

Prominent People.

An English medical paper says that Queen Victoria attributes her good health chiefly to her love of fresh air. She even takes her breakfast in the open air when the weather permits, and the chief reason why she makes her annual trip to the south on the continent is to be where she can spend most of her time outdoors.

It is related of Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, recently knighted, that a lady called on one of his "At Home" days, and expressed herself to him as follows: "O, dear, Sir Lawrence, I am awfully glad to hear of the honor you have received; I suppose now that you have been knighted you'll give up painting and live like a gentleman."

The past summer at Northfield has been the most successful in its history. Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, Rev. F. B. Meyer, and other consecrated speakers were present and took a prominent part in the programme. The services were all under the direction of Mr. D. L. Moody, who was the central figure in all gatherings. He drives about

Northfield in the most unconventional manner, and his is a familiar face on the streets during the whole summer. The picture on this page is a snap-shot taken during last August. It is said to be an excellent likeness. Rev. Dr. Clark, in the *Christian Endeavor World*, says: "The spirit of Northfield is a spirit of sanity and common sense. It could not be otherwise where the great, hearty, big-framed, generous, unconventional man called Dwight L. Moody lives and reigns. I do not use the last word unadvisedly, because Emperor William himself does not reign more absolutely in Prussia than Dwight L. Moody in Northfield. He does not rule, but he does reign, and that he reigns by love does not make the reign any less absolute. He has made the place. In a very important sense Mr. Moody is Northfield. Were he to withdraw his influence, his schools, his conferences, it would be a simple New England village with a straggling, tree-lined street; nothing left but its glorious views, which even Mr. Moody could not take away."

Miss Clara Barton has lately given additional proof of her sound common sense. When she arrived in New York after her arduous work with the Red Cross Society in Cuba, instead of being received with honor, she was immediately placed in quarantine with the rest of the passengers. Instead of standing on her dignity she acquiesced cheerfully, thus setting a commendable example to everyone.

Miss Fanny J. Crosby, the blind hymn-writer, was given a reception at the Bellevue Avenue Methodist Episcopal church in New York, on Tuesday evening, August 29th. Several of her hymns were sung. Miss Crosby was happily introduced by the Rev. C. E. Fry. She recited several of her poems and briefly outlined her life. She never had wept and moaned because she was blind, she said. She didn't believe in it. There's nothing like looking at the bright side of things, she declared. It prolongs life. She was born in Putnam County, New York State, and in spite of the fact that she was blind from the age of six weeks, her childhood, she declares, was as happy as that of other children. She was educated at the New York Institution for the Blind, where she afterward taught for eleven years. She began to write verse at the age of eight years.

REV. F. B. MEYER, well known to Americans, is now President of the Christian Endeavor Union of Great Britain and Ireland. He is soon to make a tour of Great Britain, visiting societies and unions, and holding large mass meetings. The plan as outlined in the *Christian Endeavor World* is an attractive one: One hour's public service at noon, Mr. Meyer to preach; an afternoon conference, followed by tea, with conversation between Mr. Meyer and his associate workers and the local Endeavorers. In the evening a great public meeting. Two or three members of the National Christian Endeavor Council will accompany Mr. Meyer in his journeyings and assist him in the meetings.

Literary Lines.

DR. COSAN DOYLE has been described as a very quick writer—one, moreover, who loses no time between conceiving an idea and transferring it to paper. It is recorded of him that on one occasion, when returning home with a friend in the evening after a

THERE is a story about Wordsworth to the effect that a great admirer of his poems went to see him at his home in Grasmere. He was ushered by the maid into a room well stocked with books, on which he said: "I suppose this is your master's study." "No," she replied, "this is his library." His study is out-of-doors."

Ben. Franklin declares: "If a man empties his purse into his head no one can take it from him."

In England Mrs. Henry Wood's novel "East Lynne" reached a circulation of 480,000 copies, and it is said that the total number sold of William Black's novels is not more than 300,000. "Three Men in a Boat," a remarkably popular book, reached 160,000; "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," 90,000; "A Prisoner of Zenda," 70,000; and "The Christian," the most popular book of 1897, sold to the extent of 125,000 copies in that year. But how paltry these figures are beside the circulation of Mr. Sheldon's "In His Steps," of which 3,000,000 copies have been sold in Great Britain.

RUSKIN is said to be failing fast. He has passed his eightieth birthday, and weaknesses incidental to such an advanced age have taken possession of his mind and body. He is practically confined to his house, save for occasional airings in a bath-chair on sunny mornings. He never reads, nor does he write. "And Ruskin," the correspondent writes, "has given his last message to the world."

Methodist Chat.

ALL THE Methodist churches and chapels in the island of Montserrat, in the West Indies, have been destroyed by the terrible hurricane which swept over several of the islands recently. An appeal is being made for help.

THE number of declared Wesleyans in the British army and navy in 1889 was 16,664. The returns made to the last Conference gave 24,853.

THE average salary paid to Methodist preachers in the United States is \$473. There is much truth in the statement credited to the late Robert G. Ingersoll: "The Methodists have preached more gospel for less money than any other set of preachers in this country."

THE "Pastoral" to the Wesleyan Methodist Church this year is a most powerful and timely one; it is especially effective in deprecating haziness of religious thought, and in insisting upon the firmest adherence to Christian morality. It calls upon Methodists to emphasize anew "the old virtues of truthfulness, justice, honesty, industry, temperance."

"THERE are depth and power in the old Methodist hymns which are sadly lacking in many of the passing productions of the day. A revival of old-time hymn-singing would mean a deepening of the spiritual life of the nation. Let the children hear the strong, sweet hymns of the Church, in family and in Sunday School, and it may help to turn their feet into ever-broadening paths of truth and righteousness." So says the *Sunday School Journal*.



MR. MOODY, AT NORTHFIELD.

splendid day of cricket, he remarked that a certain incident would make a good story. After dinner the friend said, "You'd better do that story." To which recommendation Dr. Doyle quietly replied "I've done it."

HALL CAINE believes that public circulating libraries increase book sales rather than diminish them. Mr. Caine's conclusions are sound. The appetite for reading is one that "comes with eating." A country without newspapers or libraries would be the worst place in the world for publishers or bookstores.

THE historian Gibbon said that he would not exchange the love of reading for the Empire of India.

In the *Evangelical Magazine*, Professor Adeney has an article on present-day neglect of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." There was a time when every cottage had at least two books—a Bible and "Pilgrim's Progress." Professor Adeney (we fear rightly) doubts whether it is so now, and says, "It really looks as if before long a generation will have grown up that knows not Bunyan." He suspects that this is partly due to the fact that the book is a product of Puritan theology.