Vespers.

Over the plain the convent bells
Are falling peaceful, soft and clear;
Over the pines, sweet tones to lay drowsy ear.
Soft and clear, tender and dear,
The well-known chimes are echoing still
Their mellow music, far and near,
From the moss-grown tower on the convent hill.

The tall green ranks in the evening wind,
In blissful waves o'er the prairie wide;
Yet long that music comes to us across the West,
The same chime strikes on every ear,
Soft and clear, tender and dear,
The well-known chimes are echoing still
Their mellow music, far and near,
From the moss-grown tower on the convent hill.

With joyous peals those windows bells
Have sent forth praise to the nation's heart;
Stirring chimes, gloriously rolling,
Pierce the skies, tender and dear,
The well-known chimes are echoing still
From the moss-grown tower on the convent hill.

Memories thronging in the throbbing notes,
Prayers of youth in the days of yore;
A host of tones were the lagging years,
Pealing round their misty shore!
Soft and clear, tender and dear,
The well-known chimes are echoing still
Their mellow music, far and near,
From the moss-grown tower on the convent hill.

The days that are gone those distant bells
Have sent their call through the twilight air.
Swung by the fairest, gathering oft,
To summon the faithful to evening prayer.
Soft and clear, tender and dear,
The well-known chimes are echoing still
Their mellow music, far and near,
From the moss-grown tower on the convent hill.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Rev. Dr. Lorimer, of Chicago, who has been accused of plagiarizing other men's sermons, was once an actor.

Principal Rainey has just laid the foundation-stone of a new Free Church at Oomrie, Scotland. The late Miss Mactarlane left £9,000 towards its erection.

The Rev. David McKee, the successor of Dr. John Hall in the pastorate of Rutland Square Presbyterian Church, Dublin, has resigned to go to New Zealand.

The Russian missionaries in Japan having succeeded in converting 4,000 Japanese to their faith, a Bishop is to be sent to Jeddo by the St. Petersburg Synod.

The Christian Reformed Church of the Netherlands, which was formed in 1834 as a protest against the rationalizing tendencies in the Reformed Church of Holland, has now 900 ministers and 350 congregations.

Lord Cairns, the Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, holds religious meetings among his neighbors. His Lordship expounds the Scriptures, and Lady Cairns leads the music, playing a melodeon.

In Melbourne, Victoria, Bishop Moorhouse has created a sensation by heading a deputation to the Minister of Education to urge the teaching of the historical events of the Bible in the State schools.

The Pope is stirring up his people in Rome to establish more schools in order to keep the young Romans from falling a prey to the numerous Protestant proselytizers that now have free scope to work in the "Eternal City."

London *Truth* says that some one asked Talmage "what he came here for." "I guess I came to get money," replied Talmage. "But," said his questioner, "I thought America was the place to make money." "Yes, but in England its already made," was the answer.

The English Salvation Army have been having high jinks at Darlington in the shape of a hallelujah wedding. They had no marriage license for their own hall, so they borrowed a Congregational church, and a Miss Clapham performed the ceremony, in presence of a crowded and not very reverent audience.

It is stated that the English Government intends to offer places in the Senate of the new Irish University to at least four of the Irish Catholic bishops, and several professors of the Roman Catholic University will be elected to fellowships and places of emolument.

The King of Siam has issued a proclamation declaring that henceforth every man shall be allowed to worship God without molestation, and according to the dictates of his own conscience. Converts to Christianity are not to be forced to worship spirits or to work on Sunday.

It is felt that the resignation by Dr. Cumming of the pastorate of the Crown Court congregation, London, removes one of the main difficulties from the way of a union between the English Presbyterians and the congregations of the Established Church of Scotland south of the Tweed.

Rev. Mr. Calderwood, Presbyterian missionary at Saharanpur, makes an appeal for an organ, to be used as "an evangelistic instrument" to accompany the singing. He thinks if his eldest son had a small one which could be put in a box and carried on a native's head he would be almost as valuable as an additional preacher.

Mr. Moody objects very much to any obstruction between himself and his audience. On entering the hall in Cleveland, last week, where he was to speak, he found a large ornamental glass stand in front of the platform, filled with water and plants. "That is very pretty," he said; "but it must come away. It would feel like an iceberg between me and my congregation."

Bishop Peck, of Syracuse, weighs between 350 and 400 pounds, and one night recently his bed crushed under him. The gentleman at whose house he was visiting ran upstairs in great alarm. "What's the matter, Bishop?" anxiously enquired the host. "Nothing at all," groaned the clergyman. "Just tell your wife if I'm not here in the morning to look for me in the cellar."

Our readers are aware that sometime ago the case of Professor Smith, of Aberdeen, was again referred back by the local Presbytery to the Assembly for further direction. The minority appealed to the Synod of Aberdeen against this decision, but the Synod by a very decisive majority confirmed the action of the Presbytery so that the case now lies definitely over till next May.

John B. Gough said on Thursday evening, at his reception, that Charles H. Spurgeon is a thorough abstainer from all kinds of alcoholic stimulants. Spurgeon formerly drank beer to some extent, but of late years has relinquished it. Spurgeon used to decline to work with the temperance men because he thought there were so many infidels among them. He has now overcome his scruples in this respect and throws his influence heartily into the temperance reform.

Rev. Jacob Abbott, author and divine, died at his residence, Framington, Me., on Friday morning. He was born at Hallowell, Me., in 1803, and graduated at Bowdoin College in 1820. Mr. Abbott wrote a number of books, the principal of which are "The Young Christian," "The Corner Stone," "Way To Do Good," "The Teacher," "Henry Head and McDonnor," "Summer in Scotland," and "A Series of Histories of Celebrated Sovereigns."

The missionaries in Madagascar made the first translation of the Bible in Malagasy, in 1835. In the rising against Christianity which followed, sacrilegious hands in driving the missionaries from the country, nearly all these Bibles were destroyed; but some were buried, and thus preserved until the missionaries were permitted to return and resume their duties. This Bible is now being revised. The work has been going on two years, and is participated in by three missionaries of the London, one of the Propagation of the Gospel, one of the Quaker, and two of the Norwegian Missionary Societies.

The Evangelical Union, called into existence by a revolt from certain doctrines of the Westminster Confession, recently held a conference at Glasgow. The denomination was started in 1843, and numbers now about ninety churches. It was stated at the Conference that a marked advance toward a more liberal theology had been made in the United Presbyterian Church since that year. A new hymnal was adopted by the Union, concerning which it was said that "men would find a better estimate of the Evangelical Union Church in their new hymn book than in their doctrinal declarations or the preaching of their ministers."

Christian missionaries at Kin-chau, China, have hit upon the novel plan of buying native girls in order to convert them, but it is found hard to obtain them at a reasonable price. The plan is to get the money back from the husbands when the girls marry. The mission publication, *China's Millions*, gives the stipulations between the missionaries and the parents as follows: "That the parents be allowed to receive half their money now and half at the girl's marriage; that the fact be unbound; that the betrothal of the girl be entirely in the hands of the School Superintendent; that she may not return home before her marriage; that, if the parents recall her after the three months' probation, they repay the school for the girl's board at the rate of $2 per month."

In the Free Synod of Glasgow and Ayr recently a motion was made to send to the Assembly an overture which states that it is "notorious that many ministers and Sessions of the Church are, knowingly or unknowingly, introducing the Congregational system, by introducing hymn books not authorized by the Church and receiving into their pulpits men who have been deposed by the Church of which they were office-bearers, and are using the pulpit as a rostrum mainly of literary and critical essays, in place of the truths of the Gospel. Therefore the Assembly should 'either raise the terms of subscription of Confession or put in force for correction and reformation the laws and usages of the Church practically existing.'" The motion was lost by a vote of 19 to 2.

A conflict between Church and State is raging in New South Wales, occasioned by the sending of a pastoral letter of the bishops in all the Roman Catholic Churches on the 3rd of August, urging the faithful to withdraw their children from the public schools. A few days later Archbishop Vaughan, at a confirmation service, called upon those of the candidates who attended the public schools to step forward and then refused to confirm them unless their parents would promise to remove them from these schools. In a single week 1,500 children were removed from the schools at Sydney. Then the Archbishop preferred charges against the public schools of godlessness and immorality; and he had no sooner proclaimed them than the Rev. Joseph Jefferies took up the gauntlet in defence of the schools. From the ecclesiastical field the controversy went to the press and then into the Council of Education, so that all parties are now discussing the question of religious instruction in the public schools.

AN ENOCH ARDEN CASE.

A romantic episode, which bears a similarity to the MacArthur-Eaglesom case, of Ekfrid, recently settled by the Court of Appeal, reaches us from East Saginaw, Mich. It appears that thirty-one years ago there resided in Saratoga County, N. Y., Sands C. Carpenter, a young man with a wife and two sons. At this time the Millerite "boom" was at its height, and Carpenter's father-in-law was an enthusiast. Carpenter did not believe in the faith, and the religious fervor of his father-in-law assumed such a pitch that it resulted in separating Carpenter from his wife and two little boys. He went to Albany, and in 1856 removed to Chatham, Ont., where he remained two years and then located at St. Clair and subsequently at Port Huron, which he has ever since made his headquarters, being engaged in surveying and locating. From the time he left home he lost all trace of his family, other than the mere fact that they had removed to Michigan. On Wednesday Carpenter, now a grey-haired man of 64, went to Saginaw for the purpose of locating some land which he had been looking over, and in conversation with a gentleman named Richardson, who resides near Flushing, Carpenter learned that a hereabouts of his son, whom he had not seen since he was a child. He at once telegraphed to Corunna, and on Wednesday night the boy, now married and a stalwart man of thirty-one, arrived in Saginaw and was warmly greeted by his father. The meeting of father and son after a separation of twenty-seven years can be imagined. The young man's name is Orlando Carpenter, and he owns a farm near Corunna. The other son, Lewis, resides near Flushing. The wife and mother is also living near Flushing, and, having long since supposed her husband dead, married again to a man named St. John. The old gentleman was overjoyed at meeting his boy. It is not likely that he will interfere with the relations the wife of his youth sustains towards her second husband. He is an intelligent man, and is well connected. His brother was the founder of the Oswego (N.Y.) *Palladium*.

Rest as a Medicine.

Every intelligent medical man of the present day recognizes the very great value of rest in the treatment of disease. It is not our intention, however, in this paper to enter minutely into the physiology of this great natural restorer, but, as in former articles I have endeavored to impress upon my readers the benefits to be derived from judicious exercise, so in this I mean to teach, if I can, in a plain way, the advantages derivable from rest—and if they only manage to carry away with them a few hints they shall not have opened the magazine in vain. Rest and activity might be aptly compared to two sentinels who have between them the duty to perform of guarding a camp of ferocious foes. They must take it in turns—when the one goes off the other comes on. Were Activity to remain too long on duty the heart would flutter and fail, the brain would reel, and the sentinel drop dead of fatigue. On the other hand, Rest might remain long enough on guard to drop asleep. You see that even rest may be overdone; it conduces to sloth, and *ennui*, and atony of the brain. To my thinking there is no more miserable man than he who has nothing to do. Were I deprived of my pen, and deprived of the power of doing otherwise the little good I do, if there were no more work for me in this world, then methinks I should indeed be an unhappy man. On the other hand, put me in prison, and though you feed me but sparely, give me foolscap, ink, and quills, and a daily run in the courtyard, and I think I should manage to rub along.—*a exch's Family Magazine.*

The Scorpion's Suicidal Impulse.

Do animals ever commit suicide? A dog is said to have done so by drowning, perhaps on no stronger evidence than that which authenticated Capt. Marryat's anecdotes. Doubts have been thrown on the sanity of the cat which hanged herself in the fork between two branches. The suicidal character of the scorpion, however, is reasserted by a correspondent of *Nature*. We have all heard how the scorpion, if surrounded by a circle of fire, runs its sting into its own head and so expires. Probably most of us have classed this scorpion with Benvenuto Cellini's celebrated salamander, or with the barnacles who give birth to wild geese. Mr. Allen Thomson, however, has a friend who has often seen scorpions sting themselves to death at Lucca. When the insect is caught he is put in a glass tumbler full of fire. A light is then exhibited, whereon the scorpion first loses his head with excitement, and then "brings his recurved sting down upon it and pierces it forcibly." In a moment his sorrows are over, and "his excitement amounting to despair" ceases to vex him. It is odd that this suicidal mania should be hereditary in scorpions, because, of course, the dead ones cannot have reported to the survivors that the experiment is successful, while suicide is far from complying with Darwinian conditions, and favoring the persistence of the species. The alternative theory could best be put in the words of Aunt Estrick Shepherd, when accounting for the reported visit of a ghost to his grandmother, "Maybe my grandmother was an awful lear." But Mr. Allen Thomson has no doubt about the veracity of his informant.—*London News.*

They are experimenting in Hartford with a substitute for a boiler for steam engines. The device is now in a steam yacht. The whole machinery and apparatus for running the boat take up so little space that they are hardly a bit in the way, and the appearance of the engine and the steam generating apparatus and little smoke-stack is that of a miniature or fairy-sthe engine. Instead of a boiler cumbrous land expanded, taking up much room, there is a little cylinder, in which are coils of pipe. In the pipe the steam is generated. The fuel is poured in an aperture at the top of the cylinder, and the heating is, in brief, just like the operation of a base-burning stove. The little engine feeds the coils with just enough water and no more, and the apparatus is non explosive. This was demonstrated by leaving the boiler and engine to itself for days and nights, only visited at the proper intervals by the man who fed it with the necessary supply of coal.

Enquiries which the London correspondent of an Irish journal has caused to be made at Camden House lead to the belief that there is substantial foundation for the rumor respecting the Empress Eugenie's resolve to visit the spot in Zululand which has been bedewed with the blood of her much regretted but ill-fated son, the Prince Imperial. Remonstrances by those who consider themselves most privileged to address the Empress on the subject have been urged against this pious parental pilgrimage, but the widowed and childless mother, regarding it as a matter of duty to offer up prayers for the repose of the soul of him she loved so tenderly, and on the ground where his life was sacrificed, declines to be influenced by reason or argument, and very soon after she returns to Chiselhurst from Scotland arrangements will be commenced for the journey. It is not by any means impossible that one of Her Majesty's steam yachts may be placed at the disposal of the Empress for the accomplishment of the voyage to Durban.

The Paris *Gaulois* sent a special correspondent to Aberguldie, in Scotland, to interview the Empress Eugenie. The Duc de Bassano obtained for him an audience on condition that he should say little about Her Majesty, and report nothing of what she said. This contract was scrupulously fulfilled. The privileged correspondent gave a pleasant description of the house and grounds, the simple furniture, the hours of breakfast and dinner, and the time for drives, weather permitting; but says nothing more of the Empress than that she is a monument of grief, and sees nobody but the Queen.

Lieutenant Kinloch, killed on his way to join his regiment, the 12th Bengal Cavalry, at Koorum, was the youngest son of Colonel Grant Kinloch, of Logie.

ENGLISH COLUMN.

At Shrewsbury a little boy named Jones, aged three years, who drank two tablespoonfuls of gin, left in a bottle, died shortly after.

Mr. Alderman T. R. Selby, who was designated for the office of Mayor of Falmouth for the ensuing year, died very suddenly on the 19th ult.

Perpetual motion has been discovered again. This time in Liverpool. It goes by water, and can be made to "produce a power sufficient to drive all the engines in Liverpool."

Water recently broke into the tunnel which the Great Western Railway is constructing under the Severn, and the two headings of which were expected to meet in a short time, and the accident will cause a delay of six or eight months in the work.

It is stated that, large numbers of old Enfield rifles having been despatched into different parts of Ireland, the Government have just asked the several railways for returns showing to whom the firearms have been sent and the quantities.

It is announced that Lord George Cavendish will retire at the end of the present Parliament from the representation of North Derbyshire. It is understood that Lord Edward Cavendish will come forward in his place in the Liberal interest.

Lord Truro has caused a mild sensation in England by burying his deceased wife with his own hands, and in a plain wooden box, in the lawn in front of his house, in Kent. It was in accordance with the wishes of deceased and on a spot of her own selection.

When Mr. Phillips, farmer, of St. Blazey, Cornwall, returned from church recently, he noticed that a waggon in his farm yard was overturned. On raising it he was horrified to find the dead bodies of his two sons. The children had apparently overturned the vehicle in their play.

The skull of Lady Jane Grey's father, Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk, was dug up in the yard of the Church of the Holy Trinity, in the Minories, London, a few days ago. Grey was beheaded by Bloody Mary for participation in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion in 1554.

At a meeting of the Inverness Town Council it was unanimously resolved to present the freedom of the burgh to Mr. Bright, M.P., who was residing in that district. A deputation waited on the right hon. gentleman, who expressed his indebtedness for the intended honor, but said he could not accept it at present.

A new bridge over the Severn, in South Wales, was erected recently, making new and important railway connections. It crosses the broad estuary of the river near Barton Passage, and cost about $2,000,000. It is on the bowstring principle, and consists of 22 spans—2 of 537 feet, 3 of 171 feet, 14 of 154 feet, and 1 of 196 feet.

Mr. Massey, M. P., speaking at an Oddfellows' gathering at Tiverton, on the 16th ult., said that all political parties, whose differences, by the way, were greatly to the national benefit, were agreed in supporting friendly societies as calculated to remedy the Englishman's proverbial want of thrift. He believed that Englishmen were superior to any other nation under the sun, but they were inferior in the matter of thrift to the French and Irish.

A project for a tunnel under the River Mersey, between Liverpool and Birkenhead, has taken definite shape. Its estimated cost is £500,000, and the Liverpool Town Council, the Mersey Docks and Harbor Board, the railways having termini at Birkenhead and the Birkenhead Town Council are expected to co-operate in the enterprise, for which the necessary powers are to be asked of Parliament at the next session.

Since the *Town Talk* prosecutions raised some long-justified comment on the public sale of the portraits of women of fashion, a really serious effort has been made by those most interested to stop the sale. In some of the London shop windows where this class of photograph is exhibited, notices are placed that after the present stock of them is exhausted no more can be obtained. The photographers have been warned that they are in danger of prosecution.

At a luncheon held at the Town Hall, Crediton, on the 20th ult., Sir John Shelley in the chair, Colonel Buller presented Private Lethbridge, of the 1st Infantry, who had seen active service in the Zulu war, with a handsome silver watch, gold chain and locket, which had been subscribed for by his fellow-townsmen on his return to his native town. Corporal Berry, 1 24th, would have been similarly honored, but he remains in Africa, where he has purchased his discharge. His brother represented him, and his present will be transmitted by Sir J. Shelley.

He would undertake to say that during the last twenty or thirty years there had been more careless girls living in England, in proportion to the population, in sheer idleness, than we had ever seen before. Instead of many of these wasting their lives in luxurious drawing-rooms, would it not be much better that they should give themselves to intellectual pursuits, that they should become students, that they should, in fact, subject their minds to the discipline which was to be afforded by a college?—*Report of Jacob Bright's address at Manchester, England.*

During the hearing of a case in which Joseph Brook was summoned for not sending a boy, twelve years of age, to school, the Lord Mayor, presiding in the justice-room of the Mansion House, spoke strongly of the law which compelled boys to go to school who could already read and write fairly. Addressing the representative of the London School Board, His Lordship remarked, "Here is a lad able to read and write and earning his bread and cheese, and you come and pounce upon his parents. It is a great pity that the law should be so enforced that the mother should be compelled to give up 5s a week."

Some curious advertisements are unearthed from the Newcastle *Chronicle* by the *Court Circular*. One advertiser wishes to "Rent a summer house, with or without garden, during the weather only. Address by letter, stating lowest terms, to ——." What on earth can a man want to do in a summer house on winter nights? This next is a delightful one: "Drapery Partnership — Wanted, a Christian young man, with £700 or £1,000, or two young men with £400 or £500 each, equally required. Satisfactory testimony of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; also give full particulars, with carte enclosed, by letter, to ——, *Chronicle* office." It is to be feared that the Christian young man going into partnership with this pious draper had better look sharp after his tin or he will be punctually skinned like a tender lambkin.

A shocking case of hydrophobia terminated fatally at Dewsbury on the 17th October. A laborer, named Starkie, was bitten by a dog five weeks ago, but the wound healed and he appeared all right up till Tuesday, when he complained of feeling extremely cold. Late on Wednesday night he got out of bed and went into the yard as naked, running about on all fours with strange agility, and barking like a dog. Meeting a policeman after midnight he attacked him and inflicted severe injuries, but was unable to bite him, though he made a desperate attempt. Four constables came up, and with difficulty rescued the officer. The man was secured and conveyed to the workhouse, where he died next morning in awful agonies, suffering paroxysm after paroxysm, barking and foaming at the mouth.

From the London *World*—"If the shade of Albert Smith were permitted to revisit the glimpses of the gaslight, he would be astonished to learn the change in the condition of the ballet-girl, whom he loved so wisely and so well, and whose history he wrote with such chivalrous earnestness. I understand that the ballet at Sadler's Wells is composed of the imporerished daughters of gentlemen, who are compelled to get their own living, and who are glad to earn £1 a week in this position. Among them, perhaps, are to be found in embryo the Neilsons, the Terrys, the Footes of the future. I am sure that, under Mrs. Bateman's kindly care, they will have no reason to complain of the stage door being beleaguered."

Speaking of the case of Miss Edwards, of Liverpool, and other mysterious disappearances, the London correspondent of a provincial paper says: "At the time of the discovery of the remains (and before their identification as those of Miss Hacker), in Euston square, Chief Superintendent Williamson, of Scotland Yard, received upward of 1,000 photographs of females who were missing from various parts of the country, the bulk of whom had been traced to London, where the clue was lost. The theory entertained by the officers is that, in many instances, after the victim has been marked down, advantage is taken of the lax state of the present lunacy laws, a certificate of lunacy, signed by two unscrupulous medical practitioners, is obtained, and the unfortunate creature is conveyed to one of the so-called private asylums, scores of which exist unsuspected in our large towns, and detained where help or discovery is next to impossible.

It is rumored in London that Mr. Gladstone is about to lend his aid to the establishment of a branch of the Old Catholic sect in that city.

SCOTCH COLUMN.

Colonel Campbell, of Blythswood, has agreed to contest Renfrewshire in the Conservative interest.

Arbroath School Board has approved of the scheme for inspecting religious instruction in schools.

Sir Curtis Sampson has brought down a fine stag, weighing 22 stones, to Glenmore forest.

Mr. D. C. Pagan, collector of customs, Dundee, died at his residence, Broughty Ferry, on the 10th inst., very suddenly.

The amounts of the contracts for the Forth Bridge are—Messrs. Arroll, £370,000, and the Sheffield firm for chains, £310,000.

The Rev. William Ogilvie, minister of Fintray, has intimated an application to the Teind Court for augmentation of stipend from 16 to 20½ chalders.

The Earl of Aberdeen has resolved to construct at a cost of about £25,000 a railway through his property in East Aberdeenshire from Udny to Methlick.

Mr. Baird, of Urie, is willing to contest the County of Kincardine in the Tory interest, if the state of his health will permit him to become a candidate.

The Rev. Wm. Graham, Lochmaben, having forwarded a photograph of the statue of the Bruce to the Queen, with a report of the proceedings, has received an acknowledgment of them.

A marriage has been arranged between Captain Richardson, 64th Regiment, son of Sir John Richardson, Bart., of Pitfour, and Jessie, only daughter of Mr. Montague Williams, barrister.

The members of the Episcopal Church Representative Council which has met at Inverness have dined by special invitation with the Duchess of Sutherland at Dunrobin Castle.

The estate of Balruddery, along with the property of Pilmores, Perthshire, has been purchased for £94,000 by Mr. James F. White, of the firm of James F. White & Co., Dundee and New York.

The chair in the Glasgow University which has just been conferred on Dr. Wm. Jack is said to be worth £2,000 per annum. The Professor is a native of Irvine, and received his early education in the Academy of that ancient burgh.

The action to recover £100 damages raised sometime ago by Peter Alex. Robertson, "Dundonnelle," against John Long & Co., Dundee, for an alleged libel printed in the *People's Journal*, has now been disposed of in favor of the defendants.

Sir R. Anstruther, of Fife, states that he has derived but little benefit to his health from a summer spent in Switzerland, and that his medical advisers have recommended him to spend the winter in the south of France.

Major-General Biddulph is shortly to proceed to Balmoral to receive the honor of knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty, in acknowledgment of his services in command of one of the columns of the last Afghan expedition.

Mr. John Davie, of Port-Glasgow, who died on the 7th of October, in his 80th year, mentioned in his will that he had walked to the sacrament at Glasgow, wading across the Clyde where the Broomielaw Bridge now stands.

Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., has, in compliance with the unanimous request of Grand Committee, consented to allow himself to be nominated for the office of Speaker. The normal parts involve not a little curious history. For instance, we carry at the back of the gown a little pocket which, though still worn, is now sewn up. That appendage takes you back more than 500 years, to the days before the Reformation, when the Speaker were churchmen. No churchman was allowed to accept a regular payment for his services. But, if he was prohibited from handling the money, that was no reason why you, if you wanted your case particularly well attended to, should not put a couple of gold pieces into the bag without anybody's leave or knowledge. Hence the pocket in the hat. So you see we have still some relics of the past surviving in this reforming age. Many of our names, even, strike a stranger as peculiar. The official head of the bar is called 'The Dean of Faculty.' A'n,' said Sydney Smith, when he heard the title for the first time; 'that's very odd now. With us in England our deans have no faculties!' Absurd as these old customs and names may be, it cannot be denied that the country has reason to be proud of her judicial arrangements, not merely in the Supreme Court, but down to the humblest judicatory."

At a distance, people are apt to miscalculate as to the extent of the foreign goods Australia is capable of absorbing. Even now, it is found that there is a tendency to flood the markets of those colonies, as will be seen from the following extract from a late issue of the Sydney *Morning Herald*:

The Exhibition has attracted here a large number of agents from Europe and America, anxious to do business for manufacturing houses. There seems to be a wrong impression abroad as to the consuming power of Australasia, and this may have arisen from the lavish expenditure in gold-digging times. Things are changed now, and daily setting down to their normal condition. At present there are quite enough goods here to supply millions of people to supply at present, and to attempt to force trade must only result in a loss.

Brevities.

Mrs. Langtry's husband has a red moustache, slight side whiskers, and dresses very plainly.

Snow shovelling is very good exercise—if you can prevail on the cook or kitchen maid to engage in the business.

Was there ever a woman so diabolically mean as to place long hairs on the lapel of a man's coat just to make his wife jealous.

Many a merchant, lawyer or manufacturer who would stand aghast if he were asked a question about his private business will, within two minutes after he has been introduced to a journalist, begin to cross-examine him about the private affairs of his office and his associates.

Now is the time of year that the young bride loudly gazes at seven fish knives and a pair of sugar tongs, a napkin ring and a clock, and sweetly whispers to the wedding guests, that "the other presents are not displayed, owing to the wish of the givers, who hate publicity."

"An' can yez tell me," says Murphy the other day, "why the small scythe I bought for me little Teddy to cut grass for da ox wid is lotke these two-wheeled carts the young fellows is all-a-rid-in' around? Give it up, eh? Why, just bekase it's hyes-sickle; d'ye see? Thank your honor, I don't care if I do."

If there is one thing more than another that will make a young man in a big business hole bonnet, light gloves, and hurried in the middle, come down to hard pan and as near common sense as he can get without previous preparation or adaptability, it is to have a woman tell him he ought to have been born a girl.

"What is the difference between the article a woman has in her hand and the woman herself as she steps on a peach paring while chasing her undutiful son around the corner?" was the very simple question he asked. "It's easy; the one is a slapping slipper, and the other a slipping slapper," was his voluntary answer, not unmingled with the slickest grin we ever witnessed.

They were meandering arm in arm up the street, and a short distance ahead of them walked a young lady very handsomely attired. The sun was about setting and its light was throwing a beautiful crimson glow all over the earth. "How beautiful! perfectly grand!" ete "Well, I don't know," was the response from the fair one by his side, "I don't admire her style, and the dress is a mighty poor fit." He weakened, and the sunset interested him no more.

At a soiree—"Ah, Miss Fitzjoy," said Mr. Toploffy, with a smile that nearly twisted his eyeglass from its socket, "didn't I observe you, aw, this afternoon, widing down the avahnue, aw?" "Oh, indeed, Mr. Toploffy, did you see me? Yes, pa has a new span, and he was just speeding them a little. Do you know that when I saw you on the sidewalk I thought you must be one of those ground swells we read so much about; now I did really." "Weally, eh?" and he "woamed" off to seek more "agweeable company.

A Concession to Canadian Catholic Students.—Writing from Lourdes to Rev. Father Rooney, of Toronto, Archbishop Lynch says—"We left Pisa at eleven o'clock a. m. and arrived at Genoa at about seven o'clock. I went straight to the College for foreign missions, kept by priests of the mission, my old *confreres*. I here obtained the great favor of sending three students to the college free; even they will be provided with clothes and all other necessaries. The only expense will be their journey there and return. Five years is their course of theology, canon laws, Scripture, Church history, sermons, etc., etc. This is a great favor. I believe that I can increase the number and procure some free places for my friends."

The old trick of getting up a sham fight in the gallery of a theatre, and then throwing the stuffed figure of a man over the railing, was successfully played at Leadville. The excitement in the lower part of the house caused a panic, and an actress fainted on the stage.

THE RAVAGES OF DIPHTHERIA AND TYPHOID FEVER.

The alarming prevalence of diphtheria in the most virulent form in various parts of the country should stir up every one interested in the public health to clamor an enforcement which may have a tendency to prevent the spread of the disease. It is to be regretted that sanitary laws—from the breach of which, as many towns and other diseases are propagated—are not more generally observed. In fact, among many people the most deplorable ignorance is known to prevail in regard to the principles which conduce to health. Thus, in Toronto, an entire family was lately struck down with diphtheria. One died after a short illness, and the others, no doubt, owe their recovery to their timely removal to the hospital, where they were cared for. The housekeeper, who was only slightly affected, was sent to the same institution. She soon recovered, and went back to the house to clean up. But only a short time elapsed before she was again attacked, this time by the disease in its worst form, and she was removed to the hospital and successfully treated. Meanwhile an examination of the premises revealed the fact that the drain under the house had a huge leak, permitting the death-dealing poisonous gases to permeate the air of every room. There can be no doubt that this was a clear case of sewage poisoning, and but a repetition of what is of common occurrence in many localities. Typhoid fever and diphtheria are nearly always the result of defective drainage or other breaches of sanitary laws, and we cannot too forcibly impress upon householders the necessity of carefully attending to the drainage of their premises. Scrupulous cleanliness will go a much long way toward keeping off these deadly diseases. When, as in the case of the Wetherills, of London Township, diphtheria numbers its victims so unrelentingly as to carry off five members of one family, in the course of a few days, it surely requires no plea for our hands to convince every man, valuing his own life and his family's health, that these two most malignant scourges can only be prevented by a strict obedience to the laws of health. So well established has this fact become in England, that a leading medical man lately stated that if people were educated in sanitary laws and the effects of their observance, typhoid fever, which annually carries off thousands of the best population of Great Britain, could be banished from the land. If it and its equally virulent companion diphtheria cannot be banished from Canada, surely our citizens can do much to prevent their spread. The scheme for registering the prevalence of disease in different localities of the country, portrayed in the Times of yesterday, will be an invaluable assistance in the right direction, and we wish it all success.—*Hamilton Times.*

WIG AND GOWN.

A Scotch advocate writes a pleasant letter to a New York journal concerning the peculiarities and traditions of his profession. "I find," he said, "that nothing interests an American so much as my wig and gown. I only wish the people who thus derives amusement from the fashion had to experience its inconvenience. To begin with, they are by no means cheap. A horsehair wig costs about $60, and an ordinary one—they are now all made out of unmanageable horsehair—will last but a very soon get dirty, and need to powder them as some men used to do, only makes one's coat perpetually greasy. Then in summer they are hot and tight on the head. Yet we all wear them. We are not compelled to do so. We must wear a gown; that is our mandate. The abolition of the gown I regard as inexpedient. The reasons for it involve not a little curious history. For instance, we carry at the back of the gown a little pocket which, though still worn, is now sewn up. That appendage takes you back more than 500 years, to the days before the Reformation, when the Speaker were churchmen. No churchman was allowed to accept a regular payment for his services. But, if he was prohibited from handling the money, that was no reason why you, if you wanted your case particularly well attended to, should not put a couple of gold pieces into the bag without anybody's leave or knowledge. Hence the pocket in the hat. So you see we have still some relics of the past surviving in this reforming age. Many of our names, even, strike a stranger as peculiar. The official head of the bar is called 'The Dean of Faculty.' 'A'n,' said Sydney Smith, when he heard the title for the first time; 'that's very odd now. With us in England our deans have no faculties!' Absurd as these old customs and names may be, it cannot be denied that the country has reason to be proud of her judicial arrangements, not merely in the Supreme Court, but down to the humblest judicatory."

FORECASTING DISEASES—A NEW SCHEME.

In the *Canada Lancet* for the present month there is an interesting article on the country should stir up every one interested in the public health to clamor an enforcement which may have a tendency to prevent the spread of the disease. It is to be regretted that sanitary laws—from the breach of which, as many towns and other diseases are propagated—are not more generally observed. In fact, among many people the most deplorable ignorance is known to prevail in regard to the principles which conduce to health. Thus, in Toronto, an entire family was lately struck down with diphtheria. One died after a short illness, and the others, no doubt, owe their recovery to their timely removal to the hospital, where they were cared for. The housekeeper, who was only slightly affected, was sent to the same institution. She soon recovered, and went back to the house to clean up. But only a short time elapsed before she was again attacked, this time by the disease in its worst form, and she was removed to the hospital and successfully treated. Meanwhile an examination of the premises revealed the fact that the drain under the house had a huge leak, permitting the death-dealing poisonous gases to permeate the air of every room. There can be no doubt that this was a clear case of sewage poisoning, and but a repetition of what is of common occurrence in many localities. Typhoid fever and diphtheria are nearly always the result of defective drainage or other breaches of sanitary laws, and we cannot too forcibly impress upon householders the necessity of carefully attending to the drainage of their premises. Scrupulous cleanliness will go a much long way toward keeping off these deadly diseases. When, as in the case of the Wetherills, of London Township, diphtheria numbers its victims so unrelentingly as to carry off five members of one family, in the course of a few days, it surely requires no plea for our hands to convince every man, valuing his own life and his family's health, that these two most malignant scourges can only be prevented by a strict obedience to the laws of health. So well established has this fact become in England, that a leading medical man lately stated that if people were educated in sanitary laws and the effects of their observance, typhoid fever, which annually carries off thousands of the best population of Great Britain, could be banished from the land. If it and its equally virulent companion diphtheria cannot be banished from Canada, surely our citizens can do much to prevent their spread. The scheme for registering the prevalence of disease in different localities of the country, portrayed in the Times of yesterday, will be an invaluable assistance in the right direction, and we wish it all success.—*Hamilton Times.*

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The Virtues of Mustard.

I have heard that the European custom of eating mustard with sausages dates back to remote antiquity. Edward IV., brother-in-law to the Duke of Burgundy, replied in 1475 to the citizens of a town which they besought him to spare, that war could not be conducted without burnings any more than sausage could be eaten without mustard. A little later Rabelais spoke of mustard as the "natural ointment of sausage." But these are comparatively modern examples, for it is worthy of note that the sausage itself has almost as ancient an origin as its piquant companion. To the Roman mind of philosophical Greece—epicurean Greece opposed seven-headed cookery, one of whom (Aphonius) bears as his title to glory the fame of having invented sausages.

Of the effects of mustard on the human system much has been written. It not only excites the salivary secretions to a wakeful state, but induces stimulation from its langour, but it appears to confer upon the system several physiological conditions. One author, experienced in experimental gastronomy, asserts that by some occult virtue it replenishes the smouldering flame of vitality, while others claim that it invigorates the memory, enlivens the imagination and renders the perceptive qualities more clear. Hustins, a physician of the sixteenth century, who bore the name of the "Eucalapius of Germany," declared that it gave birth to wit.—*Philadelphia Sunday Times.*

Why People go to Sleep in Church.

A medical man writes—About this time the church sexton becomes specially vigorous in building fires. The weather is cool enough to need a very hot fire; but the sexton has not been working at the furnace for some months past, and he now takes hold of it with all the pleasure that attends the doing of a new task which has not yet become monotonous. But though he shoves a on the coal and kicks the draft close, he is not feel satisfied till he closes up all the ventilation in the building and gets the double window on the outside and putties up every little crack. Of course, this makes the matter worse; but the average sexton is not supposed to know it. If the ventilators are closed and the hot air would rise through the registers, expel the cold air, and afford a tolerably comfortable atmosphere for the congregation to breathe. But with no vent whatever the temperature does not rise very readily, and so the sexton tries to make the furnace as fiery as Nebuchadnezzar's; the result being that not only hot and decrepitated air is saved and sung it to perfection. Notwithstanding his advancing years the "silver voice" of