

their hands or feet; so that they who deny supreme authority of earthly potentates enthroned by the will of God shall feel sharply on their own bodies that there are authorities established by God on earth for the defense of the God and chastisement of villains like themselves."

In consequence of this ukase about 15,000 of the communists were transported. In 1832 Alexander I gave his permission for the sect to colonize on a Siberian farm. In 1839 the government seized the farm lands and ordered all who were able-bodied to do military service. In 1860 they got permission to return to Russia and about 15,000 of them went back. From that day up to a year ago they were driven from one part of Russia to another, never being allowed to remain in one place longer than six months. By that means their numbers have been reduced to 10,000.

The Dhoukhorostli are said to be industrious and thrifty and would, therefore, be desirable citizens. It is probable, too, that they, in a country where civil authority rests in the hands of the people instead of with an autocrat, would in a short time recognize the legitimacy of human authority and that they would cause no trouble on that account. The United States has raised the standard of liberty for all nations. Let the oppressed come and without molestation worship in accordance with the dictates of conscience.

#### IMPROVED ARMOR.

The inventive ingenuity of man never seems to be so alert as when devising some means of advanced warfare, such as a destroyer of increased power or a means of more secure defense. When Harveyized nickel steel was brought into existence and rolled into plates which were placed upon the sides of our men-of-war, it was thought to make them as nearly impregnable as possible, and truly they have withstood the tests tolerably well; at least none of our ships was lost or even seriously injured during the war with Spain, although some of them were struck many times with shot and shell from high-power guns. But such armor is now relegated to second place when considered in connection with the new Kruppized armor, tests of which have lately been made by the United States government. It is pronounced practically perfect; the plates will not crack and break up like the other, shot that will partially penetrate them even from close range merely indenting or imbedding themselves and imparting no injury to the surroundings.

A recent number of the New York Journal contains an account of the tests, from which it appears that the first plate fired at was 8½ feet wide by 10 feet long, and 12 inches thick. The guns used for firing carried a 12-inch projectile, next to the largest size used in the navy. The shell weighed 847 pounds. It was discharged at a velocity of 1,833 feet per second, and struck the armor plate with a force of 19,797 tons. The shell penetrated to a depth of 8½ inches and then broke up.

In the second plate tested the same size projectile was used, 12 inches, but the velocity was increased to 2,022 feet per second with a striking energy of 24,000 tons. The shell passed through the armor and broke up, but there were no cracks in the plate. The third plate tested was but 11½ inches thick. Again a 12-inch shell was used, and when striking with an impact of 21,302 tons just barely passed through the plate and broke up. Some of the pieces fell in front of the plate. Still no cracks appeared.

Other shots were fired with similar results. Of course the Harveyized plates will soon become obsolete and so will the guns which are unable to pierce the Kruppized armor, and these will then have to be in turn set aside in favor of something more powerful. Then it is fair to assume, some still tougher coating for the ships will be devised, and so on ad infinitum. Before the extreme limit of human ingenuity has been reached, perhaps there will be a new condition of things ushered in, one in which neither guns nor armor will be required, but all differences between nations be settled without bloodshed or devastation. Such is the natural and inevitable sequel.

#### A PURE FLAG.

The agitation in Norway for what is known as the pure Norwegian flag has culminated in an act by the Storting, eliminating from the national emblem the symbol of union with Sweden. The measure has met with long and persistent resistance on the part of the sailors of Norway who had found the symbol of union a source of strength in foreign harbors. The advocates of a pure flag have prevailed at last, and the consequence is that the union jack will float no more from the masts of Norwegian merchant vessels. Men-of-war and fortifications will presumably continue to fly the old colors, as a change in the flag of the navy and army would signify the entire dissolution of the union. In the Swedish flag, the Norwegian colors are likely to be retained.

It has been fondly hoped that the efforts of King Oscar for the promotion of a good understanding between the two nations over which he presides would finally bring the desired results, but it seems the cleft is widening. The two countries have entirely separate and distinct governments, though they have a common king and common representation abroad. The union is virtually little more than a defensive alliance. But even this seems humiliating to some of the Norwegian politicians who claim that it is inconsistent with perfect political equality.

The flag of Norway, with the jack left out, will be four red corners, with a Greek cross of blue through the center. The Swedish flag has four blue corners, with a jack of red, blue and yellow in the upper left-hand corner and a Greek cross of yellow in the center.

#### KINDNESS IN JAIL.

The Chicago-Times Herald has an interesting and instructive account of the plan upon which the Cook county jail is managed by Jailer John L. Whitman. The principle which he seeks to carry out in practice is this, that kindness is more potent than physical force, and it is claimed that he has had a remarkable success in proving the correctness of the theory. The proper treatment of offenders against the laws is a subject of vast importance, and any light thrown upon it should be welcome. It is not improbable that public opinion some time will recognize the fact that some old methods produce effects opposite to those intended by all proper legislation, and then a demand will be made for a thorough study of the whole subject and the employment of trained managers of penal institutions, just as proper training is demanded for other public institutions.

Mr. Whitman, when he took charge of the Cook county jail stated his views thus:

"Society has discovered that philanthropy is but the beginning of wisdom, that brutal and inhuman pun-

ishment but serves to increase the evil it is intended to check, and now further demands that we who have the care of those who have come under the ban of the law should give thought to this feature of our work. By lack of intelligence in handling them, as well as by lack of feeling, we may further increase the burden which society has to carry in caring for the criminal class."

In accordance with this platform his first act was to abolish the so-called "murderers' row," which has been the Mecca of the morbid, murderer-worshipping, flower-giving women of hysterical type. Only real murderers—that is, men who commit murder with malice aforethought, or while robbing or burglarizing, are now kept together. The prisoners are classified according to age, sex and color, and chronic offenders.

When a prisoner is entrusted to the care of Mr. Whitman, he is given to understand that this gentleman is his friend and that he wants to help him on his feet again, if possible. The prisoners know that good behavior will be rewarded; in some cases their sentences may be modified, and if they desire to lead honest lives after leaving jail, they may count on the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Whitman. It is a rule of the institution that no guard must strike a blow. In extreme cases he may call on the jailer, and it is asserted that a half-crazed prisoner, intent on murdering his guard, will quiet down as the slender, firm, yet kind jailer comes up and says, "Let him loose, boys!" and by firmness, fearlessness and kindness sways the brutal nature which force failed to subdue.

The jail hospital shows how kindness has developed the self-respect of the prisoners. The account says:

"Under Dr. Emil Broechius' care wounded prisoners are skillfully treated, surgically and therapeutically, in the operating room and hospital. In the latter room were several sick men, sitting up in spotless beds, propped up with snowy-white pillows, and reading. A young man stood near a mantel, watching them kindly. 'A nurse, of course,' was one's natural idea about the lad. Jailer Whitman introduced him, and his countenance lit up beautifully when he was asked how he liked nursing. 'Trained nurses, eh?' 'Yes, but he's a trusty—we may make a nurse out of him before he goes.'"

"Another trusty is one of Chris Merry's accomplices. You would take him for a guard if he was uniformed and did not have a deep scar on one of his cheeks. He takes much interest in work about the prison."

Another interesting department is the school for boys. This is in charge of Miss Annie Flood. We again quote from the Times-Herald:

"A regular stampede occurs among the thirty boys as soon as Miss Flood appears in the schoolroom at 9:30 each morning. All 'make for her desk, swarm around her and inquire about her. A large pile of the day's issues of the morning papers is laid down by the teacher upon the desk. These are later given out as rewards for good behavior to the boys. A word, as 'conscience,' 'honesty,' etc., is taken, its meaning defined, and the need of acting according to its dictates urged; then the usual grade studies are had, until the 'scrap-book' exercise is reached.

The papers are given out, amid great clamor and cajoling for them from the boys, and they joyfully take them to their cells and read. Short-sighted moralists may stand aghast that our so-called sensational Sunday and daily journals, with their potpourri of matter, should be so carefully put into the hands of the young. Yes, but under