

Miscellaneous.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Utah women are very busy, and it is difficult to persuade them of the importance of making a proper showing at the coming World's Fair. But we must do all in our power to properly represent ourselves at that place. As to spending time and means in running out there, that is another question. However, there is one class of our women who should go there, and that is the women who are vitally interested and engaged in the cause of Woman's Progress. There is to be held an International Congress of Women during the month of May, the week's session thereof beginning on the 15th day of May, and at this congress topics of the gravest import to women will be discussed by the best speakers and thinkers in the ranks of woman's advanced thought. Our sisters who have labored so many years for the good and enlightenment of their own fellow women will be intensely interested in this famous congress. And every woman who has made up her mind to attend this Fair should so time her visit that she can be present at these meetings. Representatives from every one of our Associations should be present, and no time nor means should be spared to prove to our earnest women friends in the world that we are most vitally interested in the advancement and development of womankind.

A society unique among woman's organizations of a national character is the Woman's Republican Association of the United States. The decision of this society to become a member of the National Council of Women of the United States adds greatly to the value of the latter organization, the aim of which is to represent not numbers but ideas.

At the present writing the National Council of Women consists of thirteen national organizations of women pursuing thirteen different lines of work, all for the betterment of the present conditions and the uplifting of humanity. Among these are missionary societies and associations for the furtherance of education, peace, social purity, suffrage, temperance, and philanthropy.

Notes.

The lady who has a collection of 1000 teapots on view at the American art galleries does not want her name mentioned. "I shouldn't think she would."

Mme. Adele Ceepay, whose essay on "The Dangers of the Emancipation of Women" Mr. Gladstone wished might be put within the reach of men and women in England, is said to be a Viennese.

A Canadian woman was detected trying to smuggle eggs into Detroit. The inspectors found that she wore a petticoat with seams or grooves running entirely around it, so that rows of eggs were ranged around the garment one below the other. In this manner she could carry ten dozen eggs.

Princess Margaret of Prussia will probably be married standing on a bit of carpet worked by her mother, the Empress Frederick. All the empress' children knelt on it when they were confirmed. The present German emperor, Prince Henry of Prussia, and the Princesses Charlotte, Sophia and Victoria were married standing upon it, and the coffin containing the remains of the late emperor rested upon it.

PROFESSOR THOMAS RADCLIFFE.

But few people in this city, if any, are aware that there is a most interesting romance connected with the early history of Professor Thomas Radcliffe, Utah's great organist and musician. Such is the case, nevertheless, but it is not the purpose of this article to deal directly with that subject, but rather with the entertaining story of the experiences of a long lost son, whose arrival in this city and warm welcome by a fond father, who knew not for years whether he was dead or alive, will remind the reader of the prodigal's return and the rejoicing and festivities which followed. Suffice it to say that Professor Radcliffe does not claim to be an Englishman by birth. He admits, however, that he was born upon the island of Malta in the Mediterranean sea, over which her majesty Queen Victoria's laws bear sway. In early youth the professor gave wonderful promises of becoming a great organist, and much of his time was spent in European institutions in developing the talents which nature had so lavishly bestowed upon him. In the course of time he married, and the son, the subject of this sketch, was, as he grew up, placed in an English institution of learning, where he was given a liberal education as attested by his conversation with a News reporter at his father's home, No. 838 East South Temple street today.

Professor Radcliffe married again and in 1873 left England for America. For two years he lived in Boston. On April 6, 1880, he arrived in Salt Lake City, having been sent here by Eben Fourjee, director of the New England Conservatory of Music.

Since that time he has firmly established himself in his profession here and has made a great many friends. The son, John Harold Radcliffe, did not come to America with his father but remained behind completing his education. He developed strong business tact, and having a desire for travel and adventure on the 7th of January, 1884, at the age of twenty-two, he embarked on a mail steamer in the employ of a firm of Liverpool merchants for Old Calaba, a trading post on the west coast of Africa. Here he remained for two years and eight months as a representative of the Liverpool company bartering with the natives, giving them rum, gin, powder, guns, swords, cotton prints, clothes of all kinds, beads looking glasses, earthenware and others articles, receiving in return palm oil, palm kernels, ebony, ivory and rubber. In and about Old Calaba there were thousands of natives, most of whom dwelt in all of the savagery characteristic of their tribes. The total number of Europeans was only twenty-two, all of whom were engaged in trade with the natives.

Here, says Mr. Radcliffe, the United Presbyterians have had a mission established for the last fifty years, and that too without having accomplished any good or but very little. The children of the chiefs are placed in the mission schools, where they learn to read and write, but not very well. At the age of fourteen they are taken from school. The girls become the wives of

chiefs or sons of chiefs at that age. A most remarkable thing, says Mr. Radcliffe, is that when the boys and girls are taken from school and out of the mission they invariably fall back almost immediately into the savage state of their ancestors. They are a most barbarous, idolent and filthy people and are as impervious to the reforms of civilization and teachings of Christianity as the hide of a rhinoceros is proof against the bite of a mosquito.

The children of the slaves are not allowed to go to school and in fact are so ignorant that it would be a hopeless task to try to educate them. King Duke the IX is the double title of the native chief of Old Calaba whose word is law and with whom Mr. Radcliffe became well acquainted. He has an African secretary who was brought from Accra the principal city and seat of government on the gold coast, who transacts all of his business.

On Mr. Radcliffe's return to England he remained there but two months. He had done a good business for his company and was again sent back to represent them. This time he was stationed at Old Calaba for a period of three years and relates in a quiet and unpretentious manner, when closely questioned, some thrilling adventures in hunting expeditions formed for the purpose of killing alligators, crocodiles and other animals.

Again Mr. Radcliffe returned to England and again he remained but a short time—only two months and a half. This time he was sent back as a representative—not only of the old firm for which he had made two extended voyages to Africa—but for a large number of firms which found it greatly to their advantage and protection to consolidate their interests. This time Mr. Radcliffe was stationed for a while at Apobo also a trading port on the west coast of Africa and about 150 miles from Old Calaba. Later on he went to Olumbela a town at a considerable distance in the interior. At this place his company established a trading post and where they did a big business. Here the natives were even more ignorant than they were on the coast—and at times much blood was shed among themselves. They never on any occasion sought to molest Europeans with whom they were very anxious to carry on a trade. The European products were taken into the interior up the river as far as possible on small steamers and canoes, after which they were carried by natives to the trading posts. Sixty pounds was an average load for a full day's march. At this inland trading post, says Mr. Radcliffe, were some of the filthiest creatures he ever saw in human form. They have an inherent aversion to soap and water, and will not handle them in any manner that tends to cleanliness. For ten months he dwelt among them and made money when there was not a white man within a radius of twenty miles.

On the death of a chief or other important personage was the time when atrocities that are fearful to relate would be committed and which showed plainly the barbarity of the natives. Instead of such an occasion being made a time of mourning and sorrowing, it was hailed as the heyday of merriment, of dancing, drinking and revelry. Huge fires would il-