

FOREIGN NOTES.

Pawnbrokers are increasing in number in England, in the last twenty years their number having been doubled. As the rate of population only increases about three per cent. per annum, it is easily to be seen that ere long the whole population of England will become uncles, and the Union Jack as a national emblem be succeeded by the Three Balls.

It is a significant fact that, according to Rev. George Herbert Curtis, in his Bampton lectures, the Catholics of England, in 1855, numbered 5 per cent. of the whole population, while in 1865 the number was but four and two-thirds per cent. And yet we hear quite frequently from across the ocean that Romanism is rapidly swallowing the kingdom of Great Britain.

There is some talk of the Archbishop of Paris addressing a pastoral letter to his clergy on the subject of the emotion produced in the church by "the new attitude of certain priests," which probably means the marriage of Pere Hyacinthe, and a certain tendency in the same direction manifested by other ecclesiastics. The bishops of Poitiers, Grenoble, Lucon, etc., are also said to be preparing pastorals on the same subject.

The consumption of animal ivory is something enormous. Sheffield alone would demand the killing of 20,000 elephants annually, were there no other sources of supply. One great source of late years is found in the Mammoth, an extinct species of elephant, which lived in northern Siberia some two hundred thousand years ago, when that country enjoyed a temperature like that of the tropics at the present day.

It seems actually decided that the Shah of Persia will visit Europe in the early spring of next year. For 2,352 years no monarch of the Persians has visited that continent. The last sovereign of the land who undertook the journey was Xerxes, when he invaded Greece. His present Majesty will certainly not come with anything like the retinue of that King, who led a host of 5,228,220 men as far as Sepias and Thermoplae—a feat which, by itself, throws all our modern achievements in the way of enormous armies and commissariats into the shade.

The English papers are filled with accounts of the annual autumn manoeuvres of the British troops, regulars, volunteers, and militia. There have been reviews, sham fights on a grand scale, and all England has been agog over the movement of the defenders of the country. A correspondent of the *Daily News* is lost in admiration of the superb marching of the regulars, and thinks that if the red coats once got fairly into condition and put their backs into it, "they could walk away from any other troops in Europe."

Bismarck and the German authorities may do their best, by ordinance and prohibition, to turn back the tide of emigration to America, but a force works against them which it is difficult to overcome. The simple fact is that Germany is overcrowded. In Berlin thousands of poor people live in old railroad cars and omnibuses, and when the police drive them from these wretched retreats they have nowhere to go. The German looking towards a land where there is room enough for all and to spare, will seek it, and official restrictions, however rigid, cannot check the tendency.

Dr. Herrman von Orges, a well-known Austrian economist, has issued a pamphlet on woman's work in connection with the Vienna Industrial Exhibition, where special attention will be given to the work performed by women. At the London Exhibition were seen the products of human industry, at the Paris Exhibition the instruments of human labor, and that to be held at Vienna will show who the laborers are. Information already obtained shows that in Austria women play a much more important part in all kinds of manufacture than they have hitherto been supposed to do, and that in all departments where great bodily strength is not required their work is quite as valuable as that of men. A school has recently been opened in Vienna for the instruction of women in certain departments of work for which they are peculiarly fitted, such as the making of patterns for jewelry, dresses, and so forth, and productions of the students will be shown at the exhibition to enable manufacturers to judge of their value.

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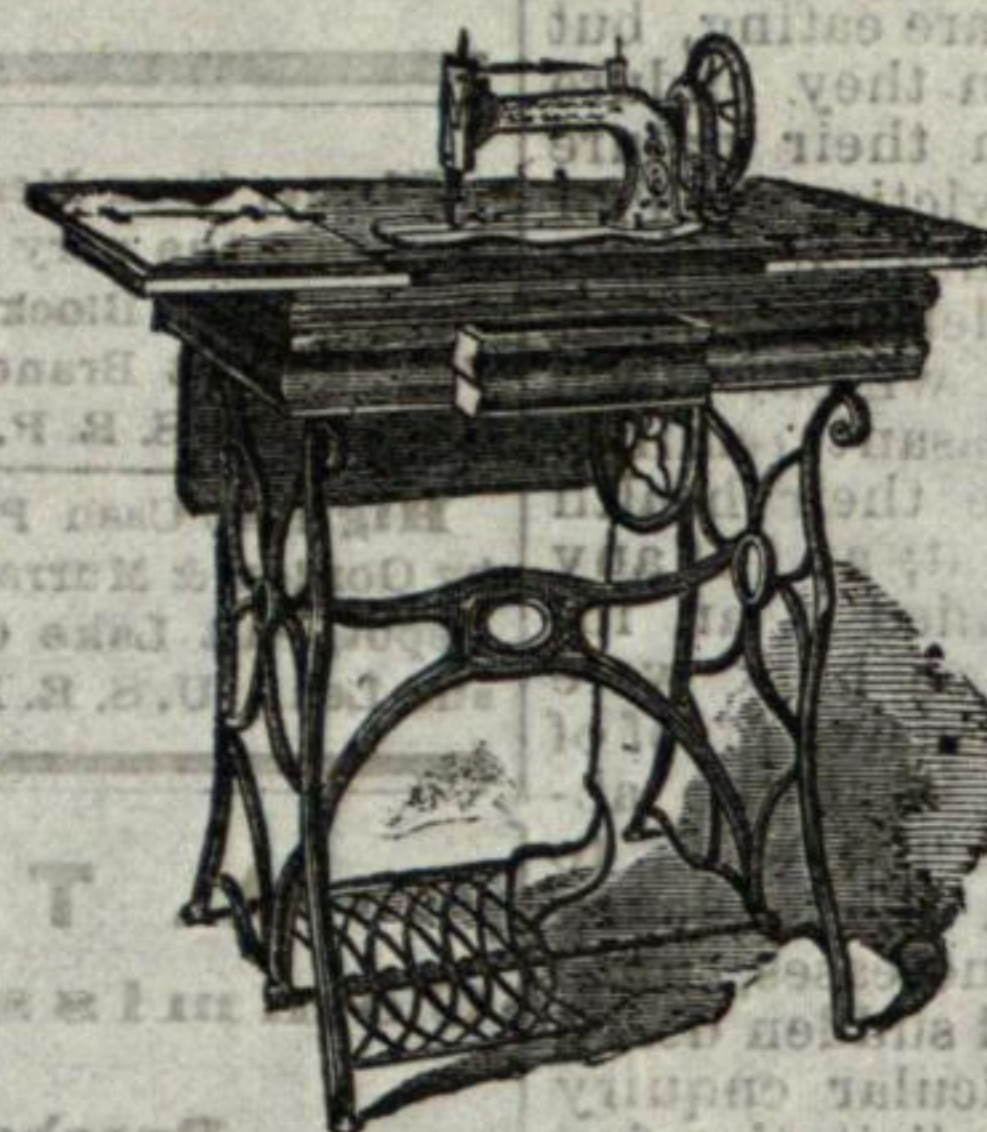
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