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EASTER LILLIES.

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We wreath the lillies, salutely white,
Round fount and crest to-day;
"Rejoice we cry, for sorrow's night
Hath fully passed away.
The watchful hours were long, but bright
shall be the world's new day."

"The Lord is risen," our lips repeat,
"Behold the empty tomb!"
Where the pure lillies cluster aet.
Shall come no thought of gloom.
O, hark! the falling of his feet:
O hearts! prepare him room!

With voices of mirth, with eyes that shine,
With spirit comforted,
We keep the feast, we pour the wine,
We break the heavenly bread.
He lives! He reigns! the Man Divine,
— And death itself is dead.

And here more in utter loss,
What ill so e'er may come,
Shall we, close clinging to His cross,
Despair of rest and home,
The home where tempest will not toss,
The rest beyond the foam.

Four lillies of the Easter tide,
Your lavish sweetness pour;
Our hearts in solemn peace abide,
The while our lips adore;
The Lord is risen! the Church, His bride,
Exulteth evermore!

HAT TRUTH SAYS

Our readers of TRUTH who like to give names of foreign places the right pronunciation will doubtless feel deeply indebted to the *Pall Mall Gazette* (which, by the way, they must invariably pronounce well, if they would be in the fashion) for entering the following information among a few names which are sure to crop up in conversation just now when Afghanistan is attracting the attention of all who keep themselves informed on the topics of the day: to such the following rules are fully submitted: Cabul is pronounced Merv is pronounced Mahriv; Herat is pronounced Heraht; Kurrahee is pronounced Krahchy; Peshawur is pronounced Peshower. The accent on Afghanistan is on the second syllable. In such cases as Bolan, Robat, etc., the accent is on the second syllable, and the "a" is pronounced broad like "ah."

Chicago News sneers at Canada in the following style: "A Pennsylvania postmaster himself the other day because his letters were short. It was a choice between Canada and death, and he chose death." To judge from the number of deluged officials that skip over here from the other side, this Pennsylvanian man's was a very uncommon one, whether or not.

There must be something lamentably defective in the method of teaching adopted in the English schools, or else the juvenile mind has a remarkable aptitude for jumbling up historical and geographical facts with fictions of the most fantastic kind. Examples of a few of the answers handed in at a recent examination of pupils between the ages of seven and seventeen are here given, and it is stated that there were many more of the same kind. The following is one of the answers handed in at a recent examination, nearly as absurd as the following: "Oliver Cromwell is said

to have exclaimed, because he cut off King Charles' head and got on the throne:—'If I had served my God as I served my King, He would not have left me to mine enemies.' Also, that the word 'Charles' would be found on his heart." "The earth goes round on its axis. The earth's axis is a pole put through the centre of the sun, which turns it round, and thus we get the seasons." "Constantinople is on the Golden Horn; a strong fortress, has a university, and is the residence of Peter the Great. Its chief building is the Sublime Port." The theory propounded in the second answer is rather startling and explains the source of *British Lion Johnson's* information that "the sun do move!"

People have groaned and complained at a great rate this past winter about its length and severity, but they don't seem to know when they are well off. Certainly it has been chilly at times, but one doesn't look for tropical heat in Canada between the months of November and April. How would those growlers like to experience such a time as the winter of 1816 is reported to have been, and, which, if all be true that is said about it, extended clear through the summer into the following winter. In that year, we are told, the actual winter was comparatively mild, but the weather became very cold in March and never got really warm again, though April was a little better than the month previous. In May the flowers and fruits were frozen, and June was the coldest ever known, frost, ice and snow being plentiful. One would think that July and August would have evinced some signs of higher temperature, but no, this is what the American chroniclers of the words of the no doubt equally veracious oldest inhabitants tell us:—"In July there was frost and ice. The Indian corn crop in the States was all destroyed. August was more cheerless still. Ice formed half an inch thick, and almost every growing crop was killed in Great Britain as well as in America. Corn for seed was sold for \$5 a bushel. In September there were two weeks of mildness, but cold and frost for the remainder of the month. October had frost and ice. November was cold and blustering. December was mild and agreeable. Flour at Philadelphia was \$13 per 100 pounds, and in Britain wheat sold for \$97 a quarter." If this is to be the kind of thing we are to have during the ensuing summer, we shall probably be casting envious eyes in the direction of Egypt, and our thoughts will wander to the Soudan, where the thermometer just now is reported to register 109° in the shade. Phew!

Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany had a presentiment that he would die before his eighty-eighth birthday, two Sundays ago, had passed, but happily his forebodings have proved to be unfounded, and the old gentleman still enjoys pretty fair health. He is by far the oldest of reigning monarchs, though he has been on the throne only half as long as Queen Victoria, and has seen great changes in Germany since he came to

the throne. In spite of the fact that King William persists in believing that age has not detracted from his usefulness, it is too evident that his years are now weighing heavily on him and that it is only by the exercise of his strong will that he is enabled to bear the fatigues and prolonged horse back rides which he affects to treat so lightly. However, he is a very fine old fellow, and TRUTH wishes him many returns of his birthday.

There are many people with special opportunities of knowing who prophesy that in less than two years after the Emperor William's death, Germany will be a republic. It of course remains to be seen how this prediction will be verified, but it is very certain that Bismarck will retire into private life on the Emperor's death (if that event happen prior to his own decease) and when the present German chancellor's iron hand is removed, Germany will find quite enough to do at home in minding her own affairs without meddling with every movement in other states, as she does at present.

The Rev. F. H. Gridley, an American doctor of divinity, condemns the wearing of moustaches and beards by clergymen, as being a species of muzzle on the mouths of divines. Common sense would seem to suggest that Nature intended the hisute covering which she has bestowed on the throats and lips of men to be a benefit; it undoubtedly is so, and affords a better protection against cold air and dust, which might prove highly injurious to the lungs and throats of public speakers, than any artificial respirator. It can hardly be that a man's beard and moustache were given him merely to keep him employed in shaving them off, and preachers have quite as much right to appear as Nature made them as any one else.

There is a diversity of opinion as to whether the Gladstone government did or did not go to work properly to relieve Gordon, but one thing is certain and that is that Gordon himself was of opinion that it was to blame. His words, shortly before his death prove that he felt that all had not been done that might have been, and there is something pathetic and at the same time bitter in the following words uttered by him not many days before Khartoum fell: "I will accept nothing whatever from Gladstone's Government. I will not even let them pay my expenses. I will get the King of Belgium to pay them. I will never put foot in England again, but if I get out I will go to Brussels, and so on to the Congo."

Gen. Grant's condition is still attracting much attention and sympathy. Besides the painful cancer in the mouth he is suffering greatly for want of sleep. Possibly this has been brought about, to a large extent, because of his sudden cessation from the use of tobacco. Insomnia, or sleeplessness, is a complaint which, if not routed soon after its first attack, will become more terrible in its effects than even the much-dreaded cancer itself. In speaking of insomnia, a physician thus describes it: "It speedily becomes itself a disease of a most frightful character.

There is much more of it than the exhaustion which comes from the loss of sleep. There is a persistent and most demoralizing anxiety attending, which is based on apprehensions as to what may occur. The sufferer knows that he must have sleep within a certain time, or death or insanity will result. Knowing the absolute necessity of getting sleep before the dreaded crisis shall come, he makes all possible efforts to fall asleep, and the very efforts made interrupt and defeat the end sought for. He is haunted unceasingly with the alternative of insanity or death, and he frantically struggles to avert the impending catastrophe, and every movement thus made only entangles him the more." We have all of us probably, suffered more or less at times from inability to fall asleep; we feel sleepy and yet nature's sweet restorer persistently refuses to close our aching eye-lids, and we know how distressing such a state of mind and body is; if this temporary deprivation of necessary sleep is so exhausting how much more so must the disease (for such it becomes) be when it sets in in its chronic form!

Possibly the most frightful form of death is that which ensues when sleep has been withheld for any protracted period. This is well known to the Chinese with whom it is a favorite torture (favorite, that is to say, with the torturers and not the victim) to keep malefactors in a bamboo cage ingeniously lined with numerous sharp spikes which penetrate the victim's body at the slightest movement on his part and thus effectually preclude the possibility of his falling asleep and he eventually dies a raving maniac. But terrible as is his disease, insomnia, it is not without its cure, which to quote from the same authority as before, is as follows: "The cure, if it shall come, is largely the result of mental effort. If the victim have sufficient strength of mind to throw out the awful apprehension which haunts him incessantly that he must sleep or die, he has taken a long step toward a cure. Few men have the power to do this; and still it is essential. The attention of the patient must be taken from himself; from contemplation of the demon which menaces him by day, and all through the interminable hours of the wakeful night. Change of air by easy stages, a light, nutritious diet, and something in the nature of a tonic, such as beer, are among the most efficacious methods of treatment. But even these, to be of value, must be preceded and accompanied by the disabuse of the mind of the fear of consequences resulting from a want of sleep. Under these favorable conditions the victim of insomnia will begin to get from two to four hours' sleep toward morning. This will be sufficient to permit a return to recuperate the loss of each day, and gradually the hours of sleep will be lengthened, and in time a cure will follow." The disease of sleeplessness is certain to ensue when any accustomed stimulant is suddenly cut off, and what is true regarding the use or abuse of tobacco is equally so with respect to the use or abuse of opium and spirituous liquors.