

CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

German Love for Frederick—Statue Raising in France—Baudin, Vogel, Danton—Pere Hyacinthe's Address—Cardinal Lavignerie—Development of Africa—Growth of Cardiff—Exhibition at Crystal Palace, etc.

The avidity with which the German people read the fragments of the late Emperor Frederick's diary, mutilated though they may be, plainly proves the deep sympathy which existed between him and the common people of Germany. They also prove what has often been suspected, that it was not merely the military genius of Von Moltke nor the statesmanship of Prince Bismarck that brought about United Germany. By many lessons, sometimes in the harsh school of adversity, the people had learned to cherish a hope of a free, united Fatherland. Even the kings and princes of Saxony, Bavaria, Westphalia, Wurttemberg, Baden, etc., had learned to cherish this idea. Paradoxical as it may seem, the religious toleration and civil liberty which these countries enjoyed for a time in the days of Napoleon I. had a vast influence in the policies of later times. No one for a moment doubts the capabilities of Prince Bismarck, yet, no doubt he, like many another great man, to some extent, floated to power on the tide of a great popular movement. The time had come when the various tribes of Germany were to be marshaled under one banner and animated with one idea. *Einigkeit ist Alles!* It was this sentiment which gained the victory over the Austrians at Sadowa—it was this that enabled the Germans to rush like an impetuous mountain torrent on their foes, in the Franco-German war. One of the great causes for the Socialists and Anarchists of Germany, during the past fifteen years is the fact that many believe that the imperial government has not carried out the ideas for which the people fought at Sadowa, Gravelotte and Sedan. In the eyes of millions, the Emperor Frederick, Kaiser Fritz (our Freddie) as he was lovingly called, was the personification of German liberal thought, hence the unspeakable grief of the people when they learned that he must die. Hence their thankfulness that he came to the throne, though it was but for a few days.

In France statue-raising is the movement of the hour, and shows that republicanism is taking a deep hold in the minds of the French people. At Nantes, the statue of Alphonse Baudin has been lately unveiled. Baudin, it will be remembered, was a leader in the final overthrow of the Bourbons in 1849 and 1851. It was in the funeral oration over the remains of Baudin, that Gambetta gained his first laurels. The statue represents Baudin at the moment he fell mortally wounded.

Amiens has also been the scene on the occasion of the inauguration of a monument to G. n. Vogel, who fell while defending the fortress of the city against the Germans in 1870. The hero was even then honored by his enemies. As Byron says of Marceau, his mourners were two hosts—his friends and his foes. The Germans, in fact, buried him with military honors, and placed an inscription over his grave setting forth that the German soldiers had done this as a tribute to a brave and good man.

But the most remarkable ceremony is the unveiling of a monument on Sunday, Sept. 23d, at Arcis-sur-Aube, to the memory of the notorious Georges Jacques Danton, the bosom friend of these congenial spirits, Robespierre and Marat. Whether Danton was or was not the unscrupulous scoundrel described by La Fayette and Madame Boland, he was certainly what the French term a *personage*. Of his own commanding individuality he was himself fully conscious, for at the guillotine just before he was strapped to the fatal plank, he turned to the executioner and said, "Show my head to the people, it is worth the trouble." It was indeed. The man whom his affectionate and devoted wife habitually spoke of as her "terrible husband," was facially one of the ugliest of men. His ugliness, it is true, was not entirely an endowment of nature. A big, strong, bold, country boy, he was tossed by a bull which with one of its horns gave him a hair lip for life. This mishap did not prevent him from graduating as an amateur bull-fighter; and on a second occasion the bull so frightfully gored him, as to fatten and nearly tear out his nose. Undismayed, he subsequently attacked a herd of swine, and was fearfully bitten by a savage boar. Finally a dreadful attack of smallpox completed the devastation of his features. His want of comeliness did not prevent his becoming a great favorite with the inhabitants of his native town. He was sent to college and was in the class of rhetoric in 1775, when Louis XVI. ascended the throne. The coronation of the King at Rheims, was the subject for a prize essay; and the first proceeding of young Danton, as competitor for the prize was to run away from school. He turned up some days afterwards, with the essay ready written, to which the laurel was unanimously awarded; and he then explained that he had trudged on foot to Rheims to see how a king was made. He had a great deal to do subsequently in the unmaking of that king. Such was the sanguinary youth who was to become in process of time a lawyer's clerk, an attorney, a minis-

ter of justice, and the founder of the blood-stained revolutionary tribunal. Few men have been so widely execrated as Danton, yet he was never odious to the people of his native city—Arcis-sur-Aube.

M. Loyston, better known as "Pere Hyacinthe," delivered an address on Sunday, Sept. 23, at his church in Rue d'Aras that is attracting considerable attention. The ex Carmelite, as is well known, is an eloquent speaker, says what he means, and is not ashamed of his opinions. He always commands large congregations, and his teachings are often received with hearty applause. Pere Hyacinthe is an ardent supporter of the Republic, and believes that unbelief is the greatest danger of his country. In referring to the United States and the causes of our nation's greatness, he paid a glowing tribute to the influence of Sunday schools. His words as near as I can translate them were as follows: "It was Sunday school politics that launched the Mayflower and created the institutions of New England; that spoke through the numbers of Garrison's *Liberator*; that walked by the side of John Brown on his way to execution; that inspired Lincoln as he spoke at Gettysburg and as he uttered his second inaugural. It was Sunday school politics that served Americans in the conflict at Bunker Hill, taught them to suffer at Valley Forge, and conquer at Appomattox. If the French Republic is to have a future the youth of France must be taught respect for law, respect for God."

In the British Isles it is the season for speech-making, fairs, and the annual meetings of various associations. Last week the Associated Chambers of Commerce held their annual session in Cardiff, the industrial capital of South Wales, which, sitting like a queen among her cornfields and iron works, her splendid docks and her net-work of converging railways bids fair to be one of the leading cities of the empire. The rapid growth of Cardiff is one of the most striking facts of modern English history. No outlay of capital has been grudged to make the port one of the most accessible in Great Britain, so that the vast mineral treasures of the district might at a minimum of delay and cost be rendered available to the world's markets. It is exactly fifteen years ago since the Chambers of Commerce held their last session there. But a mighty change has taken place from the Cardiff of 1873, to the stately and populous mart now the pride of the Bristol Channel.

The fate of Stanley, the great African explorer, is a prominent theme of conversation at present. Is he, or is he not, alive? is a question that no one can answer. The fate of Emin Pasha, the German explorer, is also involved in mystery. But whatever the fate of these brave men, these expeditions into the interior of Africa will contribute to the civilization of the dark continent.

What a magnificent field of operations is Africa! The bonds of the Arab slave-dealer must be broken, her sable sons redeemed from superstition, the mineral and agricultural resources of the continent developed—in fact another of the earth's grand divisions added to civilization.

Cardinal Lavignerie, now in London, has made some eloquent addresses against African slave merchants, but when he accused the Mohammedans of being responsible for the slave trade he rather overstepped the mark. The Turkish ambassador replied through the press showing that in 1847 while slavery was still dominant in various so-called Christian countries, Sultan Abdul Meschid I. without any pressure from without abolished slavery throughout the whole Ottoman Empire.

Mrs. Brock the famous pyrotechnist, had her annual benefit at the Crystal Palace a short time ago, and 35,274 persons bought tickets to the entertainment. The fiery exhibition was kept back till a quarter past nine to give the lovely snow a chance, and great was the enthusiasm of the mighty audience. At length the signal is given, the rockets are fired and fifty thousand eyes—hullo where's my arithmetic—one hundred and ten thousand—five hundred and forty-eight eyes—are at once busy admiring the shells, that bursting send forth falling stars of wondrous color, the streams of fire that in their descent are ever changing in hue, the fierce flash of rockets, the Niagara of fire, and the balloons, that with the light they carry reveal a wondrous sight to the thousands of up-turned faces. Great was the laughter over the illustration of a fight between two pugilists, who before the encounter was finished, actually dropped to pieces through exhaustion. But the chief novelty of the occasion was an illustration of Alpine scenery and an avalanche of fire. J. H. W.

EUROPE, Oct. 10, 1888.

The election onlets thrown upon a screen in front of the News office on Tuesday night, by means of a magic lantern, were painted on the glass slides by Mr. Scott Anderson, the well known expert and artistic sign writer. They were acknowledged to be far ahead of any other bulletins exhibited, for clearness of lettering. He also manipulated the lantern, for the use of which we are indebted to our friend, Mr. Charles R. Savage, of the Art Bazar.

The Estey Organ Co. has issued one of the prettiest wall pictures we have seen. The design is a maiden playing on a harp. Coalter & Shelgrove are distributing them to their patrons.

CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

Lawlessness in London.—Church Congress.—Missionary Failures.—Religious Cruelty.—English Sport.—Gordon's Statue.—French Affairs.—William's Diary.—African Items.

Editor Deseret News:

The continuance of the series of murders in the east end of London has caused such a popular excitement that, in all probability, it will have a political significance. The attitude of official indifference assumed by Mr. Matthews has aroused a storm of indignation, which, perhaps, nothing but his resignation will be able to quell. This want of energy has had its effects on the police, whose efforts to identify the criminal have thus far been fruitless. This hesitation was also manifest at the time of the Trafalgar Square riots, when, though the course he pursued was the right one, yet the movements were so slow that the law was openly defied, and it almost required the use of military force to re-establish order. In the present instance, Mr. Matthews was petitioned, by the inhabitants, to offer a reward, the money was even raised by public subscription and placed at his disposal, but he still refused. This caused the torrent of public indignation to rise to such a height that his tenure of office was imperilled, and two days after the refusal the reward was offered.

These outrages, growing out of the moral and material condition to which countless thousands of the London poor have been allowed to sink, must be considered as a burning shame and disgrace to the so-called civilization of the nineteenth century. One inquest after another has revealed a state of things too shocking for human endurance, if humanity were not of very stout heart in regard to woes not personally its own. It is now certain enough that thousands of women of a certain class roam the streets at all hours of the night. The inquests proved that many, if not most, of these had seen better times, but had sunk to their present condition by their own vices, intensified in their effect by the ignorance, the helplessness, the want of all counsel and guidance that constitute their miserable birthright. They ply their avocation as steadily as the plowman goes to his labor in the field. They were out last night, no doubt, by the hundreds and the thousands; and whenever the murderer wants a new victim, he may be as sure of finding them at their post as of finding rats in a sewer.

The meeting of the great church Congress at Manchester on Tuesday, October 2nd, has discussed some themes that may furnish food for reflection. The Rev. Dr. Taylor attacks the present missionary system with a pertinacity and zeal that must eventually have an effect on the public mind. His reasoning is logical, and the facts he brings forward cannot be ignored. The manner also in which he presents these facts is calculated to rivet them upon public attention. He destroys the rosy picture of progress and possibilities which religious zealots have so fondly painted, by which the public were made to believe that with a little more liberality the world would speedily become Christian. Dr. Taylor also shows that at the present rate of progress the heathen population of the world increase much more rapidly than the so-called Christian. The population of Asia and Africa have an annual increase of nearly eleven millions. The total number of nominal converts by all the sects is less than sixty thousand annually. That is to say, that for every additional convert made by the various sects, one hundred and eighty-three are added to the heathen and Moslem population. In spite of all the efforts, there are now fully ten millions more heathen than three were a year ago. Dr. Maclear says: "The increase in the native population of China was over 4,500,000 last year. In the same time the various missionaries baptized one hundred and sixty-seven adults. At this rate it will take the various missionary societies twenty-seven thousand years to overtake the gain to heathenism in a single year." Dr. Legge, a missionary of thirty-four years standing, thinks the Christian sects "will fail to make converts amongst the Moslems so long as they are infected with the bitter animosities that, at present divide them, and are associated in the minds of the natives, with the drunkenness, the profligacy and the gigantic social evil conspicuous among Christian (?) nations."

Sir William Hunter said, "The natives of India regard a missionary as a charitable gentleman, who keeps an excellent cheap school, preaches a modern form of their ancient religion and drives out his wife and children in a pony carriage."

Meanwhile the Salvationists of London are carrying on their work in their own peculiar way. The statistics of insanity always shows the danger, to even grown up minds, of excessive religious and emotional excitement. It would be interesting to trace the mental progress of children who are allowed and even encouraged to write such twaddle as the following, which was lately published in a so-called religious paper:

WINCHESTER.
My Dear Little Friends:—I do thank God I am saved. My sins are all washed away. I do wish other children would go to Jesus and get saved and be as happy as I am.
EDDIE W.—aged 5 years.

Here is another, perhaps unsurpassed in juvenile conceit:

I am a young soldier for Jesus. Twelve months ago I gave my heart to God. I live to be a big man I mean to be a captain. Then all our family will be officers in the Salvation Army. Hallelujah! I am saved. If any body unsaved reads this, remember I am praying for you.
WILLIE STANDIDGE—aged 16 years.

The Society for the Repression of Cruelty to Children might assuredly bear in mind that the emotional tyranny produced by this sort of religiosity is capable of inflicting the keenest intellectual suffering. It seems strange that parents will allow such a shadow to be thrown over childhood's thoughtless joy and their own offspring's sanity put to such a severe strain.

The great cricket match between the Australian players and the champion team of England aroused the public to an hysterical state of excitement. The Australians certainly deserved their narrow victory, which was due chiefly to the bowling of Turner and Ferris. The latter is a delicate-faced youth, barely twenty-one years old, and already he has heard thousands of people applaud his fine performances, and had to flee from them as for his life, when at the conclusion of a big match, they have burst into the playing space, and run after him to pat him affectionately on the back, or hoist him shoulder high and carry him in triumph. Sport in England is really a wonderfully robust institution, and seems to be the only means of rousing the phlegmatic islanders into a frenzy of excitement such as no southern nation could equal.

The memorial of the late General Gordon in Trafalgar Square is approaching completion, the stone base being nearly ready for the reception of the statue. The cap of the pedestal is adorned with carved ribbons bearing the words "Gravesend," "China," "Soudan," and others entwined in foliage. The site of the memorial is between the fountains.

In France, the forthcoming opening of *Chamber de Deputes* promises to be of a stormy nature. The government proposes introducing a revision bill with a view of cutting the ground from under the Boulangist party, and make a step in the direction of reform in view of the general election next autumn. In her foreign relations important changes are taking place. One of these is due to the publication of the Emperor's diary. This publication has had a most disquieting effect upon Europe. It is felt that in Germany a struggle is going on between the forces of liberty and autocracy and that on the result of that struggle the peace of Europe depends. If the spirit of liberalism which took shape under the short reign of the Emperor Frederick can gain strength and increase, the policy of the empire will be changed. If it is true as Prof. Geffcken states that the Emperor Frederick authorized the publication of the diary, then the imprisonment of the publisher will become a question of grave importance. The *Kulturkampf*, the only struggle of a similar nature which Germany has seen during this century was almost fatal to Imperial power, although the issues were much less broad than in the present instance. The danger then is that war may be declared as a diversion for the restless spirits of Europe, even as Napoleon did in the summer of 1870. The French, just at present, are concentrating all their hopes upon next year's exhibition. After that, they know, will come the deluge—in the shape of an inevitable conflict, which as everything goes to show will be one of the most murderous and desperate the world has ever seen. Even the French perceive how certain it is that they must fight with Germany before very long. Hence France rejoices at anything that promises dissension in Germany, and it is quite apparent that Germany will have her hands pretty well filled with her own little interior troubles and scandals, which the publication of the diary is likely to bring about.

The scramble for Africa goes on apace. Every power in Europe is engaged in taking possession of all it can lay its hands upon either by intrigue or force. The remarkable success of the English colonies in Africa has excited the emulation of other nations who appear to be oblivious of the fact that the mere circumstance of a tract of country lying in Africa does not necessarily make it favorable for European emigration. This struggle for territory has already given rise to a serious amount of friction among the competing nations. The Anglo-German difficulties concerning the Cameroons district have seen themselves repeated in Massowah and Tunis, which have caused such a controversy between Italy and France. Now the center of Africa seems to be the object coveted. The position of Emin Pasha first drew the attention of Europe to this region. At the present time, besides the Stanley expedition, two others are being fitted out by Germany and Belgium with the ostensible object of relieving the worthy Emin. This, however, as may be more than expected, is not the only aim of these expeditions. The center of Africa is now known to be a particularly rich country, and there are good reasons for believing that a flourishing state could be founded there. The heroic defense made by Emin Pasha for the last five years has excited the admiration of the whole civilized world. Whatever may be the result of various international intrigues, it is to be hoped that the life of Emin Pasha will be weighed in the balance against mercenary gain or international rivalry. He no longer be-

longs to one nation only; he is the representative of civilization in the heart of the Dark Continent.

J. H. W.
Europe, October 16, 1888.

Pleasant People.

What a boon to all his friends and acquaintances a pleasant person is, says a writer in the *Illustrated*. It may be hard to define pleasantness, but we find no difficulty in recognizing it when we meet with it. Pleasant people are not always by any means the most admirable of mankind, nor the most interesting, for it often happens that the qualities in a man which are worthiest of esteem are, for lack of other modifying elements, the very ones which make against his agreeableness as a companion and a person who does not impress us as particularly pleasant may nevertheless interest us very much in the display of unusual mental or moral characteristics, or from a complexity of nature which seems to offer itself as an enigma we are curious to solve. Pleasant people may not even be the most truly lovable, but they are likeable. We perhaps have no desire to make friends of them in the deeper sense of friendship, but we are glad when we meet them, and enjoy ourselves while in their society. The tie thus formed, though slight, is a real one, and I believe we should all do well to remember, in the interest of our closer friendships, the attractive and cohesive force of mere pleasantness. The highest virtues and offices of friendship we are not called on to exercise every day, and in familiar intercourse we have not less, but rather the more, need of making ourselves pleasant, because of the times when our friends will have to answer our drafts on their patience and sympathy.

If we question what it is that goes to constitute a man or woman pleasant, it appears to be a result of both temperament and character. It is hardly necessary to say that these are not the same thing, and yet they are not distinguished in common thought and speech as clearly as they might be. Without attempting any close analysis we may perhaps say that temperament is a certain combination of elements given us at birth, while character is another set of powers and dispositions slowly acquired and grown in for us; for the first, nature is responsible, our parents and ourselves for the second.

It seems easiest to describe a pleasant person by negative, although assuredly his pleasantness affects us as a most positive quality. To begin with, such a person must not be too much "shut up" in his own individuality, to use the phrase of an English writer. That is, he must not be very reserved and concentrated in his emotions and affections, but have a certain expansiveness of nature and openness of manner. He must not be of too fastidious, but able to take people for what they are, and what they are worth to him at the passing moment and the needs of the social hour. He must not be of too intense a nature, nor so preoccupied with the serious aspects and duties of life that he is unable to put them aside temporarily and lend himself to lighter thoughts and lighter people. One of the pleasantest men I ever met was one of the most hard-working, devoted to a dozen good causes and public interests beside his personal and professional ones. None of these were made a bore to others, and his equable and kindly disposition, his readiness to enter into other persons' ideas his interest in literature and art as well as weightier matters of politics and science, made him able to please and be pleased by men and women of the most diverse sorts. It has sometimes struck me forcibly with respect to such a man: How pleasant he must be to himself—how comfortable to live with every day!

Selecting Seed-Corn.

The greatest care and circumspection should be used in selecting and saving seed-corn, that its various qualities may be improved. The majority of farmers go to their cribs for seed, and even here if care is used in selecting seed may be kept up. One of the first qualities to be observed is strong germinating power. Every farmer who has experienced trouble from seed failing to germinate, need not be told that this is of great importance. Seed is in its best condition for reproduction when it ripens perfectly before harvested. Grain may be better as food when harvested prematurely, but for seed it should be ripened thoroughly upon the stalk. Now is the best time for selecting seed. The earliest-matured ears can be selected. The grains of an ear which matures early will produce plants which will mature their ears earlier than plants from the grain of a later-maturing ear. If selecting seed is deferred until the corn is gathered, we may be able to select good-looking ears, but we cannot tell whether they matured earliest, or whether they grew one or two ears to the stalk.

Select ears from stalks that have two ears. Take the top ear, if it is well matured. In so doing, the productiveness of corn may be greatly increased. Another important point in selecting seed is the cob. The quantity of shelled corn is much greater with a small cob to the quantity of the cob. than it is with a large cob. In feeding corn with a large cob to cattle, they can hardly chew it up; besides, the cattle