

### For Reading in the Train.

Twenty-two million foreign eggs are imported into England weekly.

More murders are committed in Italy, than in France, England, and Germany put together.

Six million five hundred thousand is the number of persons engaged in mining all over the world.

An experiment has shown that 1,000 tons of soot settle yearly on the 110 square miles of London's area.

The hobby of a lately deceased merchant, was to collect all the stray buttons that came in his way. During his life, he accumulated a barrel full, and no two buttons are alike.

Recent explorations in Greenland have developed the fact that north of the 75th degree of the land in the valleys is covered with ice of 5,000 to 6,000 feet in thickness.

A feature of the Naval Exhibition will be a model of the Eddystone Lighthouse. The building will be in every way an exact representation of the new Eddystone Lighthouse itself. It is 167ft. 6in. in height; it is promised that the electric light on the top will be 5,000,000 candle power.

The late Mr. T. C. Baring, M.P., has left an immense fortune. It is proof of his goodness of heart to quote the following telegram, which he sent Lord Revelstoke, on hearing the impending downfall of the house of Baring: "Dear Ned, —Every penny I have in the world is at your disposal.—T. C. Baring."

The Swedes have become very skilful in the manufacture of cutlery. The town of Eskilstuna, lying not far from the western end of Mælär Lake, is now widely known as the "Sheffield of Sweden." Here are situated a dozen or more factories, which turn out the finest cutlery and tools. Eskilstuna razors, pen-knives, and scissors are well-known and highly prized in almost every country.

What is the secret of longevity? A New York journal professes to have elicited from "Six Grand Old Men," their several specifics for longevity:

Mr. Gladstone says:

"I have seven hours of peaceful sleep every night. When at Hawarden I attend morning church daily. Aside from the spiritual benefit derived from religious exercises, I believe that going to church exercises a soothing influence upon the whole nervous system."

The Poet Laureate says:

"My having celebrated my eighty-first birthday, is probably in consequence of my not having worried or fretted over the small affairs of life."

Great Britain spends six times as much money on war, as it does on education.

Over 5,500 are reported to desert from the British regiments yearly.

England possesses nearly nine-tenths of the wealth in the British Isles.

The average weekly loss of vessels on the seas throughout the world is twelve.

In some agricultural districts, it is said, the decrease in population since the last census has been 40 per cent.

An Italian statistician has calculated that during the last 100 years, 6,030 persons perished in 17 principal maritime disasters, without reckoning the lives lost in similar shipwrecks and accidents.

Robespierre's small portfolio, in which he took to the Convention of the Committee of Public Safety, is now in the Carnavalet Museum. It is in black morocco, his name in gilt letters being on the outside.

A census has been made of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, from which it appears that the aggregate membership of the Connexion in Great Britain is 422,927, exclusive of 62,416 young persons in junior classes. The London districts show a total of 42,644.

Quill toothpicks come from France. The largest factory in the world is near Paris, where there is an annual product of 20,000,000 quills, the factory was started to make quill pens, but when these went out of general use it was converted into a toothpick mill.

Here is another anecdote of Lord Beaconsfield. It is that of a labourer at Hughenden, who, addressing his lordship's coachman, and not knowing his lordship was in the carriage, enquired: "How's the old man to-day?" "I'm quite well, thank you," replied the Earl, looking suddenly out of the carriage window, and thoroughly enjoying the joke.

One of the oldest of the military pensioners, named Ciattoni, committed suicide in a very eccentric fashion recently in the hospital at Paris. He said to one of his comrades: "I cannot die like a civilian in a bed." Shortly afterwards, he went upstairs and blew his brains out. Ciattoni had served in Algeria, the Crimea, and Italy, and had been in no less than eighteen battles.

The business of what is called "wolfing" a State out of money has been reduced to a science in Minnesota. It having cost the State last year twenty-five thousand dollars for wolf bounties, an investigation disclosed the fact, that, in the northern part of the State, wolf-farms existed, where wolves were bred for the bounty of five dollars a head on each. It paid better than growing wheat.

The visit of the Prince of Wales to India, cost £142,000.

The Salvation Army is rapidly spreading all over Finland.

Scent farms, for the manufacture of perfumes are the latest form of industry in South Africa.

According to the *Lancet*, the average duration of human life has increased ten years in the last century.

A Paris journal states, that a little girl died recently in an infirmary of that city from the effects of wearing red stockings.

From 1839 to the end of 1890 Parliament gave in grants of elementary education in England and Wales, the sum of £60,046,515 1s. 7d.

The number of scholars for whom accommodation is provided in England and Wales reaches 5,556,507, and the average in daily attendance is 3,732,327.

The Empress of Germany shares her husband's military tastes. At one of the grand reviews she was in the saddle for two hours, riding superbly and leading her own regiment of cuirassiers past the Emperor. Her uniform as colonel was a habit of white cloth embroidered with the silver colours of the regiment on shoulders and collar. She wore a three cornered felt hat with drooping plumes and looked remarkably well.

Cats we are told, have little natural liking for music but the taste can be acquired. A certain pet cat, though as a kitten indifferent to music, grew to like it, and regularly led the way to the piano when tea was over. Here she took post on a chair, and listened gravely during the whole performance. When it ceased she would go to sleep, though not if the instrument were left open, in which case, puss instantly leaped on the keys and poured a performance of her own, in which she showed an extreme partiality to the treble notes, and something like alarm at the lower base ones, when she happened to give them an extra vigorous kick.

There was a remarkable omission in the service at the marriage of Lady Cecilia Howard some weeks ago. The Rev. H. J. Bulkeley, Rector of Morpeth, the officiating clergyman, coming to that part of the service where the clergyman, addressing the bride, should say: "Wilt thou obey him and serve him, love, honour, and keep him, in sickness and in health?" read it as follows: "Wilt thou serve him, love, honor and keep him in sickness and in health?" the words "obey him" being omitted. There were several persons present at the ceremony, whose curiosity had been stimulated by the rumour that the bride would not promise to obey her husband; but the elision to most people present escaped unnoticed.