75,000,000 Deaths:
The plague in Russia this year has come, as before, from Turkey; but the Russian authorities seem most active and energetic in measures to prevent its spread. Still, so dreadful is the pest, so inconceivable are its horrors to those who have not witnessed them, that it is not strange Austria, Germany, and other countries of Europe should be alarmed. While it is unlikely to make much advance toward the West, too great precaution cannot be exercised; and, whatever may happen, we have the comfort of knowing that in the latter half of the nineteenth century the best part of Euon knowing that in the latter half of the nineteenth century the best part of Eu-rope and America is free from peril of panic and superstition, and can meet any danger and death in any form with calmness and reason, science and phi-

losophy.

In later times the plague first ap-In later times the plague first appeared during the fourteenth century, when it actually deselated the world. One of the names it then bore was the Black Death, from the black spots denoting putrid decomposition which, at one of its stages, marked the sufferer. The accounts then furnished are incomplete and inexact, as they necessarily would be at such an epoch of semi-civilization; but they are sufficient to show a state of horrors and agony hard to exceed. The course and symptoms of the dreadful malady varied at different times and in different countries, and greatly eeed. The course and symptoms of the dreadful malady varied at different times and in different countries, and greatly changed toward the close (1348-51) of its ravages in Europe. Among the concomitants of the pestilence were noticed palsy of the tongue, which became black, as if suffused with blood; putrid inflammation of the lungs; fetid, pestiferous breath, and expectoration of blood. When it spread to Europe, fever, evacuation of blood, and pulmonary carbuncles proved mortal before other sympthms had been declared. In well-nigh an instances death ensued in two or three days after attack. Spots and tumors were the seals of doom which medical skill had no power to avert and many sufferers anticipated by suicide.

The rise and progress of the plague in the fourteenth century have not been clearly or consistently related; but there seems to be no doubt that it originated in China. There is also concurrent testimony that the co-operating causes existed and acted at least fifteen years before any outbreak in Europe, and are to be sought as far back as 1333, in a series of mighty-convulsions of nature, which continued for twenty-six years to affect

of mighty convulsions of nature, which continued for twenty-six years to affect and derange the normal conditions of animal and vegetable life. The precise date of the beginning of the plague in China is unknown; but from 1333 to 1349 that country suffered leaffully from 1349 that country suffered fearfully from droughts, famine, floods, swarms of locusts and earthquakes that overthrew cities and leveled mountains, and these catastrophes were followed by the scourge. At the same time the order of things seemed to be reversed in Europe. Thunder-storms occurred in midwinter, ee formed in summer, tornadoes swept regions that had never felt them before, volcanoes, long thought extinct, blazed with fury, and waterspouts rose in placid

The mortality was hideous in the East and West, and it is believed that the great activity of the globe, accompanied by decomposition of vast organic masses, myriads of locusts, bodies of brutes and men, produced some change in the atmosphere hostile to life. It is said that, it the content of the content mosphere hostile to life. It is said that, in the progress of the plague westward, the impure and poisoned air was traceable as it moved on laden with pestilence and death. A writer of the time remarks: "A dense, awful fog was seen in the heavens rising in the east, and descending upon Italy."

The mortality, though no proper estimate can be made in the absence of statistics, was prodigious—supremely ter-

The mortality, though no proper estimate can be made in the absence of statistics, was prodigious—supremely terrifying. In China alone 13,000,000 persons are asserted to have died, and in other parts of the East nearly 24, 7000,000 more. In Europe details were more exact. In London 100,000 souls perished, and in fifteen continental cities about 300,000. Germany lost, it is cal culated, 1,244,434, and Italy one-half of her whole population. It is within by the scourge. Africa suffered terriby likewise, and it is believed that the globe was deprived during that century of fully from 70,000,000 to 75,000,000 human beings from ravages of the plague. The mere facts are appalling to the imagination; the scenes of suffering are scarcely credible. Death was menaced; birds, beasts, men, women and children, hosts of members of every nationality, savages, scholars, peasants, priests, princes, kings, of every creed, elime and race, were swept from the face of the earth. Rivers were consecrated to receive corpses for which none dared to perform the rites of burnal; bodies were cast by thousands into huge pits dug for the purpose. Death stalked over sea as well as over land. The entire crews of vessels were killed by the poison breath that infested the globe. Ships freighted with putrefying bodies drifted aimlessly and hideously on the Mediterranean, Black and North seas—not a human creature alive anywhere—and. spread contagion on the shores whither the winds or tides had driven whiter the winds or tides had arise of the fact of the card, it is well known that dough, when well kneaded and of firm consistence, give a whiter and lighter read than under opposite conditions, and in other parts of the fact, and in other heads and the fell upon them to verwhelming numbers. Their mode of attack is in a creescent, a central body with two wings a little from to family the engineers plenty to do, and making an advance nemmy of strength and scattering so as to complete the side of the head in the poison breath that infested the globe.

drifted aimlessly and hideously on the Mediterranean, Black and North seas—not a human creature alive anywhere—and spread contagion on the shores whither the winds or tides had driven them. Hope, peace, content, law, order, affection, naturalness, humanity, seemed never to have been. Ancient custom and the need of companionship were for the time obliterated; all was death, agony and despair, and by these the infected world appeared to be exclusively and shudderingly possessed.

The moral effects of the plague were not less dreadful than its physical destruction. Thousands perished from fear, which dissolved among the living all ties of kindred, all bonds of fellowship, all links of sympathy. Children fied from the polluted parents; mothers deserted their helpless infants; husbands and lovers left their wives and mistresses to die howling and alone. Terror generated superstition; the virtuous and vicious alike made distracting and distracted appeals to a God who, they imagined, had sent the pestilence to punish them for manifold sins. Orowds rushed to sacrifice their worldly goods to the church; fanaticism swelled on every hand; women acreamed to heaven for mercy; men tore out their hair and scourged themselves until they

had fainted from loss of blood that they might propitiate a deity whom they actually believed they had enraged. The world was mad with fright, suffering and superstition, and thousands who had tried to stay the pestilence with prayer, declared that God was dead and hell had begun on earth.

The horrors of the time were further heightened by cruel persecutions against

hell had begun on earth.

The horrors of the time were further heightened by cruel persecutions against the Jews, who had been accused of poisoning the public wells, this being in popular relief the canse of the pestilence. The people rose in mad fury to exterminate the unfortunate Hebrew race, and slaughtered them by tens of thousands. In the inconsiderable city of Mentz (Germany) alone, near 15,000 fell victims to the public wrath. They were killed with steel and club, hanged, drowned, burned, and often barbarously put to death by every kind of torture. In numberless instances they took their own lives in masses to avoid cruelties of the mob, and in many communities every man, woman and child was sacrificed to insensate rage. To exaggerate the scourge, the panic about poison caused the wells to be closed. The people were afraid to touch water, and those who escaped the plague perished of thirst and terror. Society, rude at best in that day, was totally disorganized, and such means as might have been adopted to prevent or mitigate the stupendous evil were either neglected or unthought of, in the derangement and frenzy that possessed everybody, from the highest to the lowest. The influence of the plague and its desolation were so overwhelming that it frequently destroyed all honesty and principle among the survivors. Many were rendered callous, and many took advantage of the universal horror to indulge their worst passions, to plunder, murder, and perpetrate the to indulge their worst passions, to plunder, murder, and perpetrate the most revolting crimes.

The Zulu inhabitants of the upland between Natal and Delagoa bay, in South Africa, number some 300,000 souls, with an army of 60,000 men, of whom about two-thirds are really effective, the remainder including the boys and old men. They form a branch of the Caffre race which peoples the Indian ocean coast of Africa and is so strongly contrasted in mental, social and strongly contrasted in mental, social and physical attributes with the dwellers on the opposite shores of the continent. They are a handsome, manly race, brown of complexion, tall, graceful, They are a handsome, manly race, brown of complexion, tall, graceful, strong and active; in their natural condition honest and hospitable; cheerful and sociable in disposition, and with no mean power for organization. They came from the north about the beginning of the century, and under their mean power for organization. They came from the north about the beginning of the century, and under their four successive kings, Chaka, Dingan, Panda and Cetywayo, who assumed the chiefship about twenty years ago, have formed a powerful army, whose efficiency they have often tested upon their native neighbors. The king's power is absolute; the males of the nation form the army, and as none of them can marry without a royal permission, which is extended to a regiment at a time, and only to one whose members have distinguished themselves, the Zulu army may be said to be in a chronic state of spoiling for a fight.

The Zulu soldiers wear no other clothing than what may be called two demi-kilts of civet and green monkeyskin, one in front, one behind, tied at the waist and felling to the knee. The married men carry white shields, the bachelors black. Here is an extract from the Zulu army list:

from the Zulu army list:

Udlambedhin (ill-tempered) regiment. Raised by Dingan. Commander—Ukodide. Station—Udlambedhlwein, six miles east of the Nsixessi.

Number of men, 1,500; average age, fifty.nine

fifty-nine. Distinctive marks-Band of otter

Distinctive marks—Band of otter-skin round forehead; blue crane feather on each side of the head; earflaps of green monkey-skin; bunches of white cow-tails hanging from neck; shields, white, with black and red spots. Mar-

Home Made Bread.

A correspondent gives a practical hint on the subject of bread-making, which may be acceptable to some of our homebaking readers. It is well known that dough, when well kneaded and of firm consistence, give a whiter and lighter bread than under opposite conditions. But the most important point of all to be attended to in bread-making, or in any other kind of bakery, is the previous sifting of the flour through a sieve, so that every particle of it may be brought into contact with the oxygen of the air. A dough made of sifted meal mixes better, with both water and yeast, rises better, and requires far less kneading than when the flour has not been sifted, and the bread obtained from it is lighter and in every respect of superior quality. The longer flour may have lain aside before being used, the more necessary is it to subject it to the operation. Many a disappeintment and many a fit of "temper" will be spared if the housewife will only sift the flour thoroughly before preparing the batter for the bakeoven.—The Farmer.

A patient German has taken the

keeping out the water. As this part of the body is liable to give an unpleasant flavor to the flesh, it sught to be cut off the blonde had the most, 140,400. Next came brown with 109,440. Then black, 102,962, and last red, 88,740. The bulk of hair was, however, about the same in each case, the firmness of the blonde's and their multiplicity being balanced by the coarser, heavier texture of the less humorous red and black.

### DEATH ON THE WING.

Danger This Country Incurs from the Plague.

A New York paper says: "The terrible ravages of the plague in eastern Europe, notwithstanding all efforts that have been made to circumscribe its area, and the knowledge that it has crossed the ocean and has already decimated portions of Brazil, coupled with the fact that it might be brought hither at any moment by the line of steamers running between this port and the infected portions of South America, has excited the attention of our medical men, and has been looked into as far as possible by the sanitary authorities. In the course of their investigations they have been led to inquire if this dread disease cannot be kept from the metropolis, as should it once gain a foothold here, it would, judging from its progress abroad, sweep off nearly the entire population, as there is no known antidote for it. The medical savans have never yet been able to combat it. The germ of the dissweep off nearly the entire population, as there is no known antidote for it. The medical savans have never yet been able to combat it. The germ of the disease was recently carried into Russia, which has been free from it many years, in a velvet sack, so it has been ascertained, part of the plunder of a solder in the Turkish army. He presented the article to his afflanced, and from this slight cause it spread with unabated fury, sweeping off whole families and nearly depopulating several villages in the interior. From as slight a cause it may be brought here and our authorities be in profound ignorance of the fact until its work of destruction shall have been inasyurated. When this plague, or "Black Death," as it was called centuries ago, attacks cities, towns or villages, ten out of every twelve become its victims. Neither in the present or in times past does it seem to have been disturbed in its frightful ravages by climatic influence, for it flourishes as mightily in snow-bound Russia as in the perennial bloom of Brazil.

Dr. Janeway, a prominent member of

mightily in snow-bound Russia as in the perennial bloom of Brazil.

Dr. Janeway, a prominent member of the health board, in conversation with a reporter, said that it was not at present definitely known what the disease really was, as there were no medical men of acknowledged ability either here or in Europe who had ever encountered it, and all they knew of its symptoms or ravages hundreds of years ago was comprised in what had been handed down by men of research. The question, he said, had been raised as to whether the present disease raging abroad was typhus fever or the black plague known in medical works as "pestrid fever" of centuries ago. He was inclined to the latter belief from the fact of its originating near the same place whence it latter belief from the fact of its originating near the same place whence it started its work of human destruction in the fourteenth century. Very eminent medical men from France and England had now gone forth to investigate this terrible disease, and we could form no correct idea of it until they had made their reports.

made their reports,

"A recent dispatch from a Rio de
Janeiro doctor says that the plague is
raging in the province of Ceara, and as
there is a line of steamers running between New York and Brazil, might it
to the heavent here by some of the not be brought here by some of the poor fellows now returning home who went out there to work at railroad build-

went out there to work at railroad building?"

"It hardly seems probable that the disease will get here from so great a distance; but should it make an appearance in this city, every possible sanitary precaution will be taken to prevent itspreading. It would be dealt with as rigidly as the smallpox—the patients removed and the house or houses thoroughly disinfected. As I said before, the plague of centuries ago is unknown. oughly disinfected. As I said before, the plague of centuries ago is unknown, except in history, to the medical men of to-day; yet, with the advancement that has been made in science, fierce battle would be given to it. It is a mooted question whether the so-called plague of to-day is of the same character as the plague that made such fearful ravages in the fourteenth century, and even since that date. We have received from the surgeon-general's office at Washington a report setting forth that the plague is raging in South America. Washington a report setting forth that the plague is raging in South America, but the bare factionly is mentioned; no information as to the character or nature of the disease having thus far been given. Our medical authorities show that the plague has not existed in North Africa since 1858-9, and that it has not been in Europe since 1841, in Asaiatic Turkey since 1843, nor in Egypt since 1844."

"Do you think there is any chance of the expected returning railroad laborers bringing the disease from Brazil?"

"If they should have any disease of the sort, it would break out long before the vessel reached here and afford the the vessel reached here, and afford the authorities ample time to take the matter in hand. We know that the smallpox has been raging to a frightful extent in that country, but if they had that, it would show itself soon after they got on their way. The information we have received in regard to the plague is embraced in its bare mention, and it seems to me that if there were any fears regarding it, we should receive some further information on the subject." el reached here, and afford the

# Waterproof Birds.

Waterproof Birds.

A writer in London Land and Water says: "Perhaps the reader has never considered how all birds obtain the gloss on their feathers which makes them proof against water. Waterfowl are, of course, supplied with a thicker coating of feathers than land birds, but all have the faculty of procuring the oily matter to cover their feathers and resist water getting in between. Have you ever noticed, when a bird was plucked, a small protraberance above the tail, furnished with a pencil-like tuft of feathers? It is here that the ointment is hidden; and the bird has the power to raise the thicker feathers that cover this spot, and, passing its head over it, obtains enough matter at a time to communicate it to the rest of its plumage, And it is truly interesting to watch a duck pluming itself and covering its feathers with the oil that is required for keeping out the water. As this part of the body is liable to give an unpleasant flavor to the flesh, it sught to be cut off before cooking."

Paris has been having a big lotte which thousands of tickets were and prizes of every kind, from dian to a greenhouse, were given to a greenhouse, were given. The grand prize was a splendid silver service worth \$25,000. Large money prizes also tempted the cupidity of the Parisians, and drew money out of many pockets — hard-earned wages which should have been given to the common necessaries of life.

Becently the spectacle was presented in a New York court of the trial of a boy only ten years old, for causing the death of his stepmother. He had quarreled with a younger brother when the stepmother interfered. Enraged, the lad picked up a carving-knife and threw it at her. The knife penetrated her right breast, causing death. The boy's possession of a hasty temper, the jury's recommendation to mercy, and other mitigating circumstances, induced the judge to inflict the light punishment of thirty days' imprisonment. thirty days' imprisonn

The latest statistics show that the The latest statistics show that the debts of the States of the Union amount in the aggregate to \$345,197,000. Massachusetts takes the lead, and is followed in a descending scale by Alabama, Virginia, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Lovisiana, each of which owes more than \$20,000,000. West Virginia, Missouri, Georgia and Arkansas owe materially less, al though the amount is over \$10,000,000 each, while all the other States fall below the latter figures. Many municipal debts exceed the State debts.

Mr. E. J. Lowe, the astronomer, has written a letter to the London Times to touching the English sparrow, concerning whose utility there is pretty frequent discussion in this country. He says: "Thirty-five years ago, a countryman left here for Australia, taking with him all our popular hardy fruits and vegetables; but the produce was yearly destroyed, until the English sparrow was introduced, after which there was plenty of fruit. Waterton calculated that a single pair of sparrows destroyed as many grubs in one day as would have eaten up half an acre of young corn in a week."

There are two marriage rituals in use at the New York city hall, and they difter essentially. In one the bride is required to "obey" her husband; in the other she is not. As every one is bound by the terms of a contract, the omission or insertion of such a strong word as obey, especially in a marrial agreement, must be deemed of importance. The aldermanic ritual on the subject compels the lady to promise that she will obey her liege lord, but the one adopted by Mayor Cooper does not. A woman who has been married by the mayor need not "obey" her husband; but if a city not "obey" her husband; but if a city father has tied the nuptial knot, she must follow his dictates.

A German paper says that a few A German paper says that a few months ago a very eminent German marshal, who keeps exceedingly early hours, found a young woman busy with her reaping hooks in one of his fields long before the other laborers were astir. Inquiring the name of this female, he presented her with a dollar, and when, later in the day, his steward appeared, mentioned the subject and appeared, mentioned the subject and appeared, mentioned the subject, and highly commended his early riser to him. The steward, who did not recog-nize the name, asked one or two ques-tions, and then said: "That's Marie Bauer, the eleverest field thief in this nart of the country. Your excellence Bauer, the cleverest field thief in this part of the country. Your excellency may rest assured that she contrived to bundle off a handsome amount of your fine clover along with the dollar. She makes hay when the sun doesn't shine.

A Baltimore tea merchant is making the tour of the South making investigations in regard to tea culture. He thinks that Americans should not attempt to imitate the China green tea, with its coloring and fancy twisting, but confine themselves to curing the leaf so as to obtain the best possible cup of tea without regard to appearance. Besides the work of twisting, that of sorting the tea according to shape and size can, he thinks, be dispensed with to advantage, simplifying greatly the process of preparation, and as greatly diminishing the cost. The cultivation of the tea-plant in Georgia, he declares from his experience of several years in China and Japan, is perfectly practicable, and he offers \$1 a pound for all leaves shipped to his firm, the firm engaging to do the curing and preparation till the producers are fairly on their feet. A Baltimore tea merchant is making

# Leading Governments of the World.

Of the leading governments of the world fourteen are constitutional mon-archies and thirteen are republics, while nine are despotisms. They may be enum-erated as follows: British empire, constitutional.
 Denmark, constitutional.
 Norway and Sweden, constitu-

4. Russia, despotic.
5. Holland and Belgiam, constitu-

5. Holland and Belgiam, constitutional.
6. Hanover, constitutional.
7. German empire, constitutional.
8. Switzerland, republic.
9. Austrian empire, constitutional.
10. France, republic.
11. Spain, constitutional.
12. Portugal, constitutional.
13. Italy, constitutional.
14. Greece, constitutional.
15. Turkish empire, despotic.
16. Persia, despotic.
17. Afghanistan and Beloochistan, constitutional.
18. Tartary, despotic.
19. Hindoostan, constitutional.
20. Indo-China, despotic.
21. Chineee empire, despotic.
22. Egypt, despotic.
23. Asir sainia, despotic.
24. United States, republic.
25. Mexico, republic.
26. Central America, republic.
27. Granada, republic.
28. Brazil, constitutional.
29. Peru, republic.
30. Bolivia, republic.
31. Chili, rep blic.
32. Aracania, despotic.
33. Da Plata, republic.
34. Paraguay, republic.
35. Uruguay, republic.
36. Hayti, republic.

TIMELY TOPICS.

"The Highland Beauty." In an article on "Coasting," by C. A. Stephens, in Youth's Companion, a description is given of the different kinds of sleds used in this winter sport. The writer describes one sled in particular, thus

scription is given of the different kinds of sleds used in this winter sport. The writer describes one sled in particular, thus:

Probably the finest double-runner ever seen in this country, or any country, was made by Dr. Fowler, of Boston Highlands, and is now the property of Mr. Francis Alger, of South Boston. The construction of this really beautiful pleasure carriage (for it seems hardly proper to call it a sled) has occupied its maker's leisure time for three and a half years. It was placed on exhibition at the recent mechanic's fair in Boston, where it attracted much attention.

It is over thirteen feet in length, will seat ton persons, and weighs three hundred and fifty pounds. Yet it moves so easily that two or three boys can readily draw it up hill.

The materials of which it is made are white oak, white walnut, steel, gunmetal and bronze. Though highly ornamented, it is built in the very strongest manner, and will no doubt stand years of hard service. Two seemingly small, yet wonderfully strong, steel-shod and steel-braced sleds support the elegant "seat-board," which, with its foot-rail on each side and polished hand-rods, is strongly trussed up, and cushioned in green velvet over elastic rubber tubing. At the forward end of the seat-board are the steering-wheel, the lanterns and the foot-break. The steering-wheel, which resembles the plated brake of a drawing-room car, turns the forward sled upon a rocker, provided with what is termed a "universal joint," while by means of a foot-brake and chain, two strong steel points, working inside the runners of the hind sled, are plunged into the road-bed, thus arresting the speed at will.

At the rear end of the cushioned seat there is a low "knee-board" for a foot-brake and chain, two strong steel points, working inside the runners of the hind sled, are plunged into the road-bed, thus arresting the speed at will.

At the rear end of the cushioned seat there is a low "knee-board" for a footman, whose business it may be to start off the vehicle when the silvery stroke of a gong shall give the signal to

Taken altogether, this double-runner is a remarkable piece of work, not only for costliness and strength, but for symmetry and elegance. It has evidently been made by a man who has devoted himself to the task con amore. It does the eye good to look at it, and it has been very happily christened "The Highland Beauty." The cost is said to have been about a thousand dollars.

### Comparative Matrimony.

Statistics on this subject upset many preconceived ideas on the subject of nations being addicted to, or shrinking from, the bonds of wedlock. It is generally supposed, for instance, that there are fewer marriages in France and more in Germany than in any other countries, but this does not prove to be the case. in Germany than in any other countries, but this does not prove to be the case. France is one of the "most married" of foreign lands; high up in the list; and beyond England and Wales. In America there are said to be over eight thousand marriages in every ten thousand of the population; in Hungary, six thousand four hundred and seventy-five; and France comes next with five thousand five hundred and sixty-six. England follows in conjunction with Wales, and in every ten thousand of the population there are five thousand three hundred and ninety-eight. Austria is well up there are five thousand three hundred and ninety-eight. Austria is well up with five thousand two hundred and seventy one, and just passes Italy with five thousand two hundred and seventy. Hamlet's declaration that there should be no more marriages in Denmark is not obeyed, as on the contrary, in the above proportion, there are five thousand one hundred and ninety-one; and then comes Germany, whose reputation for domesticity will be injured by the calculation that it can only show five thousand one hundred and seven. Norway is still less connubial, and follows with five thousand and sixty-five. After this we pass out of the list of over five thousand, and reach Sweden, where the numbers are out of the list of over five thousand, and reach Sweden, where the numbers are four thousand nine hundred and fifty-two. The Ne herlands come very near, with four thousand nine hundred and forty-eight, \*and still lower in the list is Scotland, with its four thousand six hundred and seventy-eight. Belgium is better or worse, as it may be considered, with four thousand six hundred and thirty-four, Switzerland with four and thirty-four, Switzerland with four thousand five hundred and eighty-two, and last of all comes Ireland with four thousand three hundred and thirteen. America thus is the most married of the

Forests in Europe.

The proportion of land covered with forests throughout Europe is twenty-nine per cent, of which Russia and Sweden furnish the greatest part. In Russia, forty per cent. of the territory is covered with woods, and of this some 200,00,000 acres are covered with pines and other cone-bearing trees. Sweden and Norway have thirty-four per cent., chiefly birch, maple, pine, fir and willow. Austria has twenty-nine per cent., Germany has twenty-six per cent and France soventeep. Far below these comes Spain, with its cork woods and evergreen oak forests, covering seven per cent. of the land, and Holland and Belgium with the same. Portugal comes next with five per cent., and Great Britain f.ilows with four per cent. The percentage annually decreases in all countries rapidly.

### HASHERSH.

Its Wonderful Effect Upon the Sensor-Who Nations Use It.

Without doubt Eastern nations have been acquainted with haseesh, in one form or another, from the earliest times. Herodotus, speaking of the Scythians, refers unmistakably to its use: "They take the seeds of this hemp and, placing it beneath woolen fleeces, they throw upon it red-hot stones, when immediately a perfumed vapor ascends stronger than from any Grecian stove. This, to the Scythians, is in the place of a bath; and it excites from them cries of exultation." The Egyptians also had a knowledge of it, and Pliny mentions it as adverse to virtue power. It was accidentally rediscovered by the Arabs in the year 658 of the Hegira. Sheik Haider, a hermit, was the discoverer; hence the Arabic poets call the hasheesh "the cup of Haider." The Arabians, however, soon perceived its injurious effects, and a law was at one time made against hasheesh—the punishment being the extraction of a hasheesh eater's teeth. Dr. Homberger, who was a physician for thirty-five years at the court of Lahore, says that the great fondness of the proper for a drink prepared from hasheesh induced the king to make a gratuitous distribution of it. Depots were established called soid ganjah, where the people came in crowds for the beverage. where the people came in crowds for the

The doctor found that inebriation be gan in about half an hour after the im-bibation of the fluid, and lasted from three to four hours—producing an agree-able exhilaration of the spirits, and hav-ing none of those depressing effects which result from the use of intoxicating

which result from the use of intoxicating drinks.

The chief peculiarity of the hasheesh vision is its immense exaggeration of time and space. Moments appear to be thousands of years. Narrowly circumscribed views seem to run out into vistas embracing not only this earth but the entire vastness of the universe. Mr. Moreau found everything appearing to his eyes "as it does on looking through the wrong end of a telescope." Bayard Taylor said, "the fullness of my rapture expanded the sense of time; and though the whole vision was probably not more than five minutes in passing, years seemed to have elapsed." A Freuchman, an habitual swallower of the narcotic, states that one evening in traversing the passage of a house under its influence, "the time occupied in taking a few steps seemed to be hours, and the passage interminable." The intensifying of sounds is another peculiar phenomenon of the hasheesh condition. An amateur relates that "the ticking of my watch sounded louder than that of the kitchen clock," while another records that the beating of his heart resounded in his ears like the blows from a vast hammer.

The experiences of the French savant, M. Berthault, are curious. Having

heart resounded in his ears like the blows from a vast hammer.

The experiences of the French savant, M. Berthault, are curious. Having swallowed a large dose, and while yet under its effect, a band began playing beneath his windows. He became able to distinguish the part taken by each instrument. The elements of the harmonies heard by him assumed the form of ribbons of a thousand changing colors—intertwisting, weaving and knotting themselves in a most capricious manner. After a while the ribbons changed and each note became a flower, and the flowers formed wreaths and garlands, in which the harmony of colors represented the harmony of sounds. The flowers yielded to precious stones, which rose in fountains, fell in cascades, and streamed away in all directions, and streamed away in all directions. The floand now played a waltz, and M. Berthault had a realization of Coleridge's "Kubla Kahn." A multitude of gorgeously-decorated and illuminated saloons appeared, and all gradually merged into one, surmounted by an enormous dome built of colored crystals and supported by a thousand columns. This dome dissolved, and a still more glorious one replaced it. A series of domes then arose, each more gorgeous than its predecessor, while at the same time an innumerable assemblage executed a frantic waltz—rolling itself like a serpent from hall to hall.

# American Beef in Great Britain.

The London Pall Mall Gazette says:
The import of American meat into this
country is assuming such large dimensions that it is not surprising farmers
begin to be somewhat anxions as to the
future of the cattle trade. Some information on the subject, which will be interesting not only to them, but to meat
consumers generally, was given at a dinner held a few days ago at Glaszlow by The Human Will.

One's life is, after all, given somewhat into one's own hand. If you say "I will not," to any destiny that seems to shape itself for you, the seeming destiny is apt to undergo a decided change. There is a great deal in will. It is men who say "I will not be poor," who become rich; the men who think, "Whatever, is in me shall come out," who become known to the world; the men who resolve, "I will be upright," who are never overcome by the temptations of vice. Historians have written of soldiers that "did not know when they were beaten;" but these were the men who, in the end, knew they were victorious; and in the battle of life, not know when one is beaten is a great thing. Disagreeable people are usually so because they make no effort to be otherwise. A man may compel himself to be interesting by fighting with an unsocial disposition. It is only the woman who declares herself homely, and makes no efforts to drees becomingly, who is ever actually so to others.

Forests in Europe.

The proportion of land covered with forests throughout Europe is twenty-nine per cent, of which Bussia and Sweden furnish the greatest part. In Ruesia, forty per cent. of the territory is covered with woods, and of this some and Norway have thirty-four per cent, chieffy birch, maple, pine, fir and willow.

A crasy woman wandered into San Acrasy woman