

will live to be sixty years old; and 1,121 will die in their sixtieth year. So nicely, as well as frequently, have such observations been made, that rules comparatively correct, may even be applied to large numbers of people of the same age. Taking 10,000 persons of the age of fifty-two, we will find that 152 will die before reaching fifty-three, and so on. It is said that, with reference to the whole population of London, the same number of deaths by consumption occur in that city each year, and similar regularity is confidently predicated of the various other contingencies to which life is subject.

A PATENT has recently been taken out in France for a carriage that is air tight, and so strong that the air may be compressed in it to a density suitable to the necessities of patients who have diseases that require them to be kept in compressed air, in order to breathe effectively. The air is constantly pumped in as the carriage runs, by a pump which is worked by an eccentric on the axle of the hind wheels.

A NEW material for paper making has just been discovered in France. With the roots of lucerne, M. Caminade has succeeded in making a pulp which can be employed jointly with rags in the manufacturing of paper, and even separately.

CROATIAN SCENERY.

We passed the village and castle of Grobnick, perched on the summit of a hill to our left. The inhabitants in default of arable land on which to exercise their industry, are almost exclusively woodsmen and carpenters; and they are reputed most skilful in the latter calling in the neighbouring towns, to which they migrate annually in search of work, returning periodically with their earnings in the shape of grain to support their families during winter. A little further on, however, we crossed a plain, called the Grobnikerfeld, which is comparatively devoid of rocks, and there the dilligent woodcutters have established a scanty cultivation, apparently poor in produce, and certainly inadequate to their subsistence. After leaving it, we commenced another long ascent, which raised us a thousand feet more above the level of the sea. This was the highest point of the Kapella Gebirge, and we had no sooner reached it than a new scene opened before us, and the surrounding country assumed a totally different character from that of the barren heights over which we had passed. A broad expanse of hill and dale, green and wooded, fresh and smiling, extended far and wide; rich meadows, fertile fields, and neat enclosures, come in pleasing succession to the bleak inhospitable region which we had left behind and below us; and this fair landscape of Alpine beauty derived an additional charm in our eyes from the sudden and expected contrast. The verdure of the grassy banks was gemmed with wild flowers in the most varied profusion. The scarlet amaryllis grew on the damp soil, where tiny streamlets tinkled, glittering in the sunshine for a moment, and then disappearing under the sombre shade of mountain pines. The pale pansy of the woods peeped from behind the feathery leaf of the fern; wild roses clung to the hawthorn bushes of the untrained hedges; and the small red strawberries, soon detected on their lowly beds of moss and weeds, tempted us more than once to alight and gather them in handfuls. The trees, that studded the rising grounds, were of gigantic growth, and so thick set, as they clustered on the summit of the green hillocks, that these natural plantations seemed to be impenetrable. They were laid out, as it were, in the most tasteful manner, and in some places where they descended in well-rounded forms upon the smooth and undulating lawns of the valley, a handsome country-house was alone wanting to complete the resemblance to an English park; while they possessed that brilliant variety which is attained by scientific painters only, through a skilful mixture of desuduous trees with the predominant masses of firs, pines, and other evergreens. The different tints, which displayed a striking contrast between the bright foliage of the noble planatze, chestnut-trees, and mountain-ash, and the rich dark raiment worn by the numerous kinds of abies, gave an appearance of lightness and luxuriance to the general effect, that might have afforded a profitable subject of study and admiration to the Loudons and Stuarts of England and Scotland; and the young birch-wood intermingled with nut-bushes on the heights, and willows in the hollows, was disposed in

imitable groups and clumps, fresh from the hand of that matchless gardener, Nature. We drove for a couple of hours through this lovely sylvan scene, which, in my opinion, surpasses anything that is to be met with in Switzerland or the Tyrol. We passed several small villages, composed of log-huts, like those of America, roofed with thin and narrow planks. I entered one of them when our coachman stopped to water his horses; it was inhabited by a numerous family of half-savages, besides two small red cows, and four or five long-haired and shaggy goats; a large boiler was suspended by a chain from the roof over a fire in the centre of the hovel, and hungry children were crouching around it in an atmosphere of thick smoke; while an old woman prepared their meal of boiled chestnuts and onions, grumbling and scolding in strange uncouth accents as she brandished her huge wooden spoon. Two men, who lounged at the low doorway, were tall, robust, and handsome. The Croats are considered to be remarkable for their very fine eyes; but, though constantly large and full of expression, especially those of the young mother of the family in the cottage, who entered it with an immense load of hay on her back, and a hoe in her hand, as I was leaving it—they appeared to me to have too much of fierceness and cruelty in their quick glance to entitle them to the reputation of great beauty. The two peasants at the door were both armed with long guns; and each of them had his woodman's axe over his shoulder, as the cutting of timber and fire-wood, and the burning of charcoal, seem to occupy more of their time than the exercise of husbandry, which is left almost exclusively to the women. On the whole, they were men whom it was more agreeable to meet at their cottage-door, than it would have been in the forest alone; for they looked as if they were quite as much accustomed to use their guns as their axes, and both for purposes less innocent than those of wood-cutting.—[Continental Tourist.

NEAR Potsdam, in Prussia, gunpowder is manufactured from wood, on something like the gun-cotton principle.

THE Russian Government has forbidden the Poles to use their own language in religious matters. For the future all Roman Catholic catechisms and books of devotion intended for Polish use are to be published in Russian, and Russian is made the only language in which religious as well as secular instruction can be given in all, even in primary, Polish schools and in which sermons can be preached in Polish churches.

THE STORM IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA.—Yreka, November 26, 1865.—Very heavy storms have prevailed in this portion of the State within the past eight days. The wind at times blew a hurricane, prostrating trees, fences and everything above ground within its track. The heavy rains so raised the rivers that a large portion of the farming land was flooded. Much damage has been done by high water in Scott valley. The telegraph line for more than 100 miles each way from this place was almost totally wrecked.

RECRUITING for the Papal army is actively going on in Switzerland, and as yet the Federal Government has offered no opposition to the enlistments. The Papal army now consist of 7,568 men, 2,244 of whom are gendarmes.

MR. CHRISTIAN WEINTRAUD JR., of Offenbach, Hesse Darmstadt, has patented an invention, which consists in ornamenting, by drawing or otherwise marking on, the surface of steel or wrought-iron, which must be first polished or bright, or "matted," any desired spots, pattern, or device, with boracic acid. The metal is then fired, and according to different temperature, so will the effects differ.

We are told from France that all the remarkable features of the season of 1811 have been repeated in 1865 in the French vineyards. The grapes have been so plentiful and the juice so spontaneous that large quantities of wine have been wasted in consequence of the want of casks in which to store it, and of the people to gather the grapes and make the wine. In parts of Burgundy it is said that new wine is selling at from four cents to nine cents per gallon, to those who furnish their own barrels. Prices like these are so very low that it will follow that there will be an immense production of brandy, and that the best quality of this liquor, wanting age only, can be sold in France at considerable less than a dollar a gallon.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.—The *Currier de Alpes* gives an account of a serious accident to the workmen employed in piercing a tunnel through Mont Cenis, at a depth of 6,500 feet on the side Modana. The rock of which the operatives are at present employed is excessively hard and difficult to be pierced. Mining is constantly resorted to, and the stone strikes fire at the least blow. There were several miners at work, and one of them was filling a hole with gunpowder when a spark was struck from the rock and a violent explosion took place. The fire reached several other mines ready to be explored, and a number of the miners were killed or wounded. The sufferers are all young men, natives of Piedmont. It is said that two were killed on the spot; ten were carried to the infirmary of the tunnel, severely wounded, and several others are less severely hurt. This accident has caused a complete panic among the men employed at the tunnel.

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