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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Notes and Articles, and for such only; but the editor is not to be understood as endorsing the sentiments expressed in the articles contributed to this journal. Our readers are capable of approving or disapproving of any part of an article or contents of the paper, and after exercising due care as to what is to appear in our columns, we shall leave the rest to their intelligent judgment.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The overflow population of Malaysia and India is apparently finding its way into South Africa, and is regarded by the people of that country as an invasion not at all to their taste. To our own colonies at the Cape and Natal the question seems to be a serious one, and it is suggested that public meetings be held and the governments urged to take prompt measures to prevent a further influx from Asia.

The Mormons are becoming quite a numerous rout in New Zealand, to judge from a Mormon convention recently held at Masterton, in the Wairarapa country. The report shows that they have a membership of 3,000, and they make their converts, or perverts, chiefly among the native Maoris. The publishing of this report should draw attention to the mischief being done, and some move should be made to head off these objectionable missionaries in their campaign against what is right.

It appears that the Toronto University will really be a gainer by the fire that recently destroyed its valuable library, as the most influential personages of Great Britain are interested in replacing the void thus created, and continental powers have been appealed to, and all have nobly responded. Individuals and literary societies are pouring in their contributions of rare and valuable books, and Her Majesty the Queen has tendered 400 volumes. The Toronto University is to be congratulated on the magnificent success that the appeal of its friends has met.

The idea that the electric light companies of New York were the chief instruments in influencing the New York State Legislature to pass a law abolishing capital punishment, because they were unwilling to have the killing properties of electricity demonstrated by electrocution, is too absurd to be credited. Every intelligent child in the country knows that electricity is deadly in its effect unless kept under control, and certainly the public have had demonstrated to them by the many fatal accidents from electric wires carrying powerful currents, that it is not to be fooled with. If the abolition of capital punishment cannot be ascribed to humanitarian motives, some more plausible story than this will have to be invented to account for it. The electric light companies cannot possibly think that people do not already know that electricity can kill.

Australian wines are growing in popularity in Great Britain as is shown by the greatly increased shipments. The Board of Trade returns recently issued show that the arrivals during the first four months of this year amounted to 127,833 gallons, against 111,577 gallons in the corresponding period of 1889. This year's imports were received by 37 consignees, but one firm alone took 97,507 gallons, or 75 1/2 per cent. of the whole. Large quantities are used for blending with continental wines.

In another column will be found a brief report of the Protestant Industrial School and its work in Halifax. There are few boys and still fewer men who have not been exposed to temptation, and everyone must realize that temptations such as city boys are subjected to are too often beyond resistance, and that to remove youths from such an environment is the as greatest good that can be conferred upon them. The first wrong acts are as frequently the result of ignorance and thoughtlessness as of wilfulness, and these schools reform, when punishment might harden and make reformation extremely doubtful.

From the State of Vermont comes a somewhat remarkable statement concerning the ecclesiastical condition of that portion of New England. Of the 198 congregational churches in that State, 49 are without a pastor. Thirty-five ministers supply two pulpits each. One half the population never hear a religious discourse from one year's end to another, and these are not the foreigners, for the priest looks after them very carefully, but native-born Yankees. The authority for this certainly startling statement is the Rev. C. H. Merrill in an address on the work of the Vermont Domestic Missionary Society, delivered at Johnsburg on May 11th. It should be added that the churchless parts of the State are almost entirely in the rural districts.

The Recorder quotes our well merited tribute to Premier Fielding's popularity, which appeared in the last issue of THE CRITIC, but with characteristic unfairness in its comments thereon lugs in the old story that the proprietors and managers are all Tory. Violent party organs of the Recorder type are fast disappearing before the enlightenment of the age, and their places are being taken by journals with independency enough to discuss all measures honestly and fairly. So how have party organs sunk in public opinion that it is generally conceded that in no way was Premier Fielding's great personal popularity more strikingly proved than in the fact that he carried his party to victory in spite of the unwholesome support of the Recorder.

The Committee of Ways and Means of the United States House of Representatives was recently engaged for two days in hearing arguments in support of a curious proposition from the Farmers' Alliance. The representatives of that body have seriously advocated a measure proposing that the Government shall erect warehouses and receive therein wheat, corn, oats, tobacco and cotton from the producers, and advance 80 per cent of the value thereof in cash. The chief argument in support of the scheme was that the articles specified were not and could not be benefited by any protective tariff which the United States could impose, that the producers of them had as much right to governmental assistance as the producers of articles that were benefited by the tariff, and that this was the only way in which such assistance could be given.

Science is constantly bringing forth from the region of the unknown new substances of benefit to the human race. Among recent discoveries in medical science are some new and powerful antiseptics. *Eucalyptia Globulus* is said to possess a very high germ killing power and at the same time has a refreshing pleasant odor. It takes but a small quantity of *Eucalyptia* to purify the atmosphere of a room. It also possesses valuable properties as a preventative of malarial fever. Pinol is a volatile oil distilled from the needles of the *Pinus pumilio*, found just below the line of perpetual snow on the Alps. It possesses the most powerful ozonizing properties of any of the turpentine oils and the odor is very pleasant. Salol is by many surgeons in Europe considered exceedingly valuable in the treatment of old burns and ulcers, but its greatest triumphs have been in the treatment of acute rheumatism, excelling all other remedies in its power to abate pain and lessen fever. A dentifrice is also made from salol, which is said to stop and prevent caries in teeth, and impart a delightful odor to the breath. Bartholow has great control over pain, especially in rheumatic and neuralgic cases. With all these new disease germ and pain destroyers, at hand the medical men of to day should find their work of lessening the sum of human suffering materially aided.