

LITERARY NOTES.

THE CUSTOM of wearing trousers buttoned tightly at the top and sustained by the hips, produced so much disease among the soldiers of the Russian army, that an order has been issued making the wearing of suspenders compulsory.

IT IS SAID that Milwaukee, which was one of the first cities to dispose of garbage by cremation, is about to abandon that custom in favor of desiccation. The garbage is passed through a series of drying chambers for ten hours. The oily matter is pressed out, and the resulting dry brown powder is said to possess value as manure.

TOBACCO is to be shut out at the Chambersburg (Penn) Academy. No boy will be admitted who uses it in any way. Boarding and day pupils will be treated alike. The ground taken is that tobacco produces baneful effects on the mind and health of students.

TORONTO GREAT EXHIBITION promises to be this year, Sept 9th to 21st, as usual, better than the previous year or ever before. The indefatigable secretary has been to New York seeking and getting new attractions. The sum of \$20,000 is to be spent on increased accommodations. It will afford an excellent place and occasion for a vacation or a holiday for medical practitioners, and any other hard workers, and their families.

LIFE INSURANCE is what everybody with any one depending upon them should never under any circumstances neglect. The Independent Order of Foresters offer a most excellent and safe insurance to the extent of \$3,000, with special endowment benefit, if desired. For those few who prefer not to join a society, the Canadian Mutual Aid Association of Toronto, established now many years, we consider quite as safe as any stock company, and at less than half the cost, as the "managing" process in the stock companies consumes such a large proportion of the insurer's money.

THE abatement of ordinary nuisances was in times past regarded as the chief duty of the health officer. Now this is but a comparatively small part of his duty. But the abatement of nuisances may have very little to do with the prevention of diphtheria or scarlet fever, while it is certain that isolation and disinfection of infected persons and things will save lives.

FROM the experience of the health officers in Michigan during the years 1886 and 1887, it has been demonstrated that at least 86 per cent. of the cases of sickness and 78 per cent. of the deaths from diphtheria are prevented by those who secure, after the first case has occurred, complete and thorough isolation and disinfection, such as an efficient health officer can secure when his people co-operate with him for that purpose.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (Potter Building, N. Y.) within the last month has given the following: A double page portrait of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and also of the Earl of Fife and Princess Louise of Wales; Double page illustrations of "Hawarden Castle, the seat of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone; Portraits of some of the "Remarkable Persons concerned in the French Revolution of 1789;" "A Good Catch," picture by F. Dvorak; "The Feast of Roses at the Royal Botanic Societies Gardens, Regents Park" "Cherry picking for the London Market; and a Water Tournament in the Fifteenth Century," all full page Sketches of Bear Shooting in Kashmir. "Afternoon, in Hyde Park, waiting for the Princess."

"BLIND LOVE," by WILKIE COLLINS, now being published in the Illustrated London News, promises to be a highly interesting story. It appears somewhat as if the Mrs. Vimpany of the story is going to develop into a second "Count Fosco," of the feminine gender.

THE CENTURY for August is a genuine mid-summer number with its opening article on "The Stream of Pleasure—the River Thames," by the Pennells,—husband and wife—who have written about and minutely pictured that gay and thronged resort of boats and boaters. Little and big, there are twenty pictures in this article alone. Mrs. Foote's "Afternoon at a Ranch" has also a midsummer air. Cable gives the true and extraordinary history of "The Haunted House" in Royal Street, New Orleans. The frontispiece of this number of the Magazine is a portrait of Alfred Tennyson.

A GOOD STORY to read, when the thermometer is high, is "Midsummer Pirates," by H Davis, with fine pictures by Drake, a breezy story of sharp yacht-racing, in St. Nicholas for August. Another with a more distinctly marine flavor is "A Mutiny on a Gold-Ship," with strong illustrations by John Steeple Davis. Those who care for good dialect stories will greatly enjoy "The Shag Back Panther."

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY for August possesses as usual many attractions, from which we propose giving extracts in our next issue, too, as we do in this one.

WOMAN (to tramp)—"I kin give ye some cold buckwheat cakes an' a piece o' mince-pie."
TRAMP (frightened)—"Wha-what's that?"
W.—"Cold buckwheat cakes an' mince pie!"
T. (heroically)—"Throw in a small bottle of pepsin, madam, and I'll take the chances."