

San Bernardino, Cal., keeps clear of tramps by holding the vagabonds under a waterspout for thirty minutes, giving them a severe cold-water bath, and ordering them to leave the town. They do not lose any time in obeying.

While workmen were opening a road up the side of Pigeon Mountain in Georgia they found beneath a large flat rock an iron pot containing \$2,000 in specie. It is supposed that the money was hidden during the rebellion.

The Philadelphia *Record* says that the youngsters having been prohibited from smoking cigarettes have taken to pipes, there being no restriction upon the sale of tobacco or cigars to young lads, and already boys may be seen in by-streets and secluded corners triumphantly pulling away at long clays and laughing at the shortcoming of the law.

Sir Julian Pauncefote takes back with him, it is reported, a rough draft of an agreement between Great Britain and this country covering the Canadian and Behring Sea questions, which, if consummated, will settle them for some time to come. It is the result of his conference with Secretary Blaine, and will be submitted to Lord Salisbury for suggestions.

During the past two years people have at various times claimed to have seen a sea serpent on Lake Winnebago, Wis., it is found that there was some ground for the story told. While two boys were spearing frogs near the lake, they saw the monster in a shallow pool. Assistance was summoned and a sea lion 11 feet long was captured. It escaped from a circus there four years ago and the fact had been forgotten.

The first trial of an Indian by a jury of red men took place recently at Red Lake Falls, Minn. Big Bird had killed another Indian and contended that it was accidental. The government agent empanelled a jury of six Indians who, after an investigation of twenty-four hours, decided that the killing was not accidental. The government agent said he never saw a better jury than the one which considered this case.

An exciting scene was lately witnessed at an animal store in New York. A boa-constrictor 20 feet long escaped from his box and, having seized a monkey chained in the yard, crushed it after the manner of constrictors, and at once proceeded to swallow it. The poor beast could not be rescued, so the snake was allowed to complete his meal, after which he was easily captured. The sight though interesting was of course horrible.

The first arbor day was observed in Nebraska 17 years ago, when 12,000,000 trees were planted. There are now growing in the state 605,000,000 trees. In other states many millions of trees have been planted, and at the present time 34 states observe an arbor day. A hundred thousand acres of valueless dunes on the Bay of Biscay were planted with trees by Bremondier, which now yield France an annual income of 130,000 francs.

An association has been organized in Boston to construct a steel air ship on the vacuum principle. It is to be of thin steel plates of the strongest tensile strength, braced inside to resist the pressure of the atmosphere with a partial vacuum. It is expected to lift 200 passengers and 50 tons of mail or other matter, and also carry apparatus with electrical power sufficient to give the ship a speed of 70 miles an hour. A national subscription is being made to secure the necessary funds, \$250,000.

Andrew Lang and Rider Haggard are writing a work of imagination together.

Eighteen Russian army officers are now engaged in inspecting the Servian fortresses.

Sixty Russian engineers are surveying the Austrian frontier in the vicinity of Woloczysk.

An imposing monument to the late Emperor Frederick was unveiled yesterday at Braunfels.

The French Government has given a final refusal to assent to the Egyptian conversion scheme.

The issue of Panama Canal bonds to the amount of 8,925,000 francs, at 105, has been fixed for July 27th.

Grand Duke Constantine, uncle of the Czar, has suffered a stroke of paralysis. He has lost the power of speech.

Lord Wolseley has entered upon his 56th year, having been born June 4th, 1833. He entered the army March 12th, 1852.

The only places where women possess the same privileges of voting as men are Iceland, Pitcairn Island and the Isle of Man.

The Earldom of Fife has been raised to a Dukedom in favor of the prospective husband of the Princess Louise of Wales.

Queen Margaret of Italy is a mountain climber, and Queen Christina is a balloonist, having made an ascension a few days ago.

The Government have forbidden any demonstrations calculated to encourage the Pope to come to Spain in the event of his leaving Rome.

The marriage of Princess Sophia, sister of Emperor William, and the Duke of Sparta, Crown Prince of Greece, will take place October 15.

A number of Bishops and others have petitioned the Vatican to canonize Christopher Columbus on the anniversary of the discovery of America.

It is reported that the Empress Augusta Victoria has become converted to the Roman Catholic Church, and has made a profession of her faith.

Gilbert and Sullivan are popularly known in London as "The Cynic and The Knight." Their new opera will not be ready until next winter.

There is so much jealousy between Hindoos and Mahomedans in India that it is said a religious war would break out if British control were withdrawn.

The Ontario Boundary Bill, confirming the agreement, passed all its stages in the House of Lords unopposed. No opposition is probable in the Commons.

A new wedding anthem, "O Perfect Love," has been composed by Mr. Joseph Barnaby for the marriage of the Princess Louise of Wales and the Earl of Fife.

Charitable people in London have raised \$4,500 with which to pay the first cost and maintain for a year an ambulance system modelled after that of New York.

Mr. Gladstone considers yew the most difficult tree to fell; next comes beech and ash. Oak though very hard, fells well; but the easiest of all is Spanish chestnut.

The British Government has given to the widow of Professor R. A. Procter a pension of £100 per year, in consideration of the services rendered to the cause of science by him.

The Lifeboat Institution of Great Britain, has a fleet of nearly 300 boats, but as there are about 6,700 miles of coast in the United Kingdom to guard the number is none too large.

Bands of Cretan insurgents have seized the towns of Vomoc and Cidonia. They have expelled the authorities and burned the archives. A number of Turkish peasants have fled.

The number of wolves in European Russia is estimated to be about 175,000. These wolves destroy annually 180,000 head of cattle, 560,000 sheep, 100,000 dogs, besides 150 human beings.

The *Reforma* says:—"If the Pope, in the event of his departure from Italy, should contemplate returning in arms back to temporal power, he would find himself confronted with insuperable obstacles.

The National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, Scotland, was opened last week by the Marquis of Lothian. Mr. Findley, the proprietor of the *Scotsman* newspaper, has contributed \$250,000 towards it.

Four hundred houses and public buildings were destroyed by fire in the town of Paris to-day. Many children are reported to be missing. Hundreds of people are rendered homeless and the greatest distress prevails.

England has over \$1,000,000 invested in the manufacture of idols for heathen countries, and yet the churches of that country are continually calling for more money and more missionaries to suppress idolatry.

Reports from England to hand by last mail, indicate high prices for apples this fall—the unprecedented cheapness and abundance of last year's supply having increased the demand for all classes of American fruit.

It appears that Mr. Gladstone's ancestors were pirates. In 1665 Halbert Gladstone, a merchant in Edinburgh, was a member of the crew on board the *George*, which sailed from Glasgow to prey on the Dutch merchantmen.

The Government has accepted a proposal by Mr. John Morley, that an increased allowance to the Prince of Wales, enabling him to provide marriage portions for his children, be substituted for the proposed special grants.

The greatest passenger terminus in London, Liverpool Street, is to be enlarged, at a cost for land alone of \$3,250,000. The extension will enable the number of trains to be increased from the present figures, 700, to 1,000 daily.

The jury in the case of Mr. Wm. O'Brien against Lord Salisbury for damages for slander, returned a verdict in favor of Lord Salisbury. It is said there will be an application for a new trial on the ground of misdirection of the jury.

Work on the Nicaragua Canal is progressing favorably, both Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans warmly favor the pushing forward of the work of the construction, and the little misunderstanding between the two Republics over the canal is likely to be amicably settled.

Lady Dorothy Nevill, Miss Balfour, Mrs. General Booth, Mrs. Thackeray, Miss Amelia B. Edwards and Miss Olive Schreiner are among the signers of the reply in the *Fortnightly Review* to the women's appeal against woman suffrage which appeared in the last *Nineteenth Century*.

The question of the grant to the Princess Louise of Wales has produced a disruption in the opposition ranks, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Wm. Harcourt and Mr. Parnell having decided to support the Government. There may be much significance in this action, especially Mr. Parnell's.

The freedom of the city of Edinburgh has been conferred upon Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell said that the Irish people would accept the tribute as another proof of the near triumph of their legitimate aspirations for freedom. Referring to the special Commission, Mr. Parnell said if he had known it would block any enquiry into the Piggott conspiracy he would never have entered the court.

The Canadian Wimbledon team has been most successful this year. Besides getting the custody of the Kolapore Cup for the year, they have captured the London Corporation Cup, value \$155, and have gained a number of money prizes too numerous to mention, including the prize of \$400 annually offered to the highest colonial team. Canada has never been beaten except by the Mother Country teams.

The British House of Commons Colonization Committee met for the first time last Friday. The under Scotch secretary testified to the progress of the Crofters in the North-west and urged an extension of the limit of the mortgage on homesteads beyond \$600. This is not sufficient to emigrate and settle on for the general run of emigrants. Sir Charles Tupper is to be examined shortly. Stress will probably be laid on the proposal to extend the \$600 limit.