Spain's diplomats seem to be hoping for an unforseen mine explosion under the peace negotiations.

The value of American manufac turers sold abroad last year was \$288, 871,499, an increase of 100 per cent. over the figures for 1888.

The returns show that in the war with Spain twelve men were killed in the navy-not quite one-twenty-second of the number killed on the Maine in a single instant of peace.

According to returns published by the British board of trade, the imports of American pig iron into Great Britain during the first six months of 1898 aggregated 30,231 tons, valued at \$332,155, and of American steel, unwrought, 12,832 tons, valued at \$325.980:

Maine is again to enter the list of copper-mining states. The deposits, which are numerous and valuable, were worked more than twenty-five years ago, but a sudden decline in the price of copper made them unprofitable; improved and cheapened method of production is the cause of resumption of work.

A San Francisco court has just decided that couples wedded at sea are not legally married. This ruling brings consternation to many families in that city. Some months ago a romantic pair hired a tug and steamed out on the Pacific to be united in the holy bonds. The idea caught the fancy of young people, and since then there have been forty or fifty marriages of that sort off the Golden

Here are some of the conclusions that English experts have arrived at concerning the naval features of the war: Fast battleships are everything; have big batteries aboard; teach the men to shoot well; as for personnel, the Anglo-Saxon can beat anything that floats. These specifications cover the ground pretty well, though it might be well to mention the importance of personal heroism, says the Boston Herald.

The only significance in the small increase in railway mileage in the United States last year is that pretty nearly every available section of the country is now fully accessible by railroad. The railway mileage will of course continue to increase in the future, but not at such a rate as in the past. With improvements that have been made in engine power and carrying capacity of cars, moreover, the present lines are able to accommodate more traffic. This means that fewer railroad lines are likely to go into the hands of receivers hereafter and at the same time that demands of traffic will be met.

The prune industry in California has had a remarkable growth in the last decade. In 1888 there were about 11,000 acres of bearing prune trees, and about 6000 acres more of young orchards. Between 1890 and 1894 about 40,000 acres of prune orchards were planted. Since then the growth has proceeded in lesser degree, but the total bearing area is now estimated at 55,000 acres, with 10,000 more to come into bearing within the next year or two. The investment in lands, trees, irrigation systems, agricultural tools, and packing houses is estimated at \$25,000,000. This year's production of green fruit will amount to about 84,000 tons, and growers anticipate a crop of 100,000 tons within a few years. Of this year's yield, about one-fifth will be shipped east as green fruit; the remainder will be dried, making, with the water evapo-

A writer in the Scientific American seems to have taken careful note of the lifeboats on ocean steamers. He says: "Any one who has traveled to and fro a few times can but notice the paucity of lifeboats and the fact that the davit room is not all utilized. The examination of fifteen photographs, representing as many liners, showed an average of seven boats on each side: one ship only showing an interrupted line of ten large boats on each side. What does this average of fourteen boats to the ship represent? The fact that only those on the lee side can be used in rough weather reduces the total to seven; two must be considered as sacrificed, smashed or capsized during launching. Five are left, with a capacity of about 140 persons -less than the ship's crew. Lifeboats? If they are lifeboats, why do they fill and sink with such rapidity? What use are rafts and life preservers in such calamities as that Elbe and the Bourgogue?" These are alarming statements, and they are av. idently made by someboly with knowledge of his topic.

REV. TALMAGE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

A GOSPEL MESSAGE.

Subject: "Enough Better Than Too Much"
—Certain Superfluities, Both Physical
and Mental, Are a Hindrance Rather
Than a Help in Life.

Text: "A man of great stature, whose fingers and toes were four and twenty, six on each hand, and six on each foot; and he alcaded israel, Jonathan, the son of Shimea, David's brother, slew him."—I Chron. xx., 6.7.

Malformation photographed, and for what reason? Did not this passage slip in by mistake into the sacred Scriptures, as sometimes a paragraph utterly obnoxious to the editor gets into his newspaper during his absence? Is not this Scriptural errata? No, no; there is nothing haphazard about the Bible. This passage of Scripture was as certainly intended to be put in the Bible as the verse, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth," or, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."

And I select it for my text to-day because it is charged with practical and tremendous meaning. By the people of God the Philistines had been conquered, with the exception of a few giants. The race of glants is mostly extinct, I am glad to say. There is no use for glants now except to enlarge the income of museums. But there were many of them in olden times. Gollath was, according to the Bible, eleven feet four and a half inches high. Or, if you doubt this, the famcus Pliny, declares that at Crete, by an earthquake, a monument was broken open, discovering the remains of a glant forty-six cubits long, or sixty-nine feet high. So, whether you take sacred or profane history, you must come to the conclusion that there were in those times cases of human altitude monstrous and appalling.

Deal had smashed the skull of one of these glants, but there were other glants that the Davideun wars had not yet sudded, and one of them stands in my text. He was not only of Alpine stature, but had a surplus of digits. To the ordinary fingers was annexed an additional finger, and the foot had also a superfluous addendum. He had twenty-four terminations to hands and feet, where others have twenty. It was not the only instance of the kind. Tavernier, the learned writer, says that the Emperor of Java had a son endowed with the same number of extremities. Volcatlus, the poet, had six fingers on each hand. Maupertuis, in his celebrated letters, speaks of two families near Berlin similarly equipped of hand and foot. All of which I ca

dwarf on the right side is stronger than a giant on the wrong side, and all the body and mind and estate and opportunity that you cannot use for God and the betterment of the world is a sixth finger and a sixth toe, and a terrible hindrance. The most of the good done in the world, and the most of those who win the battle for the right are ordinary people. Count the fingers of their right hand, and they have just five—no more and no less. One Doctor Duff among missionaries, but three thousand missionaries that would tell you they have only common endowment. One ingers of their right hand, and they have just five—no more and no less. One Doctor Duff among missionaries, but three thousand missionaries that would tell you they have only common endowment. One Florence Nightingale to nurse the sick in conspicuous places, but ten thousand women who are just as good nurses, though never heard of. The "Swamp Angel" was a big gun that during the Civil War made a big noise, but muskets of ordinary heard of the state of the sympathies, carrying the world's consolarion. Among lawyers we see rise up a Rufus Choate, or a William Wirt, or a Sambel L. Southard, but society would go to pieces to-morrow if there were not thousands of common lawyers to see that men and women get their rights. A Valentine Mott or a Willard Parket-rises up eminent in the medical profession; but what an unlimited sweep would pneumonia and diphtheria and scarlet fever have in the world if it were not for ter thousand component. limited sweep would pneumonia and diphtheria and scarlet fever have in the world if it were not for ten thousand common dectors! The old physician in his gig, driving up the lane of the farmhous, or riding on horseback, his medicines in the saddle-bags, arriving on the ninth day of the fever, and coming in to take hold of the pulse of the patient, while the family, pate with anxlety, and looking on and waiting for his decision in regard to the patient, and hearing him say, "Thank God, I have mastered the case, he is getting well!" excites in me an admiration quite equal to the mention of the names of the great metropolitan doctors of the past or the illustrious living men of the present.

Yet what do we see in all departments? Feople not satisfied with ordinary spheres of work and ordinary duties. Instead of trying to see what they can do with a hand of five fingers, they want six. Instead 'cf rousul endowment of twenty manual and pedal addenda, they want twenty-four. A train amount of money for livelihood, ad for the supply of those whom we leave behind us after we have departed this life, is important, for we have the best authority for saying, "He that provideth not for his own, and especially those of his own household, is worse than an infidel;" but the large and fabulous sums for which many struggie, if obtained, would be a hindrance

hold, is worse than an infidel," but the large and fabulous sums for which many struggie, if obtained, would be a hindrance rather than an advantage.

The anxieties and annoyances of those whose estates have become plethoric can only be told by those who possess them. It will be a good thing when, through your industry and prosperity, you can own the house in which you live. But suppose you wan fifty houses, and you have all those rents to collect, and all those tenants to please. Suppose you have branched out in business successes until in almost every direction you have investments. The fire bell rings at night, you rush upstair to jook business successes until in almost every di-rection you have investments. The fire bell rings at night, you rush upstair to look age of over \$5,000,000 in the value of American Tobacce Company's common stock.

out of the window, to see if it is any of your mills. Epidemic of crime comes, and there are embezzlements and absconding in all directions, and you wonder whether any of your bookkepers will prove recreant. A panie strikes the financial world, and you are like a hen undera sky full of hawks, and trying with auxious cluck to get your overgrown chickens safely under wing. After a certain stage of success has been reached, you have to trust so many important things to others that you are apt to become the prey of others, and you are swindled and defrauded, and the anxiety you had on your brow when you were earn-

swindled and defrauded, and the anxiety you had on your brow when you were earning your first thousand dollars is not equal to the anxiety on your brow now that you have won your three hundred thousand. Disraeli says that a king of Poland abdicated his throne and joined the people, and became a porter to carry burdens. And some one asked him why he did so, and he replied: "Upon my honor, gentlemen, the load which Least off was by far heavier than the one you see me carry. The weightis

toath which I cast oil was by tar neavier than the one you see me carry. The weightiest is but a straw when compared to that weight under which I labored. I have slept more in four nights than I have during all my reign. I begin to live and to be a king myself. Elect whom you choose. As for me, I am so well it would be madness to return to court."

"Well," says somebody, "such overloaded persons ought to be pitied, for their worriments are real and their insomnia and their nervous prostration are genuine." I repithat they could get rid of the bothersome surplus by giving it away. If a man has more houses than he can carry without yexation, let him drop a few of them. If his estate is so great he cannot manage it without getting nervous dyspepsia from having too much, let him divide with those who have nervous dyspepsia because they cannot get enough. Not they guard their sixth finger with more care than they did the original five. They go limping with what they call gout and know not that, like the giant of my text, they are lamed by a superfluous toe. A few of them by charities bleed themselves of this financia obesity and monetary plethora, but many of them hang on to the hindering superfluty till death; and then, as they are compelled to give the money up anyhow, in their last will and testament they generously give some of it to the Lord, expecting, no doubt, that He will feel very much obliged to them. Thank God that once in a while we have a Peter Cooper, who, owning an interest in the iron works at Trenton, said to Mr. Lester: "Id onot feel quite easy about the amount we are making. Working under one of our patents, we have a monopoly, which seems to me something wrong. Everybody has to come to us for it, and we are making by him their last will and to stament bestowed money on lospitals and missionary societies, but for such testators I have no respect. They would have taken every een of it, and we are making working the world had to wait five thousand eight hundred years for Peter Cooper!

I am glad fo

gone out of the world; and when over your remains the minister recites the words: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord," persons who have keen appreciation of the indicrow will hardly be able to keep their faces straight. But whether in that direction my words do good or not, I am anxious that all who have only ordinary equipment be thankful for what they have and rightly employ it. I think you all have, figuratively as well as literally, fingers enough. Do not long for hindering superfulities. Standing in the presence of this fallen glant of my text, and in this postmortem examination of him, let us learn how much better off we are with just the usual foot. You have thanked God for a thousand things, but I warrant you never thanked Him for those two implements of work and locomotion, that no one but the Infinite and Omnipotent God could have ever planned or made—the hand and the foot. Only that soldier or that mechanic who in a battle, or through machinery, has lost them knows anything adequately about their value, and only the Christiah setentist can have any appreciation of what divine masterpieces they are. Sir Charles Bell was so impressed with the wondrous construction of the human hand that when the Earl of Bridgewater gave forty thousand dollars for essays on the wisdom and goodness of God, and eight books were written, Sir Charles Bell wrote his entire book on the wisdom and goodness of God, and eight books were written, Sir Charles Bell wrote his entire book on the wisdom and goodness of God as displayed in the human hand. The twenty-seven bones in the hand and wrist with cartilages and ligaments and phalanges of the fingers all make just ready to knit, to sew, to build up, to pull down, to weave, to write, to plow, to pound, to wheel, to battle, to give friendly salutation. The typs of its fingers are so many telegraph offices by reason of the fingers are so many telegraph offices by reason of the fine sensitiveness of touch. The bridges, the tunnels, the cities of the whole earth are the victor

friendly salutation. The trys of its fingers are so many telegraph offices by reason of their sensitiveness of touch. The bridges, the tunnels, the cities of the whole earth are the victories of the hand. The hands are not dumb, but often speak as distinctly as the lips. With our hands we invite, we repel, we invoke, we entreat, we wring them in grief, or clap them in joy, or spread them abroad in benediction. The malformation of the giant's hand in the text glorifles the usual hand. Fashioned of God more exquisitely and wondrously than any hurvan mechanism that was ever contrived, I charge you to use it for God and the litting of the world out of its moral predicament. Employ it in the sublime work of Gospel handshaking. You can see the hand is just made for that. Four fingers just set right to touch your neighbor's hand on ore side, and your thumb set so as to elench it on the other side. By all its bons and joints and muscles and cartilages and igaments the voice of Nature joins with the voice of God commanding you to shake hands. The custom is as old as the Bible, anyhow. Jehu said to Jehonadab: "Is thine heart? If y be, give me thine hand." When hands join in Christian salutation a Gospel electricity thrills across the palm from heartto heart, and from the shoulder of one to the shoulder of the other.

A Big Shrinkage in Common Stock.

A Big Shrinkage in Common Stock

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

A HAPPY FATHER

Rejoices in Being the Heal of a Family of Twenty Five Children.

Mrs. Samuel Swartwood, wife of The father says he is the happiest man on earth with his large family. The following pensions were issued last week;

The father says he is the happiest man on earth with his large family.

The following pensions were issued last week;

Robert Miller, Beech Creek, \$6;

Josiah Baldwin (dead), Somerset, \$2 to \$12; Daniel J. Kepfer, New Franklin, \$8: Thomas Barkis, Eldred, Mi-Kean, \$10 to \$12; Jegemiah Blue, Williamsport, \$6 to \$8; W. Richards, Riddlesburg, Bedford, \$6 to \$12; Samuel E. Fulmer, Bennett, \$6; William Wilson Leathem, Bennett, \$6; William Wilson Leathem, Bennett, \$6; William Wilson Leathem, Burgettstown, \$6; Franklin Berwick, Reynoldton, \$8; Jacob J. Jackson, dead, Indiana, \$6 to \$8; George Burroughs, Larimer station, Westmoreland, \$6; to \$8; Benson F. Sadler, Burnside, \$6 to \$8; Rebert W. Campbell, Academy Corners, Tioga, \$14 to \$17; Olive McMunn, Seneca, Venango, \$8; Mary A. Godd, Morris, Tioga, \$8; Hannah C. L. Feather, Sandy Lake, \$12; Frank M. Weidner, Rochester, Beaver, \$8; Geo. D. Crandal, Blossburg, Tioga, \$6; Jacob Muhler, Allegheny, \$6; W. B. Linhart, Turtle Creek, \$6 to \$8; Robert Easton, Soldiers' home, Erie, \$6 to \$3; Abasha Madden, Water street, Huntingdon, \$6 to \$8; Abraham H. Decker, Tioga, \$8 to \$10; Abraham H. Decker, Banhaman, \$8 to \$10; Abraham H. Decker, \$10; Abraham H. Decker, \$10; Abraham H. Deck

State of the treasury of St. Peter's Methodist Church, at Reading, has been replensible by a novel scheme, devised by the Ladies' Aid Society. The women got up a "weight social," and every person strending was asked to pay one-half ishd by a novel scheme, devised by the Ladies' Aid Society. The women got up a "weight social," and every person attending was asked to pay one-half cent a pound for his or her bodily weight. Some of the heavy members, had to contribute over \$1., while the lightest girl, weighing only 50 pounds, got off for 25 cents. By this means \$85 was raised.

Mary E. Mobley secured a verdict at Uniontown for \$1,479 50 against the administrators of the estate of her uncle, william W. Miller, of Luzerne township. The plaintiff served 22 years in Miller's house, but he died without making a will. Some of the heirs paid her \$1,400 of her claim of \$5,200, and she won her suft for the balance.

While shooting chickens recently at Hazelton, Fred Pfanstil fired a shot with a small rifle which missed the rowled off and struck his brother, John Pfanstil, aged 21, directly over the eye. The bullet penetrated the young man's brain.

Joseph Eastlick, the proprietor of a feed store at Meadville, has been arrested charged with being an accomplice of John Wright, who is said to have stolen a horse and buggy from J. L. Baker, a Greenville liveryman. Eastlick confessed that he had traded a watch and \$5 for the rig and then sold it.

The valuable jewelry found by the notice on the person of Joseph Menser.

Dastlick confessed that he had traded a watch and \$5 for the rig and then sold it.

The valuable jewelry found by the police on the person of Joseph Menser, arrested on Tramps Island, near Greenville, has been identified as the property of Miss M. P. Mimm and Anna Reiter, of Oil City, stolen on the afternoon of September 14. Menser will be taken to Oil City for trial.

United States Deputy Marshal John Roe, of Altoona, and a secret service man a few days ago arrested E. L. McClintock at Coalport, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kough, at Falls Timber, near Altoona, on the charge of having in their possession and passing counterfeit money.

Tax Collector John H. Barge, of Concellsville, was arrested on oath of his bondsmen. Robert Norris, John D. Prisbee and William Weihe, and waived a hearing for trial at court on the charge of fraudulently using money to the extent of \$5,000. I. W. Rutter went bail for Barge in the sum of \$2,500. As Joseph Magesse was leaving the Portland Church at Easton with his bride, Mary Strause, of Portland, he was arrested, charged with bigamy, on complaint of wife No. 1. His bride was overcome at the unhappy turn of affairs, and wept bitterly when he was marched off-to the lockup.

William Myers, aged 13, ran away from the Jumonsville orphan asylum Monday and boarded a freight train. He fell from the train at Dunbar, and rolled into a creen, where he lay all night. He is now in the City Hospital at Connellsville.

Henry T. Sampsel, of Centerville, Sryder county, while working around a circular saw while it was in motion, was caught by the saw and cut in two a few days ago. He was 36 years old and one of the associate judges of the county.

pox filled with dynamite is said to A box filled with dynamite is said to have been found concealed under the Old Meadow mill at Scottdale, and it is thought that two suspicious-looking men seen in the neighborhood had intended blowing up the plant.

On the suit of Charles Given, of Beaver Falls, Lewis Graham, sheriff of Beaver county, has been arrested charged with charging illegal fees to the amount of \$102.58 in the foreclosure of a mortgage.

a mortgage. William Baker, a miner, and Jame William Baker, Donovan, a brakeman, were instantly killed at Lilly, Cambria County, the other evening by the overturning of car on which they were riding to work they were reasonable to the results of the reasonable to the

James Murray, a burglar, who escaped from jail at Wellsboro, wrote a letter to the Sheriff, thanking him for kindnesses, and saying that he was on his way to Porto Rico.

his way to Porto Rico.

A Beaver Falls cat belonging to A.
C. Meyers, ergaged in mortal combat
with a four foot snake. The snake got
the worst of it and was getting away
when killed by a policeman.

News has been received at Bradford that Harry Bodine, of Company C, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, died in the hospital at Ponce, Puerto Rico, September 13.

Miss Challie Ross, aged 23 years, of New Alexandria, attempted suicide a few days ago by cutting her throat with a razor. She will recover. She was despondent through filness.

George Chafers, a prominent mersely a statempted suicide and the statempted suicide and few days ago by cutting her throat statempted suicide and few days ago by cutting her throat suicide and few days a

was despondent through filness.
George Chaffers, a prominent mer-chant tallor of Corry, aged 48 years, committed suicide by hanging himself while temporarily insane over business troubles.

troubles.

Robert Shaffer, Grove City, Pa., was making an excavation for a building when the bank caved in. His head was not covered and his cries brought assistance.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR OCTOBER 9.

II Chronicles xvii., 1-10-Golden Text; Proverbs iii., 6-Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

Proverbs iii., 6—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

1. "And Jehosaphat, his son, reigned in his stead and strengthened himself against Israel." Isruel, or the ten tribes, had proved themselves to be the enemies of God, and to stand with God means to stand against His enemies (Jas. iv., 4). How great the contrast in chapter xviii., 1, where we see Jehosaphat joining affinity with Ahab, the king of Israel, and thus necessitating the rebuke of the Lord in chapter xix., 2, "Shouldest thou help the ungodly and love them that hate the Lord?" To be for God at all times and under all circumstances is a rare thing and is seen perfectly only in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. "And he placed forces in all the fenced cities of Judah." Every king was king for the Lord (II Chron, ix., 8), and his strength was to be in the Lord and not in horses and charlots (Deut. xvii., 16). When we put wur trust in things visible, we are apt to cease to see and rely upon God (Jer. xvii., 5). This is a constant temptation and a snare. The Lord is often proving us as He did Philip, and we, like Philip, venture to suggest to Him how it might be done, but all the while He Himself knows what He will do (John vi., 5-7). When we obediently and trustfully, under God's guidance, make ordinary provision, all as well. The difficulty is when we cease to see God.

3. "And the Lord was with Jehosaphat." This is the secret of all blessing. The Lord was with David (II Sam. v., 10). His comfort to Moses, Joshua, Gideon and Jeremiah was the assurance that He was with them (Ex. Iii., 12; Josh. i., 5; Judg. vi., 16; Jer. i., 8). So when the Lord Jesus sent His followers into all the world the greatest encouragement He could give thew was His assurance: "All power is given ...nto Me In heaven and on earth. Go ye, therefore, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the age" (Math. xxviii., 18-20).

4. "He sought to the Lord God of his father and walked in His commandments."

18-20).

4. "He sought to the Lord God of his father and walked in His commandments." It is written of Zacharlas and Elizabeth that they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless (Lukei., 6). God had said to Israel that if they would obey His voice and keep His covenant, they would be a peculiar treasure unto Him above all people (Ex. xix., 5), and in Titus ii., 14 (R. V.), it is written that He gave Himself for us to redeem us from all inquity and purify unto Himself a people gave minself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto Himself a people for His own possession, zealous of good works

works.
5. "Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand." Joshua was told

works.

5. "Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand." Joshua was told that if he would observe to do according to all the law, his way would be broaged to all the law, his way would be broaged to us and he would have good success (Joshua i., 7, 8). In II Chron. xx., 20. Jehosaphat is heard saying to the people, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shail ye be established," and in fea, yil., 9, 1s the contrast. "If ye will not believe, surely yes shall not be established." In God and in His word is the only established. In God and in His word is the only established to fall else shall be shaken. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, for our God is a consuming fire (Heb. xii., 28, 29). 6. "And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the Lord." The warrin says that he was encouraged in the ways of the Lord, those who seek to walk in the way of the Lord those who seek to walk in the way of the Lord those who seek to walk in the way of the Lord shall not lack encouragement to continue thorein. There will be many a handful dropped for us on purpose to lead us in His way (Ruth ii., 16). They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles (Isa, xi., 31). The way of the Lord was so attractive and enjoyable that the way of the world and the devil became distasteful and the high places and groves were taken away. We cannot walk with God unless we humble curselves so to do and make up our minds to be agreed with Him (Mic. vi., § Amos iii, 3).

7. "Also in the third year of his reign he

we numble outselves so to do and make inp pur minds to be agreed with Him (Mic. vi., 8; Amos iii., 3).

7. "Also in the third year of his reign he sent to his princes to teach in the cities of Judah." What a suggestive foreshadow-ing of the time when "A king shall reign in righteousness and princes shall rule in judgment, and the work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteous-ness, quietness and assurance forever" (Isa. xxxii., 1, 17). There cannot be any-thing more important than that men should know the Lord and His ways, and when kings and princes take up this as ther mission, the kingdom will either have come or be very near. Just now our Govern-ment has given \$50,000,000 for defense, for the purchase or manufacture of warships

ment has given \$50,000,000 for defense, for the purchase or manufacture of warships or war material, but was it ever heard that any Government ever gave even \$1,000,000 to make known the living God? 8. "And with them Levites and priests." The priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of Hosts (Mal. ii., 7). Their calling is simply set forth in H Chron. xxix., 11, in these words, "My sons, be not now negligent, for the Lord hath chosen you to stand be fore Him to serve Him and that ye should minister unto Him and burn incense." Priests, prophets and kings were to recog-nize God alone as their Master and live only unto Him.

nize God alone as their Master and live only unto Him.

9. "And they taught in Judah and had the book of the law of the Lord with them and went about throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people." There is nothing on earth so heavenly as the Word of God. It is all "true from the beginning" and "forever settled in heaven" [Ps. cxix., 89, 160). We are to receive it meekly, hold of God. It is an "true from the beginning." and "forever settled in heaven" (Ps. cxix., 89,160). We are to receive it meekly, hold it fast, rightly divide it and hold it forth, for it is an engrafted word, a faithful word, a word of truth and a word of life (Jas. i., 21; Titus I., 9; II Tim. ii., 15, Phil. ii., 16). If all ministers and teachers taught only the Word of God and honored it as the Word of God, how much more would be accomplished for God! But when those who profess to be its friends dishonor and even set aside many portions of it what shall we say? Just this, "Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven."

10. "And the fear of the Lord fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah." There was no war. Other nations brought presents and tribute, and Jehosaphat waxed great exceedingly (verses 11, 12). The remaining verses of the chapter tell that his army was 1,160,000, but the very next chapter tells of his downfall. Uzziah was marvelously helped till he was strong, but his strength was his weakness and the cause of his fall (II Chron. xxvi., 15, 16). Our only strength is in the Lord. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.—Lesson Helper.

At the recent general election in Sydney, New South Wales, flour was the favorite missile of the Sydney, rowds, and Mr. Reid, the Premier, was the favorite target: He deftly turned this popular preference into a political argument for his side of the campaign. After three bags of thour had exploded on various parts of his body at a huge open-air meeting he exclaimed: "See how plentiful flour is under my regime. Anyone can afford to throw it about. This is a new departure in politics here. Hitherto flour could not be spared for this particular purpose."

Nearly a million persons make their iving in this country by the electric

GENERAL SHAFTER'S JOKE. How He Gave an Exhibition of His Un-

erring Marksmanship.
Colonel Thomas H. Barry, adjutantgeneral to Major-General Otis, before leaving for Manila told a good story of Major-General Shafter's shooting in the days when he was a colonel on the Mexican border. A day before he took ship for the Philippines Barry, with Brigadier-General Hughes and a Chronicle representative, discussing Shafter's gallantry before Santiago,

"I was Shafter's aide three years ago when we both were brouzing under the hottest sun that shines in these states. Shafter was known as the best shot not only in his regiment, but in the whole country about. One day an officer from another regiment, not acquainted with Shafter's ability in this line, visited the post and soon made it apparent to us that he esteemed himself about as expert a marksman as ever pulled a trigger. We secretly laughed at his opinion of himself, and whispered to each other, 'Just wait till Pecos Bill gets after

"Well, his time came. One morning Shafter and I started out to ride forty miles or more to another post, and the visitor asked to be allowed to accompany us. We trotted along easily until about noon, when we halted to eat our luncheon, which we packed with us. At that time officers carried short carbines on such service, and I had one strapped to my saddle. The conversation drifted from the topography of the country to marksmanship, and the officer—call him Smith—said: 'Say, colonel, have you got any shots in your regiment?'

"Shafter smiled and replied: 'Have I'w Marks and the said of the s

"Shafter smiled and replied: Have I? Why, I've got some men that can discount the sharpshooter's you read about. Officers, too. I'm not much myself, but when you get back to the fort I'll tell a few of the good ones to show you a thing or two.

"Just then an antelope sprang up a "Just then an antelope sprang up a quarter of a mile away, and all seeing it at the same moment reached for their carbines. Shafter was quickest, and in a second adjusted the sights to 600 feet and blazed away. Down came Mr. Antelope, and when we rode up to where he lay we found a bullet hole over his heart.

"Smith examined the wound, looked over the exhibite and then muttered."

over the carbine, and then muttered, half aside, 'Not bad. You say you're no' in it with other officers in your

no' in it with other officers in your regiment, colonel?

"'No,' said Shafter, 'I'm a hamed of myself alongside of them.'

"'A couple of hours later another antelope appeared, but farther away. Smith fidgeted a moment and then said eagerly, 'Colonel, may I go after him?' him?

him?'
"'Pshaw. You wouldn't chase bim on horseback at that distance,' exclaimed Shafter, seizing the weapon and levelling it as he spoke. 'I'll put lead in his head.'
"'He fired and we saw the almful bound away. Smith was closed.

"He fired and we saw the annual bound away. Smith was gleeful. 'A little high, colonel,' he shouted as we galloped on. Reaching the place where the game had been, we were on a high rising piece of ground, and, looking down fifty feet, Shafter pointed to a dark object and said outerly. 'I

to a dark object and said quiefly. I guess I got the head. "Since enough, the antelope was lying dead, with a bullet hole through his left ear. Smith looked as dis-gusted as any man I ever saw. "And the officers are better?" he

queried.

Shafter's eyes twinkled. 'Lient. Snith,' he replied, with assumed sternness, I want you to say nothing of this at the post. I ought to have hit him in the eye, and I feel ashamed

of my poor aim."
"Smith, who had no sense of humor,
was du ntoun led. For years after
he spread the fame of Colonel Shafter

A Railroad's Thoughtfulness

Commuters on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad in New Jersey are inclined to challenge a new regulation which has just been en-forced on the ground that it smacks of paternalism. As each brakeman calls a station, as, for instance, Hackensack, he does it in this fashion: "Hackensack! Don't f-o-r-g-e-t your b-u-n-d-l-e-s." Occasional passengers find these calls very amusing and as each station is announced they grin at the brakeman, who doesn't enjoy the new regulation, and then look around to see the commuters pick up their bundles. Undoubtedly this new regu-lation was suggested by the number of bundles which commuters left behind them in the cars and then bothered the railroal company to look up for them. "I object to this regulation," said one of the commuters. "If the railroads are going into this business, the first thing we will know the brekemen will earl out." Hardwareak t brakeman will call out: 'Hackensack! Have you forgotten to mail your wife's letter?' or perhaps it will be 'Montletter? or perhaps it will be 'Mont-clair! Remember to stop at the butch-er's.' I invited a friend to come out and spend the night with me a short time ago, and he began to laugh when the first station was announced. As station after station was reached and the brakeman sung out monotonously at each: 'Don't forget your bundles,' his merriment increased. He would talk about nothing else at dinner, and when he said good night to us he added: 'Don't forget your bundles,' It's kind of the railroad, of course, but I don't like it."

Vesuvius' Output of Lava Lava streams that have flowe lout of

Vesuvius during the last three years have deposited 105,000,000 cubic metres of lava on the sides of the mountain. A cone of lava 330 feet high has been formed, out of which fresh streams are flowing. The valleys on either side of the obs rvatory peak have been completely filled up.