

in most instances never lived to return. We can only form some inadequate idea of the magnitude of the evil when we recollect that there were, in the fourth century, more than nineteen thousand leper houses in Western Europe. At the present day leprosy is more widely distributed in the world than we are apt to imagine. Many lepers are to be found on the coast of Norway, on the islands of the Levant, and along the shores of the Caspian sea. The disease prevails not only in Syria and Egypt but likewise in Japan and West Africa, and Hawaiian lepers have gained wide notoriety by the self-sacrifice of Father Damien. While Dr. Hutchinson, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, declares that "medical science is in such an advanced state that a concerted movement may now practically end the disease," Sir Andrew Clarke declares not only that "leprosy exists in larger measure than in recent years, but likewise new germinal centres of it are springing up in various quarters, old centres are widening, and before England and the world is looming a condition of affairs which may grow and attain such proportions as to threaten not only one class of society, but all that is dearest in the fruits of civilization."

But this is not the only work of humanity in which the Prince of Wales has shown a strong and abiding interest. The establishment of the Imperial Institute of Modern Oriental Languages under the patronage of the Prince of Wales may be said not only to form an epoch in the colonial policy of the Empire, but likewise in the literature of the British people. Professor Max Muller is perhaps the greatest living linguist in the world, and it is he who has been laboring to this end for the past thirty years. No wonder he expresses surprise that England should have been so long content to see her great European rivals, Russia, France and Germany, doing so much to cultivate the knowledge of those Eastern peoples among whom British influence is so great. For fifty years Russia has sedulously taught her youths the language of the Chinese, the Tartars, the Tibetans, and the Afghans, while at the same time there has not been in Great Britain a single school for the learning of those languages, and yet British manufacturers supply the market for a thousand millions of those peoples. A few words from an oration by Max Muller may not be out of place. "It is said that Great Britain has conquered India, but the true conquest of that country is yet to come. Our new conquerors will have to study the ancient literature of India, which is still the heaven of Indian thought. They must gain insight into the ancient religion of the people which will furnish the best key to unlock further religious instruction to their minds. They must enter into the spirit of their ancient laws before attempting to enforce modern legislation. They must learn to appreciate Indian literature,

and Indian poetry before we can rightly measure the status of the people. Whether for unselfishness or devotion to high ideals, truthfulness, purity and real religion I know of no hero greater than Kes-hub Chunder, no heroine greater than Ramabal." The Prince of Wales as well as Max Muller and his compeers perceive that the British Indian Empire is not safe so long as those untold hundreds of millions of people are merely governed by the power of the sword.

Concerning the Cretan question, it is evident to many that the end of Turkish rule there will soon be ended. Greece is anxious to annex the island; Crete is anxious to be annexed; and the principal question now is, the sanction of the great European powers to the transfer. Meanwhile we may expect to hear of Turkish atrocities. Another point in the great Eastern question will soon be settled.

The dispute between Great Britain and Portugal still occupies much attention. The superior naval and military strength of Great Britain has compelled Portugal to accede to the demands of Lord Salisbury. But back of all this lies the question, what is the meaning of all these professions of international peace and goodwill if a claim of a few miles of the black man's country will destroy the much-vaunted European peace? Some of the wise ones are asking how it would have been if the disputants had been Russia and Austria, Germany and England, or France and Portugal? The events of the past week have shown upon how weak a thread hang the destinies of nations and the issues of peace and war.

J. H. WARD.

EUROPE. Jan. 20, 1890.

IN ARIZONA.

In giving an account of a visit to Fort Apache, Arizona, a correspondent of the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* has the following to say of the "Mormons."

"From Holbrook to Fort Apache the distance is about one hundred miles, the road passing through a series of little 'Mormon' settlements, each one of which seems a veritable oasis in the midst of a vast and barren waste. It is astonishing how these 'Mormon' people, fleeing from contact with the Gentiles, erect comfortable homes for themselves and turn western deserts into garden spots. I found in every settlement through which I passed fine reservoirs and complete systems of irrigating ditches. Orchards and shade trees had been planted, hundreds of acres of land brought under cultivation, and fine vegetable gardens laid out. The dwellings and outhouses were neat looking and comfortable and supplied with all the requisites of well-regulated farms. I could not help noticing the marked difference in the appearance of the cattle and horses of the 'Mormons' from those which I had been accustomed to see elsewhere in the southwest. They were fat and

sleek looking, showing that they had received good care. At every farmhouse there was an abundance of milk, butter, chickens and eggs, things almost unknown to the average Arizona rancher.

"In stopping one night at a settlement some forty miles from Holbrook I was surprised to find pianos and organs in most of the houses, and was equally surprised at the hospitable manner in which I was treated. The people talk unreservedly of their religion and the history of the Mormon Church. They claim that the strength of the Mormon Church lies in the doctrines of temperance, patience and industry which it teaches, and the perfect system of co-operation among its followers, which enables them to prosper in any part of the West. No liquor is sold in any of the Mormon towns, and there has never been a murder committed in any of the settlements along the road. All of the freighting to and from Fort Apache is carried on by Mormons, the superiority of their teams and their own steady habits having enabled them to fill government contracts so satisfactorily that they have completely supplanted Mexican and Gentile freighters."

A FRANK ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The following appears in a late issue of the *School Journal*, published in New York City:

"To the Editors of the *School Journal*:"

"In the 'Current Topics' of November 30, it is stated that 'Some apostate' Mormons applied for citizenship at Salt Lake City. Objection was made to this on account of their oath, and in investigating the matter some startling facts were brought out. It was found out that there were, or had been, three organized bands of murderers.

"The statements are wholly untrue. No 'apostate' Mormons were refused citizenship, and no investigation showed that there were, or had been, three organized bands of murderers connected with the 'Mormons.' I have reliable information in my possession to show that the 'Mormons' are as honest and industrious a people as can be found within the confines of our republic. If there are any readers of the *Journal* who wish to know the true character of the 'Mormon' people, address the undersigned at Salt Lake City, who has been personally acquainted with the Mormons for thirty years.

WM. M. STEWART, Supt. Schools,
Salt Lake Co., Utah."

(We print the above with pleasure. In our visit to Salt Lake City we made many inquiries about the "Mormons," and found that there was a party bent on driving them out, and getting possession of their lands, concealing their motives under the cry of "away with Mormonism." While opposed to polygamy, we must concede to the Mormons the right to practice their religion freely, as is conceded to all sects. It is a fact worthy of note that the Mormons are earnestly improving their schools.—Editor *School Journal*.)

TORONTO, Ont., Feb. 14.—The Toronto University was burned to-night, the fire originating from an oil lamp. Loss, \$500,000. The fire broke out just an hour before the guests began to arrive for a grand fete which was to have been given tonight.