

BULGARIA.

A GLANCE AT ITS HISTORY, CUSTOMS AND PEOPLE.

Its Inhabitants of a Mixed Description—Victims of Despotism—Their Home Life—Some Odd Habits.

BULGARIA, a principality of the Danube, has again compelled the serious attention of the European Powers by a series of dramatic spectacles, beginning with the tragic death of Major Panitza and culminating in the very recent sacrifice of M. Stambouloff, ex-Premier of the Government, at the hands of a mob.

Bulgaria is a political division of European Turkey, which stretches along the right bank of the Danube from the influx of the Timok to its mouth. On the east it is washed by the Black Sea and on the west it is contiguous to Serbia. It is not in Bulgaria that the Bulgars are most numerous found. These people are scattered from the Danube to the Black Sea, thence to Eastern Albania. The Turkish Empire contains 4,000,000; Servia, 100,000; the Bulgarian colony in Bessarabia numbers 70,000, 9000 are located in Bolgrad, on Lake Yalpak.

The divisions of Bulgaria are called "Sandjaks." They are Rustchuk, Nisia, Widdin, Tirnova, Sofia, the capital, Vanna and Tulcha. The population is of the most mixed description, consisting of native Bulgarians, Osmanli Turks, Tartars, Circassians, Albanians, Romanians, gypsies, Jews, Armenians, Russians, Greeks, Servians, Germans and Italians, with a few Arabs.

The Bulgarians do not appear in history until the year 1218 B. C. Then a band of them went to Armenia to escape persecution and settled on the banks of the Araxes. They are of Finnish origin, and have the high cheek bones, thin hair and other personal characteristics of that people. Like the unfortunate Armenians, the Bulgarians have been the victims of despotic masters from the early history of the Nation until within the past ten years, when peace and prosperity began to take the place of

good citizens. He is at heart a patriot, but if his own country offends and dishonors him he will turn his loyalty in the direction of the country of his adoption. Panitza was shot to death as a traitor—although the Prince would not give his consent, until told the affair would be conducted to its



BULGARIAN PEASANTS.

tragic issue without him—and died shouting "Long live Bulgaria!" The women of Bulgaria are models of domestic simplicity, and not devotees of either art or literature. They dress well in picturesque clothes and brilliant colors. Those who have had the advantage of travel dress in English style. But the husbands are still dominated by Mohammedan ideas of woman, and even the lady in Bulgaria does not assert herself by setting up views of her own.

As a hostess the Bulgarian housekeeper is a distinct failure, except in diplomatic circles, where entertaining a guest becomes a political feature. The ordinary dwelling-house is usually a one-story building with a basement, and if the guest desires to make his ablutions he is conducted to the courtyard, where a fountain furnishes the water, and the hostess presides with towels. As in all Eastern countries, the water is poured over his hands by

Bulgarian bride signalizes her wedding day by taking a bath for the first time in her life. In their dances the young men dance with each other, and the maidens dance together. When a Bulgarian youth wants a wife he intimates the fact by a broad band crossed above the knee—the right one. Their dress is rich and attractive in its colors and embroideries. They appear to greater advantage in the National costume than in the European dress coat and polished boots, which they adopt with a little education.

Fifteen Years Old, But a Giant.

Jamaica, Long Island, boasts of what is believed to be the largest boy for his years in the United States. He is William Ludlum White, only son of Arthur M. White, one of the Village Trustees.

William will be fifteen years in October, and he is six feet three inches in height and weighs 262 pounds. His size and weight have at times caused him considerable trouble. When he was attending school with boys of his own age, his gigantic stature subjected him to much ridicule, but he is a good natured fellow and pays no attention to it now.

William, when eleven years old, was just as tall as he is now. His father, when riding with him on a horse car, always offered the conductor half fare to pay for his son's transportation. If the conductor did not know Mr. White he would always object. Mr. White would only point to the rules, which said that three cents would be charged for children under twelve years, and so he managed to get the best of the railroad company.

Mr. White has three other children, but they are only of average size and weight. The father weighs 195 pounds, and is five feet eleven inches in height. His wife is tall and slender.—New York Times.

A Dog's Bone Grafted on a Man.

A young man had both bones of his forearm shot away in Yuma, Arizona, and after the wound was dressed one sloughed away, which necessitated a second operation—that of bone grafting. The bone of a dog was selected for the purpose, and the treatment was entirely successful.

A CHECKER CHAMPION.

Remarkable Career of James Wylie, of Scotland.

The most famous checker-player in the world is James Wylie, a Scotchman, now in his seventy-sixth year, who has been playing for "a shullen a game, yo ken," nearly sixty years, and is still able to beat almost everybody. He was famous as a player in Scotland when he was only a boy, and was first called the "Herd Laddie."

Wylie was born in the Pierce Hill Barracks, near Edinburgh, in March,



JAMES WYLIE.

1829, his father being at the time a Sergeant-Major in the Scots Greys. He was apprenticed to a weaver in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, when a mere boy, but his remarkable ability in draughts was recognized in time to prevent him from learning the weaver's trade. When he was fifteen years old he had beaten everybody who could be induced to play the game with him in Kilmarnock. His fame was increased by a number of matches with Professor Andrew Anderson, Robert Martin and other celebrated players, who first defeated him and then were beaten by him.

For many years Wylie went about the country peddling watches as a regular business and playing checkers for money against all comers. For more than twenty years he has been traveling about the world, charging a "shullen" for every game played with him, and occasionally contesting matches for stakes, which he usually has won. He came to this country in 1873 and played over 11,000 games of checkers, of which he lost less than fifty. In 1881 he again visited America, and won 17,654 out of 19,517 games, drawing 1754 and losing only 109. As he charged Americans twenty-five cents a game for the privilege of playing with him, he must have earned a fair income.

Wylie claimed the title of "champion draughts player of the world" until last year, when he was beaten by James Ferrie, a much younger Scotch player, in a match of ninety games, of which Ferrie won thirteen and Wylie six, the remaining games being drawn. After the match the old man said despairingly, "I doot I'm too auld for draughts," but since then he has played thousands of games, and has made remarkable scores in many places in Scotland.

How Many Eggs Had She in the Basket?
Some mighty intellects in Germantown are now wrestling with the following problem: A woman took a basket of eggs to the city for sale. Upon being asked how many she had, she replied: "If I take the eggs out of the basket, two at a time, I have one egg left. If I take them out three at a time I have one egg left. If I take them out four at a time I have one left. If I take them out five at a time I have one left. If I take them out six at a time I have one egg left, but if I take them out seven at a time I have none left in the basket." How many eggs had she in the basket?—Philadelphia Record.

Christian workers of towns and villages at which the train makes any extended stop that the rescue car is coming.

A portable organ is in the car, and when the train comes to a standstill it will be pushed out upon the rear platform and brought into use by a sweet-voiced male singer.
Mr. Crittenton's companions are J. Carpenter, of Jersey City; Mr. Goff, the former owner of the car, and his

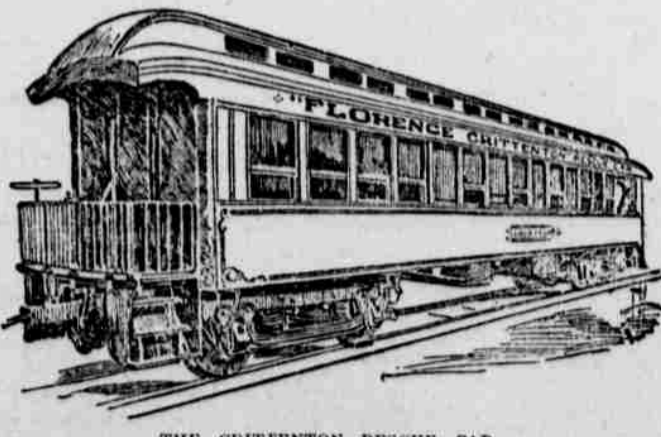
Curves of Least Resistance.

A novel method of determining the curves of least resistance in water and air was recently employed at Newport News, and was described in the American Engineer by M. Monlton, S. E. The idea was to make the water and air themselves shape the model, and accordingly rectangular blocks of ice were towed in the water, and the alterations in their shape and in the pull necessary to keep them moving at a certain speed carefully noted. The method proved quite successful, and the experiments will be continued until complete data are obtained. Wax was the material used for the models moving in air, and the air currents were heated sufficiently to gradually melt the wax.

THE "RESCUE CAR."

It is Making a Missionary Tour of the United States.

Charles N. Crittenton, a rich New York merchant, is making a missionary tour of the United States. The trip will last eighteen months. Mr. Crittenton and his party are traveling in a private car called "Good News." Until Mr. Crittenton bought it be-



THE CRITTENTON RESCUE CAR.

longed to E. F. Goff, a Buffalo lawyer, a convert, who left the law and became an evangelist, using the car as a traveling chapel.

Mr. Crittenton has had the car fitted up afresh. On each side runs the line "Florence Crittenton Rescue Car." It has sleeping accommodations for fourteen, a dining room and a kitchen. At every point on the journey where the train schedule calls for a wait of fifteen minutes a service of song and exhortation is conducted from the platform. Notice will be sent to the

son, and several Christian workers from Chicago. The route will take in the principal towns between Chicago and St. Louis, and St. Louis and Denver; the extreme Northwest as far as Portland, Oregon; then California, the Southern States, and the Atlantic Coast States to New York City.
The car will be at some places from three to ten days. Union meetings in halls or churches will be arranged in every city and town in which the car remains over night, and services for railroad men will also be held.

Southwestern Dust Storms.

The dust storms of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona—the whole desert section in whatever State—are important factors in the chances for comfort and success of the new settler.

The signs of a coming dust storm are many. The air is electric, a feather will cling to the fingers, the sky is oftentimes gray and streaked, the children in the schools, even the primaries, are nervous. Suddenly the bits of paper in the street begin to whirl; soon you will see the dust coming like a rolling storm cloud; the sky is obscured; everything out of doors is "on the fly;" the slim branches of the scant cottonwoods slash the air, and if you are unfortunate enough to be out of doors, your eyes, nose and mouth will be filled with alkali dust, while you are striving to make headway against a whirlwind. If you are under cover, you will hasten to drop windows and shades; but the dust is so fine it will penetrate whatever air can. The pattern of the carpet may be obliterated, and in some of the worst ones in New Mexico an eye witness has said that drifts have been formed on the floor from one to two inches in depth.

"How long does a storm last?" Sometimes an hour, sometimes three days—coming with great violence at intervals. We have known one that continued a week, with the exception of one day for a respite. The effect upon a nervous temperament is distressing; there is a desire to hide the head like an ostrich; to creep into some hole, to cover the face so as not to see the wild turmoil of whirling things. The irritability is so great with some persons as to culminate in fits of weeping. This is followed by exhaustion.

It is not improbable that sand storms had an influence in the building of the "dell dwellings."

A dust storm may occur at any time of the year, but the spring is especially prolific. When the "kaamin," the wind from the desert, "blows in," by its summer or winter, the worst kind of a storm may ride on its wings. The huge, cone-shaped mounds of oxidized structure, which stretch for miles here and there on the plains, testify to the whirling winds that over a thousand leagues of desert have laid their mad sweep for centuries.

By some, dust storms are considered scavengers. Some think the air seems purer just after one, and so it does, on the principle that the tools feel better when it has done its duty. Some think them healthful, as dry earth is a disinfectant, but the injury to the throat and to the nerves, and the disastrous effect on vegetation seem to overbalance this consideration.—Hartford Times.

Bogus Visiting Cards.

Few of my readers have any idea of the large trade that is carried on in Europe and especially in London in bogus visiting cards. I hear that Lord Danbigh, passing in front of the windows of one of the big stationers in the west end of London, happened to see a visiting card bearing his name and title exhibited as a sample of the firm's work.

Thoroughly aware that he had never had any cards engraved at that shop, and anxious to know what possible object the man could have in printing such elaborate copper-plate specimens, he entered the store and without mentioning his name, inquired of the shopkeeper whether Lord Danbigh was one of his customers.
Quite frankly the stationer informed the peer that he had never had any communication with Lord Danbigh in his life, but that the card in question was engraved by the firm along with those of a number of other peers and prominent persons in response to a popular demand on the part of the people who bought them solely for the purpose of putting them in their card-baskets and salvers with the object of conveying the impression that the people whose names were on the pasteboards were visitors at their houses.—Chicago Record.

Growth of the Paper-Making Industry.

None of the great industries of the country has shown a more remarkable growth than that of paper-making. In 1855 the total daily capacity of all the paper mills of the country was 6,869,380 pounds, while in 1895 it is placed at the enormous figure of 11,102,580 pounds. The largest factor in causing this tremendous growth was the development of processes for making chemical fibre and wood pulp, enabling the substitution of these materials for rags, with a consequent large reduction in the cost of making paper. It is estimated that if the use of wood pulp should continue to increase at the rate of growth maintained in the last fifteen years, five years hence the consumption of spruce wood for this purpose will equal the present use of spruce logs for lumber in all New England and New York. The growth of paper-making is one of the most significant facts in the industrial progress of the time.—Buffalo Commercial.

A Peculiar Malady.

According to the Gartnerian, an especially painful inflammation is caused by hairs of caterpillars entering the eye—an event not as rare as might be supposed. The inflammation is always of long duration, and often seriously impairs sight permanently. Within a few years, in one dispensary at Bonn, six cases of this peculiar malady were treated. As is well known, some species of caterpillars use their hairs as a means of defence, firing them off at will. Cases are on record, however, where caterpillars have entered an eye when either they were thrown into faces in mischievous

FORTY THOUSAND STRONG.

ONTO LOUISVILLE.

Chaplain-in-Chief, Hagerly Again Calls Attention to the Encampment.

To comrades of the G. A. R. who are thinking of marching on to Louisville in September, the phrase "On to Louisville" will sound familiar, in form, if not in name, as the cry was "On to Richmond." How changed the scenes since those days. Then, the march was accompanied by huge siege-guns, long lines of military stores and men clad in implements of warfare to the teeth. Destruction was in that path, and bleeding forms and burning cities in the front. Now, the march is made up of peaceful men, clothed in smiles and good will in every look and gesture. No instruments of death are to be found in the long procession. No purposes but those of friendship and amity are breathed by any one of the thousands on the march.

These men go to meet friends of former years, and form the acquaintance of those against whom they went to measure swords on the bloody field of war. In the path of these marching thousands only hope swells the heart of the gathering throngs, and little children, young men and maidens, old men and matrons cluster around and bid them a hearty "God bless you."

The old G. A. R.'s do not go down there to boast over the other fellows, but to show them that we are as anxious to meet and greet them now as we were to meet and whip them then. It was not that we hated them in the sixties, but that we loved our country, whose flag had been torn down and our honor is treated in the dust, that no nation of men ever were able to do before. We have invited us to come and see them, and we are going, more than 40,000 strong! We will march through the peaceful streets and carry the flag of Bunker Hill and Appomattox; the thousands of spectators lining the sidewalks and windows will thank God for the victories of the war that brought around a happy result. We expect that Louisville will be as proud of our presence as other cities have been in years gone by. While the National Encampment is in session, we have been noted for their large gatherings of old veterans and citizens, yet they have been noted for their order and good decorum manifested on march, in home, or on the street.

We surely ever heard of an old soldier being arrested on the march. As it can not be said of all bodies of men, if reports be correct. Every comrade of the war will be on his good behavior now as we go to Louisville, and cause these men to have another witness of our good soldierly bearing, from the manner we conduct ourselves when off duty. We expect to share largely in the gifts of the good people of Louisville and of the hospitable South.

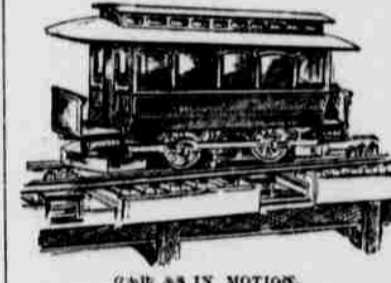
We expect to enjoy their homes, sights of their beautiful city and surrounding country, their halls of art and marts of trade, houses of commerce, places of entertainment and pleasure, churches of worship, schools of thought, and all that is high and exalting. Of course, Louisville has no other places into which they would for a moment think of inviting an old veteran to go or even permit him to stray if he should get out of line. We must to cultivate friendship, enlarge acquaintanceships, know each other better, and part to remember our meeting at Louisville as long as we live with the greatest of pleasure. I am proud of being Chaplain of such a body of men, 365,000 strong, every one of whom is a man and deserves to have his name enrolled on the scroll of fame.

I not only kindly pray for these men, but also for the men on the other side, and thank God that they have shown themselves such noble men, to face about and so nobly help us build up our formerly distracted country. We hope and pray that "On to Louisville" may contribute very largely to the country, our country with such bonds of friendship that it will be ever impossible to disrupt it again. So let the column move forward, and all the assembled multitudes shout their loudest huzzas, and let the heavens re-echo the inspiring sound.—T. H. HAGERLY, Chaplain-in-Chief, St. Louis, Mo.

TROLLEY IS DOOMED.

New-Underground Plan of Propelling Electric Cars.

The new wheelless underground system of electrical propulsion, as applied to street railways and hauling for terminal freight, which has been introduced by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, is being watched with interest by the mechanical world. A perfect storage battery car has been the dream of electricians



GOES AS IN MOTION.

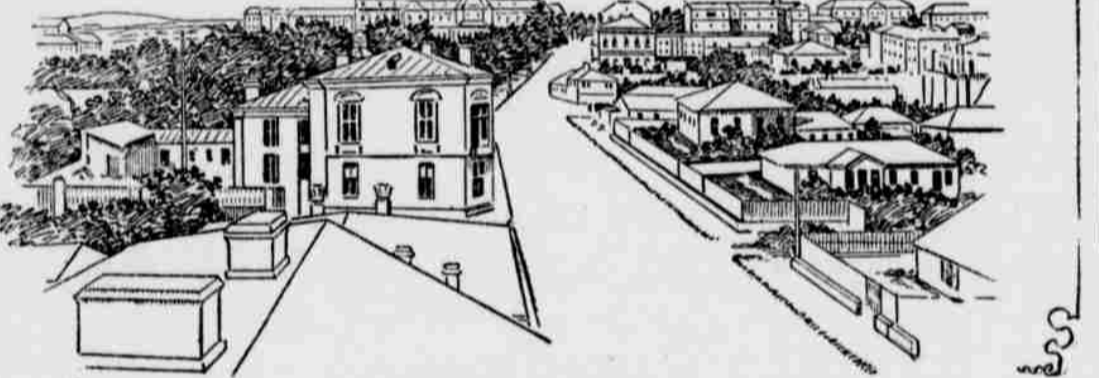
for years, and that is just what the Westinghouse Company professes to have made.

The Westinghouse system is certainly a novel one, but at a best which was made at the company's works, at Pittsburgh, Pa. It was considered highly satisfactory in every way. There were a number of practical men present at the time the test was made, and they expressed the opinion that the system was a good one. No unsightly stringing of wires overhead is required, and that is certainly something in its favor. Another is the comparatively small expense connected with the laying of tracks on any road on which it may be worked.

Instead of a deep excavation requiring to be made, as in the case of a road worked by cable or an underground electric road, a number of "studs" are inserted in the ground at certain distances along the track. Each stud is fitted with a "shoe" extending the entire length of the car bottom, and also with a small, but powerful storage battery. The battery supplies the electricity to the shoe, the shoe to the studs as it passes over them, and by this means the car is propelled forward or backward, as the motorist wishes. The studs are placed two abreast in the road or street, and no two sets of studs are further apart than the length of a car. These studs are perfectly harmless until the shoe touches them; then they receive the full force of the generated current from the shoe.

New Telephone Appliance.

A small electric lamp is being used instead of a bell in some telephone exchanges in England. The call for connection lights the lamp.



SOFIA, THE CAPITAL OF BULGARIA.

turbulence and oppression. Russia withdrew from its political affairs, at least ostensibly, and the reign of Prince Ferdinand, its present ruler, brought commercial activity as well as social tranquility.

After many years of discouragement and much bloodshed, it could not be expected that all the arts and industries would be in a flourishing condition. Good schools have been established; Prince Ferdinand, himself an accomplished scholar, insisted upon having his subjects educated, and did not approve of sending them to Russia or Roumania, as formerly, to imbibe with their learning alien principles. Results of the new school system must be foreshadowed yet. Among the peasants the same disadvantages exist that their forefathers encountered, but it is due to their own obstinacy in clinging to old beliefs and burying their money and their corn, with no confidence in new methods. They

an attendant, he splashes a little of it on his face, and receives from his hostess the towel which she has patiently held until this moment. They have an almost Moslem dislike of soap and water.

Nothing can be more delightful to the eye of an artist or an admirer of the picturesque than the exterior of a Bulgarian village, in its natural setting of ruddy plum trees. A winding path leads to every house, and lovers steal in and out in pairs like turtle doves. One is impressed with the feeling that the villagers and the villages themselves are in hiding; even the dogs bark with muffled fury. The scenes of the past furnish a sad commentary on this feature of isolation. It began when an enemy lurked in every bush, at every door.

Bulgaria has an army of some 90,000 trained soldiers, but it is believed that if necessary, 175,000 could be raised at a bugle call. This does not mean that every man is a soldier, but these people possess, in a large degree, the traits that make good soldiers. They are less passionate than the fighters of other countries but more amenable to discipline, and they fight for a principle and not for glory or revenue. One of the grudges held against M. Stambouloff was his taking a commission of 330,000 francs on the purchase from Austria of 70,000 Mannlicher rifles. It was intimated that he should have given the Government the money.

It is said that in all the country there are not five millionaires, nor fifty who can estimate their wealth over \$100,000. On the other hand, nearly all the people have small incomes, derived from estates left to them, or acquisitions of their own, so that they seldom need assistance, thus reducing pauperism to a minimum.

A Bulgarian fisherman is one of the attractive features of the Danube. He combines two professions, that of fisherman and basket weaver. When he camps beside the beautiful blue Danube, he builds a roof of branches to shelter him from the sun, and to sleep under at night, and as he watches his fish, he weaves baskets of twigs and osiers or other material which he prepares himself, and takes them with him to Widdin, where he goes to sell his fish. There being only one basket factory in Bulgaria, he makes good sales.

The religion of the country is the same as that of Russia, the ceremonies of the Greek Church being intermingled with old Slavonic superstitions. There are 183 feast days, and nearly as many more fast days. Picnics are held in graveyards, so that the dead may participate in spirit. A



PRINCE FERDINAND.

even pointed to their former Premier, Stambouloff, a man who had reached his high position after three years of schooling at Odessa, as ample proof of his great force of character, but of the sufficiency of his education.

The Bulgarian temperament is childlike in its simplicity. The experience of centuries draws about him to make him unresponsive to the stranger whose word has been so often forfeited, and he looks askance at the hand which may be that of an enemy disguised as a friend, but in his nature are all the gifts that make good soldiers and