

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

ACCORDING to a recent report of the Belgian ministry of finance, the consumption of alcohol per inhabitant in the various countries of the world is as follows: Germany, 11 quarts per inhabitant; Great Britain, 6.42; Austria-Hungary, 6.89; Belgium, 8.66; United States, 5; France, 8.07; Holland, 9; Russia, 6.8; Switzerland, 6; Italy, 1.97.

PAUPERISM has greatly declined in England since 1871. The proportion of child paupers has changed from 5 to 2.3 per cent., that of able-bodied from 1.4 to .5 per cent., and that of old paupers (above 60) from 25.5 to 18.7 per cent. of the population of the several ages. Since 1858 the paupers who are not able-bodied have decreased not only relatively but absolutely, by 80,000.

PEOPLE who are disposed to grumble about high prices should be thankful that they do not live in the town of Forty Mile Creek, on the Yukon River, Alaska. The town is the largest in the placer gold mining district, and flour sells for 17 cents a pound, while bacon brings 40 cents, beans are firm at 20 cents, butter is strong at 75 cents, and dried fruit is worth 25 cents a pound.

STARTLING as the statement may appear, the hay crop of the past year was double the value of either the cotton or the wheat crop. The astonishing increase in the yield of hay is shown by the fact that the crop of 1870 of 24,525,000 tons had grown to 81,925,000 in 1880, and last year reached the tremendous total of 65,766,000, valued at \$570,882,812. This is only \$20,000,000 behind the corn crop of the country, to which every section and almost every State contributes its quota.

The British Medical Journal says, that the part which alcohol has played in the genesis of insanity in Ireland, has been brought out in a special report recently issued by the Inspectors of Lunatics in that country. Of the Medical Superintendents of twenty-two district asylums, twenty agree that in their experience the most prevalent cause of insanity, after heredity, was alcoholism. The proportion of cases of lunacy due to alcohol vary from ten to thirty-five per cent. of the whole admissions.

CHICAGO property often increases rapidly in value, but the Chicago and Northern Pacific terminals show a dazzling rapidity of development in valuation that resembles the lightning acts of a prestidigitator. According to Master in Chancery Cary's report, the property, real estate and construction, cost between \$9,000,000 and \$10,000,000, and was leased to the Wisconsin Central Company at a valuation of \$25,000,000 or \$30,000,000. Master Cary says that the lease "was not exorbitant or improvident."

The uncertainty of the publishing business has been shown in the failure of the fine work on the World's Fair, entitled, "The Book of the Builders," which was projected by Frank D. Millet, the famous artist who superintended the color decoration of the fair. Millet, who writes as well as he paints, was to write the story of the fair, and the ablest artists who contributed to the decoration of the various buildings were to furnish the drawings for the illustrations. The price of the book was high, the selection of matter was not popular, and the season was bad for all works of luxury. The result was disastrous failure which swept away all the private fortune of Millet, as he has insisted on paying out of his own pocket all of the artists who worked for him.

WHAT is a "team?" asks Harper's Weekly. Is it an animal hitched to a wagon, or two or more animals and a wagon, or simply two animals which are harnessed up together? Does the word include the vehicle? An exiled Bostonian, writing from Nebraska to a Boston paper, confesses his humiliation when, upon remarking that a "team" had been left in the street, he was told by a cowboy that he meant a wagon. He admits that the cowboy was right, and so it seems here. In the State of New York, where a high standard of language prevails, "team" properly includes the animals, if more than one, which haul a vehicle, but not the vehicle itself; but improperly it is used to designate any animal or animals hitched to any vehicle. It is not used, however, to designate the vehicle without the animals, as seems sometimes to be the case in New England. A synonym for team in its degenerate sense in New York State is "rig." In the more objectionable phases of newspaper English a horse and a buggy are invariably a "rig," and livery-stablemen and farmers' boys employ the same brief and comprehensive term to almost any vehicle drawn by anything on four legs.

A QUARTER of a cent is a very small sum in itself, but when multiplied enough times the product is considerable, a fact which railway managers thoroughly understand. A saving of only one millia day in the running of a locomotive amounts to 864 cents in a year, and with several thousand locomotives the saving is

considerable. The good superintendent-to-day is the man who makes these little savings, and the number of ways in which they are done is astonishing. Take the matter of starting a fire, for example. Most locomotives are fired up with wood, and about an eighth of a cord is necessary to start a good blaze. Wood is a pretty expensive fuel to use for such purposes, and several railways have begun to substitute oil for it. This oil is stored in a reservoir outside the round house, and is forced by compressed air through a series of fixed pipes to flexible pipes near each locomotive stall. When it is necessary to start a fire a bed of coal is spread over the grate, some old waste thrown on top of it and lighted, and then the oil is sprayed into the fire-box through the flexible pipes by the compressed air. It takes just about as long to start a fire with this apparatus as with wood, but with the former the cost is only about 24 cents, while with wood it ranges from 11 to 35 cents according to the price of wood.

An official list of women who are light house-keepers, which the government has furnished the New York Marine Journal, shows that there are twenty of them in all. Some of the lighthouses which they take care of are at Robin's Reef, New York harbor; Stony Point, on the Hudson River; Elk Neck, Md; Biloxi, Miss; Port Ponchartrain, New Orleans; Pass Manchac, Pontchartroula, La.; Harbor Springs, Mich.; Point Pinos, Cal.; and Santa Cruz, Cal. The most famous of all the sturdy women is Ida Wilson (nee Lewis), who is in charge of the lighthouse at Lime Rock, Newport, R. I., but Ida Lewis is not the only heroine of the lighthouse service, as the following report of an inspector shows: "At about midnight yesterday, August 21, 1888, while blowing a gale from the southwest in Charleston harbor, with a heavy sea, a boat containing three men and a boy was swamped some distance from the wharf at Castle Pickney. The boy, being a good swimmer, struck out for the beach which he finally reached in safety. Meanwhile one of the men clung to the boat and the other two managed to reach the piles of the wharf, where, owing to the heavy sea and strong tide, they were barely able to sustain themselves above water, and all were crying loudly for help. Mrs. Mary Whiteley, the sister-in-law of the keeper, J. W. Whiteley, and Maud King, aged thirteen, the granddaughter of Henry Brown, the master of the lighthouse tender Wisteria, having seen the accident, lowered the boat belonging to the station, and at the imminent risk of their lives, proceeded to render them assistance. When they succeeded in reaching them, the men were so overcome that they were unable to help themselves, but after great exertion, attended by no little danger, this young woman and young girl, unaided, got them all into their boat and carried them safely ashore." It is from the households of such men as Whiteley that the women who hold positions as keepers are drawn.

Matrimonial Oddities.

In Java the bride washes the groom's feet as a token of subjection.

In Hungary at one time the groom gave the bride a kick for the same purpose during the wedding ceremony.

Tournefort says that among Greek rustics to-day the bride and groom run the gauntlet of young folks of their acquaintance, who kick and cuff them as they pass.

In some old houses in Holland are doors which were in former days never used except for weddings and funerals. After a bride and groom had passed, the door was nailed up until another newly wed or newly dead approached to pass that way.

A Roman bride was lifted by her husband at the threshold of his home and carried across it, probably symbolizing the great day when so many of the young Romans carried home stolen brides.

Among the Borneo head-hunters a young man, in offering marriage to a young woman, had to present her with the head of a man killed by himself.—[New York Recorder.

Getting Even With the Judge.

A Maine Congressman tells a good story of a veteran lawyer up in his State who more than equalled Ben Butler in his famous quarrel with a Rhode Island Judge over his attempt to conceal his contempt for the Court. The Maine barrister was a man of very plain speech, and on one occasion he told a presiding magistrate very plainly what he thought of his decision. The Judge promptly fined him \$50. "All right," said the lawyer: "I have a note against you for \$100 which I have been trying to collect for the past ten years, and I'll endorse it over to you. I never expected to get that much for it," and without a word he pulled the note out of his pocket and endorsed it over. The Judge had nothing further to say.—[Washington Times.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report
Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

THE ISLE OF MAN.

Its Ancient Customs, Its Government and Its Tailless Cats.
The Isle of Man is only thirty-three miles long and twelve wide, so that it is not great labor to get over it, and, as two railroads run—one north to south, and the other east to west—you can see how convenient it is to the visitor. Douglas, Port Erin, Peel and Ramsey are the chief towns.

The Isle of Man, while belonging to the British Crown, is neither English, Scotch, Irish, nor Welsh, but is a separate country, with a home rule government, and a language of its own; but yet with great loyalty to the Imperial Government and devotion to Queen Victoria, for everywhere you go you see pictures of the Royal family. The Government is known as the "House of Keys" and consists of twenty-four members, elected every seven years; but no person has a vote unless he possesses real estate to the value of £40, or occupation of the value of £60 per year, and women are also entitled to vote. The Court of Tynwald, presided over by the Lieutenant-Governor, is composed of the Council, which embraces the Bishop, Attorney-General, two Judges, the Clerk of the Rolls, Water Bailiff, and the Vicar-General. This Council and the House of Keys are the active Government of the great Isle of Man.

The coat of arms of this isle is three legs of a man in a circle. The motto, translated, reads: "Whithersoever thrown, I shall stand." The Manxmen apparently rather enjoy the three-legged crest, for everywhere you turn your face, whether at a steamboat, a railroad, a coach, a flag, or on the windows of the stores, there you see the three legs.

I had read of the Manx cats without tails, and thought it a joke; but, sure enough, the cats here are without tails, and I saw several without that graceful member. Some ladies of our party, who had not seen the Manx cat, were rather doubtful of truth of our report, and we had to accompany them to the house, where the cat lived, and after a close examination came away believers in the tailless cat. I don't think pussy is improved in the absence of the tail, some say that this strange act of nature extends to the dogs also.

The Manx language, like the ancient language of Ireland, is fast passing away, and in a generation it will be one of the dead languages, enjoyed only by scholars. I met an old woman on the side of a mountain selling milk, cakes, and ginger ale and after asking some questions about the locality, I learned from her that the children were not learn-

ing the Manx language, and that only the middle-aged and old-people spoke it. She said her children only spoke the English: "I was anxious to get a book in Manx, but could not find one in the stores. The old woman referred to showed me an old Bible in Manx, which I tried to buy, but she said: 'No money could buy her Bible.' It had belonged to her father: I was sorry, but I also admired the old woman's love for her old Bible, and I was glad to see that money could not tempt her, though she was quite poor, and a few shillings would have been a large sum for her.—[Richmond (Va.) News.

Cuvier's brain weighed 60 ounces; that of Napoleon 58. U89

In the Sandwich Islands the apple has become wild.



KNOWLEDGE

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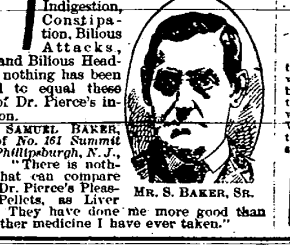
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if they won't get you Pearline. Let them try it for themselves, and see if they don't say that washing with soap is too hard for any woman. This hard work that Pearline saves isn't the whole matter; it saves money, too—money that's thrown away in clothes needlessly worn out and rubbed to pieces when you wash by main strength in the old way. That appeals—where is the man who wouldn't want to have the washing

made easier when he can save money by it? Padders and some unscrupulous grocers will tell you, "this is as good as" or "the same as Pearline." IT'S FALSE! Pearline is never peddled, if your grocer sends you an imitation, be honest—send it back. JAMES PYLE, New York.

What Brings Release From Dirt and Grease? Why, Don't You Know?

SAPOLIO!

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Wool of the... If there's one sort of a person who... Paper Gas Pipes... Hood's Sarsaparilla... Dr. Kimer's SWAMP-ROOT cures... THE TESTIMONIALS... WELLS Drilling Machines... LINENE... FARMERS SEND YOUR Produce... COLLEGE