

A new monthly journal of Religion, Patriotism, Science and Literature has made its appearance with the new year. It is called *Canada*, and is edited by Matthew Ritchie Knight at Benton, New Brunswick.

It is stated that the German Government refuses to undertake the manufacture of Dr. Koch's lymph, and that in consequence of this the doctor is obliged to give all his time to preparing it. The investigations which the distinguished man was making into the nature of the diphtheria microbe have on this account to be abandoned for the present, which is unfortunate. It is a pity to retard progress in any such way, and although the German Government has doubtless good reasons for its action or inaction in this matter, it seems from our distant point of view as if something might be done to relieve Dr. Koch of the work of preparing his lymph and give him time for further research. That medical science is making greater progress just now than at any other time since Esculapius, is beginning to dawn upon the world. The principal aid to this advancement is the microscope, one of those magic glasses which the inventor has brought to the assistance of the medical scientist.

Mr. Sanders' report as to the egg trade with Great Britain is that the market is almost unlimited, and Liverpool is the best distributing point for them as well as poultry. Nearly all the eggs placed on the British market from European countries were packed in long straw, usually bright and clean, but in a few instances not so. Mr. Sanders' own opinion is in favor of packing in clean cut straw, and he intends using it in future shipments. The eggs should be packed in cases large enough to contain 12 long hundreds—that is 120 dozen. This size of packages necessitates their being handled by two men, and the experience of European shippers shows that there is much smaller percentage of breakage than if packed in cases that can be handled by one man. These cases should have a central divisional board, so that they may be sawn in two when required for the retail trade. The usual commission for selling is five per cent, although some houses are willing to sell for three per cent.

That little spot of European territory, the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, with its area of nine hundred and ninety nine square miles, is a point where some of the most explosive elements of European politics are stored. It lies just east of Belgium, and north of Alsace Lorraine. Germany wants it, and France wants it. Either will fight rather than let the other take it. The Franco-Prussian war of 1870 was almost precipitated in 1867, because Prussia refused to allow France to purchase the Grand Duchy from the King of Holland, and also refused to withdraw her own troops from the capital. This latter step, however, Prussia at last consented to take, and war was averted for three years longer. The Grand Duchy was held by the throne of Holland until the death of the late king, but owing to the Salic law being in force there, Luxemburg has now become a separate State under the Sovereignty of the Duke of Nassau, and both nations are gazing with veiled desire upon the little State, which sits quietly enough, as it were, between His Satanic Majesty and the deep sea.

We are apt to think of Mohammedanism as a dying religion, just as Turkey seems to be, and probably is, a dying power in Europe; but from a various quarters come reports that would indicate the near approach of a Mohammedan revival. Proselytizing and the sword are the very life of the creed of Islam, and if it be true that the creed of Islam is doomed, as a faith that is not in harmony with modern civilization, we may expect the expiring flicker to be something very like a conflagration. The Mohammedan population move easily and unitedly when once fired with a religious impulse. Their fatalism and fanaticism, combined with their undoubted fighting prowess, might enable them to make sad work of the calculations of European statesmen. It is not possible Mohammedanism can ever again reduce European affairs to the chaos of the ninth and fifteenth centuries. But when we consider that the Indian mutiny of 1857, the Syrian massacres of 1860, and the Soudan wars of our own day, all trace their origin to Moslem influence, we begin to realize the immunity of the forces that are smouldering in the one hundred and eighty millions of Mahommedan hearts. It is worthy of note that in Constantinople, where the rulers are awaking to a sense that the Koran and the Crescent rise and fall together, they are placing new and severe restrictions on missionary work, and inaugurating public schools, and even girls' schools, for the grounding of Mohammedan youth in the proper combination of Islam and patriotism. At the same time, veritable "revivals" are being held by ecstatic dervishes in all the chief cities of Turkey. When the torch of religious zeal is relighted in Islam, it is safe to predict that the flames will run far.

*Commercial Bulletin* No. 2 from the Department of Finance gives the results of the inquiries instituted by the Canadian Government into the prospects of an egg and poultry trade between Canada and Great Britain. Mr. John Sanders, who was sent to England to find out about the business, reported that after a thorough and careful inquiry he has come to the conclusion that a large and profitable trade in poultry can be established and carried on between Canada and England. We have not space to give the report entire, but he states that Messrs. Nelson & Sons, of Liverpool, who have nearly 500 licensed meat stalls in connection with their business in various parts of England, besides a very extensive refrigerator store in Liverpool, offered to take all Canadian goods that may be shipped to them, and place them upon the market at the usual trade commission of 5 per cent, and they also offered—and this is a privilege of importance—to give Canadian shippers free of charge the use of their cold storage (which is capable of accommodating the whole Canadian product) for the safe-keep-

ing of any goods that might not be sold immediately upon arrival, in consequence of dull markets, unfavorable weather, or any other circumstance. This firm has not hitherto been in the poultry trade, and consequently has no trade prejudices to overcome. The directions for preparing poultry for market in England are as follows:—Both turkeys and geese must, before being killed, be starved 24 hours, or at least until the crop is entirely empty. Turkeys should be bled in the neck, and the head and feathers left on and entrails undrawn. Geese should be bled in the same manner, but the feathers should be picked off, excepting those on the wings, leaving the down on the body and the entrails in. Geese must not be scalded, but simply rough plucked. All poultry should be killed the day before delivery to the Canadian purchaser, so that the animal heat may be completely gone. Fowls should be packed in cases, each of which should contain not more than 200 pounds weight, say eighteen or twenty fowls. Each package should be marked with the number of birds, the weight of the package, and whether it contains cocks or hens.

A portion of the Report on Sanitary Measures in India in 1888-9 relates the progress which has been made in the education of natives of India as members of the medical profession; and it is especially gratifying to learn that a considerable number of native women have been among the successful students. Perhaps no greater blessing has been derived by India from the British Raj than this of female medical education. The native women, both Hindu and Mohometan, shut up in zenanas as they are, where no male stranger is ever allowed, had, in cases of sickness, previous to the advent of the lady doctors, to rely entirely upon the crude notions of the women of the harem. How crude these notions are likely to be we may judge from the ideas of the white-witches of England or from those of the later "ould women" of Ireland, among whom a favorite remedy for fever was to place the patient with his head down towards a blazing turf fire, at the same time giving him copious libations of whiskey to drive the "coul" from his heart. Although it is more than probable that the chief medical teachers of Indian women must for some time be derived from Great Britain, yet it is none the less pleasing that the great national want which Lady Dufferein labored so hard to supply, should now be in course of being supplied by the Hindu and Mohammedan women themselves. At the close of the session of 1888-9 there were twenty-four female students (out of 227) at the Calcutta Medical School, fourteen at the Campbell Medical School, and five at the Cuttack Medical School. At Agra, during the year, seven girls received their diplomas and licenses to practice, and the examination lists showed that the female students obtained quite as good marks as the young men. At the Lahore Medical College there were nineteen female students out of 254. At the Madras Medical College there were thirty-nine female students out of 344, and one of the former proceeded to the degree of M. B., being the first lady who has taken that degree at the Madras University. There were also female students at the Grant Medical College of Bombay, and at the Government Medical Schools at Poonah, Ahmedabad, and Hyderabad. The impulse which has been given to female medical education is therefore widely extended, and it is to be hoped that the entrance of medical science into the zenana will, before long, pave the way for social reforms of the first importance.

General Booth's scheme for the relief and ultimate salvation of the "submerged tenth" of "Darkest England" has come in for unqualified condemnation from Professor Huxley. This gentleman recently set forth his objections to it in the *Times*, where Mr. C. S. Lock, Secretary of the Charity Organization Society, also let loose the dogs of war on the scheme. Professor Huxley, as might be supposed, turns his forces on the religious aspect of the proposed method of raising the debased classes. He scorns "Corybantic Christianity" more probably than any other variety, and consequently as General Booth's scheme naturally leads up to that form of religion in which he himself believes Professor Huxley directs his opposition in that direction. Those among us who do not think with Professor Huxley would be glad to see the results General Booth is striving for, even if "Corybantic Christianity" should accompany and flow from them. As for John Lock, he tries to knock the bottom out of the whole affair. He complains that Mr. Booth withholds nearly all the data required to form a judgment upon his scheme. It is (he says in effect) a prospectus without any figures. But, passing over that point, he shows that the scheme is so far consistent in itself that, if any one part is destroyed, the whole is made valueless. Now, the scheme has three parts. (1) The Shelter and City Colony or Workshop. (2) The Farm Colony. (3) The Colony Oversea. His attack is chiefly directed against No. 1, and he urges that if you admit all comers without any test, and give paid work, which is not deterrent, you will have to provide for an unlimited number of applicants. Nay, more, that you will manufacture your paupers. The man who gets good wages, as a house-painter, say, throughout five months, will spend his money as he earns it, because he will know that a tolerable refuge is waiting for him in the winter. He will avail himself of No. 1 without intending to pass on to No. 2, or No. 3. Mr. Lock adds that there are already as many shelters as are wanted, though they would do more good (or less harm) if the different bodies which support them would work in concert instead of in a separation which is almost competition. And as to No. 3, the over-sea colony, it is pretty clear that for persons fit to emigrate there are facilities already provided. Mr. Lock's criticism is by far the more deadly of the two, but as the scheme has received not only the approbation of many men of wisdom and insight, but has moved them to contribute largely towards the funds, it is by no means likely that it will suffer defeat from this cause. It is, at any rate, a better worked out plan for alleviation than any that has so far appeared.