

MISCELLANEOUS.

David Christie Murray in a recent address contends that the drama is not an art but a trade. The money-making faculty is the one sign of ability.

At the Kipling household five o'clock tea is served from a table whose top is a large plate of hammered brass of Indian design and manufacture. It is simply mounted on a wooden tripod.

The Earl of Rosebery is the most extensive milk dealer in London. He does not, however, have his name on his milk wagons, as Lord Rayleigh does, but carries on the business under the names of his managers.

The fund raised in Boston to erect a statue in memory of Bishop Phillips Brooks amounts to \$79,625 in actual cash, \$70,000 of which is loaned at 5 per cent, while the remainder is drawing 2½ per cent interest on deposit.

President Eliot, of Harvard, says that there is scarcely a single subject taught nowadays in the same way it was taught 30 years ago, and that even law, the most conservative of studies, is now treated in an entirely different method from that which prevailed in former years.

The lovely little village of Llangollen, in North Wales, is famous as the place where for 50 years dwelt the "Eccentric Ladies." Many stories are told of them. One of their eccentricities was that whenever they walked abroad they wore men's high silk hats. When they died they were laid to rest side by side in the old Llangollen churchyard.

The Church in France has lost, since the beginning of last year, eleven prelates, among whom were five Archbishops, comprising the Cardinals of Lyons and of Rennes, three Bishops, and four Vicars-Apostolic. Four Sees are at present vacant—namely, the Archbishopric of Beausson, and the Bishoprics of Evreux, Orleans and Mans.—*Catholic Mirror*.

The religious awakening which "priests and prophets waited for," when the hard times began to interfere with the material prosperity of the people, has begun, and bids fair to equal the vast revival wave that swept over the country in 1857, when the great money panic broke all the banks of the country and checked the rewards of industry. Brooklyn, "the city of churches," appears to be the centre of the movement.—*Troy Times*.

According to an editorial note in President Harper's *Biblical World* for January, "It is the misinterpretation of the Bible that furnishes the occasion of all skepticism. The friends of the Bible have been its worst enemies." Such assertions by friends of the Bible are painful in the extreme. Why not be just and honest enough to qualify the assertion by saying that misinterpretations by some friends of the Bible have aided skepticism!—*New York Observer*.

In China the missionary is the only real interpreter of Western thought and progress. The mines, steamboats and railways of China were projected by men trained in the mission schools. The government has been so favorably impressed with the educational work of the Methodist Mission at Peking that it has promised to give positions upon the railroads or in telegraph offices, to all graduates, at a fair salary, and the privilege of keeping the Sabbath.—*Presbyterian Observer*.

The ladybird, to which many generations of children have addressed the familiar rhyming admonition, is a most valuable insect destroyer, and has the freedom of well-conducted greenhouses. It is the special enemy of the little green aphid that destroys tender plants; and the ladybird is always seen upon rose bushes in summer time because the aphid especially attacks the rose. Every such insectivorous insect as the ladybird is welcomed by those who struggle with the ever-increasing swarm of creatures that attack vegetation.—*New York Sun*.

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Mr. F. Marion Crawford, in the new novel on which he has been at work during the winter, has forsaken the haunts of Roman life, with its high-born knights and dames, for the more interesting, if seemingly less romantic, scenes of New York. It is always the New York of the upper class that Mr. Crawford shows to us; and yet even here, common-place and conventional as it may be thought, he reveals the same undercurrent of strife and intrigue, of love and jealousy and hatred, that lent to his tales of Roman life their peculiar power and fascination. Not even the *Saracinesca* series are more alive with romance than are this and its companion story which Mr. Crawford promises us, and in which he follows the fortunes of the *Lauderdales* and *Ralstons*—the family to which this his latest heroine, *Katharine Lauderdale*, belongs. The interest of this book, especially to New Yorkers, will be enhanced by the fact that it is to be illustrated by a New York artist.

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Coal is dearer in South Africa than in any other part of the world; it is cheapest in China.

The making of lucifer matches is a State monopoly in France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Roumania and Servia.

One of the most recent dodges for relieving sleeplessness is to raise the head of the bed about 12 inches, or cut off a foot from each of the legs at the foot of the bed.

Yates Thompson, formerly owner of the *London Pall Mall Gazette*, has offered £38,000 with which to add to Westminster Abbey a large chapel where future memorials and monuments may be erected. The Government has deferred accepting the offer, pending the decision upon three schemes already suggested for the extension of the abbey.

The Germans take things very serious. A doctor lecturing in a northern town on the injurious practice of tight lacing, proposed to form an "Anti-killing-young-woman-by-a-ligering-death-Society. The German newspapers gravely reproduced the doctor's remarks, and rendered the hyphenated title thus: "Jungfrauzimmerdurchschwindtsuchtoldungs-gegenverein."—*London Million*.

"Dr. Cyrus A. Bartol," says the *Boston Herald*, "is the last survivor of the famous Transcendental Club, in which Emerson was the central light. Dr. Holmes, Dr. George E. Ellis and Hon. Robert C. Winthrop are the other venerable Bostonians who are left to us of a former and a notable generation, but Dr. Bartol is now, we believe, the only survivor of the brilliant company who must be named as the associates and friends of Emerson in the middle part of this century."