

formed her that he would take the morning train for New York, and would not return till the following evening. "Very well, Frank," she replied; "act your pleasure. Come and go as you like."

The good lady was entertaining her nephew more from a sense of duty than anything else. From their difference in tastes he added little to her enjoyment, and was sometimes a source of discomfort; and so would not be missed.

(To be continued.)

#### VANCOUVER ISLAND.

California possesses other ports of importance, but as regards English naval interests in the Pacific, Esquimalt, Vancouver Island, B.C., which has a fine land locked harbour of deep water, dock, and naval hospital, deserves the notice of the reader. It is often the rendezvous for seven or eight of H. M.'s vessels, from the Admiral's flag-ship to the tiniest steam gun-boat. Victoria, the capital, is three miles off, and has a pretty little harbour itself, not, however, adapted for large vessels. Formerly the colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, the mainland, were separate and distinct colonies; they are now identified under the latter name. Their value never warranted the full paraphernalia of a double colonial government—two governors, colonial secretaries, treasurers, attorney-generals, &c., &c., for these countries, charming and interesting to the tourist and artist, will only attract population slowly. The resources of British Columbia, in gold, timber, coal, fisheries, &c., are considerable; but the long winters on the mainland, and the small quantity of open land, are great drawbacks. Approaching Vancouver Island from the sea, the "inside channel" is entered through the great opening to the Straits of Fuca, which Cook missed and Vancouver discovered. To the eastward are the rocks and light of Cape Flattery, while the rather low termination of Vancouver Island, thick with timber, is seen to the westward. The scene in the Straits is often lively with steamers and shipping, great men-of-war, sometimes of foreign nationalities; coast packet boats, proceeding not merely to Vancouver Island, but to the ports of Washington Territory, on the American side; timber (called "lumber" always on that side of the world) vessels; colliers proceeding to Nanaimo or Bellingham Bay to the coal-mines; coasting and trading schooners; and Indian canoes, some of them big enough to accommodate sixty or more persons, and carrying a good amount of sail. The Straits have many beauties; and, as, approaching the entrance of Esquimalt Harbour, the Olympian range of mountains, snow-covered and rugged, loom in the distance, the scene is grandly beautiful; while in the channel, rocky islets and islands, covered with pines and arbutus, abound. Outside the Straits two lighthouses are placed, to warn the unwary voyager by night. Often those lighthouses may be noted apparently upside down! Mirage is common enough in the Straits of Fuca. —*The Sea.*

#### SUGGESTIONS ABOUT SERVING DINNER.

The table should be carefully laid,—folds of the table-cloth in line, two large napkins placed at the head and foot of the table with corners to the centre, every plate wiped before being set on the table, the glass clear, the silver polished, the salt-cellars filled with fresh-sifted salt. (A little stamp upon the salt improves the appearance.) When the plates are laid, two forks should be put on the left hand, a knife and a soup-spoon on the right, large spoons crossed at each salt-cellar, and salt spoons on the top; tumblers and wine-glasses on the right hand at each plate, a napkin folded with a piece of stale bread within its folds, the soup-plates placed in the plate at the head of the table, and the napkin in the upper one. Soup-ladle, gravy-spoon, and carving knife and fork go before the mistress, fish-trowel (if there is fish for dinner), gravy-spoon, and carving knife and fork before the master, if there is no soup, no ladle; if no fish, no trowel; if but one dish of meat, but one carving knife and fork. If you have neither fruit nor flowers, a bowl with bits of ice makes a pretty centre.

The side-table should be laid with a white cloth, the silver, plates, finger-bowls, that will be needed during dinner, arranged tastefully upon it; the castors, a pat of butter with ice upon it, and one or two spare napkins, making it a pretty object.

When the soup is on the table, let the waitress come quietly and say, "Dinner is served." A good waitress makes no noise. She will stand at the dining-room door till the family has passed in, and then take her place by her mistress to hand the soup. When the soup-course is over, the waitress takes off the plates, one in each hand, and takes them to the pantry, or to a tray outside the door. Permit no piling of plates, as they are taken from the table, nor allow the soiled plates to be placed on the side-table. As the soup is removed hot plates should be ready for fish or meat, and as the waitress places the hot plate before the diner, she removes the cold plate to the side-table. Fish should be served alone—no vegetables. Salad is the only thing allowable with fish. If fish be broiled, a lemon, cut in quarters, should be handed, to be squeezed upon the fish, unless fish sauce is preferred. With salmon, thinly cut slices of cucumber, dressed with pepper, salt, and vinegar should be served. Before the fish is removed, the fish-trowel and spoon should be taken off on a tray or plate; before the meat is removed, the carving-knife and fork and gravy-spoon should be carefully taken on a plate or tray. After the meat and plates are removed, the unused silver should be taken off, then the salt-cellars. The table being cleared, the crumbs should be taken off with a crumb-knife or with a napkin upon a plate; then the spread napkins should be taken off by the four corners.

Place upon the table the dessert-plates, and spoons, and forks, if for pudding or sweets of any kind; if for fruit, a plate with a colored doily, a finger-bowl, and a silver knife and fork. If coffee is served, it should be placed on a tray, with coffee-cups and sugar, at the head of the table. The old fashion of a polished and bare table for fruit is gone out, except where an elaborate table and men-servants are kept.

#### THE GERMAN AND ENGLISH STUDENT.

The Germans are the explorers in the world of thought, and the first settlers in the newly discovered regions, who clear the ground and make it tillable and habitable. At a later period the English take possession, build solid houses, and dwell there. The Germans send their students out into the fields of knowledge, like working bees, to gather honey from every side. The English lead their pupils into well-stored hives to enjoy the labours of others. The German student cares little for the accumulated learning of the past, except as a vantage-ground from which to reach some greater height. He has little reverence for authority, and if he does set up an idol, he is very apt to throw it down again. His chief delight is to form theories of his own, and he can build a very lofty structure on a very insufficient foundation. As compared with the "first-class" Oxford man or Cambridge wrangler, he has read but little, and would make a very moderate show in a classical or mathematical tripos examination; but he has the scientific method; he is thorough and independent master of a smaller or a larger region of thought; he knows how to use his knowledge, and in the long run outstrips his English brothers. The English system produces the accomplished scholar "well up in his books;" the reverent and zealous disciple of some Gamaliel; the brilliant essayist, whose mind is filled with the great thoughts and achievements of the past, who deals with ease and grace with the rich stores he has gathered by extensive reading; the ready debater, skilled in supporting his arguments by reference to high authority, and by apt quotations. But he is receptive rather than creative, his leathers, though gay and glossy, are too often borrowed, and not so well fitted for higher flights as if they were the product of his own mental organism. In the language of Faust, we might say of him—

"Erquickung hast du nicht gewonnen  
Wenn sie dir nicht aus eigener Seele quillt."

The German has read less, but he has thought more, and is continually striving to add to the sum of human knowledge. He is impatient and restless while he stands on other men's ground, or sojourns in other men's houses; directly he has found materials of his own, whether they be stones or only cards, he begins to build for himself, and would rather get over a difficulty by a rickety plank of his own, than by the safe iron bridge of another. The same *furor Teutonicus* (the tendency to drive everything to extremes,) which urges on the powerful intellect to great discoveries in the regions of the hitherto unknown, also goads the little mind to peer with fussy, feverish restlessness into every chink, to stir every puddle, "to dig with greedy hand for treasure."

"Und froh sein wenn er Regenwurm findet."

—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

#### PRESBYTERIANISM IN LIVERPOOL.

The influence of Presbyterianism is felt in many ways, but especially in giving weight and solidity to religious thought. The Presbyterian Churches of Liverpool possess men as their pastors who are not only able expositors of God's Word, but they are happily men who hold fast to the good old standards of religious truth, and are not led astray by the vain philosophies and cunning conceits of the schools of modern thought. It is a most fortunate thing that it is so, for we need a pulpit power in these days to counteract the growing desire on the part of some, to create a ministry who would pander to the tastes of those who are satisfied with an artificial religion. We have heard it said that Presbyterianism in Liverpool of late years has not shown signs of much progress. We are inclined from personal observation to think otherwise. We believe that the Presbyterian Churches of Liverpool are adding true wheat to their garner, and that the memberships to their churches are continuously on the increase. There is another thing to be said respecting Presbyterianism, and that is, its foundations are deep and solid. It leaves no loophole for the inroads of priestcraft or Popery. Its Protestantism is of the purest type. Its "Shorter Catechism" is the very essence of Orthodoxy, and its teachings lead to deep thoughtfulness of mind, heart-searchings, and close living with God. Wherever Presbyterianism has a firm footing, it may be reckoned upon as a strong Protestant bulwark, and a power and an influence for good, by keeping in check the slightly superstitious of the age, and by educating those who are happily guided by its instructions, in the deep and weighty matters which concern the present and eternal interests of immortal souls. We rejoice that Presbyterianism has such a strong hold in Liverpool, and we doubly rejoice that its ministers in this town are men who walk very closely with their God. —*Liverpool Protestant Standard.*

#### WHY, VERILY!

Why be an animated tallow-shop when Allan's Anti-Fat is a safe and sure remedy for obesity, or corpulence, and will reduce the most ill-proportioned form to a graceful outline within a few weeks? It contains no ingredients that can possibly prove deleterious to the system. A well-known chemist, after examining its constituents and the method of its preparation, gives it his unqualified endorsement as a remedy that "cannot but act favourably upon the system and is well calculated to attain the object for which it is intended."

Baltimore, Md., July 17th, 1878.

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Dear Sir—I have taken two bottles of Allan's Anti-Fat and it has reduced me eight pounds.

Very respectfully, MRS. J. R. COLES.

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#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

SUNDAY morning performances have been introduced into all the theatres in Paris.

CALIFORNIA is welcoming the rains upon which depends the success of its wheat crop.

THE First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, Del., has celebrated its 141st anniversary.

IF the Emperor and Empress of Germany live to see the eleventh of next June they will celebrate their golden wedding.

THE recent cold wave reached the semi-tropical regions of Florida and Southern California, and the damage to fruit is said to be immense.

MR. SANKRY was to commence a series of evangelistic services in Newcastle-on-Tyne, Eng., the first Sabbath of this year.

PENZANCE, Eng., will celebrate the Centennial birthday of Sir Humphrey Davy, the inventor of the safety-lamp, the last of this month.

THE Church Extension Committee of the Established Church of Scotland have during the last six years aided in erecting eighty-nine churches, costing \$1,000,000.

DON'T hold your meetings for Kumballizing your church debt on Sunday. An Illinois judge has decided that subscriptions made on Sunday cannot be collected by law.

INDIANA laws prohibit the selling or giving away vinous, malt, or other intoxicating liquors on Sundays, New Year's day, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Fourth of July, or election days.

SINCE the Sunday Closing Act went into operation in Ireland, by which liquor shops are closed on the Sabbath, the arrests or drunkenness in thirty-nine towns have fallen off sixty per cent. as compared with last year.

DEAN STANLEY, in his sermon on the death of the Princess Alice, took the very appropriate text, Jeremiah xv. 9, "She that hath borne seven languisheth; she hath given up the ghost; her sun has gone down while it was yet day."

THE Legislature of South Carolina at its last session repealed all the laws of the State relating to divorce. This, of course, leaves the State without any law on the subject, and, hence, legal divorces are no longer practicable there for any reason.

PASTOR RÜER, who was the first native Spanish evangelical worker, through whose instrumentality Matamoros and Carrasco were converted, and who was at one time banished from Spain for preaching the gospel, died at Madrid, November 18, of typhus fever.

A RECENT official report states that in the battles fought by Austrian troops since 1495 the losses in killed and wounded have amounted to 1,085,931 men, including 261 generals, and 17,096 officers, while 56 of their generals, 4,174 other officers, and 259,041 men were taken prisoners.

THE Hessian physicians, since the sickness and death of the Princess Alice and her children, protest strongly against the practice of kissing on the lips instead of the cheek. It is believed that the diphtheria, which was so fatal in the Grand Ducal household, was communicated in this way.

REV. MR. RENDALL's mission to the Portuguese in Madeira would seem most discouraging, as the Island has a population of 110,000, only 24 of whom are members of a Protestant church. His indomitable courage and faith, however, do not fail though he is the only Gospel preacher and teacher.

IT is rumored that Germany, which declined to exhibit at Paris, is seriously thinking of an International Exhibition at Berlin for the year 1881. A number of German engineers have been studying all the arrangements made at Paris for the construction of the temporary buildings, the transport of goods to and from the Champ de Mars, and the railway traffic.

ACCORDING to a German newspaper Luther's house at Mansfeld, which remained in the possession of the Reformer's descendants till the middle of the last century, has just been bought by a person who wishes to turn it into a public house. To prevent its falling into irreverent hands a committee has been formed with a view to raising funds for its purchase and preservation.

THE London "Christian" speaking of a sermon of Mr. Spurgeon's youngest son, Thomas, who has recently returned from Australia says, "It was carefully prepared and well delivered. Considering the extreme youth of the preacher, it was astonishing what promise of future ability and usefulness he displays. He has his father's distinctness of enunciation and richness of matter."

THE Welsh Presbyterian Chapel in Pall Mall, Liverpool, which was erected in 1789, has been purchased by the railway for £11,400. The memorial stone of a new place of worship for the congregation was laid on Thursday by Mr. John Roberts, M.P. The Welsh Presbyterians have now fifteen chapels in Liverpool, twelve schools and mission stations, 5,000 communicants, and 10,000 hearers.

THE "Texas Presbyterian" commends the Galveston "News" for its outspoken rebuke of the city officials who, "through policy, bribery, or cowardice," fail to execute the strict laws against gambling. It claims that if the sworn officials had "the moral nerve and true manhood" every city and town in that State could be freed from the scourge "that is sowing broadcast misery and death."

THERE has been no further fall of snow in the North of Scotland, but the frost is intense. Communication between Aberdeen and Stonehaven has been re-opened, by the clearing of a single line of rails. The Great North of Scotland line has only been cleared as far as Inch. The Decade section of that railway has also been opened, but the other branches remain blocked. The mails and passengers from Peterhead to Aberdeen are being conveyed to their destination by sea. Two of the trains which were snow-bound on the Sutherland and Caithness Railway have been relieved, but the line is still hopelessly blocked, and the mails will have to be taken by sea from Helmsdale to Thurso.