

dence, 216 Thirteenth street, using her very successful and practical conversation method...

OUT OF TOWN.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Shelton took their departure for their future home in Goldendale the first of the week.

Miss Addie Braut returned home last Tuesday from Portland, where she spent the holidays with relatives.

Mr. George Sanders, of Goldendale, returned home the first of the week, after a 10 days' visit to friends in the city.

Mrs. J. Sparks is in Olympia. She expects to secure a legislative clerkship similar to the one held by her during the last session.

Mr. Scott Swetland, chairman of the state central committee, left for New Whatcom and other points on Puget sound last Monday.

A. J. Eighan, chairman of the Republican county central committee; S. S. Cook, City Councilman F. W. Eber, and Mr. F. C. Steward left during the week for Olympia. They are all aspirants for legislative positions.

A very pleasant informal whist party was given last Saturday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Elwell. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Bodden, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. McCredie, Mr. and Mrs. J. Froebel, Professor and Mrs. Ransom, Mrs. Higgins and Miss Russell.

Last Wednesday evening Miss Belle Cary and Miss F. Kennedy gave a very pleasant party at the home of the former, the occasion of their birthday. Games and dancing were the order of the evening. At midnight a delicious lunch was spread, after which dancing was resumed until 1 o'clock.

A very pleasant surprise party was given Miss Beside McKee at her home, east of the military reservation, last Tuesday evening. The occasion was in honor of Miss Beside McKee's birthday. Refreshments were served by the guests, and games and other amusements were indulged in, including a clever exhibition in mimicry by Mr. E. Lansford.

Among those present were: Miss Guard, Miss Alice Brauner, Mrs. Brauner, Mrs. McKee, Miss McKee, Mrs. Lansford, and Messrs. Rogers, Lansford, Bond, Kinkade, Browning and Jones.

The "As You Like It" Club met at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Crawford last Wednesday evening. A very amusing exhibition of Mrs. Crawford's work was given by a number of the members of the club at the special feature, and the remainder of the evening was delightfully spent in the enjoyment of musical games and other amusements.

Delicious refreshments were served by the charming hostesses. Among those present besides the members of the club were: Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. Knowler, Miss Mabel Sturgess, Mrs. Bionum.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Wilmadsworth Club was held at the residence of Mrs. H. Lamont last Wednesday afternoon, at which a very good attendance of the members. Interesting papers were read on "Women in Literature" by Miss Wintler and Mrs. A. Hurd.

The discussion of the papers was by Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Wells. Miss Hadden read an entertaining paper on "Lydia Maria Child." Mrs. Lamont gave a very complete report on the meeting. The question chosen for this meeting, and to which a variety of answers was given by the members, was "Is it well to read such literature as gives true information as to the evils in the world?" It was decided by the club to conduct a course of six lectures during the remainder of the season, provided desirable lecturers can be secured, and the committee was appointed to investigate.

La Grande.

A meeting of the members of the La Grande Athletic Club is called for Tuesday evening, January 15, to arrange for a masquerade ball, to be given under the auspices of the club on the evening of February 22.

On Saturday evening, after a business meeting of the superintendent, officers and teachers of St. Peter's Episcopal Sunday school, at the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Stevens, a very enjoyable and delicious lunch by the kindness of the hostess.

On Friday evening the elegant home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Conkey held a highly pleased gathering, at which party given by invitation of the host and hostess, and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Dunphy and Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bartlett. The furniture of the spacious parlors and drawing-room was tastefully arranged and the rooms decorated with evergreen and potted plants. The game of drive which held away till 11 o'clock, when a lunch was served. Throughout the evening the guests were favored with excellent vocal and instrumental selections.

On Thursday a ladies' "high-noon" party was given, to 22 lady friends, by Mrs. Mary Plumb and Mrs. Fred Moore, at the spacious home of the former. A table laden with refreshments was served during several hours were passed in playing progressive euchre. Mrs. E. W. Bartlett won all of the eight games contested, and was awarded the first prize. Mrs. Dr. E. D. Bionum lost every game played, and thus fairly captured the consolation favor. Those present were: Mesdames F. S. Stanley and Robert Smith, of Perry; R. Blainville, of Pendleton; J. M. Berry, Ira F. Powers, Jr., of B. D. Steinman, J. H. Robbins, T. H. Cox, William Miller, L. H. Russell, C. H. Finn, C. S. Dunphy, C. H. Conkey, E. W. Bartlett, W. H. Kelsey, W. William Brown, J. J. Anderson, Harry Mages, H. S. Cavana, W. Allen, P. Quackenbush, James Argyle, William Thompson, Gene Brann, J. C. Gilling, A. Sommer, R. P. Palmer, J. W. Knowles, T. N. Murphy, J. H. Stevens, Jr., P. Talison, L. Outhouse.

Eugene.

Miss Balm Mann and Miss Dora Cooper returned to Eugene this week, after a very pleasant visit at Independence.

Dr. C. H. Chapman, of this city, goes to Astoria January 17, to preside over a three days' teachers' institute to be held there.

Miss Mary E. Rogers, of Minnesota, and Mr. A. K. Miller, of Iowa, are among the new students registered at the state university here this week.

Miss Belle Millikan, of Waterville, and a former student of the university here, is visiting her sister, Miss Ada Millikan, at present a student here.

Dr. C. H. Chapman, president of the state university, of this city, will lecture before the Historical Society, in Portland, the evening of January 14.

Mr. Arthur J. Collier, a graduate of the university here, and at Harvard university, is now taking special studies at the university of California at Berkeley.

Mr. Bruce Burnell, of Benton county, and Mr. L. A. Rollman, of Lane county, arrived in Eugene this week, and are registered at the state university as new students.

Among those who arrived here this week to enter the state university were Mr. Ole Eldness, of Silverton, Or., and the Messrs. Ethans and Ethel Simpson, of Marshfield, Coos county.

Mr. Arthur L. Vaezic, a graduate of the state university here, with the class of 1890, and now an attorney of Portland, has been in Eugene this week visiting relatives and renewing old acquaintances.

Professor S. E. McClure, of the department of analytical chemistry at the university here, and who is also local United States weather observer, has this week received a consignment of new apparatus for his interesting department.

All the rooms and apartments in Dady and Villard halls at the state university are now occupied, and the executive committee of the board of regents has been at a loss to know how to arrange a classroom for Mr. E. H. McElroy, the new professor of English literature, who is soon to arrive here. It has about been decided

that Mr. McElroy will occupy the gentlemen's parlor at the dormitory building, which being the only available room in all the state university buildings.

The study of biology is just at present much discussed here. Mrs. McCornack, the instructor in this branch of study at the university, has inaugurated a new departure by giving the students practical application of the study in the dissection of animals, such as cats and dogs.

The meeting of the Shakespeare Club, of Eugene, held at the residence of Mrs. L. Blyden, on Wednesday evening of this week, was unusually interesting and pleasant. The fourth and fifth acts of the play "Merchant of Venice" were read, and a general discussion on the characters followed.

One of the most interesting and instructive papers ever presented in this city was given by Mrs. Professor Condon at the meeting of the University and Eugene Advancement Club last Monday evening. The subject discussed was "The relations of Money to Morals," and it was most ably handled.

On Wednesday morning of this week Dr. H. C. Smith, president of the state university, gave a very interesting talk to the students on the subject of reading books. The people of Eugene have always taken a great interest in the literary societies of the state university, and especially on the two older organizations—the Laurean, or gentlemen's, and the Eutawian, or ladies'. These two societies have rooms in Dead Hall, and have recently put in elegant new furniture and furnishings, making their apartments one of the most pleasant places in the city to pass an evening. The Laurean Society has this year had large increases in its membership, and its many former members who now occupy prominent places in the political and social world will be interested to learn of its prosperous condition.

Among the present leaders in this organization are Mr. Fred Mulkey, of Portland; Mr. Clarence Keene, of Salem, and Messrs. L. M. Travis and John Edmondson, of Lane county.

Jacksonville.

Wednesday evening the Valley-View Chautauque club gave its next reception of the new year, at the residence of Mr. J. Nunan. The reception committee—Mrs. G. M. Love, Miss John Nunan and Dr. George O'Brien—received the guests, not only Chautauquians, but a host of Chautauquan friends from Jacksonville, Medford, Ashland and Talent, filling the suite of parlors. Rare palms and begonias decorated mantels, nooks and corners, while the floor was carpeted with flowers, and trailing ivy fell therefrom. An address from Hon. William M. Colvig, president, opened the literary program of the evening, then followed songs, recitations, musical readings by members of the club and others. After that a personation of the important characters of the world, from Adam and Eve down to President Cleveland and Queen Lill, followed. The grand and awful, solemn and sad, sublime and ridiculous acts were passed together. After supper the hours passed delightfully in conversation and dancing. Among the present were: Dr. and Mrs. George de Bar, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Love, Mr. and Mrs. Prim, Mr. W. M. Colvig and wife, Mr. and Mrs. John White, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dailley, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Nunan, Dr. and Mrs. W. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. N. Jacobs, Misses Mollie Miller, Carrie Cronmiller, Agnes Devlin, Ida Central, Amy Central, Alice Hanley, Dea. J. H. Stevens, Leslie McClure, Clara Colvig, Carrie Beckman, Mollie Britt, Josephine Nunan, Frances Nunan, Kate M. Lemberger, Messrs. Hutton, Devlin, Nunan, Central, Smith, Solis, Britt, Miller, of Jacksonville; Mr. and Mrs. W. Vawter, Dr. and Mrs. Pickle, Mr. and Mrs. Fitch, Misses Galloway, Edith Day, Messrs. Whitman, Enyart, and Galloway, of Medford; Miss Carrie Roper, of Ashland; Mr. Bartory, of Talent.

Mr. W. H. Jameson is in Portland, receiving medical treatment at a hospital.

Mrs. Ira B. Riddle returned home this week from Portland, where she spent the holidays.

Miss Clara Bacher, of Grant's Pass, who has been a guest of Miss Mabel Van Buren, of Roseburg, returned home this week from Portland, where she had been visiting her parents, D. B. Hamblin and wife.

Miss Mabel Powell, of Astoria, who has been visiting Rev. Dilworth's family, has returned to Eugene, where she resumes her studies at the university.

Edward S. Elliot and wife left on Tuesday morning overland for San Francisco. Their daughter Mabel, who is visiting in the Bay City, will return home with them.

Albany.

Monday night of last week a farewell reception was tendered Rev. Dr. Pritchard of the First Presbyterian church, at the home of Mrs. D. P. Mason, Dr. Pritchard had had charge of the church in Albany nine years, and takes the best wishes of his congregation to his new charge at Puyallup, Wash.

Speculation ran high in New York as to why Banker Kelly's third and youngest son, Robert J., was not mentioned in the will of the dead financier. The mystery somewhat deepened when the fact became apparent that father and son were on the best of terms. In fact, some say that Mr. Kelly cared, if anything, a trifle more for Robert than for the rest. But be that as it may, the family is not divided among itself. There is not the faintest chance that Robert J. will contest his father's will. He is perfectly satisfied with the arrangement. Frederic R. Couder, Mr. Kelly's lawyer, said: "Robert was disinherited, if such be the term, on account of the great love that the father bore toward his son. He had pondered on the question and had decided that it would be for his son's best interests to leave him nothing directly." "Of course," continued Mr. Couder, "Robert will not starve. He will continue to live with his mother and brothers. Robert was present, and was, I believe, the last one that his father recognized. His father thought the world of him. The entire family is closely united by bonds of love. I can only reiterate what was done was done, in the judgment of Mr. Kelly, for his son's best interests."

Robert at one time was a member of the Racquet and Tennis and Vandeville clubs. He has given up his clubs of late and is no longer a member of the Racquet. Since his father began to fall he remained steadfastly at his side. From a reliable authority, Robert, when questioned, said an intimate friend of the family as to his reasons, said, in speaking of his father's will: "I am perfectly satisfied with the arrangement. Father thought it was for the best. Some day I will have more than any of my brothers."

This alleged remark has given rise to the theory that under Mrs. Kelly's will Robert will inherit everything. As he is the youngest, and therefore the "baby" of the family, some assert that, as the others are married, Robert will remain and make his home with his mother at the city residence. This being the arrangement, the estate, or the major part of it, will go to his mother, who will probably for her son's wants and he may be the chief beneficiary under her will.

Since the engagement between Robert and Miss Dorothy Van Schack, of No. 1 University street, was broken, in a letter part of 1894, Robert has kept to himself a good deal.

PULPITS AND PEWS.

FIRST SERVICE IN THE NEW FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Great Structure at Last Ready for Occupancy, and a Fine Programme of Exercises Prepared.

Church notices intended for publication on Sunday should be marked "Sunday Oregonian."

Today the public Sunday services of the First Congregational church will be held in the new and commodious building on the corner of Park and Madison streets for the first time. The topic of Rev. Dr. Wallace for the morning will be "The Principles and Historic Associations Which We Represent." In the evening he will begin a series of lectures on "Religion and Matrimony," the topic being "The Young Woman's Question—Whom Shall I Marry?" Topics for the remainder of the series will be "The Moral Basis of the Altar—For Better or Worse," "The Ideal Wife," "The Model Husband," "The Heavens and Hells of Married Life," "The End of the Marriage Relation," "The Family as an Educational Institution."

A chorus choir, composed of sixteen trained voices, will sing at both services, rendering a number of selections, under the direction of Miss Frances Jones, the rector and organist. In the morning the offertory numbers will be a soprano solo by Mrs. Ernest Palmer. Following is the programme for the morning:

Organ, "The Dawn of Creation," Baites Chorus, "To Deum, Adamas," Holden Soprano solo, "Calvary," Rodney Double quartet, "Chime, Ye Bells, Heaven," "Festival Postlude," Whiting.

In the evening the following will be rendered: Organ, "Grand Offertoire de Noel," Chorus, "Eugene Thayer Organ," "Pastorale in A flat," "Whiting Alto solo and chorus, "Hark, Hark, My Soul," "Recessional," Smith.

Soprano solo, "Edgar," Smith Mrs. Chas. Fay, Miss Frances Carson, Miss Susan Bell, Miss A. Skillman, Mrs. Henry Rustin, Miss A. M. Miss Rose Avery, Miss D. Cross.

Tenors, Mr. M. Macphail, Mr. J. P. Carson, Mr. Ed. Drake, Mr. H. Rustin, Mr. Jas. White, Mr. W. Stowell, Mr. J. P. Owen.

Calvary Presbyterian church will make a new departure this morning. Mr. William Wadhams, who since the organization of the church has made it a habit of love to serve the church as a pastor, has retired from that duty, and a quartet choir of some of the best voices in the city has been engaged to assist in the music.

Mrs. C. H. Hines, soprano; Mrs. A. M. Smith, contralto; Mr. M. W. Gill, tenor; and Dr. C. S. Archer, basso, with Mr. R. W. Hoyt as organist and director, the music in Calvary church will be second to none in the city. The sacrament of the Lord's supper will be observed this morning. This evening Rev. Mr. Morrison's topic will be "The Hero of a Snowy Day."

THE CHURCH TAX AGAIN.

Service Rendered by the Churches to the State.

SELLWOOD, Or., Jan. 12.—(To the Editor.)—Your correspondent, though but lately a resident of Oregon, has been for some time past a regular reader of your paper, and has not been uninterested in the discussion which has been going on in your columns regarding the taxation of church property.

Your editorial on the subject some days ago, bringing to the attention of the truth that the only sufficient ground for the exemption of church property from taxation is the fact that the church (using this term in a broad and liberal sense) is the most efficient promoter of all those virtues which are essential to the maintenance of good citizenship and the perpetuity of the republic.

It is a great mistake to say (as has been said) that because the churches differ in their theological teachings they therefore depreciate and condemn the influence of one another in matters pertaining to the state.

A Presbyterian minister myself, I have seldom known one of my brethren who, however he might condemn the theological teachings of certain churches, would not cheerfully and gladly acknowledge the beneficial influence of their teachings in the production of civic virtues. Very few of them, perhaps, in the community where there is a Roman Catholic element would refuse to welcome the coming of a priest and the erection of a church, and would not object to the influence of the priest and the church will exert a restraining influence over those people which could be exerted by no other church; and I have known many good Protestants who have contributed their means to the erection of a Catholic church solely for this reason.

This being the case, we by no means begrudge the exemption of church property from taxation, in the way of exemption from taxation, to those churches with whom we differ most widely in our theological views.

We have with joy read in your issue of the work being done by the evangelical churches which foster and develop the virtues which are necessary to make good American citizens.

So it is that when we say that "the church is doing a work without which the state could not long exist" we do not use the term church in a narrow sense, but in the broadest sense, and we are theologically right, but all those who are usually called "Christian" and whose tendency we believe is to repress crime and promote virtue. And we say that such churches ought to be encouraged by exempting them from taxation.

The fathers of our republic, as Dr. Boyd showed yesterday in his article, very thoroughly understood the importance of the study of the entire subject will show any candid mind.

Do you remember the statement made by the distinguished Earl of Shaftesbury before a grand London audience, when this subject, or one of a kindred nature, was under consideration? He said: "If the 80 city missionaries in the great metropolis were to be withdrawn from their work, it would be necessary immediately to add 40,000 men to the police force of the city." According to this estimate, one city missionary was as effectual in the influence of his teachings disseminated as 100 policemen.

A few years ago the writer of this article held a successful meeting in a community which had not been favored with church privileges.

Some time after the meeting closed he chanced to meet a very extensive ranchman from that locality, who began talking immediately about the meetings, which he said, "did some much good in the neighborhood."

As he made no profession to be a Christian himself, my curiosity was aroused, and I ventured to inquire in what way good had been done. He hesitated a moment, smiled, and then, in a bluff and hearty manner, said: "I don't have the boys stolen from my ranch that I used to have."

Upon further inquiry he explained that he had always raised a great many hogs on his ranch, which were allowed to run loose; and that for years he had been a great loser through the dishonest practices of neighbors who had carried off his property; but that the meetings exerted such an influence on the community that the decrease in crime since that time had been very perceptible. He broke in a burst of enthusiasm, saying: "The English literature of which was his immunity from the deprecations upon his property in the manner described. As it was in this case, so it is, and has been, everywhere. There is no agency in the world so effectual in the prevention of crime as the preaching of the gospel, and without this the state could not long exist. The people of our country know this, and the good people of the churches, at least to the extent of exempting them from taxation. It has been said in this discussion that all classes are agreed upon the benefits to be derived from the public school system, while all classes are not agreed upon the beneficial influence of the church."

The statement made in the first part of this sentence is incorrect. All classes are not agreed that the public school system is a benefit. A very large and powerful element in our country are bitter opponents to the public school. They declare that the schools are godless, and being compelled to maintain their own parochial schools, they allege that a gross injustice is practiced on them when they are required to pay taxes to support the public school in which they do not believe, and to which (in many instances, at least) they do not send their children.

The state declares that in order to make good American citizens out of the rising generation, the public school system must be maintained, and it refuses to make this exempt from the payment of taxes to secure that end.

The state is concerned for its preservation, and it declares that the man who has large wealth, and 10 children, or who, having children, prefers to send them to private schools, should contribute his wealth to the maintenance of the schools, as well as the poor man, who has but little property and many children to send, and it cannot afford to waste time in splitting hairs and making objections over the pretext offered by the Romanist that he is imposed upon in being compelled to pay taxes to the public schools, which are his own parochial schools, to which he sends.

"De lex non curat." is an old maxim, which will apply here. Just so, the church has always understood that the church's most important position is in the moral; the teacher of those virtues which are indispensable to American citizenship; and hence she makes provision for her encouragement by exempting from taxation the property she has which is actually used for purposes of worship, education and benevolence, and it is right that it should be so, despite the views of those who are not in sympathy with the views of the community who do not feel in this matter as the great majority of their fellow-citizens do.

During the past 99 years Webster's and Worcester's dictionaries have been the recognized authorized authorities on spelling and pronunciation in the United States, and with the exception of spasmodic efforts by some of our countrymen, the publishers of Webster's Unabridged, no real improvement has been made since the issue of the edition of 1847.

The first step to obtain a better dictionary than the Webster's was made by the Century Company, of New York, in 1858, when they issued an American edition of Dr. Ogilvie's "Imperial Dictionary." This work, a superior to any other dictionary of the absolute necessity of an entirely new dictionary, based upon original research, and Professor Whitney was authorized to select a corps of assistants to aid and proceed with the making of a modern dictionary. The work was completed in 1862, in six large quarto volumes, but at a cost which placed it beyond the reach of the vast majority of our people in this world's goods.

The world is influenced by example; the London Crystal Palace Exposition of 1851 was the first of the kind in civilization, and it led to the great Columbian Exposition at Chicago exhibited human efforts that had been made in the past generation. The publication of the "Century" dictionaries opened the eyes of scholars and publishers to the great advance in the use of the English language which has been made since the issue of Webster's Unabridged. The cost of the Century Dictionary excluded it from the homes of the common people, and the question arose, Could a dictionary be compiled and published at a high literary and scientific scholarship as the Century and be published at prices to compete with Webster's International? Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls, the enterprising New York publishers, thought it was practicable, and five years ago commenced organizing a corps of scholars to carry out their idea. Very soon they had 247 of the most learned professors in the world at work on the different departments; each word was referred to an expert in that branch of knowledge to which it related. To illustrate, words relating to a particular science or profession were referred to a scholar of that denomination; words relating to a particular school of medicine went to a professor practicing that school; and each word was actually completed on through every branch of knowledge.

The vast stores of information thus accumulated were then taken by the office editors, systematized, arranged and illustrated, and the complete work is now presented to the people of the whole world under the title of the "Standard Dictionary of the English Language." It is issued in 2 vols., bound in full Russia, at \$1.50 per volume, or in full Turkey morocco, at \$1.00 per vol.

It would be impossible in a brief review to enumerate all the features in which it is superior to any other dictionary of the English language in use, and we will only refer to a few points. The "Standard Dictionary" contains in its vocabulary 201,738 words, as against 225,000 in the Century, 125,000 in Webster's International, and 110,000 in Webster's Unabridged. In the spelling of each word in the "Standard," if it commences with a capital letter it should always be so written; in the respelling for pronunciation the scientific alphabet is used which simplifies the pronunciation. The definitions are in the "order of usage," the most common one first, while the Century first gives the one nearest the root of the word, and that is usually very far from being the one you want. In quoting from the "Standard" definitions, the Standard gives the name of the author, the title of the book, the chapter, page, and also the initials of the publishers and the year of publication.

In connection with a very copious list of synonyms the Standard also gives (as the public should bear in mind the fact that no other dictionary has attempted to do it) a list of antonyms, prepositions and phrases, in connection with words representing different occupations of life, such as agriculture, architecture, brewing, brickmaking, etc.; a large list of technical terms used are given; a full page of portraits of registered animals representing different breeds of "cattle," accompanied that word; and the same plan is followed with dogs, fowls, horses, sheep and swine. The word "mankind" is illustrated by a page of 43 typical heads of different races of mankind, and another page classifying the races of mankind based on general ethnological grounds; and still another based on the character of the hair, prepared by the Smithsonian Institution. The definitions and illustrations of the word "measure" occupy 13 columns, while "weights" take up nearly three pages.

The colored plates illustrating birds, decorations of honor, flags and signals used by governments, gems and precious stones, families, flowering plants, national coats of arms, government seals, color spectrum and typical colors, are full page gems worthy of being framed and hung in the parlors of the homes of the aristocracy to which the lithographic art has been brought.

Tables of proper names and their correct pronunciation; foreign names, with their meanings; faulty diction, with brief statement of general principles regarding usage; disputed spellings and pronunciations to which subjects over 20 pages are devoted; abbreviations and contractions; arbitrary signs and symbols, and the language of flowers and gems round out the second volume of the Standard Dictionary with an amount of information upon every class of human knowledge never before condensed into such a systematic and complete treatise, available alike to the rich and the poor. The engravings in the text are all new and prepared for this work, and illustrate everything where artist's pencil can aid the reader to a more clear and perfect understanding of the printed words.

Mr. A. C. Sanford, postoffice box 329 (who spent two years in introducing the Century Dictionary), is local agent for the "Standard," and will be pleased to call upon any of our citizens who will take the trouble to send him their addresses.

Increase of the Churches.

An interesting table, printed in the Independent, shows the net increase or decrease in the membership of the various religious denominations in the United States during the past four years. It will be observed that while the Catholics fell far short of several Protestant denominations in the increase of ministers, and short of the Methodists in new churches, they represent more than half the new communicants:

Table with 2 columns: Denomination and Communicants. Includes entries for Baptists, Catholics, Church of God, Church New Jerusalem, Congregationalists, Disciples of Christ, Episcopals, Evangelical Ass'n, Friends, German Ev. Synod, Jews, Latter-Day Saints, Lutherans, Methodists, Moravians, Presbyterians, Reformers, Salvation Army, United Brethren, Universalists, Waldensians, and Total net increase.

Value of Colors to Animals.

New York World.

The use of the color of animals to protect them is one of the highly interesting subjects which has been developed by research and discussion in the last few years, but less attention has been paid to the equally interesting subject of the use of colors in fruits. It is a highly suggestive fact that until the seeds of a plant are ripe its fruit remains of the same color as its leaves, and is therefore usually concealed. But as soon as the seeds are ready for distribution by birds or animals, which feed on the fruit, the color of the fruit becomes brilliant in many plants, while in others it is in marked contrast to the color of the leaves.

A GREAT WORK COMPLETED.

Over \$1,000,000 and 370,000 Days' Time Put Into It.

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The vast stores of information thus accumulated were then taken by the office editors, systematized, arranged and illustrated, and the complete work is now presented to the people of the whole world under the title of the "Standard Dictionary of the English Language." It is issued in 2 vols., bound in full Russia, at \$1.50 per volume, or in full Turkey morocco, at \$1.00 per vol.

It would be impossible in a brief review to enumerate all the features in which it is superior to any other dictionary of the English language in use, and we will only refer to a few points. The "Standard Dictionary" contains in its vocabulary 201,738 words, as against 225,000 in the Century, 125,000 in Webster's International, and 110,000 in Webster's Unabridged. In the spelling of each word in the "Standard," if it commences with a capital letter it should always be so written; in the respelling for pronunciation the scientific alphabet is used which simplifies the pronunciation. The definitions are in the "order of usage," the most common one first, while the Century first gives the one nearest the root of the word, and that is usually very far from being the one you want. In quoting from the "Standard" definitions, the Standard gives the name of the author, the title of the book, the chapter, page, and also the initials of the publishers and the year of publication.

In connection with a very copious list of synonyms the Standard also gives (as the public should bear in mind the fact that no other dictionary has attempted to do it) a list of antonyms, prepositions and phrases, in connection with words representing different occupations of life, such as agriculture, architecture, brewing, brickmaking, etc.; a large list of technical terms used are given; a full page of portraits of registered animals representing different breeds of "cattle," accompanied that word; and the same plan is followed with dogs, fowls, horses, sheep and swine. The word "mankind" is illustrated by a page of 43 typical heads of different races of mankind, and another page classifying the races of mankind based on general ethnological grounds; and still another based on the character of the hair, prepared by the Smithsonian Institution. The definitions and illustrations of the word "measure" occupy 13 columns, while "weights" take up nearly three pages.

The colored plates illustrating birds, decorations of honor, flags and signals used by governments, gems and precious stones, families, flowering plants, national coats of arms, government seals, color spectrum and typical colors, are full page gems worthy of being framed and hung in the parlors of the homes of the aristocracy to which the lithographic art has been brought.

Tables of proper names and their correct pronunciation; foreign names, with their meanings; faulty diction, with brief statement of general principles regarding usage; disputed spellings and pronunciations to which subjects over 20 pages are devoted; abbreviations and contractions; arbitrary signs and symbols, and the language of flowers and gems round out the second volume of the Standard Dictionary with an amount of information upon every class of human knowledge never before condensed into such a systematic and complete treatise, available alike to the rich and the poor. The engravings in the text are all new and prepared for this work, and illustrate everything where artist's pencil can aid the reader to a more clear and perfect understanding of the printed words.

Mr. A. C. Sanford, postoffice box 329 (who spent two years in introducing the Century Dictionary), is local agent for the "Standard," and will be pleased to call upon any of our citizens who will take the trouble to send him their addresses.

Increase of the Churches.

An interesting table, printed in the Independent, shows the net increase or decrease in the membership of the various religious denominations in the United States during the past four years. It will be observed that while the Catholics fell far short of several Protestant denominations in the increase of ministers, and short of the Methodists in new churches, they represent more than half the new communicants:

Table with 2 columns: Denomination and Communicants. Includes entries for Baptists, Catholics, Church of God, Church New Jerusalem, Congregationalists, Disciples of Christ, Episcopals, Evangelical Ass'n, Friends, German Ev. Synod, Jews, Latter-Day Saints, Lutherans, Methodists, Moravians, Presbyterians, Reformers, Salvation Army, United Brethren, Universalists, Waldensians, and Total net increase.

Value of Colors to Animals.

New York World.

The use of the color