

The parson-publican appears to be an accomplished fact. The Rector of Hampton Lucy, England, actually does (says the *Daily Chronicle*) own and manage a public house, with the best possible results. He sells only the purest beers, and assigns the profits to local charities. Drunkenness is quite stamped out in the Parish, and the charities benefit to the extent of \$150 a year.

The appointment of Sir George Baden-Powell, M. P., as one of the representatives on the Bering Sea arbitration will meet with hearty approval in Canada. He is one of the foremost advocates of Imperial unity in Great Britain, has visited and studied the institutions and resources of Canada, and by voice and pen has supported and promoted whatever tended to strengthen and advance Colonial and Imperial interests. He will prove the right man in the right place, and with his colleague, Mr. Dawson, will allow no unfair advantage to be taken by his shrewd opponents.

The prize list of the N. S. Provincial Exhibition has been issued, and may be obtained at the office of the commissioners, in the Provincial Building. The exhibition is to be held in the Exhibition Buildings of this city from September 29th until October 2nd. \$12,000 will be distributed as prize money. Entries for live stock, dairy produce, ladies' work, fine arts, and all classes of manufacture, close before August 29, while those for agricultural products may be made any time before September 19th. Intending exhibitors will find full information in the pamphlet.

Crows are commonly said to live for one hundred years, and turtles are reported to have even longer life; but if the late Professor Baird be right, the greatest amount of longevity is possessed by fishes. Professor Baird once said that as a fish has no maturity, there is nothing to prevent it living indefinitely and growing continually. He cited, in proof, a pike in Russia whose age is known to date back to the fifteenth century. In the Royal Aquarium at Saint Petersburg there are hundreds of fish that were put in over a hundred and fifty years ago. It is said by scientists that fishes and mollusks living at a depth of more than three miles under water have to bear pressure of several tons, the weight being that of the superincumbent brine, which exerts its power from all sides. The reason they are able to bear this tremendous weight is because they have exceedingly loose tissues, which allows the water to flow through every interstice, thus equalising the weight. When the pressure is removed they die instantly.

The growth of England's great city is marvellous. According to the recent census (1891,) the population of the registration district of London is estimated to be 4,211,056, against a population of 3,816,483 as reckoned in 1881, and 3,254,260 in 1871. The late enumeration shows, therefore, an increase of 394,573 in ten years, equivalent to the population of a city as large as some of the greater American cities, such as Boston. But beyond this registration district there are still other parts of London called "the outer ring." In 1881 these outside portions contained a population of 950,178, while the last census gives 1,422,276, an increase of 472,098 in ten years. Hence the total population of greater London is now 5,633,332, while in 1881 it was 4,766,661, a growth of 866,671 in a single decade, a larger addition than if the inhabitants of the city of Brooklyn had been absorbed. The area of the British city within the limits of the Registrar-General's tables of mortality is nearly 118 square miles.

It is surprising how pleased people are to be able to hit at those who occupy higher social positions than themselves. The Prince of Wales has been pretty well flogged by the press for his conduct in connection with the baccarat affair, and his case is an instance of this despicable and plebian propensity to find fault with those who occupy important positions in any sphere. England has never had a better Prince of Wales, and the Royal Family has never been so moral as it is at the present day. What, then, have we to grumble at? Must we have absolute perfection? It would be a hard matter for the Prince to spend his income so as to please everyone. He has sporting tastes and indulges them, and we have little right to publicly find fault with him in the manner which has been so common of late, because we may hold more straight-laced opinions than he does. He might waste the country's money in many other ways which would not raise comment, simply because the majority also believe in similarly squandering their money. The whole thing is merely a matter of opinion. Do let us cease harping upon the fancied sins of the Prince of Wales.

Printers' errors are doubtless very annoying to the public, but they are not less so to writers. Their entire avoidance is next thing to impossible, however, and the readers of newspapers will perhaps find it more easy to be charitable when they consider the following twelve conditions which the *Pall Mall Gazette* says are necessary for a newspaper to come under if it is to be delivered to the public in a faultless condition. They are:—1. When the contributor has written correctly. 2. When he has written the correct thing distinctly. 3. When the compositor has only the correct letters in the different cases. 4. When he does not take letters from a wrong case. 5. When he sets them correctly. 6. When the "reader" corrects every error. 7. When the compositor corrects the "rough proof" properly. 8. When the "reader" reads the corrected proof attentively. 9. When the compositor corrects the second proof properly. 10. When the revised proof is carefully "read." 11. When the "reader" has sufficient time to do this. 12. And when a dozen other circumstances work together for good. Man is but mortal, and it is seldom he manages to have things as perfect as he would choose.

Professor Angelo Heilprim, in an address before the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, drew attention to recent observations on the attraction of continents for the water which bounded them, the result being to elevate the water along their shore-lines much above the level of the sea a long distance from the land. According to this a ship is sailing up-hill when approaching land, and down when sailing away. He asserted that at the mid Atlantic Ocean the surface of the sea was 3,000 feet nearer the centre of the earth than on the continental borders. It may be inferred, though the Professor did not say so, that Greenland, as a comparatively flat surface, would have less attraction for the water than when covered by mountains of ice, and that such attraction would result in lowering tide levels on neighboring shores.

To go up in a balloon, sailing around the moon or any other heavenly body, without the aeronaut who understands how to make the machine come back to terra firma at will, is rather a risky undertaking, as witness the case at La Villette, France, on the 17th of this month. A balloon, containing a professional aeronaut and two other persons, made an ascent about mid day, the aerial venture being watched by crowds of people. When the balloon had reached a height of not more than fifty feet from the ground, the aeronaut, who had been busily engaged about the outside of the car, was seen to suddenly lose his balance, make a desperate effort to regain it and then fall to the earth. He was picked up so terribly injured that it is said there are no prospects of saving his life. In the meantime, the balloon and its two remaining occupants, both of whom were utterly ignorant of the manner in which a balloon is handled, mounted up higher and higher into the air, and until finally out of sight of the crowd. It was feared the balloon would ascend to a height that would cause its unfortunate occupants to be frozen to death, and that the balloon would soon after collapse, and its remains, together with the bodies of the unfortunates, find a final resting place in the ocean. The balloon finally descended at Versailles.

The Rothschilds have indeed produced a disturbance in Russia. It was bold play for them to withhold their purse from the power with which all other European nations are so anxious to keep on good terms, and, while so refusing to financially help the Czar, to intimate that the gold would be at Russia's disposal only so soon as she should change her attitude toward the Jews. As the Rothschilds are beyond the iron grasp of the Emperor and Autocrat of All the Russias, the latter has spitefully determined to obtain satisfaction by persecuting with rigor the wealthy Jews' co-religionists. The process of expelling them, with certain specific exceptions, from Moscow and St. Petersburg is being carried on with relentless severity, and it is said that M. Pobedonostzeff, whose power rivals that of the throne, is forging fresh edicts of persecution against the hapless race. There is a Russian law which confines these people to a certain territory in the south-east of the country, and there they will be huddled together, many probably to die of starvation. Their only refuge is in emigration, and even this is criminal unless a passport is purchased. Should they emigrate, the question will become of international importance. Foreign countries will be at once inundated by Russian Jews, and it is thought that means should be taken to prevent such unwelcome additions. The action of the Rothschilds, however, is generally endorsed by public sentiment in Europe, and the Jewish voice is loud in their praise. From all its internal trouble, it is evident that the Russian nation is rotten at the core, and, unless things mend, we expect to see it terminate some day as did the two squabbling cats of Kilkenny.

It would appear from a recent interview in the *Montreal Witness* that the first reports of Doctor Douglass' (the eminent Methodist divine) speech against the appointment of Sir John Thompson as Premier did not state his position correctly. He did not object to Sir John on account of his change of religion, or on account of his being a Catholic, but because, to use the doctor's expression, he was a tool in the hands of the Jesuits. The doctor undoubtedly was honest in this opinion, but his fears in this case were quite groundless, and his charge a most unjust and unfounded one. Those who have watched Sir John Thompson's political career, those who have been most directly brought into contact with him, have failed to detect in him the slightest trace of religious bigotry; in fact religious questions in politics have been studiously avoided by him. Dr. Douglass also intimates that Sir John Thompson was being pressed forward by the Jesuits, and was making an effort to secure the Premiership. Here again we believe he was mistaken, and that if the office had been tendered to Sir John he would have refused it, in fact there is a prevailing belief that the office was offered and refused. What more convincing proof of the error of the doctor's charge could be produced than this? Sir John has so far had a short and brilliant political career, but owes his entrance into the political life of the Dominion almost entirely to Sir Charles Tupper, who, with the foresight that has made him a born leader of men, discovered the great ability of Sir John, and by his personal influence secured his appointment as Minister of Justice. Sir John was Sir Charles' ablest lieutenant, and so far from aspiring to the leadership himself, we believe that Sir Charles Tupper was and is his choice for that position, and that Sir John will throw all his influence in favor of Sir Charles when the latter is ready to grasp the official reins. Believing this to be the case, we can only regret that Doctor Douglass has so wronged Sir John Thompson, and hope he may live to retract assertions that time will prove were an injustice to one of our ablest, most just and unassuming of public men.

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