WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

Gossip About Men and Women, Patrician and Plebeian, About Whom the World Is Talking.

STEPNIAK'S IDEAS ON DYNAMITE.

The Anti-Parnellite Member of Parliament Just Returned From the Kilkenny District.

PERSONAGES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

Small Talk From Royal Courts and Comic Peatures Carmen Sylvia's New Novel.

Under the assumed name of Sergius Stepniak, a Russian revolutionist has made a name in English and Italian literature, has aroused on two continents a deep interest in the struggle of the Russian peopl. for a constitutional government, and has found time during the intervals between his literary and patriotic work to devote much attention to the London poor. He is now lecturing in this country, and will attempt to harvest the field planted and culti sted by George Kennan and a score of newspaper writers who have seen more or less clearly the needs and difficulties of the Russian people.

Outside of Russia the life of Stepniak would belong between the covers of a romantic novel. In Russia it is not unusual. His real name is not known, but is concealed, it is said, to save his family from the persecution of the Czar's police. More than half his 38 years have been spent in serving his people. Stepniak lives in retirement and few per-

sons could make their way to his London address, an isolated villa in St. John's

He is known there only through his books and his appearance at socialistic and reform meetings. There in humble lodging in a study littered with books and papers, Step-niak writes books that stir the whole English reading world, or newspaper articles for the London Times which are copied extens very, to the annoyance of the Russian

Government.
"It is difficult," said Stepniak to a correspondent not long ago, "for the people of Western Europe, and it is more difficult still for the people of that greater West America, to realize the condition of things With us freedom is the name o an unknown State, and government only another word for plunder, corruption and unparalleled tyranny. We wonder that Russian people have submitted so long. They could do nothing else."



"Are you a Terrorist, Mr. Stepniak?" To this question Stepniak responded with another: "Suppose," he said, "your sister was flogged? What would you do? Is there anything you wouldn't do to destroy ment of the railroad to Bloemfontein.

a certain extent. The Czar is in danger, important in the political development of and if he was killed I would not object. If this country, and the South Africans one mested fails we must try another. We are looking forward to the time as have tried propaganda and we got nothing not far distant when all this but the most barbarous treatment. We are compelled to use force."
On February 4, 1888, Stepnisk talked at

length in London to a New York World correspondent regarding the situation in Russia and his plans. With a protest that assassination is the final resort of the op-pressed, Stepniak then apologized for the use of dynamite and the dagger in the secret wartere against the Russian Government.

"The use of these weapons," he said, "is repugnant to humanity. To none is it more ul than to our comrades. They use both one and the other under the sternest compulsion of an inexorable destiny. I have seen men bent with weeping, leaving the meeting of the Central Committee when intrusted with some sanguinary mission. Not that they were not glad to seal their fidelity to the cause by uncomplainingly dying, but horrified at the thought of the only means left to cripple the tyrant."
"The word Nihllist," said Stepnisk, "is

given to us by our enemies in Russia. Our demands are simply these-s national Parlisment, universal suffrage, local autonomy nationalization of land and absolute free lom in religious matters."

Stepniak was born in the south of Russis a noble family and is 39 years old. While n England his influence was so great and the results of his agitation so strong that the Russian Government sent Madame Novikoff to London to counteract his influence, but with no results.

Budolph's Little Daughter.

Poor little Archduchess Elizabeth! exclaims one of THE DISPATCH correspondents, writing from Vienna. She had to light up the time-honored Christmas tree in the Burg, at Vienna, all alone this year! On this tree were placed all the choicest gifts that money could buy, from the grandparents, uncles and aunts and other relatives of the small princess, who all felt as if they could not do enough to make up to the fatherless child for her grievous loss. The Empress had declared that to keep up her Christmas at the capital, and meet the Crown Princess Stephanie and her little daughter during the Yuletide celebrations, would be more than her nerves could endure. And so dismal were the scenes when Em-press Elizabeth of Hapsburg compelled hersell to dine in company with her wid-owed daughter-in-law, the night before the marriage of the Archduchess Valeric, that the Emperor gave way to his wife's wishes. On that occasion the Empress burst into On that occasion the Empress burst into tears as she kissed Stephanie's forehead, and then cried bitterly all dinner time, being quite ill with grief afterward. That the two ladies detested each other, and that to this hour the elder one blames the younger for Rudolph's tragic fate, is well known t

those behind the scenes at Hofburg.

The miniature Archduchess, who was 7 last September, is a tall damsel for her tender years, with blue eyes and fair hair. She is dressed like an English child, and is constantly to be seen driving between 12 and 2 o'clock in the Austrian capital, where she is very popular. The children who are out walking at that hour look out eagerly for her carriage; and her little highness never her carriage; and her little highness never alls to bow graciously to them as she drives down the prater, and often blows kisses to the babies she passes. She is very shy, but amiable; last week, by the emperor's desire, she was introduced to her new tutor, a professor who is to teach her on precisely the same system as the class he instructs at one of the public schools. The Klein Frau, as the Viennes call her, was rather frighteaed. the Viennes call her, was rather frightened, for she had hitherto only learned her native

language from a maid, though she can speak French and Hungarian fluently; but when the pedagogue told her she would please the Emperor and Empress by making progress, she carnestly promised to do her best.

The Royal Family of Servia.

King Alexander is now 14 years of age, and is rapidly developing both physically and intellectually. He is only allowed to receive such visitors as are agreeable to the Regents, as the following instance will show: The Metropolitan Michael attempted lately to intrude on the royal presence without having announced his intention to the Regents. The consequence was that he was not received, and since that time he has not ap-

peared at Konak.

King Alexander will come of age on August 2, 1894. He is now going through a course of military studies, and his present tutor is Colonel Miskovic. The King is generally present at the ordinary military drills, when he is placed in command of a company. He is also in the habit of driving out to the park of Castle Toptshider, and on these drives he not infrequently passes his mother's carriage returning to town. The Queen drives herself. Her son, in the dress of a colonel, salutes her in military fashion, and the Queen in recognition waves her

A little while ago, when King Milan was driving with his son, the two monarchs chanced to pass the Queen, but on perceiving his ex-Majesty, she turned away her head, and the salute was not returned head, and the salute was not returned.

King Alexander is in constant correspondence with his father, and writes either in Servian or French. These letters are not altogether without political significance.

Queen Nathalie receives a large number of visitors, and her salons are the resort of politicians of all shades and parties. Occasionally she is present at the theater, where the occurries the court boy but this where she occupies the court box, but this only happens when it is known that King Alexander will not attend the play.

The Czar's Widowed Stepmother

Princess Jouriewsky, says a DISPATCH correspondent, writing from St. Petersburg, is still a beautiful woman, but she is growing stout, and her once pretty face shows traces of intense suffering. The magnificent brown hair, with the golden reflections, she cut herself and placed in the Cgar's coffin, but her chief besaty even now is hair of a brighter shade simply worn, a la Chinoise. The Princess is obliged to wear blue glasses in broad daylight because of some eye diffi-culty. When in Paris every day she may be seen driving in the Bois de Boulogne, but she only attracts attention by the splendor of her liveried servants. Her only care is the education of her children. George, the

fallen on the younger man's shoulders, but time has not added much to his early reputa-tion, although he is one of the shining lights in English literary circles, a splendid story teller and a charming fellow.

The novelist has many ties which bind him to America. Of his three beats.

him to America. Of his three brothers, one is in business in New York City and another is in California. Both his father and mother rest in American graves, and Mr. Farjeon wooed and won an American bride, Margaret, the daughter of Joseph Jefferson, the actor. Mr. Farjeon was born in London about 55 years ago.

There has just been completed in Southern Africa a railroad of about 150 miles in length, starting from Colesberg, in the of the Earl of Lytton's dedication of Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, entering that country, Bloemfontein. The establishment of the railroad to Bloemfontein, a and a sympathy with the Terrorists to says the New York World, is a step quite important in the political development of



vast territory will be one republican con-federation. The inhabitants now of the Free States are Dutch and English. They seem to agree very well, and in many cases the families have intermarried. The Free State of Orange is the smaller of the three, but its progress is more advanced than that of Transvaal. It has exported great quantities of weel in the next form. of Transvaal. It has exported great quan-tities of wool in the past few years and is in a high state of cultivation. Its President is Mr. Reits, the son of a professor of one of the German universities. His mother is de-scended from a French Huguenot family



which took refuge in Africa at the Cape Colonies after the edict of Nantes. He was born at Swellendam, in the Cape Colony, is born at Swellendam, in the Cape Coloby, is quite wealthy and is a barrister-at-law, having obtained his degree in England. He was elected President Judge of the Supreme Court at Bloemfontein in 1874, and was placed at the head of the government of the Free States in 1874 by a unanimous vote. His present wife is a Dutch woman of high literary distinction. She has founded at Bloemfontein a library and a club, in which ladies discuss the latest literary productions of Europe and America.

Carmen Sylvia's Remarkable Novel. Her Majesty, the Queen of Rouman has just inflicted a novel on the German public, with the title "Deficit." I have seen reading "Deficit," says a DISPATCE

correspondent, and these are a few lines clipped from the pages:

Page 4—The holes of her nose appeared long, and almond shaped, in the reflection of her and almond shaped, in the reflection of her diary.

Page 33—And the sun gilded his entire skin, and threw grains of gold into his green eyes.

Page 63—Where is she, my Temorah, who is wont to dangle on my neck, and sit on my lap, to scratch songs with her tiny fingers from under my beard?

Page 71—Then she proceeded on her walk, and her heart beat as violently as a quantity of milk in a can when the wagon rolls over the cobblestones.

cobblestones.

Page 74—He had one of those sympathetic noses which has a crack in the middle, and which vibrates to and fro during speaking.

Mind, this is not a comic book, but a most tremendously serious romance of the present day, and the translation of the quotations is not nearly as funny as the

The New Member for Kilkenny. Sir John Pope Hennessy, K. C. M. G.,

Knight of Malta, has always been a man of pluck, says the Pall Mall Budget. He is the son of Mr. John Hennessy, of Ballyhennessy, County Kerry, and was born in 1834. He has been a member of Parliament before, having been returned as a "National Conservative" for King's county in 1859. He was indeed the first Catholic Conservative in Parliament. Sir John took an ac-tive part in many debates in the House, and did some good service. He carried the Select Committee in opposition to Lord Palmers-ton's Government for throwing open ap-pointments in the civil service of the United Kingdom to public competition, and he amended the Irish poor law so as to provide for the rearing of pauper children out of the workhouses. He was a protege of Lord Beaconsfield, and probably to this fact was due his introduction into the colonial was due his introduction into the colonia service, which he entered in 1867, his first appointment being the



the education of her children. George, the eldest, is 17 years old, but tall and very stout; he follows a course of study arranged by the Czar long before his death. Princess Olga is about 14 years old, and little Catherine is the only member of the family who can bring a smile to the mother's face. A short time ago there was much excitement because Princess Jouriewsky was supposed to have published her reminiscences. However, that story has been contradicted, and I do not believe the Princess will eyer write the memoirs of her life.

In the Mantle of Dickens.

A friend of mine writes to me from London that Farjeon, the English novelist. is soon to visit America, says Edward Bok, in the Philadelphia Times. When Charles Dickens died and Farjeon came to the front, it was thought that the mantle of "Boz" had fallen on the younger man's shoulders, but Sir J. Pope Henness no representations or protests that were made against his action in this respect. Sir made against his action in this respect. Sir John, who has had no Governorship since he returned from Mauritius, was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1880. He published in 1883 a volume on "Raleigh in Ireland," and has contributed papers to the different reviews.

Rudyard Kipling's Father.

The most remarkable of Mr. Kipling's books, in many ways, is the native volume of "Black and White," says a London cor-respondent of the Boston Advertiser. This volume is dedicated, in a tender and reverential preface, which reminds one, in tone, "Lucile" to his father-to Mr. Kipling's father. The elder Mr. Kipling is the principal of the art school at Lahoree and is, as I have heard from independent authorities, an artist of considerable repute in India. He is just now near his son in London; a photograph which I had the privilege of seeing, shows a face of sweetness and of power, with snow white hair and beard. But I did not know until this week, and by my own observation, that he is a genius of the same order as his con

same order as his son.

He has illustrated the eight stories of "Black and White" in a series of about 18 large drawings, intended for some future edition de luxe of the book. These drawings are stories in themselves, and to one who knows the stories lovingly beforehand, there is a perfectly indescribable richness and suggestiveness about the illustrations of them. Here is the ne plus ultra of the sympathetic interpretation of one art by an-other. A novelist could not cherish his own work more tenderly than the father has cherished his son's conceptions, and the elder Mr. Kipling possesses technical graphic power of a quality to which Thackersy never laid claim. In a word, never before were great stories so illustrated as they are here. Only a native of India can quite fully appreciate the drawings or the stories, but the gems must be obvious to any beholder. but the gems must be obvious to any beholder. I remember, as very particularly rich, the illustrations to the "Judgment of Dungara," of the model mission pupil while still a good girl, with her sweet eyes fixed upon her book, and of the same pupil in the act of tearing off her nettle clothes and uttering imprecations, before rushing violently down into the river, and the several illustrations of that glorious story, "At Howle-Thana," which, perhaps, show more completely than any other of Mr. Kipling's tales the absolute demoralization and lassitude of a native character. tude of a native character.

The Kaiser a Rapid Talker. The rapidity with which the German Emperor talks when delivering a speech has been determined by Dr. Engel, who is one of the chief reporters in the Reichstag, and who has stenographed the Emperor's speeches very often, says Vanity Fair. According to the doctor, he speaks very rapidly indeed—about 275 syllables in one minute; and occasionally the rate at which he talks is even 300 syllables in a minute.

Editor Stead's Autographs.

Mr. Stead's autograph album, says the London Star, consists of the portraits of the representative leading men all over the world, who congratulated Mr. Stead in his conception of The Review of Reviews, with their autographs reproduced, and with some additions. The portraits are excellently re-produced. Twenty thousand copies of the "Portraits" were printed, and were bought

up at once.
Mr. Stead has not always taken the auto graph which accompanies the portrait from the letter which the subject sent. In the case of William Morris, for instance, he goes back to 1876, and takes a specimen of the poet's handwriting from a letter ad-dressed to Mr. Stead concerning the Bul-

garian atrocities.
Underneath John Morley's portrait we Underneath John Morley's portrait we read, under date of August 1, 1881, a note sent to Mr. Stead, as follows: "I only fear that you will overdo yourself. Pray don't. The world will want you more ten years hence than now. It is a sin, as well as folly, to kill yourself now.—Ever yours, cordially and affectionately—."

Madam Blavatsky wrote underneath her photograph: "H. P. Rlavatsky in all the

Madam Blavatsky wrote underneath her photograph: "H. P. Blavatsky, in all the majesty of her wrinkles;" and Mrs. Besant under hers: "I am immersed in Madam Blavatsky. If I perish in the attempt to review her, you must write on my tomb: 'She has gone to investigate the secret dectrine at first hand."

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A RICH OLD HERBAL

Wealth of Cosmetic Advice and Suggestive for the Ladies.

MEDICINE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

Some Superstition Mixed With a Good Deal of Sound Doctrine.

WHAT SHIRLEY DARE PINDS IN IT

WHITTEN FOR THE DISPATCE. Few persons feel more fortunate than I in a gift the New Year brought. It was none of those sweetly inutile things you have to accept and smile gracefully over, saying "Thank you, my dear," aloud, and "What in the world did she want to give me that thing for I should like to know?" to your truthful self.

You would not think much of the old book, with its stained leaves and closely worded, black-letter pages in astonishing English. But it suits my taste, this antique herbal, gathered by a painstaking hand, dating so far back that most of its language is only to be guessed at. I had far rather have it than your lace fan or your yard-wide flounces, Madam, dearly though I love lace if it is fine, choice of pattern and excellently woven. Rich and curious and quaint is the wording of this black and sallow-paged book, a casket of fine direct phrase and a mine of derivation. mine of derivation.

Traditions of Medicine.

"Skeat's Dictionary of Old English" is "Skeat's Dictionary of Old English" is modern beside this treasure, almost every line of which recalls a legend or a tradition of medicine, curious and useful, too. For here one finds the origin of many a kindly old wife's treatment and wise physician's practice, and for one who loves plants and their lore there are pages to pore over for hours. All the lore of simple and distilled waters and compounds, of washs for the face and "griefes of the skin" are here handed down from prior and leech to wise woman for centuries. These prescriptions woman for centuries. These prescriptions healed wounds of the Templars in bloody fights and cleansed plague sores when that now unknown disease was a terror of every

This quaint, cutspoken little book is a reflection of the life and ways of a household in the middle ages. Constant mention of wine and saffron, rosewater and goats' milk, fine herbs and distilled waters, reveals milk, the herbs and distilled waters, reveals the generous store of such comfortable things in a well supplied house. There are cures for frenzies and bites of scorpions and venomous things brought by Crusaders from Orient sands and their dangerous tenantry; also for poison and snake bite and pricks, as if it were the commonest thing for any one to be stung or poisoned or to run thorns into the flesh daily in those ignorant, rude times.

times.
First Mention of Inoculation

Attention is given to "treacles, mithri-Attention is given to "treacles, mithridates and preservatives against poyson and the plague," Mithridates is the old name for medicines which fortified one against poison, so called from King Mithridates, who took small doses of poison daily to render himself proof against it—primitive idea of inoculation for disease, for which neither Mithridates nor his physicians get any credit now. any credit now.
They were not all fools nor behind in un-

derstanding, those old sages and rulers, and the wisdom they have left is not sweepings for the broom and dustpan by any meaus.

They were men of observation and penetrative powers, and if they made some mistakes, as possibly the thirtieth century may find in our practice, the cleverest doctors find by experience that there is truth in many of the sayings which the college boy laughed at.

An age is ignorant which derides them.

They studied nature at first hand, with stronger vision than we who bring to it eyes and brains wearied with study of books and opinions by rote. But you will care very little for the real learning which lies under this knowledge of roots and herbs and in-fusions. The quaintness of the wording will divert you, and the cosmetic waters find a place in those collections of recipes of which I hear from all quarters.

There's Virtue in Weeds.

Too many of these old English herbs are and we must lose much out of ignorance of the weeds naturalized by our waysides. Every weedy bank or hollow or ruined outbuilding is a treasure trove to one who studies the pharmacy of herbs, for the worst tavored, ill-smelling variets of weeds have virtues ill to lose.

virtues ill to lose.

Alder we know by name, and our book Alder we know by name, and our book tells us it is "good against imposthumes and swellings in the throat, and kernels or almonds under the tongue—evel (even) as well as the shales of greene pills (peels) of walnuts it dieth black colour. The leaves are good to be put into the shooes of them, that are surbated and wearie, to mitigate the heat and pain." Such a hint would be cherished in a country where all but the knights and gentry went on foot, and all sorts went. ished in a country where all but the knights and gentry went on foot, and all sorts went on foot on pilgrimages. "The green leaves with their dew in the morning are good to be strewed in chambers to void fleas," which in those days were in king's palaces. "The wood never rotteth in water nor in moyst ground, but rather turneth into stone. The juice of the bark is good for a burning"—or an infiammation—"of the skin. The juice of blacke allder, which is yellow, being steeped in wine or beere and drunke, causeth to vomit vehemently and cleanseth the stomake. The leaves cause kine to give good ake. The leaves cause kine to give good store of milke if they eat them, for they are

The Uses of Almonds.

The Uses of Almonds.

Droll compound of experience, isn't it—
physic, fleas, pilgrims' feet and kine fodder set down together, just as the worthy
clerk who compuled the book heard or
learned of them? Have you any ideas of
the virtues of almonds? Several pages are
devoted to their uses. "Almonds taken before meat nourish but little, especially
blaunched. Bitter almonds do open the
stoppings of the lungs, liver, milt, kidneys
and all other inner parts, and are good
against the cough, shortness of winde and
ulceration of the lungs, being mixed with
turpentine and licked in. Eat five or six
bitter almonds, fasting to withstand drunkennesse that day. They cleanse the skinne ennesse that day. They cleanse the skinne and face from all spots, pimples and lintiles"—if you know what they are.

"Sleepe to cause, take blaunched almonds one quart, hempseed half a pound, thrice washt in faire water; dates, 16. Stamp them

together with one ounce of poppyseed bruised, and steepe them in good ale three or four hours, then seethe and straine it and drinke thereof. Sweet almonds do increase the substance of the braine, cause pleasant also and source the substance of the braine, cause pleasant sleep and scoure the passages, and are good for lean folke. The oyle of them is good for a dry crampe. Almonds eaten with figs clense the brest and lungs and do helpe shortnesse of wind." Bunners and singers, take note of this last.

Soporific and Cosmetic.

"Almond milk will cut, clease and scoure grosse humors, and may be made in decoction of hens, patridges or chickens, to strengthen nature, or with cold herbes as chicory, endive or violet leaves, to cause sleepe. The juice of the bitter almonds is good for sciatica." Here comes a fine commetic: "Stamp one pound of almonds and strein them with a pinte of water, warme, and as much white wine and half an ounce of camphire and one pynt of majerom (marjoram) water, and keep it in a close glass, and wash the face for the heate thereof. Stampe one pound of blaunched almonds and strein them with a pottell or muscadell and the yolks of eight eggs new laid, and put in good store of sugar and seeth it a walme or two, and take thereof four spoonfuls night and morning, to help the consumption"—a right delicate and strengthening posset for any weakness.

The originality and variety of the spelling form one of the attractions of the book. You "Almond milk will cut clense and scoure

form one of the attractions of the book. You observe when the careful scribe, intent on making his penwork clear, lets drop a final "e," he puts it on some other word shortly to make up for the omission, and seldom

spells a word alike twice running—to avoid monotony, we will suppose. But to go on with this ancient cosmetie:

Virtues of Oil of Almonds.

"Oyle of almonds, blaunch them and put them in a pot with holes in the bottom—i. e., a colander—and set it over a vessel of seething water and presse out the oyle; the press must have strong cheeks, and between them two plates of iron, hote, but not burning, and the almonds in a bagge of canvas. Steep cloves, or amber, or stors x, or benzamine, or maces in elderflower water until it hath received their strength and dry againe, and steep it new foure or five times. Then put thereto foure or five times as many scraped almonds stamped, then presse out the oyle and set it in the sunne to purific for a time. The oyle, itself hath the vertues of balme—it healeth fresh and greene wounds, it comforteth the head and hearte, especially it helpeth the giddiness of the heade, it stayeth the issue of blood and water in wounds, it comforteth the natural parts, it purgeth melancholy blood. Three or four drops taken (asting in a spoone, with some pleasant syrop, daintie thing or wine with the head or selled of a cancer it. Virtues of Oil of Almonds

some pleasant syrop, daintie thing or wine with the broth or cullis of a capon, it hellpeth the collick and suffocation." Patient scribe, he wanted to get it all in, and the long sentence sounds as if it were the close of his day's work or stint, and he was conscientiously anxious to note everything concerning the "vertues" of the "oyle."

I remember hearing long ago in my youth
from a homely woman called "clever in
sickness" that oil of cinnamon was sovereign
for heart failure, taken a few drops at a
time, and with the dainty additions prescribed above, the broth of capon or demulcent syrup, its effect would be enhanced, for
a stimulant needs light nourishment to sur-

a stimulant needs light nourishment to sup-plement its effects. Sympathy in Old Phrases.

The old phrases have something tender and sympathetic with all their planness of speech. There is much about "liver griefes" and "milt griefes," milt being the spleen if you think a moment; "breast griefes and braine griefes," "directions for drawing out braine griefes," and a spling the splinters to work the splinters the splinters to work the splinters the bones"—i. e. causing the splinters to work out of a wound, those being days when peo-ple broke each other's bones for differences

ple broke each other's bones for differences of opinion at short notice.

There is "purging of wastrich humors," which expresses the decline in consumption, shingles, holy fire"—i. e. erysipelas—"lethargie, frenzie, burnings and dead flesh, plague, lepzie, squyncy, hot griefes and imposthumes," which seem to have been everyday ailments of the time when bathrooms were unknown and people swept their houses mainly to get rid of fleas. Still many of their "griefes" have descended to the present, and I wish, above all things, that we had a plainly written book which would give the practice and experience of medicine in simple, direct brevity like this old manual.

Apples in the Pharmacopula. "Sour, astringent apples may be given in hot agues to cool' the stomach, but taken freely in ordinary health hurt the stomach, and taken in spring hurt the sinews, engender cholera and inflammations. The tarte and sowre apples do binde, but ripe, pleasant ones are the contrary. They are good for them that swoone and have weak heart. The pap of the apple (the pulp) with a rosewater applied to the eyes taketh away their rednesse. Mix chalk with the juice of wildings or crabs and apply it to take away main rednesse. Mix chalk with the juice of wildings or crabs and apply it to take away pain of burns or inflammations. For a red nose and face distil the blossoms in a water bath and wash with the liquid morning and night. For a cough, roast butter, English saffron and sugar candy, as much as a nutmeg in a great apple, and each such a one morning and evening. Eyes, to comfort and make them clear and lively, distil a peck of rotten apples and use the water." I do not youeh for this.

apples and use the water." I do not vouch for this.

The virtues of white horehound are set forth at leisure. "Boiled with iris root till the third part of the water is wasted, it is good for old coughs and raises phlegm, taken a spoonful when the cough comes on. Stamp—i. c., pound—the leaves with honey and apply for agnails and swellings about the nails or joints. The juice cleareth the eyes and killeth worms in the ears," which was one of the minor plagues of Queen Elizabeth's time and before.

A Cure for Madness.

A Cure for Madness. "All kinds of horehound are good for women to bathe in that have weak back or pains in the legs. The distilled water is good against all scabs and wheales. For madness, stamp houseleek and roses, equal parts, with milk and bind on the forehead and temples. Face swolen or scorched, rub it twies or thrice a day with the intended.

and temples. Face swolen or scorched, rub it twice or thrice a day with the juice of houseleck. Juniper or the berries burned "driveth away all venomous beasts," like mosquitoes, "and all infection and corruption of the air.

"Ivy leaves sodden in wine are good for all spots and scabs of the face and skin. The great leaves of ivy sodden in wine heal all wounds and cuts. To make hair yellow wash with lye of the ashes of ivy wood without the bark. Sciatica, anount with the juice of ivy drawn out by steeping in alcohol.

alcohol.

"Lavender, boil it in water and wett thy shirt in it, and dry it again and wear it, and no body vermin will be in it as long as it smelleth of it. The flowers distilled in wine help all cold griefes of the brain, cramps and stoppages whatever. Shred the leaves with the flowers and distil in June, and drift the order of the state of and drink two ounces of the water against apoplexia, or the astonishing and trembling of thy members and hands. To comfort the head quilt the flowers into a cap and wear it daily."

From Getting Drunk.

**To avoid drunkenness use leeks raw. Lettuce nourisheth and breedeth good blood and causeth sleep. Young lettuce is good and causeth sleep. Young lettuce is good for agues, so are the seeds in warm water. Pluck up lettuce with the left hand before sun-rising and lay it under the covering of a sick man's bed, he not knowing thereof, to cause him to sleep," which is pretty, if it is a superstition. "It is not good for women who would have children to use lettuce much, as it causes barrenness and maketh the children raging of kind and foolish (effects of the opium in lettuce), and the same is evil for them that be short winded, phlegmatic or soit blood.

phlegmatic or spit blood.
"For heartburn chew licorice root and "For heartburn chew licorice root and swallow the juice. The seeds of lilies are good against the bitings of serpents. The lily water restoreth the voice that is lost. The oil of lilies is good against carbuncles. Lily root seethed in oil brings back hair on burnt or scalded heads. To cleanse the face lay lemons in buttermilk and wash therein. Use the herb lovage in baths to open the pores and draw forth humors. The decoction of the root, seed or herb in barley water cleanses the lungs and passages and heals inward wounds and ulcerations."

inward wounds and ulcerations."

Lastly, chew mace to strengthen the brain. Here is experience for a year which will send women out in fields and gardens learning what relief and beauty the leaves and flowers keep for them. It will not be difficult to separate the much that is good in this old advice from the little that is mistaken, and the good we cannot afford to lose. taken, and the good we cannot afford to lose. SHIRLEY DARK.

A CLERGYMAN'S REBUFF.

to a Request for Books. (WRITTEN POR THE DISPATCH.)

There is a clergyman who resides in North Britain—let me spare his blushes by reserving his name—who has lately been writing round to various literary men, saying that he liked receiving presents of books from authors, and that he would be glad if from authors, and that he would be glad if Mr. So and So would send him copies of his later works. The colossal cheek of the man—who by the way encloses a list of those who have acceded to his request—us really remarkable. Let us hope that the rebuil which he received from one author the other day will stop this nuisance from going further. Mr. —, a novelist of standing and the author of several scientific works, wrote:

re a tailor for a sample pair of trousers, and yet the author, who is also a tradesman and who has had to sell his books: as much as a butober has to sell his meat, is expected to go and pay for copies of his own works at the publishers, and then to present them to anyone who cares to sak for them."

No reply to this communication has yet been received.

JANUARY TWINKLERS the degree of condensation in the meteor

Bright Stars That Shine in the Southern Sky This Month.

PHOTOGRAPHING ORION'S NEBULA.

Sirius and Its Companion an Interesting Study Just Now.

PLANETS THAT HAVE ETERNAL DAY

WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.] The most attractive quarter of the heaven on a January evening is toward the south Within a comparatively restricted region, at the center of which is the splendid constellation Orion, are crowded some of the brightest of the celestial luminaries. Orion itself contains two stars of the first magni-

Rigel in the left foot.

Among the numerous drawings which have been made of the Orion nebula, with greater or less care and skill, the finest are one made by the Bonds, at Cambridge, in 1859-63, and one upon which Lord Rosse expended all the available hours of several pended all the available hours of several years with the aid of the great Parsontown reflector. These two pictures, though both were executed with the most conscientious care, have only a general resemblance to each other. To one who is unable to make a due allowance for the difficulty of depicting so vaguely defined an object, they seem strangely discordant in their details. Indeed, these drawings may be cited to prove and illustrate the utter hopelessness of depicting a nebula with the pencil and brush; nor is it likely that the attempt will ever again be made.

Achievements of Photography.

Photography promises not only to rende Photography promises not only to render this labor unnecessary, but also to yield results that will be far more reliable. The late Prof. Henry Draper was the pioneer in this work, having succeeded in 1880 in obtaining with an exposure of nearly an hour a very satisfactory negative of the Orion nebula, and in 1882 a second, in which the difference in the intensity of the various parts of the nebulons light was tude-Betelgeuse, in the right shoulder, and To the right of Orion, and at a somewhat higher altitude, is Aldebaran, the "Bull's Eye," the principal star in Taurus to the leit, and at about the same distance from the three stars which form the belt is Sirius, the

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS.

This chart shows the position of the principal stars above the horizon at 9 P. M. January 15. To compare it with the heavens one should hold it overhead, or nearly so, the side marked N. toward the north; that marked S. toward the south. The stars represented upon it will then fall into their proper position and can easily be identified.

"Dog Star," the most brilliant of the starry host, its light being estimated to equal from three to five times that of an average star of the first magnitude. Still farther to the left and at about the same distance from Sirius and Betelgeuse, forming with these two stars a nearly equal triangle, is Procyon, the "Lesser Dog." Directly overhead is Capella, the "Kid," likewise a star of the first mag-

Brilliant Corner of the Sky. Here are six first magnitude stars, richly interspersed with stars of the second and third orders and having for their back-ground the mellow light of the Milky Way, giving to this region an especially brilliant aspect. Some of these lesser lights are worth noting. If we will run a curved line from Capella through Betelgeuse to Sirins we shall strike about midway between Capella and Betelgeuse a noticeable pair of stars, which form the tips of the "golden horns" of Taurus. A short distance east of the senith (the point directly overhead) may be seen a second pair, about equally distant from Capella and Betelgeuse. These are the "Twins"—the northernmost, Castor; the southernmost Pollux—a pair especially noteworthy, since they mark very nearly the place of the summer solstice, in the "sign" Cancer, but in the constellation worth noting. If we will run a curved line

Cancer, but in the constellation Still lower in the east, about one-third of the distance from the horizon to the senith, is Regulus, formerly regarded as a star of the first magnitude, but now degraded to the second rank. Regulus is the principal star in the ancient constellation Leo (the Luon), and is in the handle of the better known sub-constellation of the Sickle.

The Nobula in Orion.

The region here roughly outlined The region here roughly outlined is especially interesting from an astronomical point of view. The great Nebula in Orion, although invisible to the naked eye, has so often been described and depicted in text books and in recent years has been the subject of so much discussion that it lies fairly within the domain of popular astronomy. Its position is in the "Sword," just below the lowermost of the three stars which form the "Belt."

A field glass will reveal it as a blurred star Seen through a telescence it has the

a new grass will reven it as a Diarren star. Seen through a telescope it has the appearance of a luminous cloud—as its name, "nebula," implies—too large to be included wholly in the field of view. On one side, where it is the brightest, it pre-sents a fairly distinct outline, but on all other sides it fades away gradually into imother sides it fades away gradually into imperceptibility. The brighter part has a curious resemblance to the head of some monster animal, a dark recess forming an open mouth, while above this a streamer of light so much resembles the uplifted trunk of an elephant that it is often referred to as the "proboscia." At the bottom of the dark gulf, or mouthlike opening, is a bright star, which a telescope even of moderate power resolves into a multiple star of four components—to which a larger telescope adds two others—forming the "trapezium," which is the principal point of reference in the nebula.

Analyzed by the Spectroscope.

Although this mysterious, mist-like ob-

Analysed by the Spectroscope.

Although this mysterious, mist-like object had long been studied with the telescope—had been explored carefully with the powerful instruments of the elder Herschel and of Lord Rosse—its true nature remained a debated point until that wonderful instrument the spectroscope was brought to bear upon it independently by Father Secchi and Dr. Huggins some 25 years ago. Both of these observers found its "spectrum" to consist of bright lines, instead of being "continuous," like the spectrum of the sun and other solid hodies, and the long-debated question of its "resolvability" was definitely settled.

There is no longer a doubt that this is a

There is no longer a doubt that this is There is no longer a doubt that this is a true nebula, as was always maintained by Herschel, and not simply an aggregation of stars so minute or so distant as to shine only by their blended light, as has proved to be the case with many other supposed nebula. If the story of its light, as that story is now read by astronomers, can be trusted, this vast luminous cloud, the extent of which baffles the power of the imagination to conceive, is a mass of glowing gases, among which hydrogen and nitrogen seem to be the most abundant.

But just at this point, just as astronomers are congratulating themselves upon having determined the nature of this and other nebulæ, Mr. Lockyer comes forward with his new "meteor theory," based also upon spectroscople work, and the discussion, instead of being closed, has simply branched off in a new direction. According to Mr. Lockyer not only nebulæ, but all of the celestial bodies, including the stars, are due to the impact of metrors upon one another, the differences in the resulting phenomena being caused by differences in

The New Meteor Theory.

Mr. Common and Mr. Isaac Roberts, of Liverpool, have brought the art of phote-

Liverpool, have brought the art of photographing nebulæ to a marvelous state of advancement, as they have gained experience, particularly as to the time necessary for making the exposure.

In the case of some of the photographs of nebulæ recently taken by these amateurs the plates were exposed 3, 4 and even 6 hours, and details of structure were brought out which no eye is able to detect in the objects themselves, and which no eye, probably, ever will be able to detect. The advantage which the sensitive plate of the camera has over the human retina is that the former is over the human retins is that the former is capable of receiving and retaining the im-pression of the faintest trace of light which falls upon it, provided it is given time,

all, since it becomes weary and loses its sen-sitiveness with long gazing. In the star Sirius we have another object In the star Sirius we have another object to which a good deal of attention has been given by astronomers in recent years. Its extraordinary brilliancy has caused it naturally to be selected for the first experiments aiming at an advance step in sidegeal astronomy, and the items of information that have been gathered with respect to this star may be cited to illustrate the present state of our knowledge regarding these almost infinitely remote bodies.

Unit of Star Distant

Although not the nearest of the fixed stars, Sirius is among the nearest. Its dis-tance from us now is commonly put at about 600,000 times that of the sun. Let us take a moment to consider what this means. Or-dinary units of measurement fail us in an emergency like this; a new unit has been emergency like this; a new unit has been adopted for measuring star distances—viz, the distance traveled by light in one second of time—186,000 mites. To reach us from the sun light requires a little over eight minutes; it flashes agross the space intervening between us and the moon in about one and a quarter seconds; to reach us from Sirius, assuming that the distance given above is correct, it requires nearly ten years. That is when we look upon Sirius to-night we see it, not as it is now, but as it was ten years ago.

years ago.

It has been estimated that the light of Sirius is equal to that of 70 suns placed side by side. If its intrinsic brilliancy is the same as that of the sun, it may easily be calculated that its diameter is rather more than eight times that of the sun. There are, however, reasons for thinking that Sirius is really hotter and brighter than our lumin-ary, in which case the estimate of its size must be correspondingly diminished.

The Motion of Sirius.

Within the past few years the spectroscope has been applied to perform the astonishing feat of determining the rate of a star's motion in a direction toward or away from the earth. Sirius is the first star to which the earth. Sirius is the first star to which the spectroscope was turned for this purpose, by Dr. Huggins, who confidently announced that the star was receding from us at the rate of 29 miles a second. Other observers have confirmed the conclusion of this distinguished spectroscopist as to the fact that the star is moving along the line of sight, but its motion has been found to vary both in its rate and in its direction in a meaner thus far unexplained.

Mercury will be an evening star during the first half of the month, and during the second half's morning star, but too near the sun to be visible. Venus is now a morning star. Its greatest brilliancy was on the 8th

star. Its greatest brilliancy was on the 8th of the month, at which time, seen through a of the month, at which time, seen through a telescope, it presented the crescent phase of the waning moon. The Comptes Rendues for October 17, 1890, contains an interesting illustrated note by M. Perrotin, on "Observations of the Planet Venus at the Observatory at Nice," made with a view of determining the period of the planet's rotation on its axis. M. Perrotin confirms the conclusion recently announced by M. Schiaparelli, of Milan, that Venus turns on its axis in very nearly, if not exactly, the same time that it takes to perform its revolution a 11s orbit—viz., about 225 days.

Eternal Day and Eternal Night. Eternal Day and Eternal Night.

That is Venus always keeps the same side turned toward the sun, just as the moon does toward the earth, and just as Mercury, according to M. Schiaparelli, does toward the sun. On one side of this planet there is, therefore, a continuous day and on the other side eternal night. Mars is still struggling to keep pace with the earth; but, although now a long way in advance of Jupiter, he has lost ground vary perceptibly in the past month, and now sets at about 8 o'clock. Jupiter has practically closed his present season. He is visible but for a short time after sunset.

G. S. JOHES.

USE OF THE CURRENT.

What the Figures on Electrical Progress Last Year Show.

A NEW PROCESS OF AGING WINE.

Farmers Find Late Inventions of Great Advantage to Them.

CABLE VERSUS TROLLEY FOR CARS

PREPARED FOR THE DISPATCE.

Naturally at a season of the year when people are balancing up their ledgers to see what their gains have been, electricians are also reviewing 1890 to determine the extent to which advances have been made in their field of work. They find it to have been a year marked not so much by new startling inventions as by a multitude of minor improvements and by an extraordinary outburst of activity in the electric power field. In other words, the development of 1890 was

largely industrial. Perhaps in its way the most important scientific advance has been the determination of a new unit, that of self-induction, called the Henry, after Prof. Joseph Henry, the name of this unit and its size being almost wholly due to the efforts of Prof. Francis B. Crocker, of Columbia College, who thought it was about time that Americs, the "home of electricity," should name one of the new electrical units in the fashion which has already given us the volt, after Volta, the ohm after the German physicist, the ampere after the French savant, the Joule, the watt and the farad after the English philosopher, the English inventor and the immortal Faraday. Accurate mea surements are always the mark of refinement and perfection in any art, and electricians are inclined to regard their units as signs of the fact that electricity has won its place among the great scientific and engineering professions, and is no longer the toy of the amateur, the tool of the charlatan or the pet theme of the Wall street promoter.

Lights, Motors and Railways. Lights, Motors and Railways.

Looking at the practical advances of electricity, it is found that they exhibit themselves chiefly in electric lighting, electric motor work, and electric railways. England during the past year has been the chief field of electric lighting activity, and, at a recent meeting there of electricians, congratulations were exchanged upon the fact that London was ahead, leaving New York behind in the introduction of electric light. The rate of increase in London at the present time is 4,000 new lamps installed per

ent time is 4,000 new lamps installed per week; but still New York is holding its own bravely, to say nothing of its understudy, Brooklyn, and its suburbs, New Jersey and Connecticut.

But when it comes to electric power and electric railways, it is America first and the electric railways, it is America first and the other part of the world nowhere. New York alone has 1,000 electric motors, or more than all England together, and little New England can boast as many electric railways as the whole of Europe, with a few to spare. Some idea of what America is doing in electric railway work may be found from the fact that the index of one of the electrical papers specially devoted to such work shows no fewer than 413 towns and cities that have either put in such roads or are now doing so. either put in such roads or are now doing so. either put in such roads or are now doing so. As there are about 1,000 street railways in America, it is evident that already 50 per cent of them have east a vote for the new silent, irresistible motive power. One need not wonder that Mr. Tom Lowry, of Minneapolis, a city that has already 14 electric roads through his work, in his presidental address at the last meeting of the American Street Railway Association, said he believed it would be the last meeting at which they would discuss the horse as a factor in street railway service.

railway service.

The Financial Depression. this field, and hence the financial depression and stringency that have been a drawback in other moustrial departments have act-ually been a stimulus in this. The outlook nally been a stimulus in this. The outlook for 1891 to the electrical engineer is a bright one, and all his productive agencies will be taxed to meet the demand for electric light, electric power, electric heat, electric metal working, electric mining and a host of other things not dreamed of in 1881.

In many places in this country where cable lines have been installed, it has been found that electricity offers a still better expenses.

cable lines have been installed, it has been found that electricity offers a still better system of traction. One of the latest instances of this is afforded in Michigan, where a million-dollar cable system is about to be superseded by electric lines. It is stated that about 14 miles of cable road will shortly be abandoned, the cable cars being replaced by electric cars, and overhead wires being

strung above the present cable tracks.

Mention has been recently made of a lamp which had done duty for 11,561 hours, and of which, when it was taken from its holder, the filament was unbroken. F. Bailey, in speaking a few days ago before the English Society of Arts, directed particular atten-tion to the importance of good work in the manufacture of incandescent lamps. He insisted on the advantages of keeping a record of lamps which could be easily done.

Improving Wine by Electricity. During the last two years attempts have been made from time to time in Italy to age wine by electricity. Although these exper-iments have in almost every case resulted wine by electricity. Although these experiments have in almost every case resulted satisfactorily, they have not been carried on on such a systematic scale as to afford rehable and conclusive data as to the value of the new process. This want has, however, been in a great measure supplied by a course of operations which have been continued for the past 12 months at Beroy, France. Here the method of treating wine by electricity has been exhaustively tested and pronounced satisfactory by competent authorities. The wine treated is said to be markedly improved in "keeping" qualities. It is passed through a small tube containing a series of silver discs connected to the poles of a 25 volt alternator. The liquid is thus traversed by a rapidly alternating current, which is believed to destroy the ferment. The experimental plant is capable of treating 29 gallons of wine per hour. The process has been tried on wines of all kinds, and it is stated that the results have been most marked with the light Algerian wines, whose bad "keeping" qualities have hitherto prevented their exportation. The attention of Californian wine growers has been drawn to this process, and it is understood that steps will shortly be taken to determine its value for the treatment of wines grown in this country.

this country. Farming by Electricity.

Farming by Electricity.

The proprietor of numerous small farms in the Western Pyrenees, having an area altogether of nearly 1,500 acres, has for some time past been utilizing a neighboring stream for electric lighting purposes. He has now applied electric power to the working of a wine-crushing plant. Besides providing the power for lifting and driving purposes, electricity is made to work the pumps for irrigating the vines. One hundred and eight 16-candle power lamps are distributed all over the farms, and the area which they cover may be judged from the fact that the length of telephone wire connecting the buildings is 62 miles.

Another notable application of electricity to agricultural purposes has been made in Hungary, where, on large farms, grain is threshed out by night by means of movable light apparatus, driven by the locomotive of the steam threshing more quickly.

Among the indirect advantages which appearance has shown to result from the use of the electric light may be mentioned the improvement in the general health of employes where electricity has superseded pastic said that in many such cases the prevalence of headaches has been greatly diminished, that the employes take on a more healthy look, and that doctor's bills are on the decrease. The superior cleanliness of the electric light is no small recommendation.

G. H. G.