



PUZZLE

be as merry as you can."

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PUZZLER'S CORNER

olutions till 1st March, 1879. Take...

OP-LETTER PUZZLE.

R-R-G-T-H-N-O-H-A.

ETICAL ANAGRAM.

ell! who signasp iref!

joy nand rease!

n agelne this meit,

78.

ay was born on the 15th August,

ay of the week did that day oc-

79.

or of the following verse. During

of history did he write? Name

of his compositions.

Virgin best

able to rest;

tedious song should here have

ted-teamed star

ish-h'd car.

Lord with handmaid lamp at-

the courtly stable

angels sit in order servicable."

80.

erson go in a stage which makes

o that by walking back at 3 miles

gone only 6 1/2 hours! By writ-

81.

ad cost me 15 per cent. less, the

would have brought me 25 per

cent was the gain per cent! By

82.

in x in the following equation

by the methods of quadratics:

1 / (a+b) = 1 / (a-b)

S RESERVED POWER.

ville Courier-Journal.

ked like he was 138 years old, and

up on his feet. He was hitched to

ring-wagon, with a high dash-

ing, was standing on the levee in

the old darkey who "dry" it

it wharf-boat. A tramp could make

of his head like window-awnings

of them. His face wore a sober

IRISH NEWS.

AN IRISH COLLEGE FOR AFRICAN MISSIONARIES.

[From our Irish Exchanges.]

Many of our readers will learn now, probably for the first time, that a college has been established in the outskirts of the city for the training of missionaries for the conversion of the heathen in Africa.

The dwelling-house on the Ballyvogue road, known as Ashgrove, which stands in an excellent situation, and with ample grounds surrounding it, has been remodelled, repaired, and enlarged, and the college has actually commenced its work under the superintendence of the Rev. Father O'Haire.

This institution cannot fail to be regarded with the deepest interest, intended as it is for one of the noblest works to which the Church calls her enthusiastic followers.

The interest aroused and the sympathy felt for the benighted inhabitants of the African continent has been shown in numerous ways of late years.

The enterprising have pierced what were considered its impenetrable parts, and as the torch of the discoverer flashed across the dark continent, what a picture of depravity shocked the gaze of astonished civilization!

To permanently illuminate the infidel and pagan land with the bright light of pure Catholic Christianity is a work well worthy of all who are desirous for the spread of the Gospel preached by those alone authorized to announce it to the world.

Not only have Catholic missionaries had to overcome the pitiful ignorance of the savage, but they have also had to contend with a jealous and obstructive Protestantism, in the previous efforts which they made to go into Africa.

The East India Company, and afterwards the Dutch domination in South Africa, while encouraging Protestantism prevented Catholic missionaries from even entering into their territories, and the result in South Africa is that paganism has been partially replaced by a form of belief hostile to Catholicism.

Now that Central Africa promises to be, at no very distant date, accessible, it is the duty of Catholics to make such preparations as will enable those who are willing to undertake the work, to gather into the one fold some of the teeming populations with which many of the countries in Central Africa are inhabited.

About twenty years ago a good French bishop, Dr. de Marion Brillac, instituted in Lyons a congregation called "The Society of African Missions," out of which grew a lay brothers' novitiate at Clermont-Ferrand (Puy-de-Dome), and it evidently gave rise to a convent of nuns at St. Martin de Vaux in the Vendee, diocese of Angoulême, and also to a convalescence house at Nice for the fathers of the society who are, through infirmities of age or illness obliged to return from the missions.

The first field in which the members of this society wished to set about their heroic task was Dahomey, the most degraded part of all Africa, where virtue is blunted, vice encouraged, where horrible cruelties are practised, while the miserable people are ground down by a deluded despot, whose very palace is decorated with the skulls of enemies slain in battle or offered in sacrifice.

work of converting the pagan deserve every encouragement, for we should also recognize the truth that Christianity brings to those who embrace it the highest power of civilization; and if we would wish to see a change come over the physical condition of the great waste of Africa we should do all in our power to disseminate among its people doctrines which will elevate them from their present unhappy state.—Cork Examiner.

DEATH FROM ILL-TREATMENT IN AN ENGLISH PRISON.

Another case of alleged gross ill-treatment of an inmate of an English prison is this week reported in the English papers, and has been brought under the notice of the House of Commons by Mr. Mitchell Henry. The facts seem to be that a young man named Nolan was admitted into Clerkenwell jail on the 9th of August in good health, but this and by a few weeks, coupled with the privations to which he was exposed after admission, brought on congestion of the lungs, from which he died.

DEATH OF A PATRIOTIC IRISHMAN.

A correspondent of the Nation writes as follows: It is with sincere regret we beg to announce, through the columns of your widespread journal, the death of a noble and liberal educationist, Mr. John Russell, who departed this life after a brief but severe illness on the 23rd of November last, at the early age of 41 years.

He was born in the vicinity of Millstreet, County Cork, where he received the rudiments of a sound and liberal education in the Celtic and English languages, which enabled him to push his fortune in the land of his birth, and took a very prominent part as well as interest in retaining and diffusing the Irish language, which he could fluently speak and freely write, and to which society he was a subscriber.

DEATH OF EX-CHIEF-JUSTICE MONAHAN.

The death is this week recorded of ex-Chief-Justice Monahan, a gentleman who had a somewhat notable career. He was, who, as attorney-general, was elected member of Parliament for Galway despite the opposition of Thomas Francis Meagher, and who shortly afterwards conducted all the state prosecutions of '48.

ROBBERY IN GALWAY.

To the Editor of the Freeman: Sir,—Under the heading of "Rowdyism in Galway," in your issue of Saturday, December 7, I have read with surprise an account of a fracas which I am sorry to say has occurred between the students of the Queen's College here and the town lads.

On Thursday, the 5th December, about fifteen students were witnessing with others Mr. C. Sullivan's company performing "Rory O'More." A dispute arose between a student and a young gentleman from the town, which appears, from what the police have discovered, the townsmen first transgressed, about sixty in number fell on the students, some of whom at first made resistance, in number about eight. These got knocked about a good deal, and when they could make for the street, on the next evening, Mr. Sullivan having issued notices to the students, thirty-seven students presented themselves at the door of Black's Assembly Rooms for admittance, a few of them having sticks, and not staves. One of the college authorities, however, asked them as a personal favor to desist from going in.

They then quietly dispersed, and when in the act of doing so one of the students was struck on the temple with a stone, a circumstance which appears to be left out by your correspondent. The conduct of the students in Galway has been generally marked as good, and when we read of a riot, occurring in other places similarly situated the good people of Galway have completely shrugged their shoulders and said they are not like our boys.

TERRIBLE FATE OF A CORK GENTLEMAN.

A sad accident, resulting in the death of Mr. James Daly, member of the highly respectable firm of M. D. Daly & Son, wholesale grocery, Academy Street, Cork, occurred at Blackwater Vale Hotel, in this town, last night. From evidence given at the inquest just held, it is conjectured deceased must have been reading in bed and fell asleep, leaving the candle lighted on the bed, where the candlestick was found this morning. When the waiter went to call him about eight o'clock he was driven back by a rush of suffocating smoke, and on entering deceased was found outside the bed dead, his legs and side scorched, the bed burned, and the boards on fire. Medical assistance was immediately obtained, and every effort made to restore animation, but unhappily life was at the time extinct.

LISMORE, Tuesday.

A sad accident, resulting in the death of Mr. James Daly, member of the highly respectable firm of M. D. Daly & Son, wholesale grocery, Academy Street, Cork, occurred at Blackwater Vale Hotel, in this town, last night.

I have received the following document from Dr. Ward. He informs me that several signatures have been already put to the enclosure.

Mr. Power having also, in said letter, applied epithets to you of a degrading character, we feel called on to say that the imputations which they convey are utterly unfounded," etc., etc.

There has been some talk that the attention of the House would be called to Mr. Power's letter, but if this intention was ever seriously entertained, I believed it is now abandoned.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER, M. P., 25 RUTLAND SQUARE, NORTH, DUBLIN, Dec. 8.

To the Editor of the Freeman:

Sir,—Mr. O'Connor Power's letter, which appeared in the Freeman's Journal of Friday last, has created a feeling of indignation, not only amongst Parliamentary representatives, but amongst all classes of the community, as has seldom been equalled. This feeling, I regret to say, has been much placed in a journal so influential and popular as the one which you so ably conduct. I feel it is only due to myself on the first opportunity in my power to enter my most earnest protest—first, against the language made use of towards her majesty's troops now serving in Afghanistan, when on so recent an occasion, under the gallant leadership of a distinguished Irishman, have aided fresh hands to those who, in the next breath, against the will of the Government, were to be sent to the front.

DEMOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

The Daily Telegraph of Saturday published a remarkable article on the Irish university question. It alludes to the promise of Government that when its list of home legislative measures is produced Ireland will not be overlooked, and asks if these words fore-shadow a proposal to settle the university question. Our contemporary certainly gives good reason for such a measure being introduced immediately.

No Government could accomplish a settlement with such ease as a strong Conservative Government like the present. Lord Beaconsfield can educate his party, as we all know; and this is a lesson which would be a message of peace to Ireland, and operate directly as a counter charm to political sedition.

This is perfectly true, and if Government will do its duty in the matter, it will do so. The Daily Telegraph says that the Intermediate Education Act was a step towards a solution—that "it is practically concurrent endowment applied to middle-class schools of all denominations." This same principle was applied years ago, as I truly pointed out, to English denominational colleges and schools, and probably not one in twenty of the pupils trained in them belong to the Catholic Church.

This is an unintended effect, but it seems likely to be permanent. We may regret the obstinacy with which the Irish prelates adhere to religious teaching as the basis of an education, but the Protestants of Ireland, and probably not one in twenty of the pupils trained in them belong to the Catholic Church. This is an unintended effect, but it seems likely to be permanent.

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"A MAN FISH."

CURIOUS AFFLICTION OF A TALL BACKWOODSMAN.

[From the Louisville Medical News.] A short time since the Tennessee and Kentucky newspapers contained a startling account of a wild man lately captured with great difficulty, in the Cumberland Mountains. He was six feet ten inches high, extraordinarily free of foot, and excessively savage. He fed chiefly on raw flesh, which he captured without artificial aid. He spent much of his time in the water, and after being captured he had to be frequently bathed.

He was covered with shining scales, like those of a fish. His hands and feet were webbed like the feet of water-fowls—so the newspaper accounts, with many embellishments, ran. It is scarcely necessary to say that much of this story was only showman's talk, and that to attract the attention of the curious and credulous public.

The physicians of Louisville were invited to visit the monster upon his arrival in the city prior to his general exhibition. Among others I visited the merman, but before seeing the case I had diagnosed it as one of

ichthyosis, and a single glance was sufficient to verify the correctness of my conjecture. The man fish presents a most magnificent example of the form of ichthyosis or fish skin disease, called ichthyosis serpentina or serpent skin and his general effect is more that of a serpent than that of a fish. But upon different parts of his body may be found nearly all the varieties of ichthyosis. The resemblance of this man's skin to the shed of a boa constrictor, lately brought me from the Zoological Garden in London, is almost perfect. About his joints the skin is loose and wrinkled; hanging in folds, and the scales are large, suggesting the skin of a lizard or alligator about their limbs and belly. His arms and legs remind one of the skin of the Buffalo perch, the carp, or other large fish. The cuticle everywhere is dry and harsh, and never perspires. There seems to be an absolute absence of oil, and the skin is shrunken and withered, of a dead ashen-gray appearance, except here and there, where he is brownish or blackish.

Though only about fifty years of age, he impresses one as a very old man. The skin of the face is red and shining, and tightly drawn about the cheeks, pulling the lower limbs down to such an extent as to perfectly evert them, making a horrible case of ectropion. In some places his scales are silvery, in others dark, and again in other a rare small and branny. His hair is very thin and dead-looking. The back of his hands are fissured, and on his soles the cuticle is greatly thickened. The fingers and toes seem shorter than natural, and the skin was drawn tightly back over both feet and hands. The septum between the fingers and toes seem to extend much further down than usual, thus suggesting the webbed appearance before alluded to. He is considerably over six feet in height, and is a man of a low order of intelligence. He is married, and is the father of several children, none of whom, fortunately, inherit his malady; and as ichthyosis is almost, if not always, a congenital disease, they are not likely ever to have it. The fish-man fails to present but a single variety of ichthyosis, and that is the porcupine disease, as it is called. In this, spines, formed by hardened sebaceous material, protrude from the skin, closely packed together. Wilson states that he has observed them a quarter of an inch long. Willan reports having encountered them longer than an eighth of an inch. Many years ago two brothers, in England, having this form of ichthyosis, were exhibited in the shows as porcupine men.

Ichthyosis is one of the rarest of skin diseases. I am under the impression that it is more frequent in Europe than in this country. In ten years I have seen less than a dozen cases. Its cause, as I stated in my report to the American Dermatological Association, in 1877, is serofolia, according to my observation and experience. It is found in all the walks of life. I have encountered it with equal frequency among the rich and the poor. It is commonly considered incurable, and only temporarily and partially mitigable.

The treatment which I have found successful in permanently removing ichthyosis in more than one case, consists in the use of the compound, z. c. codliver oil, extract of malt, syrup of the iodide of iron, syrup of the hypophosphites, &c., attention to the digestive organs, and by giving the richest and best fat producing foods, such as cream, butter, hog meat fresh or cured, sugar and other sweets. A careful and thorough daily anointing with some oleaginous substance is of great value, and prolonged vapor or hot water baths should be employed frequently.

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