

THE WORLD'S DEBT

A Marked Increase During the Past Twenty Years.

Only Four European Nations Reduce Their National Liabilities.

An Interesting Statement Regarding the Outlay for Interest by the Different Countries.

[Pall Mall Gazette.]

Whether it be a good or a bad thing for the nations, there is no room to doubt that the debts of the world are growing steadily. In 1875 it was computed that they stood at £4,750,000,000, as compared with a round £4,200,000,000 two years earlier.

Table with 2 columns: Country, 1875, 1895. Rows include France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Spain, Portugal, India, and Total.

In spite of the substantial reduction of the English, American, Spanish and German debts, there is a net increase for the fourteen nations in the twenty years of £848,000,000. It may be added that in 1885 these same twelve nations owed £4,140,000,000, made up thus: France, £998,000,000; Great Britain, £740,000,000; Italy, £455,000,000; Russia, £381,000,000; United States, £379,000,000; Spain, £270,000,000; India, £127,000,000; Turkey, £127,000,000; Australasia, £98,000,000; and Portugal, £88,000,000.

Advertisement for Hood's Pills, describing constipation and the benefits of the pills.

is no more than 1s. 9d. per head. In Uruguay, on the other hand, it runs to as much as £1 2s. 6d. per head.

Can any one say off hand what is the aggregate debt of all the English possessions in all parts of the globe? We will give the total—it is £1,097,166,600.

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

Enthusiasm Among American Women for Lectures a Feature of the Lenten Season.

Some Recent Conversions to Catholicity—Notes on New Books—The Flood of Cheap Literature.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

PHILADELPHIA, March 29, 1897.—The news that the Rev. Basil Maturin has left the Episcopal church, and been received into the Catholic Church, has more significance for Philadelphia than elsewhere.

Another conversion—of a totally different order—has also just been made known to us.

THE WIFE OF THE PRIEST GERDEMANN, the partner in the terrible scandal that sorely mistaken man aroused more than a quarter of a century ago, has just died and died a Catholic.

There is an immense amount of lecturing going on as Lenten diversion. A great many women are turning to some account.

THE GIFT OF SPEECH for which the sex has long been remarkable. One thing may be learned from this procedure—that women are as good listeners as speakers.

The sum paid annually as interest on the world's debts approximates to £230,000,000. Twenty years ago the total was about £200,000,000, and the increase of only £30,000,000 with a capital addition of more than £1,000,000,000 is explained by the fact that money now is cheaper, provided credits are good, than it was in 1875.

Have you seen "Immortelles" of Catholic Columbia Literature? But, of course, you have. It has been out

sometimes, but it is such a varied and voluminous collection that it takes some time to form an idea of its merits.

"AMERICAN CATHOLIC WOMEN WRITERS," it certainly adds many to the list of whom their compatriots have hitherto been ignorant.

There is one slight inaccuracy, or, rather, one innocent mistake that would be better corrected. The opening paragraphs of the "Introduction" are Miss Eleanor C. Donnelly's, and with her name annexed, the impression and effect produced would be more forcible than it is with the name of the "Home Journal and News," of Yonkers, N.Y., from which it was selected—and from which, by the way, you can always make excellent selections in the best taste.

THERE IS A PERFECT AVALANCHE OF CHEAP BOOKS

let loose upon us now. We can fill our bookshelves with the best work of the past—and there is nothing better—at about twenty cents a volume. But we cannot get any Catholic books at such a price, of course. Now, there is no one to blame for this! It simply cannot be done, and indeed, it does seem impossible that anyone can do it honestly and fairly.

SARA TRAINER SMITH.

DEATH OF SISTER MARY CHARLES BORROMEO.

At the Convent of Mercy, Hogsansburg, N. Y., Saturday, March 20, 1897, of la grippe, Sister Mary Charles Borromeo, formerly Nellie J. Long, of West Conshohocken, N. Y., aged 24 years.

Rest, Daughter of Heaven, No more are you bound To a world you had turned from As fruitless to win.

So sweet was the call From eternity's space, Thy soul fain would leave Life's path yet untrod; So sweet was the call, So pure was the grace, That bursting its fetters, It soared to its God.

Yes, rest, holy sister, Thy mission is o'er, O how humbly you've toiled In love and in fear, 'Till Jesus, at last, Raised the cross that you bore, And clasped to His bosom Our sister, so dear.

Farewell—a long farewell, O loved and holy nun. The grief that throbbeth Thro' breaking hearts is o'er. You've sacrificed your loved, Your life—and won. 'Twas all you had, Our Saviour asks no more.

Request in pace.

METHODISTS MISSIONS.

The Evangelization of French Canadians Considered an Imperative Duty—Its Financial Features.

The Toronto Evening News, under the caption, "A Useless Effort," deals with the missionary enterprise of the Methodists in their endeavor to evangelize the French-Canadians in the following article:—

The missionary effort of the Methodist Church of Canada is an enterprise that every Christian must feel warmly toward. The laity contribute largely of their means, and the clergy give their lives to the work in strange lands and under difficult conditions, a combination that must excite admiration so long as generosity and self-sacrifice are appreciated by mankind.

The facility of the French work is apparent from the place accorded it in the distribution of the mission funds. But 8 cents and 7 mills of the funds is given to that work. It is not an admission of the hopelessness of the work it looks strongly like it.

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ADVERTISEMENTS. JACKETS AND CAPES For Spring Wear.

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DRESDEN ORGANDIE MUSLINS, all the newest patterns and pretty colors.

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in the following colors: BLACK, WHITE, CREAM, SKY, YELLOW, HELIOTROPE, PINK, NILE, ROSE, GREY, NAVY, CANARY and ASSORTED STRIPES.

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FANCY WHITE MUSLINS. An endless variety of new patterns to select from in Spots, Plain and Lace Stripes, and Fancy Patterns.

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TERMS, CASH

year. It looks very much as if the field is occupied out of deference to a section of the contributors.

There are 29,000 Indians in the Dominion who do not believe in the Christian religion. That is a more promising field than the two millions in Quebec who do believe in Christ and whose sincerity has never been questioned.

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SHE'S WELL EDUCATED.

A WOMAN WHO HAS LEARNED ENTIRELY BY CAREFUL LISTENING.

The wonderful development of certain faculties in the cases of persons who have lost the use of some of their natural functions, or of others whose faculties have not been fully developed, has long been a matter of remark.

An illustration of this is given by a woman in Brooklyn who never has learned to read or write. In no way could one discover this except by her own admission or by putting her to a direct test.

When this woman was a child, her parents lived far from schools, so she had no chance then to learn to read or write. As a mere child she began to earn her own living, and again the chance for schooling slipped away.

What such a memory can do is well illustrated in the case of a tailor of this city who cannot read or write. He is probably the most widely known man in his business here, as for many years he has done business with New York's firemen and policemen.

and policemen he never was known to make a mistake of a cent in any man's account, although all his records of transactions have been kept in his head.—New York Sun.

MARKET REPORT.

THE PROVISION MARKET.

Business in local provisions is of fair value, especially in smoked meats, which is no doubt due to the near approach of Easter, and prices rule steady.

The tone of the Chicago provision market was firmer, and prices improved 2½c all round.

CHEESE SALES. There are reports of further quiet of fodder make at 9½c, but the offerings so far have been unappreciable.

Butter continues quiet and steady, fresh receipts of creamery fetching 20½c to 21c, while held creamery is an extremely slow sale at 18c to 19c.

There was a fair demand for small lots of eggs to-day, and the market was moderately active and about steady at 10½c for fresh laid stock.

The receipts of new maple syrup were larger, for which the demand was fair at 55c to 60c per small tin, and at 5c to 5½c per lb. in wood.

The demand for beans was slow and the market is dull at 55c to 60c in car lots, and 65c to 70c in a jobbing way.

There was no change in potatoes, car lots being offered at 35c to 40c per bag, and small lots at 45 to 50c.

RETAIL MARKET PRICES.

Owing to the fine and warmer weather the gathering of buyers at Bonsecours market today was larger than it has been on a Tuesday for some time past.

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VEGETABLES.

Table of vegetable prices: Parsley, per dozen; Cabbage, per dozen; Carrots, per basket; Turnips, per bag; Beets, per basket; Potatoes, per bag; Cauliflowers, per dozen; Celery, per dozen; Leeks, per bunch; Onions, per basket; Parsnips, per basket; Rhubarb, per dozen; Artichokes, per doz; Lettuce, per dozen; Radishes, per dozen; Oyster plant, per dozen; Spinach, per peck; Tomatoes, per basket.

FRUIT.

Table of fruit prices: Lemons, per dozen; Apples, per barrel; Oranges, per dozen; Cranberries, per barrel; Cranberries, per gallon; Bananas, per dozen; Almeria grapes, per keg; Catawba grapes, per basket.

GAME.

Table of game prices: Red head ducks, per pair; Canvas back ducks, per pair; Prairie hens, white, per pair; Wild geese, each; Spring chickens, per pair; Black duck, per pair; Blue-bill duck, per pair; Teal duck, per pair; Mallard ducks; Plover, per dozen; Quails, per dozen; Snowbirds, per dozen.

POULTRY.

Table of poultry prices: Large spring chickens, per pair; Small chickens; Fowls, per pair; Turkey hens; Geese, each; Ducks, per pair; Cock turkeys, each; Pigeons, per pair; Squabs, per pair.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Table of dairy prices: Print butter, choice, per lb.; Creamery; Good dairy butter; Milk cheese; Strong cheese; Eggs, strictly new laid; Case eggs; Honey, per lb.; Maple sugar, per lb.; Maple syrup.

MEATS.

Table of meat prices: Beef, choice, per lb.; "common"; Mutton, per lb.; Lamb, per lb.; Veal, per lb.; Pork, per lb.; Ham, per lb.; Lard, per lb.; Sausages, per lb.; Bacon, per lb.; Dressed hogs, per 100 lbs.

FISH.

Table of fish prices: Pike, per lb.; Haddock, per lb.; Bullheads, per lb.; Whitefish, per lb.; Cod, per lb.; Dore; Halibut, per lb.; Trout, per lb.; Smelts, per lb.; Mackerel, each; Finnan haddies, per lb.; Fresh salmon, per lb.; Black bass, per lb.; Sturgeon, per lb.

Live Stock Markets.

LONDON, March 29.—There was a firm feeling in the market for cattle and prices were fully maintained.

MONTREAL, March 29.—Since our last there has been no important change in local live stock export circles.

At the East End abattoir market the offerings of live stock were 400 cattle, 75 sheep, 75 lambs and 100 calves.

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At Drugists & Fancy Grocers. Avoid substitutes. LAWRENCE A. WILSON & Co., Montreal. SOLE AGENTS FOR CANADA.