

NEWS SUMMARY.

COLONIAL.

Mr. Belilios, a bank director at Hong Kong, has given £1,000 for the erection of a statue to Lord Beaconsfield.

A young Hindoo was murdered recently at Mainpuri, and it has been discovered, says a Bombay source, that he was killed by some of his co-religionists as a sacrifice to the goddess Kali. It is to be hoped that an example will be made of the three men who have been captured and found to have been concerned in the crime, which will tend to deter others from committing such acts of barbarity in the future.

GREAT BRITAIN.

On the average it rains in Ireland 220 days in the year.

Gossips say the Duchess of Edinburgh smokes cigarettes.

The fund for the relief of impoverished shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank has reached £90,000.

Within the last year Queen Victoria has given \$25,000 to the temperance cause. Four members of the royal household are total abstainers.

Snow-storms of exceptional severity for this time of the year (Nov. 13) prevail in the north and northwest of England and throughout Scotland.

A young Irish girl, with the unromantic name of Cubbins, is now the admitted beauty of London. She is the daughter of a retired army officer.

Mr. S. C. Allsopp, M.P., one of the great brewers, has been advising the Licensed Victuallers of Birmingham to take steps to meet the large demand for non-intoxicating drinks by keeping them for sale at their bars.

The *Mirk Lane Express* remarks that the rainfall, though slight, has been sufficient to enable farmers to begin wheat-sowing on heavy lands. Scotch advices also continue favourable. Regarding the wheat trade it notes continued dullness, but says that in all probability values have touched their lowest point.

Snow fell in considerable quantities in several parts of North Staffordshire at the end of October, accompanied by a severe frost and intense cold. In the early part of the morning of the same day there was a violent storm, with very heavy rain, and almost a hurricane. A quantity of low land is under water. Snow is also reported from Scotland.

Some time ago a gentleman, whose name has not transpired, announced his intention to give one hundred pounds to each of the metropolitan parishes, to be expended on the purchase and planting of trees in the principal thoroughfares. The same person has made a similar offer to the Hornsey Local Board for the purpose of planting Highgate with trees, and at a meeting of that body the offer was accepted.

Mr. Yates, an eminent electrician from Liverpool, guarantees to light up the entire town and harbour of Queenstown, taking in Monkstown, Passage, Crosshaven, Whetgate, Aghada, Middleton, Carrigrohilly, &c., by four electric lights, for considerably under £5,000, including engine and every other requisite. The cost, he says, of each light will be fourpence per hour. A company is talked about to further this proposal.

With regard to the imprisoned directors of the City of Glasgow Bank, the prosecution will proceed on five principal counts—first, for publishing a false report; secondly, for issuing a false balance-sheet; thirdly, for paying a dividend when there was no profit; fourthly, for buying the bank's shares to keep up the price; and, next, for inviting persons to open accounts when the bank was insolvent. They are charged further with misappropriation of £30,000 discounted bills.

A correspondent of the *Railway Sheet* states that negotiations are going on amongst the associated railway companies for carrying out a universal system of prepaying the carriage on small parcels by adhesive stamps like letters. It is proposed that the carriage of parcels all over the kingdom should be vested in one parcels company, just as the delivery of letters is vested in the Postmaster-General. It is said that the economy in clerks and other expenses would be very great.

A Parliamentary paper just issued shows that pauperism is increasing and crime diminishing in England. There are one-and-a-half per cent. more paupers in the country now than there were last year, an increase wholly due to the depression of trade, as it is confined entirely to the north, the metropolis showing a decrease. In Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Southampton, Berks Counties pauperism has declined three per cent. during the past twelve months, but Chester and Lancashire show an increase of 9 per cent., Yorkshire 6½ per cent., the northern district 5½, and Wales 4. In regard to crime, it is shown that there were fewer sentences for penal servitude recorded than in any recent year, except 1873, and there were only 22 executions and 11 life sentences. In 1833, 981 persons were sentenced to death, though only 33 were executed, and 783 persons were transported for life.

UNITED STATES.

Victoria Woodhull likes London and proposes to remain there.

American anthracite coal is soon to be introduced into the Mediterranean markets by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Company.

In 1839 there were 12,897,638 sheep in the United States; in 1878, 34,740,500. It is estimated that there are in the world 484,000,000 of these animals.

Shelbyville, Indiana, was invaded by bees in such numbers that the inhabitants had to close their doors and windows for safety. "The little busy bee" of Dr. Watts is unpopular in Shelbyville.

Whether the body of A. T. Stewart has really been found is uncertain. That it will be discovered eventually is hardly doubtful, for a man who can command unlimited sums of money as Judge Hilton can, may achieve almost anything in such a matter.

The Postmaster-General, in his annual report just published, shows that there is a serious deficiency in his department, the receipts and the appropriation together falling short of the expenditure. He attributes much of this deficiency to the vast amount of free matter sent through the mails.

In Baltimore the horse car lines are required to give one cent of every fare taken by them for the maintenance of Druid Hall Park. The result is that the city has a handsome pleasure ground which costs the tax-payers very little directly, and to which every person in the city contributes something indirectly.

Recent developments have shown that robbery of graves in Ohio cemeteries is a business in which some men find very constant employment, and it would seem, indeed, as if it were conducted in some localities with such energy that a body is tolerably certain to be on its way to the medical college before the mourners get safely home from the funeral.

The will of one Lingeman, a German socialist, was filed in St. Louis last week. His estate is worth over \$12,000, and is bequeathed to the workmen of Europe and America who belong to the social democratic societies, as follows:—To Switzerland, France, Italy and Spain, one-sixth; to Germany, three-sixths; to Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Poland and Russia, one-sixth; to the United States, one-sixth. One or two direct heirs-at-law have already turned up to contest the will, on the ground that the testator was of unsound mind.

FOREIGN.

The population of Japan is 35,338,504, an increase of 126,391 since 1875.

During the late war, Russia was able for the first time to do without the aid of foreign surgeons.

There have been violent storms throughout Central Italy, and the damage caused by them is almost unparalleled.

The total Prussian deficit for the fiscal year 1878-79 will be 78,000,000 marks, of which 70,000,000 marks will be covered by a loan.

The French Exposition is ending in a gigantic lottery, with twelve million tickets, the prizes being valuable works of art which have been on exhibition.

Jean-James Fazy, ex-President of the Federal Council of the Swiss republic, died in Geneva last week at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He was an author as well as a statesman.

Official statistics of the trade of France for the first eight months of the present year show that the imports to the 31st ult. amounted to 2,838,151,000 francs, and the exports to 2,144,674,000 francs.

It is said the object of the Crown Prince of Sweden, who is now "touring" in Europe, is to secure the hand in marriage of the young Princess of Baden, who is a granddaughter of the Emperor of Germany.

The Japanese Government have agreed to grant a loan of \$1,500,000 for the purpose of working some of the coal fields which spread over an immense area in the island of Yezo. Recent surveys by geologists warrant the estimate that there is workable coal enough in that island alone to produce a yearly yield for a thousand years equal to that of all Great Britain.

The members of the Imperial family of Japan show a sincere desire to promote the industries of their country. The Empress takes great interest in silk-spinning, and not long ago the tea shrub growing in the garden of the Imperial Palace at Akasaka were picked in the presence of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager by one hundred girls, all of whom for the occasion were dressed alike in holiday clothes, and were regaled with cakes and tea at the close of their labours.

The insurrection in Macedonia is the event which is most probably destined to bring about the catastrophe that is impending in the East. It has been excited by a Russo-Servian, and the final expulsion of the Sultan and his Government. The programme is a simple one. Serbia is not satisfied with the amount of territory awarded by the Treaty of Berlin; Montenegro knows that she has not the faintest chance of obtaining her share of the spoil awarded by the same treaty without a sanguinary struggle with the Albanian league, numbering 100,000 men; Greece knows that her frontier will not be rectified unless she fights for it, and the Bulgarians of Roumelia know that if they desire to be annexed to Bulgaria they must join in the fray.

RELIGIOUS.

Berlin has 804,000 Protestants, for whom there are but thirty four churches and ninety-five ministers.

The number of churches and converts in Japan doubled in the past year. The opening there has few parallels in missionary history.

The Reformed Episcopal congregation of this city has purchased the church lately occupied by the First Baptist congregation, for \$25,000.

The pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Ningpo, China, is a native who has promised to provide for his salary without aid from the missionaries.

There are about 400,000 persons connected with the Christian churches in India, China and Japan, besides 200,000 children receiving a Christian education.

The Imperial Chancellery of Germany refuses to grant the petition of the Jewish *Gemeindefundi* that Jews may be exempted from exercising their duties as citizens, especially from serving on juries, on the Day of Atonement.

The London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews was founded in 1809, when it is said the most diligent search could only discover 35 Christian Hebrews in the whole of England. Since then more than 20,000 have embraced the faith and been baptized.

The "regulars" of the Episcopal Church are likely to think less than ever of the Lent. There will be a great deal of expressed horror at this newest departure from the old paths.

The Newfoundland Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada has recently established a mission among the people of the Labrador coast, who are comparatively destitute of religious privileges. The Sunday schools of St. Johns have guaranteed \$300 a year towards support.

A great pilgrimage from Spain is now in progress, the first detachment, consisting of nine hundred persons, having reached Civita Vecchia on its way to Rome. In consequence of the unsatisfactory sanitary condition of Madrid, the pilgrims were placed in quarantine for four days, at which the clerical journals are extremely indignant.

A Gospel Garden is, says the *Gardener's Magazine*, the latest religious novelty. It has been started by the Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, jr., at Seventh Avenue and Thirty-fourth street, New York, and consists of an apartment fitted up with a fountain, floral baskets, urns of plants, and whatever will give it an inviting appearance. To the ceiling are attached long linen fans, which are kept all the time in motion and supply a cool and refreshing atmosphere.

A Liberal Protestant movement is on foot in Germany, a conference having been held at Hildesheim early in October, at which sixty delegates from all parts of the empire were present. The National Hanoverian Consistory (orthodox Lutheran) refused to allow the conference a church for the opening service, which, therefore was held in a large hall. In the formulated statement of its views the conference declares that the creeds and confessions of the church are out of date and not obligatory standards for the faith of the present age; that Protestant Synods have no right to establish a compulsory confession; that the liberty of preaching is inviolable; that teachers are not to be subjected to ecclesiastical oversight; that schools and parishes should be placed on equal footing, and that congregations should have the unrestricted right of choosing their own minister.

ART, SCIENCE AND LITERATURE.

The Athens Archaeological Society is about to purchase the houses and huts built on the site of the Temple of Delphi, remove the inhabitants to a distance of half a league and begin researches and investigations.

Mr. Labouchere's paper, *Truth*, makes a fierce assault on those art students in London, both male and female, who study from the naked figure. *Truth* says that, of course, there are artists of either sex whose special lines are such that no objection can be raised to their study; but for the great majority of students this is entirely unnecessary.

The Auburn (N.Y.) *Advertiser* publishes a letter from a London correspondent who says that the wife of Charles Dickens and her sister, Miss Hogarth, are reconciled and both united in compiling a memoir of the novelist. George Cruikshank has informed the writer that the what he thought intermeddling with his own exclusive creations, until he insisted upon their living apart in the same house at Gad's Hill. This she declined to do, and at once took up her residence with Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank.

LAW, MEDICINE, &c.

There is reason to believe that the Corpus Professorship of Jurisprudence at Oxford, which Sir Henry Sumner Maine resigns at the end of this year, will be converted into a Professorship of Constitutional Law and Legal History.

Lord Hatherley, presiding over a meeting held at Ipswich in support of the Nurses' Home, spoke encouragingly of the good results effected by such institutions in preparing trained nurses for the service of the public. The race of "Gamp," he said, had entirely disappeared, and in its place was rising a class of nurses of which medical men could have no reason to complain.

A working man applied at the Hammersmith Police-court lately for a divorce from his wife, stating that he saw in the newspapers that the magistrate had power to grant it. The magistrate said there was great misconception as to the new Separation Act. He had power, on the application of the wife, to grant a separation from the husband, but he could do nothing for the latter. The man left the court greatly astonished.