

CURRENT EVENTS.

The Argentine government pays a bounty on exported sugar.

Governor Shaw was inaugurated at Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 13.

Eleven reindeer have been received at New York for the Klondike expedition.

Thomas A. Eddison, Jr., has invented a machine to utilize the wave powers of the sea.

McKenna, the nominee for supreme judge has not yet been confirmed by the senate. He is opposed by the A. P. A. because he is a Catholic.

The Lacey bill, extending the homestead laws to Alaska and granting right of way to railroads, has been reported favorably to the house of representatives.

Li Hung Chang has requested the appointment as minister to his country Col. F. D. Grant, but his dispatch was received too late, as Conger had already been nominated.

The prospect for the annexation of Hawaii is said to be improving. The president of the island republic is on his way to this country to discuss the matter with the administration.

The departure of the government relief expedition to the Klondike has been postponed for two weeks, and further development may render the expedition entirely unnecessary.

The senate committee on privileges and elections has decided to make an adverse report on H. W. Corbett's claim to a seat in the Senate upon the appointment of Gov. Lord of Oregon.

Hanna's troubles do not seem to end with his election to the senate. His enemies will contest his right to a seat by pushing the bribery charge. He and others have been subpoenaed to appear before the senate committee.

Within two months the catacombs of Rome will be illuminated by incandescent lights. The Westinghouse company has received a cablegram from its Rome representative announcing that he has secured the contract for lighting the catacombs of St. Callistus, St. Agnus, St. Cyraea, St. Demittilla, St. Priscilla, and St. Bentianus.

Reports of rioting in Havana caused the passage by the senate of a resolution calling upon the president for information as to what measures are in force to protect the lives, liberty and property of American citizens in Cuba. The Spanish minister at Washington states, however, that no indignity has been put upon any American interest or citizen, and that quiet has been restored.

REFLECTED RAYS.

When we apply the law of self-protection to the protection of all, we will best protect self.—[Humanity.]

A miracle is the badge and brand of fraud. No miracle ever was performed. No intelligent, honest man ever pretended to perform a miracle, and never will.—[Ingersoll.]

To restrain human expectation to what is ascertainable by reason must have the effect of concentrating attention on humanity and intensifying interest in human exertion.—[G. F. Holyoake.]

If you were trying to pound a nail into a board head first, wouldn't you make a "radical" change when you discovered your mistake? Desperate diseases require the "faith cure," don't they?—[Self Reliance.]

In the dogma of infallibility, the Catholic Church propounded a theory which is acted upon more or less by all churches and parties. The spirit in any system or individual that opposes reform presupposes infallibility.—[New Dispensation.]

Our increased knowledge of nature has gradually undermined the belief in the possibility of miracles, and the time is not far distant when, in the mind of every man of culture, all accounts of miracles will be banished to their proper region—that of legend.—[Dr. Oort.]

Socrates is reported to have exclaimed on reading the dialogues of Plato: "Ye gods how many fine things has this young man made me say which I never uttered." Jesus never saw the Gospels, but had he done so he might have cried; "Holy Moses! what absurdities these evangelists have attributed to me."—[Freethinker.]

Says the Watchman, in speaking of the Bible: "What it needs is to be understood." That does seem to be one of the principle troubles with it. We never met a man yet who claimed he understood all of it, and one gentleman who asserted that he comprehended Isaiah, was shortly afterwards led away to an asylum.—[Investigator.]

Men who are abnormally insane, like Durrant, should not be hanged. Not any more than men with the consumption should be executed—both classes being dangerous to society, and neither responsible for the malady. But as hanging is the disposition at present provided by law for such men as Durrant, the law should be enforced. Society will grow more civilized after awhile, we hope, and more practical. It will quit punishing men for what they cannot help, and cease reproducing Durrants.—[Statesman.]

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