

EDITORIALS.

THE ENGLISH CHANNEL TUNNEL.

AFTER lying still awhile, the question of boring a tunnel for railway purposes, under the English Channel, to connect England and France by a continuous railway, has come up again. Some time ago money was readily raised to sink approach pits on both shores into the chalk bed and to make a half mile driftway under the ocean, at an estimated cost of £160,000, much of it having been advanced by the railroad lines in those countries. The engineers report that the late submarine survey confirms the idea of the existence of a continuous chalk bed across the Channel, and consequently they regard the enterprise as entirely practicable. They have even located the spots for driving the trial shafts, and they design to vigorously prosecute the work. The governments of the two countries give the company the right to make and use the tunnel, but nothing more at present.

It is estimated that four years and £1,000,000 will be necessary to construct and complete the tunnel. But these may be underestimates, as no such work has ever been done in the history of the world, and hindrances and obstacles unexpected may be met with in the progress of the undertaking. But the raising of the money is regarded as the most difficult part of the enterprise.

There seems to be no particular necessity for this tunnel. The best that can be said of it is that it will save time, transfer, and breaking of bulk in communication between the two countries. But a large steamer upon the surface of the ocean would be infinitely preferable to most people as a means of crossing from one of those countries to the other. The shores are distant about twenty miles, or something like the distance between this city and the spur of the mountains south, dividing this valley from Utah Valley. If, as probably was once the case, this valley were part of a great inland sea, and any person in this city wanted to get to the dividing line between this valley and Utah Valley, which mode of transit would he be likely to prefer, if both were at command—to make the trip in an hour or an hour and a half in a well appointed steamship, or to take the cars and dive into the bowels of the earth, in a narrow tunnel, for about the same time, with neither landscape nor seascape to admire all the way, and the fresh air none too abundant. Perhaps not one person in five hundred would take the submarine route, at least not more than once, and then only out of curiosity. So with this English-French tunnel under the Channel, when built, the probability is that travelers will prefer the over sea route, notwithstanding the chance of a brief spell of sickness by the peculiar chopping seas of that part of the world. If such would be the result, the tunnel would have to be used chiefly for freight.

THE PAN-PRESBYTERIAN COUNCIL.

FOR a week past a grand conclave of representatives of the Presbyterian Church and all branches of it professing the Calvinistic faith, has been holding its sessions in the ancient and learned City of Edinburgh. Delegates from the chief parts of the world, to the number of three hundred, have assembled as the Pan-Presbyterian Council.

The preliminary council, at which the recent Assembly was determined upon, convened at London in 1875. The Grand Council is to be held every three years, and its object is to unite the different forces and varieties of Calvinistic Presbyterianism, to discuss the best ways and means for the assistance of weak churches, the use of the press, the promotion of foreign missions, the suppression of intemperance and opposition to infidelity and Romanism.

The telegraphic reports of the

proceedings have been very meagre. But we know that the council was duly opened on the 3rd inst. in the Kirk or Cathedral of St. Giles in the heart of the old town, a spot which for a thousand years has been sacred to the Scotch votaries of the Christian faith, and closed yesterday with an address to Queen Victoria.

The opening discourse on Christian Unity was delivered by Rev. Dr. Flint, who took for his text that portion of the Saviour's prayer just prior to his capture and death, in which he asks the Father that all his disciples might become one. The learned doctor advocated unity of effort for certain objects, but considered uniformity of worship "impossible and undesirable." "The Church," he contended, "like governments, must accommodate itself to different people." But a friendly spirit should pervade all Churches, and it was the object of the Council to promote this.

Other noted dignitaries declared that it was not the object of the Assembly to effect any organic union of the various branches of the Presbyterian Church, but to unite them in spirit.

The desire of Christian divines for a union of effort, and the suppression of that division and contention which prevail among them and their various congregations, is laudable. But in view of the lack of knowledge, and the utter absence of divine authority, which they plainly exhibit, any permanent amalgamation of their incompatible elements is certainly impossible. When their doctrines are merely speculative, their church organizations are various in form and constitution, and their discipline is subject to the popular wish, how much union can be expected either in spirit or in action?

Christ's Church is one. He is its Head in heaven and He must inspire its visible head on earth, or it cannot be His Church. If He dictates its form, constitution, doctrines, spirit and effects, they must be the same in all lands and among all nations, and they cannot be altered to suit the whims or fancies of the people. All churches which have not this unity, authority and power, are the churches of men, and their councils and conferences and assemblies to effect union, only result in greater disunion and serve to show the utter absence of divinity and authority in their schemes, devices, utterances and conclusions. Christ's Church is one, men's churches are various.

AN INDIAN ICONOCLAST.

A Scripture prediction says, the heathen shall "cast their idols to the moles and the bats." An Indian Prince has recently shattered his gods so completely that there is scarcely a piece of them left to cast at anything.

Ram Bathadar's Queen became frightfully disfigured with smallpox, in spite of the skill of the doctors and frequent sacrifices to the deities. After cutting off the ears and noses of the doctors, the disgusted Prince ranged heavy artillery before the images in the temple at Nepal, and so thoroughly demolished them that, all the king's horses and all the king's men, could not put those false gods in their places again. He cursed them, as well as the physicians and treated them to a six hours cannonade. He had lavished upon them twelve thousand goats, about a ton of sweetmeats and two thousand gallons of milk. And yet they had not responded to his simple request that his Queen should be saved from disfigurement.

This is the age of iconoclasm, and there is plenty of work to be done. Ram Bathadar and the rest of the heathen are not greater idolaters than many Christian folk. But the sooner they can loose from the objects of their unlawful worship the better. For all the idols of all the nations of whatever form—material, spiritual or imaginary, are doomed to the fate of the gods at Nepal.

"The old men and the maidens shall rejoice in the dance." This was partially fulfilled at Toledo, the other day, when at a "golden wedding" the bridegroom's father aged 16 danced with the old fellow's great, great granddaughter, aged sixteen.

MORMONISM AND MEXICO.

THE San Francisco Chronicle has the following, which may be true in regard to the sentiments and condition of the Mexicans, and correct as to the industry and sobriety of the "Mormons," but is most likely an invention so far as the purchase of tracts of land is concerned—

"Three months ago a wealthy Mormon called at the office of the Mexican consulate in this city for the purpose of procuring information in regard to land and land titles in Mexico, as he was en route for that country and intended purchasing farming and grazing tracts in the State of Sinaloa or Durango. Receiving the intelligence needed, he started for Mazatlan, taking with him letters of introduction to prominent Mexicans. Upon arrival there, Mormon-like, he immediately proceeded to business, and was successful in purchasing large bodies of land in both the States mentioned. The gentleman returned by the last steamer, and on the 7th inst. departed for Salt Lake City, to make a report to the Mormon authorities. Parties who conversed with him say that he is highly pleased with Mexico, and that he says the *tierra templada*, or temperate zone of that country, where the Mormons intend to locate, is a perfect paradise. The first Mormon colony has already reached Hermosillo, the principal city of Sonora, on its way to some defined point beyond. There is now a chain of Mormon settlements extending from Utah through Arizona into Mexico.

A Chronicle reporter called upon a prominent Mexican yesterday, whose opinion upon the Mormon hegira to Mexico will interest the public, as he is undoubted authority. He said he believed the Mexicans would gladly welcome the Mormons, as the latter were sober and industrious, and would rapidly develop the immense resources of the country. All the intelligent and cultured Mexicans were free-thinkers, and had long ago discarded religious prejudices. Hence the ruling powers did not care what the saints believed as to religious matters. As to polygamy, he thought the Mexican men would not object to it. The women would rebel against such doctrines, but they might be won over, as were Anglo-Saxon women, who are the most enthusiastic advocates of Mormonism. The heaven of Protestantism which has strongly permeated Mexico will aid the Mormons, as it has already broken open a road into the very heart of the Republic. The Chronicle's informant stated that the proportion of the sexes in that republic was about even males to ten females, and that the relative figures on the part of the latter were increasing yearly, owing to continued revolutions and the more exposed and dangerous occupations of the men. The advocates of polygamy would undoubtedly seize upon these facts to further their schemes.

The Mexicans anxiously desired population and prosperity, and the Mormons promised to bring these two requisites to the country. They would largely intermarry with the Mexican women, and the offspring of such unions would become, in part, the future rulers of the country. The Mexicans have no objection to an influx of Anglo-Saxon blood—in fact, rather like it—if not forced upon them at the point of the bayonet. Hundreds of Americans, Englishmen and Germans are married to Mexican women, and the unions have in a majority of cases been happy and blessed with large families. So far as experience goes, the women of that country like to marry foreigners, and it is the universal testimony that they make excellent wives. Monogamy is the only marital condition of the sexes recognized by the laws of the Republic, and how the Government would deal with open and established polygamy is a question of the future. Mexican public opinion in such matters is very liberal. The views herein given were very freely expressed by the gentleman interviewed.

An eastern exchange says: "Greece has gone into the greenback business—passed a legal-tender law." It would be more national however, instead of calling them greenbacks, to mention them as Greece-spots.

HARD TIMES EVERYWHERE.

AN eastern paper talks of the prevailing depression of business in the following saddening style—

"Never since the battle of Waterloo, which was the close of a struggle that exhausted all Europe, have civilized nations suffered with such a depression of business as at present. When hard times came before, they visited not more than one or two countries in the same year, leaving others to enjoy the usual, or perhaps an exceptional, prosperity; but now the complaints are universal. France suffers least, because, especially for the last six years, the French have been exceedingly economical. The Belgians, their neighbors, are in a deplorable condition, perhaps even worse than that of the Germans. Industry is paralyzed in Russia and Turkey by the fear of war; Austria has not recovered from the collapse that occurred four years ago; Canada is full of bankruptcy and confusion; and in the United States, North and South, on the Atlantic and Pacific sides, many of the leading industries are paralyzed. Great Britain, the common carrier and middleman of the civilized nations, suffers with their commercial and manufacturing disasters."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Courier-Journal says that General Sickles' daughter Laura learned at Paris of her mother's relation to the Sickles-Key tragedy. Lau felt the shame so keenly that she went into a French convent.

Some of the southern counties of Minnesota have been greatly afflicted with the grasshoppers this season, but they have gone now, in a southwestern direction, without leaving a corporal's guard behind, and the people of that section wonder and admire.

The Cardiff Mail contains particulars of the death of a farmer, named Henry Larkham, from the sting of a bee, the only mark on the body was a wound on his right temple made by the sting. Death ensued in a quarter of an hour.

The New North West entered upon its ninth year on the 6th inst. The N. W. is a wide-awake, able journal, and we are glad to learn that its circulation is steadily increasing with its age. Montana should prize a paper like the N. W.

In consequence of the announcement of President Hayes' policy, many F. O. H's are resigning their positions as officers of political societies, clubs and committees. We should like to hear of one case of resignation of a federal office for the sake of serving a political party.

Raspberry bushes are subject to red rust. This is caused by one of those microscopic fungi that infest and spoil many plants. The affected shoots should be cut off and burned; and red dry-slacked lime sprinkled on the underside of the leaves in early morning, is a good remedy.

Experiments made in the East with fresh milk have demonstrated the fact that the nearer new milk is kept to the freezing point in proper vessels, the more rapid is the collection of cream, the quantity is greater, and the butter and cheese are of a richer quality.

The muddy Missouri has been on the rampage, and has been playing curious pranks with the banks on the Nebraska as well as the Iowa side. The U. P. company have been compelled to move their cars up from the bottoms, and the St. Joe and C. B. company are shifting a portion of their track in a hurry.

A man who died recently in Massachusetts was pronounced of unsound mind, because he used to say that "God was advising him about things." People pray for divine guidance but never expect to obtain it, and anybody who receives advice from so unfashionable a counselor as God, is in this Christian generation counted a lunatic.

Pat Cunnen was in Shawnee, Ohio, and wanted to get to Logan, but he had no funds. So he gave himself to the police as the perpetrator of a murder in Logan. He obtained a free passage, but when it was found that he had lied, he was furnished with a free return. And now he thinks he is not quite so Cunnen as he fancied he was.

The Pope is approaching his latter end. He is Pius, so it is to be presumed that he is prepared.

The New York World gives an account of the loss of three \$1,000 bills by Judge Sullivan, of Washington, D. C. Investigation showed that the Judge had been on a "spree" for three days. The Washington Star doesn't seem to know him and enquires "Who is he and what is he judge of?" We suppose from the record that he is a judge of whiskey.

The only equivalent in the Japanese language for the English word baptism or immersion is soaking. A ludicrous illustration of its application is the following, from the Baptist translation of the Bible into the Japanese, which that good orthodox, the Alliance, says greatly astonished the Japs: "In those days came John, the soaker, preaching the soaking of repentance. Repent and be soaked, every one of you."

Many of the natives of the Samoan Islands have been converted to Christianity. They are fervent that they will sit up half the night to sing hymns. Then they will spend the other half in drinking kava and making a riot. An exchange says, "the influence of Christian teaching is plainly seen among them." Just so. Secular missionary work and the rum trade always has gone hand in hand.

Dr. Thomas Nicholson is writing essays on "The Curse of Useless Education," referring to the system adopted in the common schools. He advocates the teaching of spelling, reading, writing, grammar and arithmetic only, and at twelve years old the instruction of all pupils in some trade. Dr. Nicholson's head is level. But some of the newspaper libellers will be classing him with President Brigham Young as an "opposer of education."

Sitting Bull, it appears, is rightly named. He is not a fighting bull by any means. Crook gives Crazy Horse the credit for all the fighting done by the Sioux. That's right. Give credit where it belongs. This way of exalting a fellow's name who does nothing to merit it is one of the shams that should be exploded. Sitting Bull has been heralded as the great Indian warrior of the times, and he was never known to do anything but run out of danger and sit down.

An old lady writing to the Massachusetts Ploughman, gives the following as a sure remedy for ivy poisoning: "Take the common smartweed which grows around farmhouses—and make a strong tea of it, drink it freely, and also bathe the parts afflicted with this tea, and it will effect a cure in a very short time." "Poison ivy" is very common in our cañons and many people are susceptible to its venom. Fortunately there is plenty of smartweed also in the country, so that the remedy is as widespread as the evil.

An exchange says that plenty of money can be obtained in the East, on real estate security, at an interest of from five to six per cent. per annum. In California it commands nine per cent. In Utah it fetches from one to three per cent. per month. Why do not some of those eastern fellows come to Salt Lake with their cash. People here are foolish enough to jump at a chance to borrow money, at the risk of losing their homesteads and leaving their families without a roof to cover them. The big rate of interest here is restrictive to business, but if it were as low as in the East we fear it would be ruinous to thousands.

The Bridgeport Standard of June 5th says: "James Gordon Bennett woke up the other morning, looked over the Herald, found there wasn't even a third rate sensation in it, and had sold four dumbbells and was bargaining away three pairs of nearly new boxing gloves at a ruinous discount preparatory to entering a convent, when he received a cablegram announcing that the editorial force were all busy getting up a map of the spot where the Salt Lake correspondent wasn't shot by the Mormon assassins. The great editor smiled a peaceful, happy smile, and shut down on the boxing glove negotiations, softly remarking to the other man that this was a happy, happy world." With the aid of a still son J. G. B. May duel yet.