

spirit was in our midst; but after endeavoring to preach in the English language, we both agreed we would prefer using our own tongue (the Maori).

Leaving Palmerston on Monday, April 12th, we resumed our return journey without interruption until Mangamate was reached. However, upon leaving that place on Friday the 16th, we experienced very heavy rains; and after traveling about eight miles, we met a mail carrier with his mail on his back who informed us that a slip had occurred in the road, making it impassable. Not wishing to turn back, we went on, but soon arrived at the scene of the trouble. A large landslip had occurred just above a dugway, and the road, for a distance of six or eight rods, was completely hidden by a huge mass of earth, trees, stumps, brush, etc., making a most formidable obstacle. A thorough investigation revealed but one chance to pass, and that was to ascend the mountain, make our way along through stumps, fallen trees and thick undergrowth, until past the slip, then slide our horses down over an embankment, with a slim chance of keeping on their feet. This, however, was successfully accomplished, and we continued on our way wet, muddy, but rejoicing that we were once more on the solid road. After passing several other slips and washouts of minor mention we arrived at what is known as Waitangi bridge. This we found to be floating and impassable, the road beyond also being covered with several feet of water. We understood our situation at a glance. Floods before us, landslips behind us, with no other alternative than to seek shelter at a sheep station. This we did and were obliged to alight from our horses into the doorway, the house being surrounded by water, which was still rising. The house was occupied by four men, sheepherders, who endeavored to make us comfortable; and my companion asked them quietly if they could supply all hands with oars in case we floated. However, all went well; we had a comfortable night, and, on arising in the morning, the water was nearly all gone. With bare feet and trousers to our knees, we sought our horses and found them on a rising ground a mile distant. We started for Raetihi, and on arriving at Karioi, several volunteered the information that we could not get through, owing to high water. Summoning all our pluck we pushed on and met a mail carrier with the same thing to tell us. However, we closed our ears to all reports, determined not to give up without a mighty effort at success. We forded rivers, crossed broken culverts, etc., until five miles only lay between us and our destination. Then we were compelled to leave our horses and tramp to the village. We arrived there after dark, wet again, tired and muddy. But we were under the kind care of our good Saints, Brother and Sister Chase, and were soon made comfortable, dry clothing and a good supper provided for us; and, with thankful hearts to God for His mercies, we retired to rest.

We spent two days with the people of Raetihi, then resumed our journey without further interruption or serious difficulty. On the afternoon of Thursday, April 29th, we visited one village where we had desired to preach, but found no one at home. We were refused shelter at a second place, but were told of some

Saints who lived near by. To our surprise we found they had been baptized by Elder James Slater some years since, and had not since been visited. They were pleased to see us, and a pleasant evening was spent with them. We arrived at Te Puke on Saturday, May 1st, both well, having traveled 1,257 miles, held quite a number of meetings, many good Gospel conversations, and blessed four children. We trust that some of the seeds we have sown will, through the blessings of God, take root and become fruitful, to be reaped by others who may follow in our footsteps.

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### SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

It was only seventy-two years ago—a single life-span—that Dr. Kitchener wrote that not more than ten achromatic object-glasses of six-inch aperture had been made in 1,825 years, and predicted that future opticians might take a like period for perfecting the object-glass of that size. The magnificent, forty-one inch Yerkes object-glass recently completed, has a light-grasping power about forty-eight times as great as the lens that so excited the wonder of the English physicist. This great object-glass, like the Lick thirty-inch is the work of an American optician, made for an American observatory; and the most powerful foreign telescope is that of Pulkowa, with a thirty inch object glass of American make. These achievements in instrument-making are paralleled by the progress of science in the New World. American astronomy, which has yielded such amazing developments in late years, is as Prof. E. S. Holden points out, scarcely more than half a century old, the first working observatories having been established as late as 1845, although the first college observatory was opened at Chapel Hill, N. C., in 1831. With the present superior equipment of apparatus and observers, what may we not expect in the future! The first observatory in Europe was erected at Nuremberg in 1842, the observatory at Greenwich dating from 1675, and that of Paris from 1667.

An international association for testing iron, steel and other structural materials, was decided upon at a congress held at Zurich in 1895, the purpose being to standardize the methods of testing. The association has since been organized, and is to establish a research library and laboratory at Zurich, the expense to be divided among the various countries in proportion to their production.

Prof. Forbes, the British engineer, concludes that electrical transmission of power may be profitable up to a distance of nearly 1,000 miles, although he formerly regarded such an idea as absurd.

A sudden and complete change of diet is a means of regulating the human machine, whose importance seems to be too little considered. Dr. Angel Money, of London, states that it finds most application in chronic diseases, often of nervous character, and not uncommonly in affections of the mucous membrane. The substitution of broths, fish and flesh for milk and farinacea will often correct the condition of the mucous membrane that enables thread-

worms to develop. Chronic catarrh will often yield to similar treatment, and asthmatic attacks may sometimes be made to cease for long periods. Convulsions in children are frequently alleviated in like manner. A dilated stomach or flatulent dyspepsia may be treated by withdrawing sugar and starch from the food and replacing them by pure proteids with salts, extractives and water, the merits of sweetbreads, tripe, calf's head and feet, unsweetened jellies and many vegetables being too little appreciated in such cases. The main secret of the effects of such foods is the absence of liability to ferment and generate gases. Experience proves that most of the benefit of a complete change of diet is obtained during a short period only, and, indeed, the therapeutic value may sometimes lie in nothing but the change.

A colossal work now being carried out by a committee of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, is the preparation of an "Index Animalium," designed to list all the names ever given to animals. Zoologists compute that 386,000 species of recent animals have been described, and the fossils probably bring the number up to 550,000; while some animals have had as many as twenty different names, and the average number applied to each species in the British Museum Catalogue of Birds, is five and one-half. Assuming that all species known average three names each, the completed index will contain not less than 1,650,000 references. Mr C. Davis Sherbon has been working four years at the task of finding these names in the literature of all lands and all ages, verifying species and dates, and cataloguing by slips in the alphabetical order of the genera. He has completed 142,000 references in duplicate, all being arranged for the reference of students visiting the British museum as the work progresses.

A Budapest physiologist finds that digestion is more rapid in the horse—unlike that in man and the dog—if followed by active exercise instead of rest.

The morphine habit, according to a recent French work, is most prevalent in Germany, France, and the United States, the number of victims being large also in Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the remote East. Entire villages in Germany are said to be addicted to the use of the drug. Not less than forty per cent. of the male victims are supplied by the medical profession, fifteen per cent. being men of leisure, eight per cent. merchants, and the smallest numbers being found among peasants, clergymen and politicians. Of the female victims, forty-three per cent are women of leisure, and ten per cent. are wives of medical men. Hypodermic injection of morphia, laudanum drinking and opium smoking are the various forms of indulgence, the most fashionable being probably the first named.

The stomach bucket of Dr. Max Einhorn is described as about the size of a small peanut, with an open incurved rim. It is easily swallowed, and is drawn up in about five minutes by the silk thread attached, the desired samples of the stomach's contents being thus readily obtained with less discomfort than when the stomach tube is used.