

These cyclones are very formidable affairs. One who has not had personal experience can form little conception either of their suddenness or their severity. They have, no doubt, their uses, but it is awfully difficult to discover what their uses are.

Things are prospering. A Bill to secure household suffrage is to be introduced in the British Parliament next session. This Bill is to apply to town and country, to Great Britain and Ireland alike.

It seems the cow byres across the Don are said to be no nuisances at all. Quite the opposite. In fact, rather ornaments, and full of sweet-smelling odors. It will take a good deal of argument and special pleading to make any of the neighbors believe that story. Their own senses strongly point in quite an opposite direction.

People often very unwittingly make great mistakes and do an immense amount of harm. For instance, some Englishman introduced into Canada the English rabbit under the idea that rabbit hunting would be nice. What is the consequence? That the little creature is becoming quite a nuisance and threatens to do an immense amount of injury to fruit trees as well as in other ways. It is very prolific, and once established in a locality it breeds and multiplies with great rapidity. Could a general war not be proclaimed against the evil if it is at all so bad as represented?

It is a fact that a servant girl's life is an awful, silent, solitary one. It is especially so if the mistress won't allow any followers, and is even averse to her seeing female friends. The kitchen is her sitting room, and her sleeping place is the smallest and most uncomfortable place in the house. From 6 in the morning till 9 at night she is expected to be at work. There is a silence about the whole affair enough to drive one mad. No wonder that many are tempted to go to work in factories at very poor wages. They have at any rate some companionship there, though often not very desirable. Upon the whole the state of a domestic servant is not such a paradise as it is sometimes represented.

A great fuss is being made over the Methodists leaving out "obey" from their form of marriage service. What is the use of the ado? The most of women when they promise to obey never mean to do anything of the kind. Why force them to tell a lie? All who intend to obey will do so at any rate, and when a woman won't she won't.

That poor woman Langtry is here about again and threatens to come this way in the course of her travels. Her claims on the public attention and patronage are surely of the slimmest.

Tea drinking, it is now said, is only less injurious than whiskey bibbing. It is destroying the calmness of the nerves and is thereby acting as a dangerous revolutionary force among the people. Tea drinking has created, we are told, a generation of nervous, discontented people,

who are forever complaining of the existing order of the universe, scolding their neighbors and sighing after the impossible. Perhaps tea drinking caused the French revolution. It is clear, apparently, that it has been the fruitful parent of radicalism, levelling and kindred iniquities. It seems that it is chiefly since tea came into general use that people have become discontented with their political constitutions, their sovereigns and their rulers. Look at Gladstone. He is said to be one of the greatest tea drinkers in the county. The leader of the French Radicals as well as he of the Salvation Army are also in the same category. Yes, yes, all that sort of thing has a distressingly alarmist kind of appearance. After all, however, tea is infinitely to be preferred to gin or brandy, and if it has made people dissatisfied with the old order of things, it may be all the more praiseworthy on that account, for there was an awful lot of things about the old order of affairs that badly needed condemnation, and destruction. Upon the whole, it will be just as well to stick to tea with all its dangerous possibilities till a beverage better and more wholesome is found to take its place.

Is there not some truth in the remark that when the public insist upon having decent, fairly habitable houses by refusing to go into any others, the supply would be forthcoming? If nobody would rent those abominable rookeries that are getting far too common, even in Toronto, their owners would be glad to pull them down and build better ones. It is worth trying at any rate.

Criminal assaults upon little girls and unprotected women are becoming alarmingly common. The law will need to be made more severe for such miscreants and administered with undeviating energy and impartiality.

Capt. Delamere, who got himself so much injured on returning from the review on Thanksgiving Day, is understood to be nearly well, and so is the other officer. Pity that such apparently reckless men as caused the accident could not be severely punished.

The way in which the street cars of Toronto have always been managed has been a disgrace to all concerned, and there is not much improvement going. Master and man seem very much alike. They seem to think that they are masters of the situation and can do very much as they please. Perhaps they are right, still it is very bad policy to make people rather disgusted with them and all their belongings.

The present strength of the British army is as follows:—187,851 men and 7,336 officers. There are 96,888 serving in the United Kingdom; 83,629 in Egypt; 61,705 in India, and the rest in the colonies. There had been during the year as many as 14,038 cases of Courts Martial, of which more than 4,000 were for drunkenness off and on duty. The large proportion of the men are English, as many as 708 in every 1,000 and nearly all belong to the churches of England or Rome. One naturally asks whether all

the idleness of such numbers of men in the very vigor of young manhood is necessary. Better, surely, if they were all usefully employed at some kind or other of reproductive industry.

One of the Glasgow professors is in a bad way. He delivers the same lectures every year. Some student has taken them down in shorthand and sold them to a bookseller. This bookseller has printed and published the same slightly disguised. The professor now seeks to restrain publication. Better make new lectures. It would be a change and would baulk the cribber.

The revision of the old Testament is now complete. It is not so much a revision as a new translation. The changes are far greater, more numerous and more important than those in the revised version of the New Testament. The men who have made the new translation are far more competent than those who made the common version of King James. Yet it will be a long time before the new supersedes the old, if indeed it ever do it. Curious how people cling to old use and wont. More people than would be suspected have the persuasion, though they would not confess to it, that King James' Bible is inspired, and that it is something like sacrilege to make the least though the most necessary changes in its readings. The sooner that is got quit of the better. Still, if the English is as cramped schoolboy and baldly literal as that of the New Testament revised version, it would not be surprising if the old should be preferred.

TRUTH has given good wholesome advice to all colored people who are angry because they labor under certain social disabilities. That advice is substantially that they should by quiet industry seek to improve their worldly circumstances, and by every means in their power try to increase their knowledge, and to improve their manners, and no doubt, in time, all their grievances of any consequence will be removed. This advice is substantially repeated by a colored person writing to the *New York Globe* in the following terms:—"Let each man of us resolve to save more money. Without money a man cuts a very poor figure in the world. He is to a certain extent a cipher—a sort of drone in the social hive. Our children should be taught the value of time, the value of intelligence, and the value of money. Now is the time to begin." That is so, and if a good many white people would take the same advice, and follow it out in practice, it would be a good thing for them and their children as well. How can any person expect to rise if he spends just as he earns, and all that he earns? In that case he must be content to remain a drudge all his days. The borrower is a slave to the lender, and so is the poor to the rich. How a poor man, who has scarcely a copper to his name, can spend a cent on tobacco or whiskey is a mystery that no fellow can understand, unless, perhaps, it is to be accounted for on the principle that he is disgusted and despairing because he can save so little, and therefore thinks it is not worth his while to begin. That may be, but he makes himself a slave all

the same, and keeps his own nose more steadily and hardly to the grindstone than any boss could do if he tried. The publicans till is the place for the fool's pence, and no mistake. If every one were to make a point of saving something every week what a change would soon be brought round!

The London *Queen*, it is said, thinks that in America the happiness of the community is decidedly advanced by women being made useful as well as ornamental. TRUTH would just think that it was. The only remarkable thing about the statement is that any one should think it worth while to put on record a truth which has so evidently the character of a truism. It might just as reasonably be said that the sum of human happiness would be increased by women being women, and not mere drawing-room or mantle-piece ornaments. A great number of people have long ago recognized and acted on this. It is to be hoped that the time will come, and that speedily, when no one will act on any other understanding, and when the race of living dolls shall have for ever disappeared from the earth.

The report that the British Cabinet proposes to give the same franchise to the rural constituencies of Ireland as is intended for those of Great Britain is very naturally raising a great commotion, and will likely drive the more moderate of Mr. Gladstone's followers over to the Conservatives. This has always been the way. A certain class of people can go far in the way of what they call reform, but beyond that they cannot think of proceeding. The Lord Stanley in the day of the first Reform Bill went so far with the Reformers of those days, but when it was proposed to lay a hand on the Irish Church he bolted, and became the Tory he ever afterwards was. So it will in all likelihood be now. Beyond a certain point it is not possible either to drive or coax some people. But it does not follow that they are right, and that those whom they desert are either anarchists or madmen. Mr. Chamberlain may very likely wish to make the repression system at present sanctioned and practised even by the Gladstone Government, not quite so severe as it is. Well, even though this may turn out all correct, would it follow that Chamberlain was wrong? No, it doesn't. He may, but he also may not.

The plan of the wholesale deportation of Irishmen from Ireland does not meet with the approbation of the Roman Catholic clergy. It is far better that it should never be brought into operation. If the people of Ireland don't want to, still less do the people of Canada. There is plenty of room in this country, but not room for crowds of paupers or those who are next door to that state. It is never to be forgotten that any one proposing to go on a farm in the North-west ought to have at least £200 when he is on the ground, and ready for a start, so as to have anything like a fair chance. Which of the poor Irish brought over the Atlantic at the public expense is likely to have that or anything like it? If they haven't they will be sent out simply to be killed