BOSTON'S BEAUTY SHOW—FAIR WOMEN OF FOUR CENTURIES

THAT a nation's status may be pretty accurately gauged by the relative number of its beautiful women and their accomplishments as well as by the doughty deeds of its warriors has long been accepted as a truism. The higher the type of each class the more advanced the country that produced them.

Fair women and brave men, with the heroic events of history, have engrossed the attention of artists from the earliest times in which sculpture and painting were practiced. In comparison with other countries, America in the past has suffered not from a dearth of fair women, but from a lack of artists to portray them, painting in oils having come into vogue only during the century in which this country was discovered. It was not until well into the eighteenth century, in fact, that our country produced artists of eminence, like Copley, West, Allston, Trumbull, Stuart and the three Peales, all of whom, with the exception of West, conveyed to canvas the beautiful faces of many of their fair contemporaries. It is to them, and particularly to Copley, Stuart and Allston, that we are indebted for these glimpses of the beauties of past generations.

There has been during the past hundred years a great increase in the number of American artists who have won worldwide recognition, and while Europe enjoys the distinction of having the oldest art schools and the best examples of the old masters, there can be no two opinions as to America's superiority as the country of inspiring themes for the artist in the grandeur of its scenery, its stirring history and notably in its multitude of beautiful women.

Since the times of Michael Angelo, Da Vinci and Titian the world's art center has shifted successively from the Italian cities to Paris and London, some artists, as Abbey and Sargent, declaring a preference for the last named city in which to work if not to study; but in view of the preponderance of American art and artists in recent years and the perfection of an atmosphere or art environment suited to the creation of great works, the opinion is growing that not many years will elapse before the art center will be transferred to the western hemisphere.

The most recent as well as one of the most interesting exhibitions in which Americans is particularly prominent is that of the Copley society, which is now open in Boston. It is called an "exhibition of fair women" and has in consequence a special interest and even fascination that attach to very few art exhibits. Considered merely as an art show, "the fair women" immediately assumes importance as in many respects the most remarkable loan collection to which the public has had access.

It might with propriety be called "a century of American beauties," although there are in this collection of more than a hundred of the fairest of the fair sex several types from abroad. It would be practically impossible to bring together the portraits of even 120 of the typical beauties of four centuries, as is done here, without stirring many delightful memories and reviving almost innumerable charming stories, but when many of the portraits are, as in this instance, from the most famous collections of paintings in the United States the interest is immeasurably enhanced.

Doubtless it would have been extremely difficult for anybody but the committee of the Copley society, which has as the motive of its work the stirring of a general interest in art, to gather such a number of valuable pictures, many of them famous ones as well, for their owners are ever chary about letting them out of their sight and care. Yet here will be found the work of masters, old and modern, brought from New York and Paterson, where is Mr. Catholina Lambert's collection, one of the finest in the country; from Philadelphia and from the Carnegie institute at Pittsburg, from Chicago and Montreal and even from London, and many of the best paintings which belong in New England are shown with those from outside places. Although the exhibition is strong on the side of the old masters, especially those of the early Dutch and Flemish schools, it is particularly notable perhaps for the fact that more space is given to painters of the present day than any previous exhibition in Boston has afforded them, while the society has been so fortunate as to secure some beautiful examples of the work of the earlier American portrait painters, including four Copleys and six Stuarts.

The picture to which perhaps the greatest national interest attaches is a portrait of Mrs. Perez Morton by Gilbert Stuart, the greatest of the earlier and perhaps of all of this country's portrait painters. The delineation of Washington's features which is most familiar and most generally accepted as the great general's accurate likeness is Stuart's most famous work, but his portrait of Mrs. Morton is considered his most beautiful and is referred to in the artist's "Life" as especially noteworthy. It is owned by J. S. H. Fogg of Boston.

A number of canvases have some peculiar individual interest. One is J. J. Shannon's portrait of his wife, which was a favorite picture with visitors to the art exhibit at the Pan-American. Another is his painting of his daughter, which belongs to the Carnegie institute. Another, the work of Hubert Herkomer, is a beautiful Madonna, for which a prominent Boston society woman is said to have posed. A third is wrapped in a pleasing cloak of mystery. It is said to have been discovered in a neglected garret, buried in the dust of years, by the Bostonian who owns it. Connoisseurs who have seen it promise that when its whole story is told it will be a romantic one, but none of its secrets has as yet been divulged.

There are among the "fair women" two paintings by Corot, who is best known in this country for his fascinating landscapes. One of them, with several other fine pictures, is from the valuable collection of Senator Clark of Montana. Two women's colleges are represented—Bryn Mawr by John S. Sargent's portrait of President M. Carey Thomas, and Wellesley by Abbott Thayer's painting of Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, formerly its president—and with them might be grouped the portrait of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe which John Elliott executed. There are many other "fair women" of today in the exhibition, and their portraits, though some of them are not the work of American artists, are none the less notable, for Mrs. Potter Palmer of Chicago lends the famous painting which Andreas Zorn made of her; Miss Elsie De Wolfe, the actress, has sent from New York her portrait by Boldini, and Carolus-Duran's picture of Mrs. Thayer has also been contributed.

The Copley society's exhibition last year—"fair children," it was called—was valued at $1,000,000. The valuation of this year's collection even exceeds that amount, for some of the finest art treasures in the country now find a resting place in Copley hall. One of the Corots, for example, though but the unfinished picture of a young girl's head and shoulders, is considered by the New York gallery, which lends it, to be worth $6,000. Twice that figure is set upon a Crevelli which is one of the features of the early Italian group, and it would probably be impossible to set a price upon a little painting by Manet, the great French impressionist, which belongs to Mr. J. Montgomery Sears of Boston. Another especially valuable picture is by the late Sir Edward Burne-Jones and belongs to Professor Charles Eliot Norton of Cambridge.

Much interest has been excited by Sargent's portrait of President Thomas of Bryn Mawr college. Sargent's position as the foremost living portrait painter would insure this, no doubt, but it will certainly not be detracted from by the remarkable, almost superhuman, fidelity with which he has put upon canvas those fleeting changes of features which are even scarcely perceptible to those most accustomed to them.

This is suggestive of the story told of one great artist commissioned to paint the portrait of a beautiful society woman who read into her soul so clearly and put what he found there upon the canvas with such fidelity, though unconscious of how much his brush revealed, perhaps, that the woman's husband, startled by the new phase of his wife's character which the lines of the finished picture disclosed to him, became suspicious of her whom he had never before doubted. He engaged detectives to investigate her secret life, and what he learned from them brought about a separation. It is this kind of skill in probing character, in painting people "just as they are," which has made John S. Sargent famous and has put him in the high place he holds.

Besides the canvases, a remarkable collection of miniatures is to be found in the Copley society's exhibition this year. It has special interest in view of the present revival of this particular kind of portraiture, and many of the pieces are of great rarity. On some it would be almost impossible to set a price; others are literally priceless, for they are heirlooms and have lain for many generations in family treasure chests. The miniatures of "fair women" surpass in beauty and in value even the fine collection which was so attractive a feature of the "fair children" last year.

The "fair women" constitute the sixth loan exhibition in the Copley society's well planned series, which has already shown such excellent results. It is the first one entirely made up of pictures of women. A year ago "fair children" were shown, and before that the R. Hall McCormick pictures from Chicago. The John S. Sargent exhibition—the first really comprehensive collection of the works of the foremost living portrait painter ever brought together—preceded that, while the "hundred masterpieces" and "modern painters" were the first two in the series. The "fair women" exhibit will be on view until the end of this month.

ARTHUR JOHNSON NEWCOMBE.

1. English lady of the seventeenth century, a beauty of the court of Charles II., by Sir Peter Lely.
2. A Scotch type, by Sir Henry Raeburn, famous portrait painter of Edinburgh; born 1756, died 1823.
3. Mme. Van Trompe, a seventeenth century portrait by Paulus Morelee, the celebrated artist of Holland.
4. Nineteenth century American Beauty, from the painting by John W. Alexander of New York, illustrative of the modern school of art.
5. A portrait by Trumbull, the famous painter of General Washington in battle and other historic subjects.
6. An example of early American portraiture, a lady of the eighteenth century, by John Singleton Copley.

JUSTICE IN GUATEMALA.

The late President Barrios of Guatemala, according to a recent writer, was visited on one occasion by a man who complained to him that a priest, having taken his land for debt, had taken his only cow also. Barrios found that the priest had charged an extortionate interest. He commanded the priest to keep the cow at his own expense for two years, to give the man all the milk, to telegraph to Guatemala every morning concerning the health of the cow, and in case the cow should die the priest's life was to be forfeited. The priest had such respect for Barrios' order that he took the cow into his own house. After he had telegraphed every morning for six months and the cost of the messages had been considerably more than the original debt he thought he might as well stop using the wire, but Barrios was prepared for him. He telegraphed to the chief of the department to arrest the priest and give him a public flogging, and in case he should refuse or neglect to telegraph again he was to be shot.

WANTED LUBRICATING.

The bell ringers of a certain English church usually leave the question of "tips" to one of their number, and the matter could scarcely be left in better hands.

If the visitor leaves the belfry as rich as he entered it, it is not because Jim, as we will call him, has not dropped a pretty significant hint.

On one occasion a visitor fancied he heard a strange creaking which seemed to proceed from high up in the tower.

"It seems to me," he remarked, "that there's something up there wants oiling."

"Nay, nay," said Jim. "'Tain't up theer; it's doon here."

"What do you mean?' asked the visitor.

"Well, you see, sir," calmly explained Jim, "that theer creaking allus comes on about 'lowance time. None of us has had a drink this morning, and if anything wants oiling 'tain't the rope. It's the men."

The men were promptly "oiled" too.

A ROYAL SALUTE.

Cecil Rhodes was greatly amused some time ago when he was returning home from the Cape on a Castle liner. While passing Cherbourg several vessels of the French channel squadron were drawn up in line to salute the ex-Empress Eugenie's yacht. The Frenchmen, who were spread out on the yards of their vessels, shouted, "Vive l'impératrice!" The Castle liner's captain, wishing to show his respect to the empress, got his men ready to salute, but in the short time at his disposal he could not school his crew to repeat the French words. "Tell them to say, 'Beef, lemons and cheese,' " suggested Rhodes playfully, and, to his utter amazement, the yacht was greeted with a deafening yell of "Beef, lemons and cheese!" which entirely drowned the voices of the French sailors. The ex-empress is stated to have expressed great pleasure at the compliment afterward.

ARTIFICIAL LEGS AND ARMS.

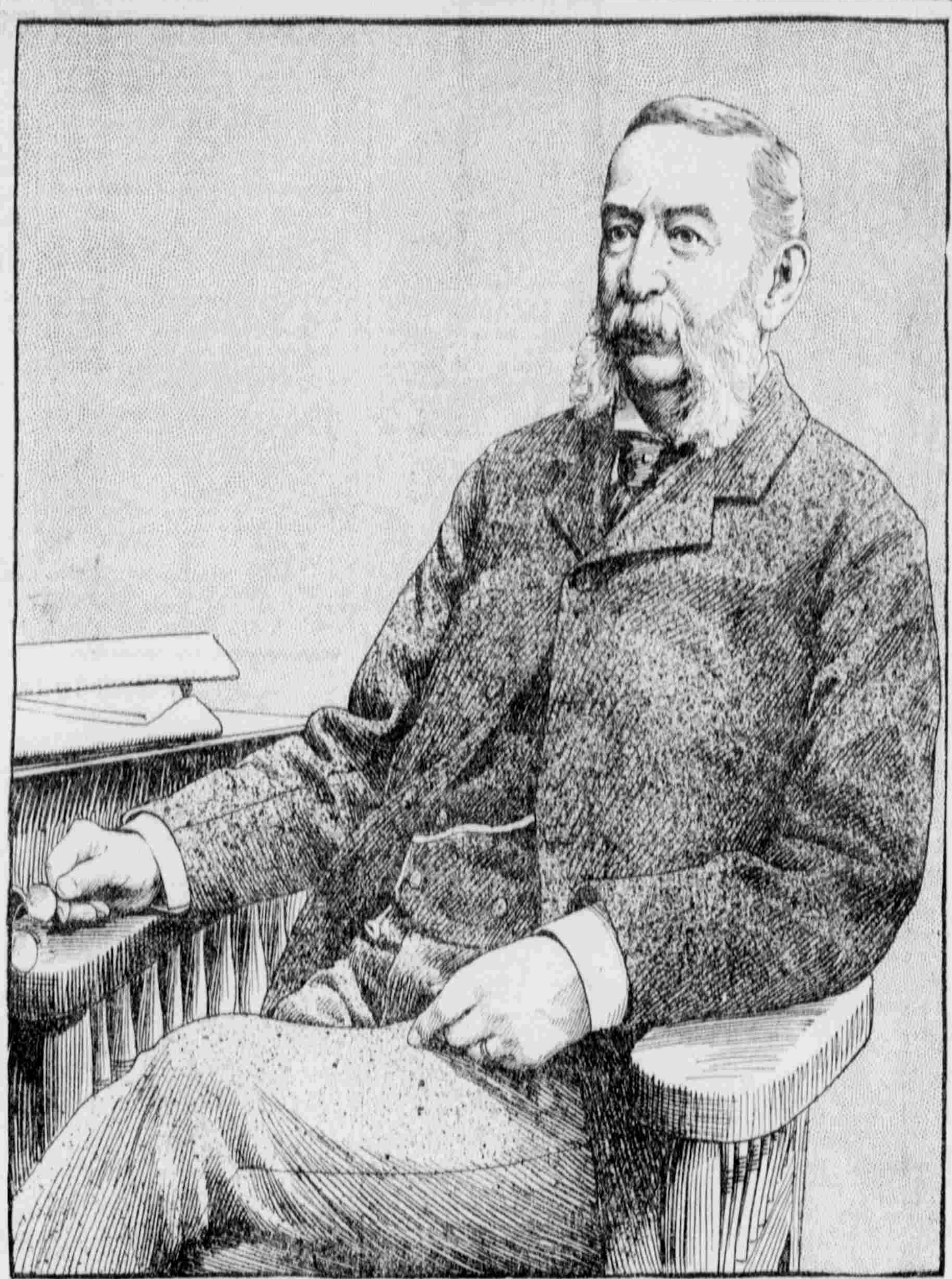
An artificial member of the body is a luxury. A good leg, well made and serviceable, will cost the wearer from $65 to $100, while for a fancy article with all the latest improvements almost any price may be paid. Artificial arms cost about the same amount as legs.

This manufacture is of very ancient origin. A king of Castile in early life lost his right hand in battle, but made himself an iron substitute, with which he could handle and use to advantage sword or lance.

About fifteen years ago a tomb was opened at Capua which contained a remarkable specimen of a well made artificial leg. It was composed of thin sheets of bronze riveted together and fastened to a wooden core. Iron bars connected the leg with a bronze belt round the waist of the skeleton, and there were traces of a wooden foot.

PLAGUE OF WILD DOGS.

In northern Patagonia a reward is offered for the extermination of the dogs that overrun that part of the world. The ancestors of these wild dogs were a pair of tame collies which were taken over by a Scotsman straight from his native heath. The animals have retained their natural instinct in connection with sheep, but instead of guarding them they prefer killing them; hence the farmers have always to be prepared for the sudden advance at any time of a strong herd of the wild creatures hungering after mutton.



DR. DANIEL COIT GILMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION.

THERE is no denying the fact that the United States has entered upon the last and highest or intellectual stage of its development. Its physical resources have been exploited and developed with unprecedented rapidity and on a scale never before known in the world's history. Its commerce has reached out to the uttermost parts of the earth. There is now a refluent wave of development, by which America turns about and applies the increment of its natural resources to the cultivation of intellect. If, as the poet said long ago, "the proper study of mankind is man," so likewise it has latterly been recognized that the greatest product of the centuries is man. To produce the highest type of mankind is the laudable endeavor of our educators today, and it is to the everlasting credit of our race that when such appears he is given universal acclaim.

From the present intellectual receptivity of the world in general optimistic philosophers argue that the time is ripe, or nearly so, for the appearance of the consummate flower of our civilization in the person of some one individual who shall surpass every other of his kind. To this end all our educators have been laboring in the past, and there is probably no one man who has done more to bring about the desired result than Dr. Daniel Coit Gilman, president elect of the projected Carnegie institution.

In reviewing what he has done for the advancement of his fellow men, Dr. Gilman cannot, of course, be considered by himself apart, and no one would more freely than he acknowledge the debt he owes to society and to the influences among which he was born.

No man stands for himself alone, isolate and independent. In himself he represents conditions and environment—in short, the status of the civilization of his time. So it would seem in a measure invidious to write of this great educator without referring to the formative influences that affected his career, and especially the men who made his great achievements possible. Most prominent among the first named were Dr. Gilman's ancestry and the institutions of the section in which he passed his youth. He is descended from Councilor John Gilman of Exeter, N. H., an immigrant of English birth who came to America in 1638. He was born July 6, 1831, pursued preparatory studies in the city of New York and entered Yale college, from which he was graduated in 1852. The three succeeding years were devoted to study and travel in Europe, where for awhile he was attached to the United States legation at St. Petersburg and later was a commissioner to the French exposition of 1855, in which year he returned to America and accepted a position as librarian at Yale. Between 1856 and 1872 he was professor of physical and political geography at his alma mater, secretary of the Sheffield Scientific school, a trustee of the Winchester observatory, a visitor of the Yale School of Fine Arts, for a short time city superintendent of schools in New Haven and secretary of the state board of education.

In 1872 Dr. Gilman crossed the continent and became president of the University of California. There he first displayed that rare breadth of view, insight into the best university methods and absolute genius in executive ability that made him celebrated. Dr. Gilman had been called to California in 1870, and as the first president of the university gave great satisfaction to its regents and added strength to the institution. He founded several chairs and procured their endowment by wealthy Californians, assisted in securing the Lick observatory and early acquired that confidence of business men which was subsequently of such vast benefit to the cause of education.

But it is on account of his great work in connection with the Johns Hopkins university, a work in which his genius was displayed during a quarter century, that he is best known. This university, one of the latest to be founded in the United States, but which has become a giant almost in infancy, owed its inception to the man whose name it bears, Johns Hopkins, a Baltimorean of good old Quaker stock, who in 1867 associated twelve prominent citizens with him as trustees in the incorporation of an institution of learning to which he pledged his fortune. Nothing was done toward the carrying out of his design until after the death of Mr. Hopkins, which occurred in December, 1873.

After providing for all his near relations, this eminent philanthropist, who deserves to rank with George Peabody and others of his kind, gave by will to the two institutions which now bear his name—the Johns Hopkins university and the Johns Hopkins hospital—property valued at that time at $7,000,000. Included in the gift to the university was the Hopkins estate at Clifton, a suburb of Baltimore. This consists of 350 acres of land and was doubtless intended by him as the site of the future university. He left the trustees absolutely unhampered, however, and they later established the university in detached buildings in the heart of Baltimore, which fact has probably operated adversely to the coherence of the institution and the preservation of traditions which are so dear to all collegians.

Vast as was the scheme of education, resulting in one of America's foremost universities, it was broadly outlined in President Gilman's inaugural address, delivered in Baltimore twenty-six years ago. In the first place, he said, "What are we aiming at?

"An enduring foundation, a slow development; first local, then regional, then national influence; the most liberal promotion of all useful knowledge; the special provision of such departments as are elsewhere neglected in the country; a generous affiliation with all other institutions, avoiding interferences and engaging in no rivalry; the encouragement of research and the advancement of individual scholars, who by their excellence will advance the sciences they pursue and the society in which they dwell.

"What will be our agencies?

"A large staff of teachers, abundance of instruments, apparatus, diagrams, books and other means of research and instruction; good laboratories, with all the requisite facilities; accessory influences coming from Baltimore and Washington; funds so unrestricted, charter so free, schemes so elastic that as the world goes forward our plans will be adjusted to its new requirements.

"What will be our methods?

"Liberal advanced instruction for those who want it, distinctive honors for those who win them, appointed courses for those who need them, special courses for those who can take no other, a combination of lectures, recitations, laboratory practice, field work and private instruction; the largest discretion allowed to the faculty consistent with the purposes in view, and, finally, an appeal to the community to increase our means, to strengthen our hands, to supplement our deficiencies and especially to surround our scholars with those social, domestic and religious influences which a corporation can at best imperfectly provide, but which may be abundantly enjoyed in the homes, the churches and the private associations of an enlightened Christian city."

What Dr. Gilman accomplished during his long presidency was shown when Johns Hopkins university celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, at which the notable feature of the occasion was the attention paid its then president emeritus by the assembled presidents of all the great colleges of the land. By at least five of those colleges he has been honored with the degree of LL. D., and his renown has extended around the world.

And this is the man, already successful as the first president of two great universities, Johns Hopkins and California, who has been selected by the trustees of the recently projected Carnegie institution as its first president. This institution is to be established at the nation's capital, where it is intended that it shall co-operate with all other institutions of learning and be a sort of advanced or postgraduate university, carrying on work along the lines projected by President Gilman many years ago. With $10,000,000 at their command, to be used absolutely as they may elect, the trustees of this latest of American colleges will have the opportunity for unlimited effort in the direction not only of the higher, but of the highest education. In his address conveying the deed of gift Mr. Carnegie said: "Gentlemen, your work begins; your aims are high; you seek to extend known forces and to discover and utilize new forces for the benefit of man. Than this there can scarcely be greater work. I wish you abundant success and venture to prophesy that through your efforts in co-operation with those of kindred societies in our country our contributions to the advancement of the race through research will compare in the near future not unfavorably with those of any other land."

That President Gilman has filled many important positions is already well known, one of the most onerous being that of United States commissioner on the boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana. He has been commissioner of awards at the Atlanta exposition of 1895, president of the Slater fund for the education of the freedmen and a trustee of the Peabody educational fund, executive officer of the geological survey of Maryland, director of the Johns Hopkins hospital and president of the National Civil Service Reform league. As a speaker he is forceful and elegant, and as an author he is well known by his "Life of James Monroe," "University Problems" and "Life of James D. Dana."

At an age when most men are seeking relaxation Dr. Gilman accepts a trust so vast that the mind of ordinary man can scarcely grasp its details, but which his capacity for great enterprises will doubtless send forward toward a successful consummation. Intimately linked in the minds of coming generations will be the names of Johns Hopkins, the Quaker; Daniel Coit Gilman, the New Englander, and Andrew Carnegie, the Scotchman, whose combined efforts were directed toward raising American educational institutions to the highest plane. Their fame will increase as the years roll by.

ROGER P. BARNUM.

An order of the Prussian minister of commerce authorizes the establishment from April next of a chamber of commerce, with thirty-six members, for the city of Berlin and suburbs.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

The law of Montana regulates the fees of doctors when called away from home. If they travel by rail, $1 a mile shall be the charge to the patient. Out of this the doctor must pay his fare.

The investigations of the Pennsylvania Society For the Prevention of Tuberculosis shows that in the sparsely settled country districts the death rate from tuberculosis is only one-fourth of that of the cities. In France the death rate from tuberculosis in cities of 5,000 inhabitants is 1.81 per 1,000 of population, while in cities of 100,000 it is 3.5 and in Paris 4.90.

The new bell which has just been hoisted in the south tower of Beverley minster is the third largest in Great Britain. It has a diameter of seven feet two inches and weighs over seven tons.

Oklahoma has 170,000 children in schools, according to the latest estimate.

Detroit's "interurban" electric railroads have reached a total of 408 miles of track and Cleveland's a total of 371 miles.

By the census of 1900 only two states had more foreign born than native born male residents of voting age—Minnesota and South Dakota.

Marie Yvonne, Renan's housekeeper, is dead. For forty-seven years she had taken care of the house at Treguier in Brittany in which Renan was born.

Hungary hopes to be able to raise cotton, although the warm season is only five months long, and the plant requires seven months to ripen. The difficulty is to be overcome by special preparation of the seed and by adding certain ingredients to the soil.

English railways are economizing in train mileage, and for the half year to Dec. 31 a reduction of 188,000 was effected, with an addition of 51¾ miles to line worked.

The city of Glasgow provides gaslight free for the alleys and even the hallways of the poor. Twenty-two co-operative societies of the city provide the workingman's supplies at the lowest possible rate.

It is said that the British government is considering the desirability of establishing a royal bodyguard of native Indian cavalry, to be quartered in London.

The Maine Historical society, which is to occupy the Longfellow home in Portland, is about to build a $20,000 fireproof building in the garden at the rear of the house.

The Massachusetts Society of the Daughters of 1812 has petitioned the state legislature to appropriate $300,000 for securing the preservation of the frigate Constitution—"Old Ironsides."

Five yards in four years is the rate at which the water pouring over the falls of Niagara wears away the rock beneath.