

CALCUTTA, Dec. —.—One mountain gun was lost during Saturday's engagement. Gen. Roberts estimates the number of the enemy to be 80,000. Their fire was severe. He is confident of his ability to maintain British authority in Afghanistan, but says reinforcements are necessary.

The Viceroy of India telegraphed yesterday that he had ample forces.

The Attorney-General has granted a fiat for a writ of error in the case of the "Tichborne Claimant," on the ground that matters have been put before him justifying a discussion of the point whether the two sentences of seven years' penal servitude, one of which has just expired, should not have been concurrent instead of successive.

LONDON, Dec. —.—The *Times* says the news from Afghanistan indicates beyond doubt that a crisis has been reached in our military operations more important than any through which we have yet passed since the commencement of the invasion. Happily, the position we occupy and the resources at our disposal appear to render us better able to meet this emergency than any which have yet preceded it, but our strength is being tested more severely than hitherto.

An accidental explosion of blasting material occurred in Wilhelmsglück Salt Mine, at Schwäbischhall, Wurtemburg. Twelve miners were killed and six injured fatally. The miners in the panic endeavored to open the door outwards instead of inwards, thus preventing aid from reaching them before they had fallen unconscious from the effect of the fumes.

A correspondent writes from Afghanistan that the temporary success of Mahomed Jan over Gen. Massey, coupled with the evacuation of the position won at such cost on the 13th inst., has evidently given the rising an impetus it will need all our strength to overcome. Shirbiat continues to be the north of Chabul, are entrenched; they contain several months' supplies. Though it is humiliating to feel that at the moment the Afghans have the upper hand, and that our army of occupation is besieged, Cabul has passed from our hands and its governorship transferred to Mahomed Jan, yet there is no cause for alarm. Though the Afghans haste us now with the undying hatred they exhibited in 1842, there is no reason to feel apprehension of a repetition of the disgrace which overtook us then.

The Grand Jury have found indictments against Labouchere in the Lawson libel case, and also against Mrs. Georgiana Weldon, for libelling Mr. Riviere, manager of the Covent Garden concerts.

Vessel Chased.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. —.—The Shelburne schooner, Laura Bruce, met with an adventure among the West India Islands on a voyage from St. Jago, Cuba, to that port. She left St. Jago on the 16th ult. On the 20th she made Edward Staring, was taken ill with fever, and the captain was afterwards seized with the same malady. The vessel was under the control of the crew. A succession of northeastern gales drove them to westward into longitude 76°. They lost their jib boom and had their sails split. On December 5th they made the land of Nantucket and being unable to weather the shoals owing to strong easterly winds blowing at the time decided to bear up for the Vineyard Haven, to repair sails and obtain medical assistance. When near the supposed uninhabited Island of Marigauna, a small vessel, schooner rigged, was seen at the only place of anchorage. When about the island, the Laura Bruce tacked to get out of the way, but the stranger seemed desirous of bearing down upon them and followed in their direction. The Laura Bruce tacked to avoid her. At first the stranger was only under jib and foresail, but as the Laura Bruce showed a desire to get away her mainsail was also hoisted, and it became evident that the stranger meant overhauling them if possible, but after a pursuit of about forty miles the chase was abandoned and no more seen of the unwelcome stranger. She was painted black and showed no color, nor made a signal of any kind. Although at one time she was within half a mile of the Laura Prince, no name could be made out, nor were any men seen on deck.

FAMINE IN CENTRAL ASIA.

An Appeal for Aid Sent to England.

LONDON, Dec. —.—An appeal has reached London from American missionaries at Oroomeyah, Persia, in behalf of the population of that district, and of Turkish Kurdistan, who are starving. There is already a partial failure of the wheat and raisin crops, and owing to poverty only about a tenth part of the usual import of food has been made, and importation has now entirely ceased. The Government are doing little or nothing. The winter will intensify the distress.

Nitrate of Silver Stains on Clothing.

To the Editor of the *Scientific American*: In your issue of October 11 is a paper on the removal of silver stains from clothing. The salt recommended to be used is stated as bichromate of mercury. This is an error; it should be *bichloride* of mercury, known commonly by the name of corrosive sublimate. Its solubility is greatly increased by first dissolving a little chloride of ammonium in water.—GEORGE WILSON, New Haven, Conn

In a recent address, Mr. Spurgeon said that giving advice to would-be preachers was the burden of his life. Sometimes he tried to imitate the Delphic oracle, and give an answer that might be taken two ways. A man wrote to him lately that his master objected to his preaching, and asked him whether he should go on with it, and he wrote him this reply, "Dear Brother,—If the Lord has opened your mouth the devil cannot shut it; but if the Lord has not opened your mouth, may the devil shut it." This person said he felt encouraged by the answer.

The steam heating, in London, where it has been turned on, is pronounced a perfect success. The degree of heat is as easily regulated as the light of a gas burner.

The individual who wrote "O, solitude, where are thy charms!" was a business man who didn't advertise.

NEW PLOT IN THE FOUL MURDER CASE.

Arrest Tomorrow of the Mother of the Kidnappers—Charge Against Mrs. Louisa and Nicholas Murphy.

TORONTO, Dec.—.—The recent Deal kidnapping case, which caused so much sensation, has received a new and mysterious development. Mrs. Deal (mother of the young men who were tried at the last Assizes on the charge of kidnapping Robert Jeffrey) left their house on Parliament street last evening a little after seven o'clock, and had only proceeded a few yards when she noticed a buggy standing by the sidewalk. The next moment a heavy shawl was thrown over her head from behind and she was lifted into the buggy, her hands were pinioned to her sides, and a sweet sickly smell that exhaled from the shawl informed her that she was being drugged. She soon became insensible and when she recovered consciousness she found herself in a field with a man and woman, or rather she suspected a man in woman's dress. They were dragging her along between them, her wrists being tied together with a rope. When about half way across the field she made a break from them and succeeded in freeing her hands. She ran screaming lustily, but was soon overtaken when a desperate struggle ensued, during which Mrs. Deal's dress and all her clothing except her undervest were torn off her; still screaming she fled towards a lighted house, and when near it her pursuers stopped. When she reached the house, which was occupied by John MacDonnell, J. P., she fainted on the steps, but the inmates heard the noise, and she was taken in and cared for. As soon as she was sufficiently recovered she was conveyed home. Your correspondent called upon Mrs. Deal this morning and found her in bed undergoing medical treatment for severe nervous prostration. She related her story as told above and added that one of her assailants said that he wished to God they had her lawyer, Nicholas Murphy, as well as Mrs. Deal and they would stop his usefulness. The case has been placed in the hands of the detectives.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A Serious Condition of Affairs—An Indian Revolt Feared.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. —.—A Victoria despatch, dated 12th inst., says that much anxiety is felt here at the condition of affairs near Kamloops, where Government Agent Ussher was killed by half-breed outlaws recently. Since the last report the outlaws murdered a herder named Kelly at Stump Lake. They are now surrounded in a log house at the foot of Douglas Lake in Nicola Valley. They have repeating rifles and the whites are heavily armed. The Indians are fearfully excited and an Indian revolt is feared.

A Victoria despatch of the 13th inst. says that the outlaws have shot and killed another settler. The rest are still corralled in the log house. The country is in terror. The Indians are sulky but quiet. A strong force of police, with rifles and ammunition, left Victoria to-night by special steamer.

Mr. Jay Gould's Personal Habits.

Mr. Gould's millions now crowd close to those of Vanderbilt. He is a man of fine texture than the old Commodore's sons. He doesn't run to fine houses, costly stables and blooded steeds. At night, when he dismisses his operators from the telegraph offices in his own house in Fifth avenue, and enters up in a little book the telegraph reports of the receipts of the various railroads which he owns, he does not go to a club to carouse, to a banquet to steam up with champagne, or to a theatre; he retires to the recesses of a peaceful library, and with his young sons about him, reads the Latin classics, the world forgetting, but not by the world forgotten—by a large majority. The next morning early he has the telegraph doing his bidding service, and he is sending an electric shock through Wall street as soon as the bulls and the bears come into that field for pasture. Mr. Gould is a liberal man, although when he makes a bequest he does not have the information written in manifold and sent out all the newspapers. The news New York had of his gift to the Memphis sufferers of $5,000 came from Memphis, as did the news of the second gift of $5,000. Mr. Gould being a small man of little physical prowess, is naturally not disposed to put himself recklessly in the way of the horns of the bulls and the claws of the bears. There are some men in Wall street, as Mr. Gould has reason to know, who wish to resent their losses with their fists, and are disposed to follow Major Belcher's example and despatch him bodily into a convenient area. Accordingly, Mr. Gould keeps his office guarded by a stout Irishman, who prevents the intrusion of visitors, and he has usually a private way to get out into the street. He has too, it is said, a big Italian book keeper who assumes the care on many of his business trips about town, and stands ready to protect his millionaire employe.—*St. Louis Republican.*

The Fat Secreted by the Liver.

According to Dr. Neumann, the liver furnishes a variety of fat, which is distinguished from others by the rapidity with which it oxidizes to serve for nutritive purposes. This fat, like glycogenic substances, is the result of the transformation of albuminoids. The production of fat in the liver is comparable to that which occurs in the mammary gland, and is a true secretion. That destroyed in an inverse ratio to the oxidations which take place in the organism. «Everything which tends to limit these oxidations promotes the production of fat in the liver (pulmonary lesions, debilitating influences, anæmia, and in this cause, the liver is at last becomes infiltrated with fat—a condition which is physiological in animals in which the respiratory functions are languid (fishes). When, under the influence of debilitating causes, the wants of the organism increase to a high degree, the liver does not suffice for these excessive demands; the fat-forming function becomes paralyzed. The albuminoid matters, undergoing metamorphosis in the liver, no longer produce fat, but a substance less adapted for combustion—amyloid substance—is formed. It is true that amyloid degeneration of other organs may precede that of the liver, but this is due to the fact that the diseased liver pours into the circulation the morbid products, which then infiltrate the tissues with which they come in contact, and especially the vessels of the smaller vessels.—" *Deut. Arch. fur klin, Med.*"—*New York Medical Journal.*

How to Behave.

The new "Manual of Good Manners" that has appeared in Paris is edited by Mme. la Comtesse de B— and is now presumably the final authority with the proud aristocracy of France. We quote:—When paying visits a gentleman should not wear heavy boots. Should he find himself in company with a young girl, it is in bad taste to joke about marriage—under some circumstances a pleasantry of such nature may be even more than coarse—immoral. When a lady rises to take her leave the hostess rises also and makes her a profound courtesy, accompanied by some neat phrase of regret at her early departure. A hostess may offer to share the footstool on which her feet are resting with a lady, but never with a gentleman, even if he should be old or an invalid. If a gentleman offers a lady a share of his umbrella, if she is in a hurry she may accept it, but if her business is not urgent she should seek refuge in a doorway or some other shelter. When such an offer is accepted, it should be with the greatest circumspection; she should not speak to her companion, and on quitting him should thank him in a cold and polished manner, saying nothing that may reveal her name or rank.

A case involving the legal validity in England of a divorce granted in Scotland came before a London magistrate on the 22nd. A person named Farnie, who lived at Cupar in 1863, was divorced from his wife by the Scotch Court, on her petition, for adultery. In England, in 1865, he married again, and his second wife is now suing for a divorce, and is also prosecuting him for bigamy on the ground that when he married he had a wife living. The question in the case is whether a divorce granted in Scotland on the ground of adultery alone, which is a sufficient ground in that country, can be held valid in Eng land, where there must be "cruelty" also proved. The lawyers differ, of course, and the case will be argued before the judges.

A glorious, beautiful widow, says the *Washington Capital*, has the best dodge of them all; she takes home 100 of her photographs, and when a gentleman calls the maid happens to be looking at one of them. "What is that, Susan," says the caller. "A photograph of Missis," says Susan. "Ain't it just too lovely?" "Rather," replies the caller, and then he gives Susan a dollar for it.

An Irish distress fund has been started in Toronto by a subscription of $50 from Mr. James Cooper, of Cooper, Session & Smith, an Englishman born and bred.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

TORONTO, Dec.—.—The recent Deal kidnapping case, which caused so much sensation, has received a new and mysterious development. Mrs. Deal (mother of the young men who were tried at the last Assizes on the charge of kidnapping Robert Jeffrey) left their house on Parliament street last evening a little after seven o'clock, and had only proceeded a few yards when she noticed a buggy standing by the sidewalk. The next moment a heavy shawl was thrown over her head from behind and she was lifted into the buggy, her hands were pinioned to her sides, and a sweet sickly smell that exhaled from the shawl informed her that she was being drugged. She soon became insensible and when she recovered consciousness she found herself in a field with a man and woman, or rather she suspected a man in woman's dress. They were dragging her along between them, her wrists being tied together with a rope. When about half way across the field she made a break from them and succeeded in freeing her hands. She ran screaming lustily, but was soon overtaken when a desperate struggle ensued, during which Mrs. Deal's dress and all her clothing except her undervest were torn off her; still screaming she fled towards a lighted house, and when near it her pursuers stopped. When she reached the house, which was occupied by John MacDonnell, J. P., she fainted on the steps, but the inmates heard the noise, and she was taken in and cared for. As soon as she was sufficiently recovered she was conveyed home. Your correspondent called upon Mrs. Deal this morning and found her in bed undergoing medical treatment for severe nervous prostration. She related her story as told above and added that one of her assailants said that he wished to God they had her lawyer, Nicholas Murphy, as well as Mrs. Deal and they would stop his usefulness. The case has been placed in the hands of the detectives.

Fun-graphs.

Sheet Music—Children crying in bed.

The soldiers who retreat are those who come out of the contest with flying colors.

It is a wise paragrapher that knows his own joke after it has been gone a week or two.

The man who steps on a deposit of soft soap and glides swiftly down the front stairs is not dead, but slippeth.

An unknown man killed by the cars in Connecticut on Saturday had in his pockets sixty cents and a pair of suspenders, indicating that he was connected with journalism.

It is said that nothing less than a partnership in the firm will tone down the arrogance and boastness of some new-fledged, five-dollars-a-week clerks.

Music teacher to scholar—"You see that note with an open space; that's a [illegible] Can you remember that?" "Yes'm. A whole note is a note that has a hole in it."

"What is a Communist? One who has long fingers

For equal division of unequal earnings.
Idler or bungler, or both, he is willing
To fork out his penny, and take up your shilling.'.

Dundas is the place for self-sacrifice. When a young lady who has been eating onions appears at a country dance all the rest bite an onion that she may not feel embarrassed or lonely.

"What's fame?" yelled an excited orator. What's fame? that ghost of ambition! What's honor." And a weak-minded man in the crowd said he supposed she had clothes on her, as any fool ought to know.

At a Copenhagen party the other night a young lady complained of the usage she received at the hands of a young man in attendance. "Why," she said, "he almost smothered me." "And did you kiss him for his mother?" asked the listener.

What has become of the good old days when a greenhorn travelling by rail could buy a twenty five cents' package containing fifty articles worth $1 each and then find a gold breast pin weighing a pound and a half besides?

WHAT'S HONOR.

Ask not the soldier in the battle's van,
Nor yet the statesman, uncorrupt as gold,
But her beneath your own roof-tree who can,
And will most willingly, to you unfold
The secret. Bid her mark your neighbor's wife
When she her ample wardrobe seeks, to con her
Fine garments; when she reappears, my life
I'll stake, your better half can tell what's on her.

WAITING.

She was waiting at the lattice
Where the spinning-wheel clematis
Translated for her gratis
What the breezes sung and sighed.

And the dainty tenderesses
Of the sunbeams on her tresses
Left her tranced in the caresses
Of the golden morning tide.

A hope triumphant filled her
And clear the words that thrilled her
"Look here, you, Jane Matilder,
Come and help me find my clothes!"

Scientific Jottings.

In cases both of acute and chronic poisoning by arsenic Dr. E. Ludwig finds the metal chiefly collected in the liver, very little being retained in the brain and in the bones.

Nothing can live on Saturn with more than a flash. Galileo first discovered the rings, which are probably clouds of satellites too small to be seen individually. Its moons are ten times as large as ours.

A party recently visiting the Daly River North Australia, appears to have met with an alligator far larger than any hitherto seen. Nothing but the head was visible, but this is described as being about four feet in length and two feet six inches in width. On being fired at the monster disappeared, and the precise size of its body could not be ascertained.

Mr. C. G. Siewers has lately attempted an answer to the question: How shall we check the increase of noxious insects that destroy our crops? The policy, he thinks, should not be to kill but so to infect the pests that they may themselves disseminate the poison. This view is based, first, upon the discovery of Pasteur, that the fungus growth called muscardine can be imparted to the healthy larvæ of the silk worm by simply crushing the infected ones on their food; second on the observation of Dr. Bain, that the mold of the mash-tub, or yeast, and allied species of fungus are fatal to certain species of insects when brought in contact with them; and third, on his own experiments. He suggests that diluted yeast should be tried on the potato bug, on the tobacco, army and cotton worm, and the grasshopper of old pastures and clover-fields. But the difficulty is to apply a fungus so that it will destroy noxious insects, and at the same time spare such useful and necessary ones as the honey-bee.

Musical and Dramatic

Capoul falsetto notes to excess in his singing.

Sullivan and Gilbert announce the new opera as in active rehearsal.

Battey Campbell says they need to have sensational plays in Shakespeare's time. Now they call them legitimate.

Mr. Tennyson has found time to write a little comedy in one act; it is said to be full of the most delicate humor and pathos.

Sir Julius Benedict holds that England is up to the average standard of musical skill and taste, and that the Germans do not occupy the first rank in music.

Sir Julius Benedict, the musical celebrity, though seventy-eight years old, was to have been married last week to a lady thirty years his junior.

There has been discovered in the French army a tenor singer such as has never before been heard. His voice is said to be more wonderful than any voice yet known in France.

Emma Abbott does not think that getting married spoils good singers. Neither does Max Strakosch, who even goes so far as to say that married prima donnas are the best singers.

A dramatic version of Mrs. Burnett's new and strong novel, "Haworth's," made by Mr. Joseph Hutton and Mr. Arthur Mathison, had been produced in Manchester. It is called "Loved and Lost."

A Cincinnati paper remarks that when a new dramatic company "take the road" they should see that the road is kept in good repair, for the chances are they will need it to walk home on.

Barrett is said to be doing very poorly on the road, and it is hinted that, tired of starring, he will next spring settle in San Francisco and become the manager of the California Theatre. The stockholders of the house would be glad to make such an arrangement and have offered him the place on easy terms.

Mr. John McCullough is reported by the Cleveland *Leader* as saying that he has been trying to forget what he has seen in other actors, and is learning to draw his inspiration from the book of nature. "I believe," he says "I am beginning to understand better than ever before the humanity and the many sides of Shakespeare. It is my intention to devote my time assiduously to the study of this great master, and, if I am spared ten years longer, I hope to make greater progress than I have made in the last twenty years."

The new organ in the Stewart Cathedral, at Garden City, will be among the largest and most remarkable in the world, costing $35,000 to $40,000.

Our Western Home.

Miss Rye writes to us, a few days ago—"You have always been a friend of mine, perhaps you may like the enclosed view I had taken this autumn. It is 10 years almost to a day since I came here with my first 60 children. Misses Bilborough, McPherson and W. Middlemore have followed in the path I showed, and now over 4,000 children are in Canada as the result of our joint, if disjointed efforts, and as far as I can see, we may place another 4,000, and people and children be all the better for the transplanting." Yours faithfully, MARIA L. RYE.—*Canadian Ill. News.*

Overwork—The Breakdown.

I met a man sometime ago who used to travel in business, and almost passed his life upon the rail. He came home one evening, and, walking across the dining room, he staggered like a drunken man. Uncharitable people, who did not know his habits, might have thought him intoxicated. He sank on his chair, and he was a prisoner in his chair all the rest of his life. He was completely paralyzed in his lower limbs. The incessant travelling on the rail had at last proved too much for his nervous system. Hence the collapse, and I have a strong impression that other collapses might be traced to a similar source. I knew of a lawyer who was in a great rush of business. He liked his fees; but like all men who succeed, he liked business thoroughly for its own sake. He was unable to refuse business; and, indeed, to refuse business is the hardest trial which can happen to any professional man. His mistake was, that he did not provide himself with adequate assistance. The ill-treated brain took to softening, and then all business came to an end. I knew of a man who was enormously wealthy. In addition to the constant employment which his own vast property gave him, he was trustee for ever so many widows, orphans, and charities. He worked hard at accounts till the small hours in the morning. A boy clerk at 15s. a week might have done it all for him. But he preferred "doing his own work himself," and accordingly he had to quit this inferior existence, where such a condition of things is not possible. One of the best known men in the country once told me that he was going to take a six weeks' holiday at the seaside. I was rejoiced to hear it. No man better deserved or required such a holiday. Then he told me he was going to take his new book with him to the seaside, and hoped to have it ready for publication by the time his holiday was over. I expostulated with him. I explained that he was only exchanging one kind of hard work for still harder kind of hard work. But he took the advice of what is often a man's worst counsellor—himself. His book was successful; but he never knew of the success.—*London Society.*

The meanest bark of a dog is when he barks your shins with his teeth.

Herr Maurice Philipp, of Riesbach, in Zurich, Switzerland, is reported to have discovered a method of keeping milk fresh and sweet in any temperature for any length of time. The process is said to be an undoubted success scientifically; whether it will also be so commercially remains to be proved. The convenience of having milk which may be preserved indefinitely is evident. Consumers can receive their supplies weekly or monthly, with much saving of time and labor. But just now the difficulty is that Herr Philipp keeps his process a secret, and what he will do in the future is unknown. Samples of his milk have been severely tested by the Chemical Agricultural Commission of Zurich, and it is like any other good milk, with the added quality of keeping sweet and fresh for months. Herr Philipp has announced his intention of supplying London and Paris with milk from the mountains of Switzerland.

A STRANGE FOSTER MOTHER.—Sometime since, on the premises of Mr. Isaac Hodgins, near Lucan, a litter of young pigs, from whom the dam had been removed, in moving around for their wonted nourishment, came across a young cow whose calf had been killed, and at once took possession of her udder, the cow was apparently perfectly content, and soon satisfied their appetites for the time. When nature made another call for food, says the *Enterprise*, the young porkers at once sought out their foster mother, who at once accommodated them, evidently adopting the young brood in place of her lost calf, and to the present time the cow continues to foster the porcines—a singular fancy indeed.

Bulls are not extinct, and a real Hibernian one has cropped up as the result of the Home Rule indignation against the recent arrests in Ireland. In several large provincial towns, among the placards put up calling the patriots to assemble "in their thousands" and protest against the tyrannous action of a wicked English Government, is one wherein prominently occur the following lines:

Our right shall battle with your might,
When you must hear our voices, though
You would not hear our tears.

The true philosopher meets a slight with indifference.