

INTERESTING ITEMS.

A Study of Egyptian Bricks.—Professor Unger, the Vienna botanist and paleontologist, has recently published some remarks on the bricks of the ancient Egyptians, especially those of the pyramids of Gizeh, which were built about three thousand four hundred years before our era.

An Indian Curiosity.—Among the Oriental curiosities in the Loan Exhibition at Southampton, England, is an official dagger of a Hindoo bard, the property of Mr. Tenney. The following curious statement has been affixed to it by the poet:—"In Guzerat are a number of petty chiefs called Thakors, whose condition somewhat resembles that of the old Highland chiefs of Scotland, or did so a few years ago.

Town Population of Russia.—According to a statistical paper just published, Russia (not including Poland) contains at present 414 towns, each with upwards of 5,000 inhabitants. From 500 to 10,000; 91 having from 10,000 to 20,000; thirty up to 30,000; seven up to 40,000; six up to 50,000; three between 50,000 and 60,000; seven between 60,000 and 80,000; one of between 80,000 and 100,000.

A Model Huntsman.—A French paper publishes the following anecdote concerning the Emperor of Austria while out shooting:—"His Majesty is always attended by a Captain of the Guards, whose duty it is to observe the effect of each shot and announce it. The Emperor, for instance, strikes a partridge. 'Partridge!' cries the captain. Next time it is a buck. 'Buck!' shouts the captain. One day the Emperor fired, missed his game, and wounded one of the gentlemen of his suite. The latter, on being struck, uttered an exclamation. 'His Highness the Duke of Hachenberg!' announced the captain, without the slightest change of feature or tone.

A Chemist's Discovery.—An Austrian chemist, M. Leinbrock, has discovered a way of enclosing electricity in small glass capsules, which will explode under the slightest shock. The capsule is enclosed in a steel cone, so that if shot from a rifle it will enter the body, and the explosion which follows is sufficient to kill a man. Experiments have been made on oxen and horses with perfect success, these animals having fallen down as if struck with lightning.

A Horse Jockey Caught.—A curious horse case has been tried in Paris. Count Edgar de Praslin lately bought a horse of Tony Montel, the well-known Champ de Mars dealer, for £140, but the next day, when its hoofs were washed, it was found that they were full of holes and crevices, which had been cleverly plugged with tar and caoutchouc. Elvess dealer, for £140, but the next day, when its hoofs were washed, it was found that they were full of holes and crevices, which had been cleverly plugged with tar and caoutchouc.

Curious Relics at High Prices.—The ivory arm-chair presented to the city of Lubek by Gustavus Vasa was sold in 1825 to M. Schinkel, chamberlain of the King of Sweden, for 120,000 francs; the prayer book used by Charles I of England on the scaffold fetched 2500 francs; the coat worn by Richard III at the battle of Tewkesbury was sold in Edinburgh for 561,000 francs; and in 1816, Lord Schwarzenberg gave 16,595 francs for a tooth of Newton, which is now set in a ring and worn by the eldest branch of that family.

A Witness Rejected.—In a London police court, not long since, a witness about to be sworn said that if he kissed the book he should feel bound to speak the truth; but he did not believe in the doctrine of future rewards and punishment according to the sense in which men ordinarily understood it. He did not believe he should be punished in a future state if he did not speak the truth. The Justice declined to administer the oath to a man entertaining such opinions, and his evidence was not received.

A Good Suggestion.—"A Travelled Parson" writes to an English paper:—"In some parts of Germany every bottle containing poison is labelled with a death's head and cross-bones, as black as printer's ink can paint them. Every bottle of poisonous medicine sent to the patient has a similar label over the address. Pray help me to urge upon our chemists and druggists the adoption of this very simple method, which is plainly within the comprehension of the dullest boy that ever handled a pestle and mortar."

The Irish Emigration.—The emigration from the South of Ireland, partially suspended during the harvest, is reviving. The Cork Examiner remarks that "a considerable portion of the emigration takes place through prepaid tickets, the friends of parties in America paying their passages, and during the past month the number of prepaid passages has greatly increased. This shows the great anxiety of the Irish in America to have their countrymen out there."

A Prosperous Parish.—At a recent meeting of the rate-payers of the parish of St. Mary Staining, Wood street, London, it was stated by one of the almoners of the hospital of Henry the Fifth, an assayer, who died eleven years since, and left the interest of £100 sterling to six persons in the parish, that the trustees had in hand £100 7s. 11d., which they could not distribute, as they were unable to find six poor persons in the entire parish.

Gambling in London.—A correspondent of the London Morning Post says that from certain don, he is forced to at present current in London, gambling is once more to make its way, not in the professional class, but in the social position appears to suggest to them no name for their proceedings."

Eugenie Fulfils a Vow.—The Paris journal, announce that the Empress Eugenie has placed in the Church de Notre Dame des Victoires a magnificent lamp, bearing the initials, L. N., which is to burn perpetually before the high altar. It is a present to which is said to be attached a vow relative to her family.

Lucky.—A foreign paper relates that, when passing through Baden-Baden, on his way to Biarritz, Count Esterazy, the Austrian diplomatist, went into the gambling-rooms, and placed some money at random on a number of the roulette. Presently he was informed that he had won 70,000 florins.

A Thief's Suicide.—A suicide of a curious description had been committed by a French thief, who rejoiced in the soubriquet of Pompey. He had failed in an attempt on an iron safe, and either disgusted with his clumsiness or his impiments, he hanged himself on a tree.

A Financial Item.—A few days ago a one-half note was paid into Mr. Goss's bank, Chelmsford, England. It was dated 1853, and it is calculated that the bank has been a gainer of 27 lbs. in the shape of interest, at five per cent., by its non-circulation.

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