

The Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons, has granted a warrant for the formation of an Anglo-American lodge in England for the purpose of affording American residents here the facilities of the order.

News has been received of a revolution among the inhabitants of the Maldiv Islands, in the Indian Ocean. The Maldives became incensed at their Sultan because of his failure to remove certain grievances. They invaded the palace, deposed the Sultan and installed his nephew in his place.

In many parts of Southern Europe a flour is made from chestnuts, which is said not only to be cheaper, but fully equal to wheat flour in bread. In some places wheat flour and corn meal are entirely superseded by this product, which is very nourishing, and can be preserved two years longer without injury.

It is stated that China will soon have a national postal service of her own, and will then become a member of the Universal Postal Union. At present all postal communication between the rest of the world and China is through postal agencies which have been established at Shanghai by the United States, Great Britain, France, and Japan, and at other treaty ports.

"Leprosy is curable" was the bold declaration made some months ago by Dr. Urbina de Freitas, professor of the medical school in Oporto, and now the *Coimbra Medica* (published at Coimbra, the seat of the only university in Portugal), explains in detail the reasons for his assertion, and declares that several cases of leprosy have been cured by electricity principally.

The British ship *Kapunda*, which left London on December 11 for Fremantle, Australia, with emigrants, came into collision near the coast of Brazil with an unknown vessel and was sunk. Three hundred of those on board were drowned. The remainder were saved and have arrived at Bahia. The *Kapunda* was an iron ship of 1,084 tons. She was commanded by Captain Mason.

The British Government has granted a subsidy to the White Star steamship company for the use of steamers of that line as armed transports in event of war. The agreement includes stipulations that the White Star company shall build several fast vessels in accordance with designs furnished by the admiralty. Negotiations are on foot for similar arrangements with Cunard and Inman companies.

London "Life" reports that the insanity of the "poor Carlotta," ex-Empress of Mexico, has lately been manifesting itself in an acute form. She appears to be always searching for something on the ground, and shows great satisfaction if she can furtively pick up some trifle unseen. Her attendants are careful to scatter small objects about her path. She will not allow any one to accompany her in her walks through the park of her castle of Bourchot, and if through the gates or railings she sees a passing peasant she flies and hides herself, with all the symptoms of abject fear. The King of the Belgians has decided to rebuild for her occupation the castle of Perveren, which was destroyed by fire. It is situated in the middle of splendid forests, and will insure the afflicted Empress every privacy.

The Queen's speech delivered at the opening of the British Parliament contained nothing of great import. It dealt vaguely with the Eastern and Egyptian questions, and gingerly as respects the policy of the Government with regard to Ireland. It promises reform in the English and Scotch Local Government bills, and foreshadows a change in the method of collecting English and Welsh tithes. Lord Randolph Churchill, in his speech in the House of Commons for this session, explained that he could not, in a time of peace, remain in a Government that proposed to make such lavish expenditures for the navy and army. He regretted having felt obliged to resign his seat in the Cabinet, but the step had been taken by him after due deliberation. Mr. Gladstone in the Commons, and Lord Granville in the House of Lords, criticised Lord Salisbury's action in assuming the portfolio of Foreign Secretary at a time when he held the Premiership, and being in their opinion more advantageous to this country to have these two important positions filled by different members of the Cabinet. Goschen's defeat in Liverpool by seven in a total vote of 6,427 was a serious blow to Lord Salisbury's administration, but it is not probable that Mr. Goschen will long remain out of the House, thirty seats having been offered him.

In a recent despatch from Rome some details are given as to the disaster which overtook the Italian troops at Kassala. Premier Depretis in conveying the news to the Cabinet of Deputies said that there had recently been severe fighting in that part of the Soudan, whose occupation was being attempted by Italy in understanding with England. He said this fighting had resulted in almost complete disaster to the Italian forces engaged in conjunction with Abyssinian troops in the work of attempting to relieve Kassala, which has been besieged by hostile Arabs ever since the beginning of the Soudan war by the late El Mahdi. On January 20 Abyssinians and Italians attacked Kassala in force and were repulsed. The Abyssinians again made an attack next day and a desperate battle was waged. The Abyssinians were defeated and the Italian troops were simply annihilated. But fifty wounded reached Massowah after the battle. This statement made a profound sensation in the chamber. Premier Depretis then added that the Italian commander had recalled troops from the advance and concentrated them at Massowah. The radicals laughed ironically at this. The government now proposed a bill for the appropriation of \$1,000,000, with which to send Italian reinforcements to Massowah. The chamber at once approved the bill by an almost unanimous vote. Some radicals having cheered sarcastically in allusion to the valor of Abyssinian troops, the whole house rose and cheered the government. The radicals cried out "We must retire." The majority rejoined with cries of "never," "cowards," etc. The city is to-night in a high state of excitement, bordering on frenzy over the news from the Soudan.

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These Regulations apply to all Dominion  
Land containing deposit of minerals of  
economic value, except coal.

### QUARTZ MINING.

Area of location is limited to forty acres,  
except in the case of iron, when one hundred  
and sixty acres are allowed.

Claimants must stake out the location, and  
within ninety days afterwards make an entry  
for it with the local Land Agent, paying a  
fee of five dollars, and shall then have one  
year, with the sanction of the Minister of  
the Interior, two years within which to pur-  
chase location at five dollars per acre, cash.  
He must also expend within each year at  
least five hundred dollars in development.

No person shall hold more than one loca-  
tion on the same vein or lode.

Applicant must also when he pays for his  
location deposit fifty dollars with the Land  
Agent to pay for the survey, and the returns  
of such survey must be accepted by the Sur-  
veyor-General before the issue of patent.

Should an iron location prove to contain a  
deposit of valuable mineral other than iron  
the area shall be restricted to forty acres.

Provision is made for the manner in which  
land may be acquired for reduction and other  
works required for developing the mine.

### PLACER MINING.

The Regulations for Quartz Mining apply  
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claims are provided for in the Regulations  
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quiring, constructing and operating Red-rock  
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The General Provisions of the Regulations  
define how disputes shall be heard and deter-  
mined leave of absence granted, &c., &c.

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A. M. BURGESS,  
Deputy Minister of the Interior.  
Ottawa, 28th December, 1886.

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