POPICS OF THE DAY.

snake bites are said to cause the death of twenty thousand people in India during some years, so that in half a century almost a million people perish from this one cause. Accordingly the war against serpents is carried on with vigor, under the stimulus of rewards; and in 1880, according to recent statistics. 212.776 of the reptiles were destroyed.

It is marvelous how sheep and wool growing have increased in this country within the last fifteen or twenty years. In 1860 there were only about 23,000,000 sheep in the United States. We now have nearly 50,000,000. In 1860 the wool clip amounted to only 60,000,000 pounds; to-day it is nearly 800,000,000 pounds-an increase within this period of over two-fold of sheep and five-fold in the production of wool, giving unmistakable evidence of our advance in this industry.

Scarcely any characteristic of the Jerman emperor is more marked than Ms aversion to capital punishment. In the period from 1864 to 1878 only •wenty-six out of 218 capital sentences were carried out, and during the next decade, of 429 criminals condemned to death, Hodel, the would-be assassin, was the only one executed. During the years 1879 and 1880 only one capital sentence out of eighteen was executed, and there were only four executions in each of the years 1881 and 1882. The almost invariable commutation of the death sentence has been to penal servitude for life.

"I sympathize," says Mr. Labouchiere in London Truth, "with the Birmingham butcher who has been condemned to one month's imprisonment for selling donkey as human food, because donkey is infinitely better eating than either beef or mutton; indeed, I do not know any meat which is better. This was so soon perceived by the French during the siege of Paris that donkey-meat was about five times the price of horse-meat. At Voisin's there was almost every day a joint of cold donkey for breakfast, and it was greatly preferred to anything else. Let any one who doubts the excellence of cold donkey slav one of these weak-minded animals, cook him and eat him."

The increase of the meat and live cattle exportation from this country to England, is illustrated by the statement of the London Truth that during one recent week seven steamers arrived in Liverpool from America with cargoes of fresh meat, consisting of 9045 quarters of beef and 1608 carcasses of mutton, while seven other vessels brought to the same port 2655 cattle and 2315 sheep. Possibly some of these fourteen vessels were from South America and Canada, but doubtless most of them came from the United States. In the days when cotton was king the American civil war produced great distress in Lancashire, but England now depends largely on America, not only for cotton, but for food.

The Russian government has begun to execute its schemes for colonizing the lower part of the Amoor province, adjoining the Chinese frontier, by dispatching from Odessa 810 emigrants. constituting 250 families. If the project, which contemplates the removal of 100,000 persons to the new settlements, is carried out on the scale on be enormous-not much less than \$10,-000,000, in the opinion of the Moscow Gazette. The colonists already dispatched were supplied with flour, oatsagricultural implements, forty millstones, 2000 wagon wheels, several thousand pairs of boots, and other articles of clothing, nails, screws, axessaws and window glass, and each family received \$50 with which to build a

A young lady in Chicago has some very practical ideas about missionary work. She is a student in the female Baptist missionary training school and is not yet twenty years of age. It has been her practice, for the past few months, to visit the sick and destitute in the lowest and vilest slums of Chicago, entirely alone, at all hours of the The little figure dressed modestly in black is known and respected by the criminal classes of the city, and in all her errands of mercy she has never once been molested or even insulted. She says that her object is, first of all. to do some practical good, and next, to fit herself by actual experience for her life-work as a missionary. Wiser people than this young girl have gone through life without getting as near the ideal of Christianity.

A new use has been discovered for oyster shells. For years they have been used for the manufacture of lime as

manure, for decorative purposes, and in the preparation of a cheap imitation of marble; but it is now found that they cannot be better utilized than by being thrown in quantities into the sea, where they make the best possible foundation for new oyster beds. This summer many ship-loads of these empty shells will be sunk by English and French oyster farmers in various places suitable for the purpose, and a few, healthy living oysters will then be dropped upon the same spots. Experiments have proved that under such conditions the bivalves will shortly multiply to an almost incredible extent; and in so brief a period as two years each empty shell will have from thirty to forty young oysters attached to it. The new generation can then be removed to make room for more, and fattened for market in specially constructed tanks.

In no other country are desertions from the army so numerous in proportion to its size as in ours, and in none is its cost per man so great. According to the last annual report issued by the adjutant-general, there were 3741 desertions during the year. When we remember that the maximum of the army is only 25,000, the proportion appears enormous. Five-sixths of the desertions take place on the frontier. and as cavalrymen almost invariably take their horses with them, the gov ernment loses both. Taking into consideration the cost of keeping up recruiting stations, of enlisting men, of furnishing them with their outfit and transporting them to the posts—to say nothing of their rations-we can form some idea of the large amount of money that is wasted through desertion. It has been said that the custom of making soldiers do the work of day laborers with pick and shovel, instead of confining them to military exercises, has much to do with their desire to take French leave.

beats, a New York correspondent adds that "the usual number of frauds and imposters is now pervading the city. Some of this class are admirably skilled in the art of imposition, and attain great success before detection. They generally have forged recommendations, some of which are close imitations of the signatures of our best men. Each of this class has its peculiar role, and the fraud community may be divided as follows: There is the theological student, who needs aid to complete his studies, and also the man with the mission Sunday-school. There is the woman who lacks \$5 of paying for a sewing machine, and also another who is collecting in behalf of a distressed family. One of these female frauds has an imaginary benevolent society uptown, and her method is to take money, food or clothing, all of which is entered into a pass-book, 'as she must give careful account.' This woman has lived comfortably for many years on this imaginary society, which, no doubt, will continue to be a success, since the crop of dupes is never ex-

As an instance of what the Federal officers have to contend with in performing their duties, a little matter was developed in the United States land office at Santa Fe, N. M., recently, which conveys the idea precisely. Luis Martin called at the office in company with several witnesses and made which it has begun, the expense will had occupied a plat of forty acres of ribbons and colored papers. There ground four miles from Santa Fe, had were, besides, roast fowls, rice, salads, constructed various and sundry corrals, houses, stables and out-houses thereon, and desired to take the necessary legal steps to secure the property as his own under the homestead law. The necessary documents were immediately made out, Martin made oath to them, and was about to make final proof of publication, when Joaquin Montoya came along and swore that Martin had never lived on the specified property, had resided in Santa Fe all his life, and had not improved the land. and, in fact, had no claim upon it whatever. These statements were substantiated by several trustworthy citizens, and as a result Mr. Montoya located the land as his own under the homestead act, built a residence thereon, and has now gone actively into the poultry business.

> Senor Felipe Poey, a famous ichthyologist of Cuba, has recently brought out an exhaustive work upon the fishes of Cuban waters, in which he describes and depicts no fewer than 782 distinct varieties, although he admits some doubts about 105 kinds, concerning which he has yet to get more exact information. There can be no question. however, he claims, about the 677 species remaining, more than half of which he first described in previous works upon this subject, which has been the study of his life.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

The truly wise man should have no keeper of his secret but himself.

Tastes consist in the power of judgng, genius in the power of executing A narrow-minded man can never possess real and true generosity, he can never go beyond mere benevolence.

There is no doubt that thinkers gov. ern the world, and it is quite as cer-

tain that the world governs potentates. The way to avoid the imputation of mpudence is, not to be ashamed of what we do, but never to do what we

ught to be ashamed of.

The persons most anxious to add to their wealth are generally those who don't know how to make any good use of what they have already.

The best means to learn our faults is to tell others of theirs; they will be too proud to be alone in their defects, and will seek them in us, and reveal them

These two things, contradictory as they may seem, must go together, manly dependence and manly independence, manly reliance and manly self-reliance.

Our best words will rule the world some day. Their meaning will flash out some time. Speak them boldly, and trust the growing soul of the race for future compensation.

Anything that makes the heart warmer, anything that makes the current of affection run fuller, anything that makes gratitude and love and honor and truth and reason stronger, makes the man stronger.

A Chinese Cemetery.

The cemetery seemed to be the most surious of all the sights connected with Chinadom in San Francisco, I came upon it in the course of a long stroll and was, as it happened, almost the only outside spectator to peculiar ceremonial rites on the annual propitia-Speaking of boarding-house dead. tion of the spirits of the dead. This burial place is not grouped with the others in the general Golgotha at Lone mountain, but adjoins that devoted to the city paupers, out among the melan choly sand-dunes by the ocean shore It is parceled off by white fences into inclosures for a large number of separate burial guilds, or tongs, as the Fook Yam tong, the Tung Sen tong, the Ye On tong, etc. One has difficulty to persuade himself that he can be awake when witnessing the doings actually here taking place in broad sunlight and in Yankeeland. It is the practice of this people to convey the bones of their dead to China, but preliminary funerals take place in regular form. One of the first-class often en lists all the "hacks" in San Francisco The bones are left in the ground a year or more before being in a fit condition for removal, and over these the rites of propitiation are performed. As I lingered in the vicinity toward 3 in the afternoon, first one, then another "express wagon" of the usual pattern drove up. They bore freights of Chinamen and Chinawomen, and curiously assorted provisions. "hoodlum" drivers, though conducting themselves most peaceably, seemed to wear a certain sardonic air at having to draw their profits from such a class of patronage. The provisions were unloaded, and taken up and laid on small wooden altars, of which there is one in the front of each plot. Most conspicuous among them were numer ous whole roast pigs decorated with sweatmeats, fruits, cigars and rice brandy. The participants set to work at once to fire revolvers, bombs and crackers, kindle fires of packages of colored paper, make profound genuflections before the graves, and scatter libations of the food and liquors. Only the larger articles were reserved to be taken home again. The din and smoke increased; the strangely garbed figures pranced about in the midst like sorcerers. The goblin-like roast pigs loomed out of the semi-obscurity with a portentious air. It might have been me saturnalia at Eleusis, or a veritable witches' Sabbath. - Harper's Mag-

Wellington's Monument.

The monuments to Wellington have been generally unfortunate and unsatisfactory. One just lowered from its pedestal in London is pronounced a wretched affair. Almost the only really fine one that exists yet, is that erected by the great duke's tenants near the London entrance to his old Hampshire home. On a rough granite base rests a monolith of polished granite thirty feet high; on this stands the figure, nearly nine feet high, in bronze, representing the hero in fieldmarshal's uniform. The entire hight of this monument is eighty-two feet The designer was the late Baron Maro-

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Beautiful Indian Women.

Many half-breed Cherokee women in the Indian territory, writes a correspondent, are cultivated in mind. beautiful in person, industrious in habit, and will compare well with the more favored woman in the North and East. They have magnificent heads of hair, long and black, all their own, and with jet-black eyes and pearly teeth, dressed in that fashionable attire in which they all love to appear, they would not be recognized in Eastern drawing-rooms as that part of the original inhabitants of our country known as squaws, a name long since repudiated. Let it be known, then, that white men of worth and character are popular among the beauties of the territory, and four out of five who come to make a home among them marry these dusky maidens, get a citizenship, surround themselves with ample acres and the comforts of life, participate in the affairs of government and become the most active and wealthy citizens of the territory. A chief trait in the character of many white men both in this country and out of it is to get possession of its productive lands. By committing matrimony, they can kill two birds with one stone-get a wife and farm too.

Artificial Eyebrows.

At a certain factory a number of young women were working at small tables, each table covered with little instruments and things, the like of which I had never seen before. At one table two girls were threading needles with fine, silky hair, and sewing them in little squares on a thin, transparent gauze.

"Those girls," said the professor. 'are making some of those beautiful arched eyebrows you may sometimes see in ball-rooms. These sewed on the net are the less expensive kind and and are only used on special occasions. The real brow is very expensive, and can only be made by a person of great ingotes. skill."

I begged him to explain the operation of giving a person eyebrows who was born without them, and leading me into a most elegantly furnished parlor in which was a large dentist's chair, he continued:

"The patient sits here. In this cushion to my left are stuck a score or so of those needles you saw being threaded. Each stitch only leaving two strands of hair; to facilitate the operation a number of needles must be at hand. As each thread of hair is drawn through the skin over the eve. it is cut so that when the first stage of the operation is over it leaves the hairs bristling out an inch or so, pre senting a ragged, porcupine appearance. Now comes the artistic work The brow must be arched and cut down with the utmost delicacy, and a number of hours is required to do it."

"It must be very painful and tedi-

ous? "They don't say that it a picnic excursion," laughed the professor; "but eyebrows, small as they are, are very important in the make-up of the face You have no idea how odd one looks when utterly denuded of hair over the eyes. The process I have described is painful, but it makes good eyebrows, and adds one hundred per cent. to the looks of a person who was without them. It is, too, much better than the blackening and cosmetics so many ople use, especially people who have mere pretense of brows comprising only a few hairs."

Fashion Notes.

Daffodil and primrose brocades are imported.

The shade of lilac known as "Ophelia" has been revived in veilings.

Leather buckles appear among new rnaments for hats, bonnets and dres-

Sleeves of street costumes remain tight and plain, and are larger than last season.

Narrow bands of bright yellow velvet are now fashionable tied tightly around the throat.

Gigot sleeves and epaulettes of ribbon or ruching are considered good form for indoor dresses.

Red in moderate quantities gives a fine dash of bright color to black, gray, pale blue and ecru dresses.

The most fashionable parasols are all covered with lace. Their handles are in every conceivable shape.

Dark brown, green, black, or blue velvet is the most elegant trimming for light-colored cashmere dresses,

Colored silk mitts are embroidered in self colors across the hand, and on the top which reaches to the elbow.

Red or green pompon trimmings are fashionably worn on walking costume of tweed or nuns' gray ladies' cloth. The robe of black velvet does duty for all occasions now in the same way that the black silk dress formerly did.

Scotch plaids and Madras designs appear in new ginghams and in flannels for skirts to be worn with jerseys.

Sun umbrellas match the color of the dress, and are mounted on thick oaken sticks, with handles studded with gold.

The most fashionable travelling dresses are braided. They come in all the dark blue, red, green and brown shades, and although simple, are very elegant.

Two aprons, one long and square, the other short and much wrinkled, and looped around the hips, appear on the latest importations of French dresses.

The new zephyr plaids make jaunty lawn-tennis costumes, and the colors oftenest combined are olive, the new shade of cranberry-red and pale primrose yellow.

Bonnets and hats of pure white are not to be worn at all this summer-The nearest approach to these are the cream-yellow hats wreathed with a profusion of gracefully drooping white feathers.

Velvet damasks with grenadine grounds and beaded lace are made into scarfs pelerines, and mantelets for summer. Olive green with red figures, dark garnet, and orange with black, are the rich colorings for these had plenty of them-was his custom little garments, that give tone to the most quiet toilet.

Long, plain redingotes are made of cloth of light weight and light-brown in color. They fall open in front and back below the waist, and their only trimming is in gimp ernaments of passementerie cords in rings close together. These cover the turned over collar and sleeves, and two separate rings define the waist in the back. A Spanish bolero hat, with square upturned brim, trimmed with velvet and humming birds, accompanies such red-

A Hundred Years Hence.

living by-and-by instead of

now, how many will wish it, on reading the prophecy of the Rev. Mr. Fincke an English clergyman who travelled much in America ten years ago. He as usual, he found himself rooted to now ventures to tell what he thinks is the ground, and unable to stir an inch. the future of "Englishry," by which he He struggled, twisted, tugged, jumped, means the English-speaking peoples on and at last, thinking he was bewitched the globe, a century hence. He calcu- or struck with paralysis, he began to lates that by that time there will be shout and scream till the whole place one thousand millions of them living rang. Madcap and his chum, who under the same institutions and cherishing the same ideas, social and politi. got scared, and ran to help him; but cal, in the United States, Canada, Aus. tralia, South Africa. and Great Britian. The 800,000,000 which he assigns to the United States will overflow into Canada, into Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia, Bolivia and Peru, afterwards into the valley of the Amazon, and the whole range of the Andes, into the islands of the Pacific, across which they will join hands with their kin. best pair of rubbers in it, and put dred in New Zealand and Australia them into the professor's hand as he The English settlements in South Africa, now essentially American, will spread over Southern Africa, pushing the natives to the equator. The American farmer is to furnish the type of friend at the court in the shape of his this new society. There will be no savages or serfs, few drones or men of luxury; all will be able to read and professor got such a good appointment to write and to use their acquirements that I don't think he'll ever have to They will have homes of their own wear worn-out rubbers again." and property enough of the very best and most educative kind-that is, in land-to yield to their intelligent industry sufficient means of support They will have no social or political superiors, and will manage their own affairs. There will be few or none looking forward to a pauper's fate The lives of the majority will be spent in the cultivation of their own land on that required the evidence of his snowthe same terms which the American farmer now cultivates his. Morality will in this society have a tremendous force, because as there will be only one morality for all, and not, as now a separate morality for each class, it will be supported by the opinion of all-Women will play a larger part in the work of society than they have ever done. No pursuits will be favored by endowments or bounties. The competition between nations will be intellectual, not military competition. Oratory, painting, sculpture and architecture will grow under it as never before. Money will be in greater use and the precious metals have a higher value than ever. Religion will have as strong a hold as ever on the human heart. At the head of this mighty community the United States will stand morally though not politically. The President of the United States will be its foremost man, and "the predominant power" will be the press.

Ungratefulness is " very noise u of manhood.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

The Professor's Rubbers.

"Tell us a story, Uncle Dmitri," cried three tiny voices at once, as two little Russian girls and a curly-headed Russian boy clustered around their uncle's arm chair.

Knowing by experience that the request would be granted, the rest of the company drew closer, and General Milutine began as follows:

"When I was about thirteen I used to go to school at the St. Vladimir lyceum. There were several of my chums in the same class, and a wild lot they were, always in some scrape or other; but the wildest of all was a lad from the Lower Volga. We used to call him 'Prokaznik' (Madcap), and a very good name it was, for he couldn't be happy without playing some mad trick or other. One evening he caught the professor of history

-a crabbed old fellow who was always scolding-asleep in his chair, and rubbed his bald head with phosphorus, and when the poor old gentleman came into the class-room, half an hour later, he lighted up the whole place like an eastern illumination, and scared some of the smaller boys so much that they ran away screaming.

"On one occasion it was the old professor of mathematics at the lyceum who became Madcap's victim. Among the professor's queer ways-and he of going about, winter or summer, wet or dry, in a pair of enormous rubbers, whether to save his boots or from mere force of habit I can't say. Regularly every afternoon he took off his rubbers at the door of the class-room before going in, and put them on again when he came out, and all the boys knew them as well as they knew the dome of the Isaac cathedral.

"Well, our friend Madcap took it into his head to have some fun with the professor's rubbers. One afternoon he contrived to come up just as the professor had gone in, leaving his rubbers outside as usual. Madcap pounced upon them at once, drove a nail through each of the heels right Some people often wish that they into the floor, hid the hammer in a were dead, and if this involved their corner, and walked into the class-room looking as innocent as could be.

"You may fancy the poor professor's dismay when, on slipping his feet into the rubbers and trying to shuffle away were looking on from the stairs above, just then the professor gave a tremendous tug, and tore one of his rubbers almost in two.

"When the boys saw the old man look troubled, they began to think that he might not be able to afford a new pair, and they at once repented of their joke. Out rushed Madcap to a store round the corner, bought the came slowly and sadly down the steps; and there were tears in the poor old man's eyes as he took them. But it didn't end there, for Madcap had a godinother, the czar's own sister-in_ law, and through her influence the "And what's become of him now?"

asked all the three children at once.

"His excellency the president of the Imperial university!" announced a servant at that moment, throwing open the drawing-room door.

In came a tall, fine-looking old man in black, so erect in figure, so firm in step, and with such a clear, bright eye white hair and wrinkled forehead to make one believe that he had really celebrated his eightieth birthday near ly six months before.

"Ha, Stefan Yakowitch" (Stephen, son of James, the usual form of address in Russia), cried General Milutine, springing up and grasping the new-comer's hand heartily, "you've come exactly at the right moment. Do you know, I've just been telling our friends here how you had your rubbers nailed to the floor by a mischievous young student at the St. Valdimir lyceum a good many years

"What!" cried all the company, with one voice, "was the professor-

"The professor was our good friend President M-," answered the general, aughing, "and I was the young Madcap".—Harper's Young People.

M. Fourmant has proved that pork ontaining trichinae may still be dangerous after having been kept in salt. or fifteen month