

MENNONITES OF RUSSIA.

The Mennonites of Russia, as well as Hebrews, are complaining of the severity of the czar's government, and, but for the obstacles to their emigration, the whole body of them would probably come to this country. They are a Christian sect over three centuries old, and hold a baptismal doctrine not recognized by the orthodox Greek church, into which the government has tried to drive them.

The Russian Mennonites, who number only about 80,000, took up their habitation in southern Russia, near the sea of Azov, about a century ago, explains the New York Sun, having then left Prussia on account of the hardships to which they were subjected. They are a peaceful, intelligent, virtuous and industrious people and they have enjoyed rare prosperity in that region.

The main trouble of the government with them grows out of their religious principle of non-resistance and their refusal to render military service. For a long period of time they were exempt from service by the decrees of the czar, but this privilege was withdrawn twenty years ago. They then obtained permission to leave Russia within a specified time.

In 1875 they began to take advantage of it, and several thousand of them found refuge in this country. The first colonies went as farmers to Kansas and Minnesota, where they purchased land and got along finely. The czar seeing their determination modified his decree of conscription, and gave orders that, in time of war, they should be required only to render service in the military hospitals. The granting of this privilege and the expiration of the period during which they were allowed to emigrate stopped the mennonite movement to America. The whole body of them was desirous of leaving Russia, as they left Prussia a century ago.

Now again they are suffering hardships through the operation of the conscription law and through the czar's determination to bring them into the orthodox fold. If permission could be obtained by them to leave Russia they would follow those of their brethren who came here eighteen years ago.

FISH AND SNAKE YARNS.

COLE EPH PLUNKETT, of Mirabella Falls, Tex., has taught a rattlesnake to shake his tail to music.

THOMAS THORNTON, salmon, it is claimed, were landed by Samuel Goodwin with one haul of a net near Port Angeles, Wash., recently.

Mrs. O. P. PAYNE, of Gainesville, Ga., killed thirteen rattlesnakes in the lot around her home, with a piece of fence rail, a few days ago. They averaged about two feet in length each.

An old Maine fisherman has been living in a dory all summer, cruising about Penobscot bay catching and curing fish. He has camped in rough fashion on the islands, hasn't slept in a bed since last May, and avers he has had a very fine time.

One curious result of the hurricane that struck the southern coast recently was the killing of quantities of fish. For many days after the storm the coast around Savannah and throughout the stretch where its force was most vented was strewn with dead fish of all kinds.

Poisonous snakes are so numerous in Venezuela that snake bite is almost as common there as in India. But there are fewer fatalities, for the natives have discovered that a plant known as the ocmillo, when powdered and applied to the wound, results in a cure in almost every case.

ART AND ARTISTS.

GIOTTO'S greatest advance in painting was the rejection of the greenish-brown color the Byzantine painters employed for the human figure, and substituting the color of nature for the faces and hands.

The museum of antiquities at Dresden has come into possession of an interesting marble relief from Rome, which represents an ancient butcher shop, of oblong shape, and divided by a pillar into two equal parts.

A PORTRAIT, which is supposed to be of Robert Auchmuty, son of George III's judges, in Boston is still hanging in the supreme court room in that city. The picture is the work of John Singleton Copley and bears the date of 1787.

MR. BURNS-JONES, the English artist, is engaged upon the interesting task of painting a portrait of Mr. Gladstone's youngest granddaughter, Dorothy Drew. This little blue-eyed maiden of three years is said to resemble the grandfather startlingly.

A GREEK peasant living on the island of Egina recently discovered a magnificent statue buried in the ground, upon which had been a small plantation, and which he had cleared. The statue was sold to a brick-and-iron dealer, who sent it to London, where it has just been bought by the British government for the sum of sixty-five hundred pounds.

BOOK LITTER.

The sultan is establishing a public library in Constantinople. All the libraries of the mosques are to be transferred to it.

The old Indian homestead of the family of Mr. James Whitcomb Riley has been purchased by the poet as a permanent residence.

The largest library in the world is the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, founded by Louis XIV. It contains 1,490,000 volumes, 300,000 pamphlets, 175 manuscripts, 570,000 maps and charts and 170,000 coins and medals.

Dr. GEORGE WENHAM, Boston, celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday recently. He is writing an auto-biography. Few men have in their time lived more of the love of their fellow men than the cheery Autocrat.

An interesting fact is a survey of 599 volumes, including many manuscripts of the tenth and thirteenth, and some with wonderful illustrations of the fourteenth centuries, which were recently discovered in a convent.

THE AMERICAN CUP.

It Was First Sailed In Over Forty Years Ago.

The first race for the cup, now known as the America's cup, was sailed around the Isle of Wight on August 22, 1851, says the Philadelphia Press. The yacht that carried the sea in London days the first and oldest America's cup of years and quarters is probably the only one not to commence with. The Royal Yacht Squadron had offered a cup open to competition by yachts of all nations. The America was built at Cowes, and her owners were anxious to get a match race with a representative British yacht. Commodore Stevens entered the America in this open race. There were six schooners, one a three-masted of three hundred and ninety-two tons, and eight cutters in the race. The America was the last yacht to get off. She ran wing-and-wing, her mainsail out on one side and her foremast out on the other, and very soon had sailed grandly through the fleet, reaching the schooner beatrice and the cutter Aurora, Volante and Arrow, which were leading. Finally the America, by very skillful sailing, managed to get into the lead.

The Yankee boat with the wind free had shown superiority over the English vessels. And when it came to windward, she proved that she was equally superior. She worked to the windward so speedily that by the time the point was reached there was not a yacht in sight from her decks. The wind now died down and a strong head tide was encountered, against which the America made little headway. This gave the fleet, which had not yet caught the full strength of the tide, a chance to creep up on her. The little cutter Aurora and the cutter Arrow nearly caught up with the America, but the rest of the fleets were miles astern. At St. Catherine's the Arrow went aground and was out of the race, but the little Aurora clung to the America admirably. The wind now freshened again and the America drew away rapidly from her plucky little rival. After getting by St. Catherine's the America had a leading wind, and easing off her sheets tore through the water in magnificent style and swept toward Cowes, a remarkable winner. The defeated English yachts were two days altogether in getting into port. The dismay of the English yachtsmen and all Great Britain at the terrible defeat given by the little black Yankee is almost a matter of international history.

Commodore Stevens had tried before the big race for a match very hard and had posted in the Royal Squadron's castle a challenge to sail against any yacht for from one thousand to ten thousand guineas, but the English were afraid of the Yankee from his first appearance and the challenge was never accepted.

A TERROR TO BANKERS.

The Fraud Who Comes in the Guise of Honest Honesty Is Most Dreaded.

N. A. Painbolt, of Norfolk, Neb., who was present at the world's congress of finance at Chicago, said to a St. Louis Globe-Democrat: "I am more fearful of the man who makes a good appearance than of the other kind. Men who expect to deceive bankers understand how much we have to depend upon looks. They prepare themselves accordingly. If a man comes to me with a certain amount of timidity and want of confidence, I am more inclined to take him at his word and give him what he wants than if he is ready of speech and entirely self-possessed. As for the theory that the confidence man betrays himself by his manner I have my doubts. It hasn't been my experience with them. Dickens is considered an authority on human nature. Dickens said something like this: 'The general impression is that a dishonest man cannot look you in the face. Let me disabuse your mind of that, for I promise you a dishonest man can look you out of countenance every hour of the day if there is anything to be gained by it.' My experience in the banking business confirms that view of it."

J. M. Dinwiddie, of Cedar Rapids, said: "Let me add my experience. A man came into my bank with a check for fifteen dollars—his wages as a carpenter, he said. He was dressed like a workman. He looked like one. In every way he had the appearance of an honest man. I hadn't the least doubt he was what he claimed to be and cashed his check. He had forged the signature. He cashed six others like it in our city that day. We got him and I looked him over carefully, but I couldn't see anything about him which conflicted with my first judgment that he was an honest workman. Even after he was in prison he was just as honest looking as when he came to the bank window."

A WOMAN IN IT.

It is a suit for divorce by an unhappy husband in Kent county, Mich., one of the reasons given for his action is that his wife makes life a burden to him by keeping a revolver in the house "for the express purpose of showing him who is boss."

A WEDDING took place the other day in a picture gallery at Paola, Kan. While the preacher was performing the ceremony the artist turned his camera upon the happy couple and photographed them just as they were registering their nuptial vows.

A HAMBURG bachelor who died recently got even with a woman who jilted him by leaving her a legacy of twelve thousand marks and the following letter: "Madam—Some thirty years ago I was a suitor for your hand in marriage. You refused my offer, and as a consequence my days have been passed in peace and quietness. Now I requite your goodness."

TELEPHONOMETRY is the new word naming an instrument to register the time of each conversation at the telephone from the time of ringing up the exchange to the ringing-off signal. Such a system would reduce rentals of telephones to a scale according to the service, instead of a fixed charge for a certain time in connection with them.

BARON HAUSSMANN.

The Career of the Energetic Project Who Reconstructed Paris.

Baron Haussmann, the creator of modern Paris, through the vast systems of public improvements instituted and carried out by him as prefect of the Seine under Louis Napoleon, was stricken by apoplexy while at dinner on a recent evening, and died in the course of the night, being nearly eighty-two years old. Haussmann was a native Parisian, says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, and grandson of a man who was banished by mistake in 1816 as one of those who in convention voted the death of Louis XVI. He was born March 27, 1803, was educated at the Conservatory of Music, but became an advocate, and after the revolution of 1850 was sub-prefect successively of several departments, and prefect of the Var, the Yonne, and the Gironde under the presidency of Louis Napoleon.

Shortly after the second empire was established Haussmann was made prefect of the Seine, and entered at once in 1853 upon the changes which have made "Haussmannian" a term to signify the complete transformation of a city from age, dirt, crookedness and squalor to freshness, cleanliness, convenience and splendor. Some have said that the idea of these unexampled improvements in its main outlines belonged to Napoleon III., but the energy and ability with which they were achieved were such as to almost entitle Haussmann to be called great. New boulevards, cutting through and demolishing the ancient and picturesque but narrow and noisome quarters of Paris; great public gardens and open squares replacing nests of wretchedness; splendid rows of buildings, theaters, hospitals, asylums, public offices; strong and artistic bridges, fountains and many other accessories of beauty; the making into grand parks the Bois de Boulogne, the buttes de Chaumont, Vincennes and Montsouris; these indicate the character of the work. The grand boulevard of Sevastopol, on both banks of the Seine, the boulevard Malesherbes, and over twenty others were laid out through the old parts of Paris, and one of them preserves his name.

This required an immense expense, and presently Haussmann was charged, notwithstanding the great sums raised by the municipality, with raising more money still by means of unauthorized bonds. At his request the budget of the city was given to the control of the corps legislatif, which spent most of the session of 1857 in examining his accounts. The result was the authorizing of a new loan of fifty-two million dollars, but Haussmann was asked to resign his prefecture, and refusing to do so, was relieved by imperial decree in January, 1859.

After the fall of the empire he left France for a time, but the public resentment of his extravagance was not lasting. He returned in 1871 and was appointed director of the Credit Mobilier and brought it into pretty good condition again. Haussmann was made senator under the empire, elected a member of the academy of fine arts, and got the grand cross of the Legion of Honor in 1862. In 1877 he was returned to the chamber of deputies from Ajaccio, beating Prince Napoleon, and was frequently called upon to defend there his administration of the public works. The municipal council of Paris even voted in 1879 to change the name of the boulevard Haussmann, but finally relented.

FOREIGNERS OF NOTE.

Mrs. CARNOT'S medals at the Elysee, in Paris, are really amazing in their splendor.

LORD STANLEY, of Preston, governor general of Canada, is an enthusiastic football player.

EMIN PACHA has been honored by a German botanist. A new plant has been called Eminia Eminien.

The late Charles Bradlaugh played a strong game of chess, and ranked among the best players of England. He was also skillful in checkers and other similar games.

PRINCE HENRY, brother of the emperor of Germany, recently displayed surprising talent as a violinist at a concert in Kiel. The prince played the first violin in the orchestra.

OSCAR WILDE has not abandoned aestheticism entirely, it seems, as he dines now in a white room with a shelf upon the wall and no furniture except the table and chairs, while the drawing-room has settees with high white backs and sage green cushions.

The people of Japan owe much of their progress the last twenty-five years to the Empress Harako, a very scholarly and progressive woman. Her most intimate friend, Stanats Tamagow, graduated from Vassar college, and has doubtless done much to assist the emperor in introducing western innovations into Japan.

Geographical Joke.

The Japanese are a very polite people, but they sometimes like to play a joke, in a roundabout, oriental way, upon the men of the west. In the days of the second empire Baron Gros was sent to Japan to demand the opening of certain ports to French commerce. Among the rest he named to the Japanese ministers a certain city.

The Japanese functionaries smiled so broadly when he preferred the request that the French ambassador asked them to tell him what gave them so much amusement; but instead of answering, the Japanese ministers said:

"We will open the port in question, my lord, if France, in her turn, will open a certain port to us."

"What port is that?" asked the Frenchman.

"The port of Liverpool."

"But, your excellencies," laughing, "Liverpool is not a French port, but an English one."

"Yes," answered the Japanese, "and the port you named to us is not in Japan, but in Coren!"

The French ambassador was compelled to admit that the joke was upon him—Yonah's Companion.

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Notice of Executrix.

Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that by an order of the County Court for Linn County, State of Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and is now the duly qualified and acting Executrix of the last will and testament of Eugene H. Um, deceased. All parties indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and all parties having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same properly verified, within six months from the 5th day of April 1903, the first publication of this notice, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Ore.

E. J. ULM, Ex. of the last will and testament of Eugene H. Um, deceased. SAM'L M. GARLAND, Atty. for Executrix.

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