STATES AND THE PARTY OF

Great Britain and France Hurrying Construction of Them.

West Africa is entering on an era of railway enterprise which will have an important bearing on the political and commercial future of that part of the Dark continent. In the British protectorate of Sierra Leone a line is under construction into the interior from Freetown, which will open up a fertile country; and in the Gold Coast colony another has already been built from the coast of the Tarkwa gold fields and is being prolonged to Koo-massie, the capital of the former kingdom of Ashanti. Owing to its military importance a railway has been carried at considerable cost from Lagos, in the colony of Lagos, through to Ibadan, with a branch line to the famous Yoruba city of Abbeecuta with its 150,000 inhabitants; from Ibadan the line will be carried on, within a short period, to Horin, and from there to some point, probably Rabah, on the Niger; and it is intended to construct a railway as early as possible from the terminus of the Lagos line on the Niger to Kane, the capital of North-ern Nigeria, toward Lake Techad. In into the interior from the coast, railway several hundred miles

the French West African colonies rail ways are being energetically pushed length already unites St. Louis on the Senegal with the Upper Niger, and another is about to be undertaken from Kanakry, on the coast a short distance north of the Sierra Leone protectorate, through the Fouta Djallon gold fields to the Upper Niger. The most important line, however, is that which has been begun in Dawill run due north from Porto Novo to Lay, on the Niger, par-allel with and only a few miles to the east of the meridian of Paris. Ultithese three lines prolonged will meet the projected Trans-Sa-haran line from Algeria, and so give to the French the commercial and military control of their immense West domain, from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic on the west, and Bight of Benin on the south.

The Chirkan Scherif, or Hall of the Holy Garment, is the most sacred place in Turkey, for it shelters the mantle of the Prophet Mohammed. his staff, his saber, his standard, and, among other relics, two hairs from his venerable beard, which are en

SURGICAL OPERATIONS

How Mrs. Bruce, a Noted Opera Singer, Escaped an Operation. Proof That Many Operations for Ovarian Troubles are Unnecessary.

" DEAR MRS. PINKHAM: -Travelling for years on the road, with irregular meals and sleep and damp beds, broke down my health so completely two years ago that the physician advised a complete rest, and when I had gained



MRS. G. BRUCE. ouflicient vitality, an operation for ovarian troubles. Not a very cheerful Vegetable Compound and San-ative Wash; I did so, fortunately for me. Before a month had passed I felt that my general health had im-proved; in three months more I was cured, and I have been in perfect health since. I did not lose an engagement or miss a meal.

subject can be secured without The pony stood perfectly still, and cost by writing to Mrs Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be entirely confider dal.





COLD CORD to Per Share

CHILDREN COLUMN 000000

When Jessie was a lie girl, From six to eleveray, She used to wait implently Far every holiday.

The Difence.

Her birthdays, too, ty came so slow— It was so long betwn— That when she was titen, she thought She might have besixteen.

But now that she is trty odd, And none has come woo.

Her birthdays are so bse, she thinks,
That one in three pht do.

The first ink usedby the ancients was probably some cort of soot or lampblack rendered aid with water. An ink of thisort is less flowing than our modernink, and not so well adapted to rap writing, but it had the great advarage of being a solid body of an anterable color. This advantage appear in manuscripts dug up at Herculaeum, which, although burned to aperfect charcoal and buried for nearly 8 centuries, are still legible. The in remains as if embossed upon the erface, and appears blacker than to burned paper,

The reed, which we the first pen in use, was a sort of hilrush, growing in many parts of the ast. These reeds were cut in the mann'r of a quill, and are still used by native who write the Arabic character. Nations who have adopted the Chinese character use a camel's hair penell, witch is held perpendicularly in the hind. This would seem little adapted fir rapid writing, yet the Chinese write their complicated characters by meirs of these implements with a rapidity seldom equaled by European writers.

The quill appears to have been first in use about the year 50c. The word 'penna," meaning a quill, is not found in any work older than that period Previous to that we find usually the word "calamus," a reed. The quil has an advantage over the reed in being finer and more durable, the same outill often serving for weeks or even months. Some ancient writer used the same pen for 40 years, and then, losing it by accident, bewaited his lose bitterly. It is said that the transletor Pliny completed that work with a single pen, and celebrated his achievement in this verse:

With one sole pen I wrote this book, Made of a gray goose quill;

A pen it was when I it took; A pen I leave it still.-Brooklyn Eagle.

Bravery of a Mother Gronze.

When first I came to the territory of Washington the desire to explore the mountains to the west of my home near Valley grew upon me, and at the first opportunity, taking ponies and blankets, and accompanied by my eldest son, a lad of 17, I set out on a four days' trip into the new wonderland. The summit of the range was reached or the second day, at a point entirely out of the line of travel of either Indians or whites, and when almost at the summit, just as we were passing a clump of bushes, on June 6, 1884, we ran into a brood of little ruffed

My boy was riding in front a couple of rods in advance, and the first move of the mother bird seemed to be to hustle her bables away from his horse's feet, and just as he rode past she rose in the air and flew directly toward me. I pulled up my pony instantly, and as I sat still she flew straight for my head, rising just lvised to try Lydin E. Pinkham's above it as she came, and suddenly the boy cried out, "She is going to alight

on your head." It was true and to the day of my death I shall regret that the unexpected sound of the fluttering of her owings as she settled towards my head for an instant started me from my compos-"Your Vegetable Compound is certainly wonderful, and well worthy the praise your admiring friends who have been cured are ready to give you. I always speak highly of it, and you will admit I have good reason to do so."—Mrs. G. Bruck, Lansing, Mich. \$5000 forfett if above testimonial is not genuine. The fullest counsel on this rump of the tired pony under me. slowly-very slowly-I turned my head and looked at her. Beginning in a very low tone and gradually raising my voice. I talked to her and to my boy about her for a minute or two before she fluttered away in search of her

> Telling her what a graceful little beauty she was, and how we had no thought of burting either her or her babies, I cajoled her into listening for quite a time, and though ! am well persuaded that she had noter before contended seen either man or horse. nd simple fly in the that it was courage-pure -which prompted her to face of so formidable an at paration in defense of her little ones.- Correspondent Forest and Stream,

Raindrop's Own Ste We are all little raindrop frolicking

up in a cloud. I never knew how we got there until my mother told me. Of course, there isn't anything else to say about it, except that we were drawn up in vapor to this cloud. But I can tell you what happened to me after that, and make it a good long

As I say, we were all frolicking around, and pretty seen we heard a great crash, and we were of falling to the ground, even mother at er me. We saw our old home, the claud leaving

We came down in this w and in the morning we lan mud (my mother and 1). soaked into the dirt and a till spring. Then we ca up out of the ground a

down a little stream, kissing flowers and giving drinks to poor, thirsty grass. Many weeks passed in this way, until at last we entered a large river, all filthy with sticks and gravel and tin cans and iron hoops.

I ventured to ask my mother what place this was, and she answered: This is the Illinois river, my child; do you think it is dirty?" I told her I thought it was indeed, and that I hoped we would soon be out of it. more than four inches, lust then we whirled around a corner and my wish was granted; we were in the Mississippi, and, though it wasn't any cleaner than the other, I was proud to be in such a grand river. Just now we happened to be in a "boat whirled around and thrown up in foam but what cared I so long as we were in the grand Mississippi?

It took us days and months before we were out of the grand river, I seeing many things that I never would have dreamed of up in the clouds. Once | reaped, we were thrown up onto the deck of a ship, and were swept off by a man with ribbons on his hat, which my mother said was a sailor.

At last we were emptied into the Gulf of Mexico. Here I thought I should die with the waves. They rulled everything, and tossed mother and myself around carclessly. At last we were in a rougher place; the waves were awful there. They tossed us up against the ships cabin holes and back again. My mother said it was the Atlantic ocean.

Just as she said this, to our great loy we were taken from the awful Atlantic ocean up into our own old cloud and we found all our old friends back again before us.-Donald S. McKay, (age 9), in New York Mail and Ex-

The Homesick Toys,

Were you ever homsick or lonesome? If so, then you know how little Hans Little Hans is the Dutch doll who lives in the Brown nursery. And he was so homesick and lonesome one day last autumn that he felt as if he would have to cry out aloud presently if he wasn't a talking doll. The Swiss music box was lonesome

and homesick too. All day long-it was a rainy day and they couldn't get out doors-the children had been making the music box play very loudlyand, "Home Sweet Home," of all airs. You may think it, but it's really very trying to play "Home, Sweet Home when you're over a thousand miles away from home and there's a big, tossing, storming ocean rolling between you and the place you were born in. The music bor played so dolefully at last that the calldren grew tired of it. Besides, it had stopped raining and they had rushed out into the garden to run up and down the sidewalk and play racing.

Then the Dutch doil felt he could bear it no longer.

He couldn't ery aloud, although he longed and tried to, because he wasn't a talkink doll, but wooden tears stood in the corner of his eyes, and would have rolled down his cheeks only that they were wooden.

The round, shinning glass eye of the music box looked over in his direction suddenly, and although the eye was misty with tears, too-for the music box also feit that it was dreadful to be lonely and sorrowful-it could see that the Dutch doll felt wretched.

"Cheer up, Dutchy, cheer up!" it called softly.

Now, there's nothing in the world so good for troubles as to try to help someone else, as we all know, and the very minute the music box had spoken it felt better.

"I'll try to. I am trying," he made answer, "but," and here the wooden tears began to tremble again, "I do line with the water line on the other with the acquisition of Formosa, and feel so lonely and miserable."

ly, and there was a shake in its voice and if, as has been suggested, the that hadn't been put there intention- ground on your side of the river be tral Asia which she still holds. The ally, "but we might as well make the flat you may "lay off" a corresponding Chinese are great colonizers along the best of matters i suppose. Just think! | distance on it. To do this you have If we were at home we'd be quite com- only to held your head perfectly monplace and of little value, but here -why, they won't let the children play your hat brim, supporting your chin countries. Slam, Persia, Afghanistan with you, only holidays, because you're with your hand, if necessary, and turn and Corea, which are counted among mabby. And they only let them do as | ward the river. Now take careful note | they like with me when they're sick or of where your hat brim cuts the level it's bad weather and they're shut up surface of the ground as you look in-doors.

"I wish they did play with me oftener." signed the Dutch doll. "It of the river—a distance that may read-wouldn't be so lonely to be played with lily be measured by stepping. It you as to be stood up here on the mantle."

'Let's wish they will come in to take us in to see poor sick little Barbara," said the music box bravely. And a few minutes later the wish

was made true. The nurse carried them into the sick room presently, and little Barbara almost cried she was so glad to see and hear them. And truly, they Jid their very best to please her.

Wooden Hans stood up so stiftly and then fell over in such a funny way. as often as she put him on his feet on the pillow or counterpane, that she laughed quiet merrily. And when she was tired, and enuggled down to rest, with the Dutch doll lovingly cuddled in her arms, the music box played its one tune, "Home, Sweet Home," so sweetly that the gentle music lulled the sick child to sicep.

And when the nurse carried the Dutch doll and the music box back to them felt homesick or lonesome. And -but you can think out what the experience taught them just as well as I can. Try it the next time you feel sad and lonesome and see,-Chicago Record-Herald.

Men who : de hobbies would not nearly so objectionable if they did not want all the road-to themselves.cheerfully Town and Country.

ECIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

By an ingenious method of measure. ments, the movements of the top of the Eiffel tower, when swayed by the wind, have been studied, and it has been discovered that the general effect of the wind is to make the top of the tower describe an eclipse. The maximum displacement during a wind blowing 71 miles an hour is slightly

Bananas are, as a rule, planted out systematically in rows, the "suckers" being placed at an average of ten feet apart. The banana plant bears only one bunch at a time, but it is a quick road," as I called it, and we were being grower, yielding its fruit in 12 to 14 months. When the plant is about six months old, a second "sucker" or shoot is allowed to spring from the root, a third after the ninth month and so on, so that after the first year there is a continuous crop being

When the model of the great extinct linosaur called the triceratops which was shown at the Buffalo exposition, was in process of making, consider able difficulty was anticipated in sus taining the huge armored skull in its proper position. But when the atwas made there was no difficulty. Then it was found that nature whose lines had been carefully followed in making the model, had so cunningly balanced the parts about the junction of the head with the neck that a single pin in the base of the skull sufficied to carry it.

Dr. A. A. Julien recently brought before the New York Academy of Sciences evidence to show that the ray ages wrought upon sea bluffs during great storms are often due to the wine as much as to the ocean waves, Sand and salt apray driven for hours before a violent wind act like a gigantic sand blast, cating away, with surprising rapility, the layers of gravel and sand of which many projecting headlands are composed. The surfaces of bodies exposed to such a wind are soon pitted. In a great gale in 1899 a single night sufficied to convert the window panes of the life saving station at Truro into ground glass,

The question, how far can light penetrate a layer of water, and what is the cause of the very various colors of the ocean, have been studied on several scientific voyages during the last ten years. Transparency varies with the color of the water (greatest for blue water), the sun's altitude (greatest for large altitudes), the season of the year (greatest in winter), with the salinity of the water, with the temperature (greatest for low temperatures). with the depth of the water (greates: for deep water), with the cloudiness of the sky (greatest for clear skies), with the disturbance of waves (greatest for calm seas), and so forth. The greatest transparency observed in the Eagean seas was 51 yards. Photographic plates were also exposed at various depths, to see how far the chemical rays of smilght penetrated. 51 experiments at depths varying from 350 to 1825 feet were made, and beyoud the latter depth, no action at all was observed.

The Width of a River.

It is necessary to make use only of the eyes and the brim of a hat to measure the width of any ordinary stream. or even of a good-sized tiver, and here is the way to do it:

Select a part of the river bank where the ground run back level, and, stand-The Dutch doll started and stopped | ing at the water's edge, Ix your eyes | an i purposes, is responsible for your hat down over your brow until the edge of the brim is exactly on a "I know," said the music box quiet- that may be used on any level surface, steady, after getting the angle with slowly around until your back is toover the latter, and from where you stand to that point will be the width are careful in all these details you can come within a few feet of the river's width.-Detroit Free Pressl

Delicacy of Smell. Very careful experiments have lately been made to test the delicacy of the sense of smell in the human beings. being so arranged that every solution was at half the strenght of the preceding one. These series were extendimpossible to detect the odors. The order of the bottles containing these to classify them by the sense of smell female observers were selected from was requested to arrange the bottles. The males were able to detect the smell the nursery, by and by, neither of of the nitrate of amyl in the solution females were able to detect it in the to cat the head. solution of one part of 311,600 of water. The oil of wintergreen was detected in about the same proportion and to the same extent of dilution. There was, therefore, a very great preponderance in favor of the males as to the sen sitiveness and discrimination of the sense of smell. This is certainly an fact.-The Gentleman's

LANDS WITHOUT COLONIES.

ngle Latin-American State II Acquired a Colony.

One of the most interesting facts that will occur to any one who examines a map of the colonial possessions of the world, is that, of all the Latin-American countries occupying about one-half of the Western World, none has acquired any lands outside of its continental domain except the little Republic of Ecuador. The Galapagos Islands, which form a little world apart far from the coast of South America, belong politically to Ecuador These 15 islands are really worth de veloping, though Ecuador has done scarcely anything for them except to occupy them in 1832. Their settled population, concentrated on Chatham Island, is now less than 300.

All the other Latin-American coun tries have had so much trouble at home that they apparently have not cared to acquire possible trouble abroad. At all events, their territorial ambition has been confined to the mainland, where most of them are still claiming more land than their neighbors concede to belong to them.

Argentina, to be sure, still asserts that the Faikland Islands belong to her by right, but Great Britain has never conceded the claim and is in full possession of the islands. The misunderstanding is still unsettled. and seems to have been pigeon-holed without any agreement. It is years since Argentina filed her last protest,

Chili maintains the most southern postoffice in the world at Punta Are There are settlements further south where mails have irregular distribution, but Punta Arenas is included in the postal system of the country of which it is a part. But this settlement on the Straits of Magellan is as much a part of Chili proper as Valparaiso. The time was when Chill, if she had been so disposed, might have acquired some of the Pacific groups, for they were open to the first comer, and Chili, being nearest to had considerable infinance them. among them. Even today the Chilian silver dollar is current two-thirds of the way across the ocean between Chili and Australia. It is found in Samoa and the Tonga group and barely misses the Fiji Islands. But Chill lost her chance. She has been absorbed by home boundary disputes to the exclusion of all the early opportunities to acquire Pacific Islands,

France, in fact, is now the only Latin country that may be called a colonial power of large importance. The Canary Islands are today the most valuable remnant remaining to Spain of her former vast colonial empire. Portugal's African possessions are large, but she is depending upon foreign capital and enterprise for most of their development, which is as yet very small in proportion to their great population and extent. Italy's territery on the east coast of Africa has been an expensive luxury and has involved her in the humiliation of being the first white power in Africa to be decisively defeated by a native

The European powers that have no colonies are the Kingdom of Sweden and Norway, which has long seacoasts but small population; Austria-Hungary, which has a very short seacoast but large population; Switzerland and Servia, which have no sea coasts, and all the other Balkan states except Turkey, some of the outlying parts of whose empire enable it to take rank among the colonial powers. All the Asiatic possessions of Russia bear the relation of colonies to the central government, Belgium, to all intents on the opposite bank. Now, move Congo state and may declare it a col-

ony when she chooses to do so. Japan entered the colonial arena side. This will give you a visual angle China would have stepped out of it by the loss of the same island if it had not been for possessions in Cencoasts of Asia and in the Malay Archipelago; but when they leave their native shores they have to go to foreign the independent countries of Asia, have no colonies.

The regions of the world that rank as colonies are far greater in extent than all the states that have no colonies; and some of the colonies such as Canada, Australia and India are of far more importance than most of the independent states that do not hold foreign possessions,-New York Sun,

Hedgehog and Viper. A resident of Versailles, Mr. Guignet, sent to Nature a vivid account of a duel he saw between a hedgehog and A series of solutions of five different a viper. The two enemies knew very substances was prepared, each series well at first sight who was who, and eyed each other as if they knew a moment's inattention would be fatal. The viper was the first to get tired of gazed by successive dilutions till it was ing and it began to glide away, but just then the hedgehog rushed for the viper's tail, and having nalied it fast solutions was completely disarranged with its teeth, it relied itself up. The and the test consisted in the attempt Phederhov was very careful, however, not to cut the tail off. The viper curled alone. An equal number of male and back, and delivered furious assaults on its aggressor, wrestling and rolling the best apothecaries, shops, and each with the curied-up hedgehog all over the place. At length the snake, wounded in a hundred places, died. The hedgehog began its repast on the of one part to 783,000 of water, and the tall of is victim, and was careful not

> Ringless Weddings. A welding without a ring seems in-congruous; but in Cadiz (Spain) no ring is used. After the ceremony the bridegroom moves the flower in his bride's hair from left to right, for in various parts of Spain to wear a rose above your ringht ear is to proclaim

are both in the Arctic ocean. Green land is unquestionably the largest-If Australia is counted as a cor and recent explorations of Baffin Greenland in extent.

Dyeing is as simple as washing when you use Puthan Fadeless Dyes. Sold by all druggists.

Owing to bad weather it is believed that there will be a great shortage in the world's supply of tea this year.

Ask Your Dealer For Allen's Foot-Ease. Ap worder. It rests the feet. Cures Corns. Bunions, Swollen, Sore, Hot, Callous, Aching, Sweating Feet and Ingrowing Nalis. Allen's Foot-Ease makes new or tight shoes easy. At all Druggists and Shoe stores, 25 cents. Acept no substitute. Sample mailed FARE...Address Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. X.

The domestic fowl is not mentioned in the Old Testament.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, soften the gums, reduces inflamma-tion, allays pain, cures wind colic. 23c. a bottle Japan has acquired the American din-

FITS permanently cured. No fits or norvous-ness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great KervelRestorer, \$2 trial bottle and treatiseftes Dr. E. H. Kline, Ltd., 331 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

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Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds,—N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Chinatown, San Francisco, has four dailles printed in its own language.

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Pure and rich blood carries new life to every part of the body. You are invigorated, refreshed. You feel anxious to be active. You become strong, steady, courageous. That's what Ayer's Sarsaparilla will do for you.

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Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsapartills. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and we will be satisfied.

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CUTICURA RESOLV-ENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated, 60 doses, 25c.), are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTI-CURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures. Each pill is equivalent to one teaspoonful of liquid RE-SOLVENT. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials, containing 60 doses, price, 25c. CUTICURA RESOLV-ENT PILLS are alterative, antiseptic, tonic, and digestive, and beyond question the purest, sweetest, most successful and economical blood and skin purifiers, humour cures, and tonic-digestives yet compounded.

Complete Treatment \$1

Complete external and internal treatment for every humour, consisting of CUTICURA SOAT, 25c., to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cut-icle; CUTICURA OINTMENT, 50c., to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal; and Curr-CURA RESOLVENT PILLS, 25c., to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, barning, and scaly skin, scalp, and blood humours, oczemas, rashes, and irritations with loss of hair, from infancy to age, when all else fails

Currows Remedies see sold throughout the wor'd. Bestish Densit St. A. Cherterhous So, London. Process Depts: Rue dels Pats. Parts. Porten Disco Ass. Colm., Sois Props. Burton, U. S. A.



It seems to be about settled that the two largest islands in the world Home Wome



There are women who devote home duties, many of whom know what it is to drag along day after day suffering intensely. The symptomy day after day suffering intensely. The symptomy waskness, disciness, excitability, beartoms are spinal weakness, dizziness, exciting down, all-gone feeling, and sodden for only safe and permanent cure for this is Vogeler's Curative Compound, which acts directly on the Stom-ach, Liver, Kidneys, and vital organs of the body. It removes all impurities from the blood. It imparts strength, vitality, and vigour in all cases from which

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A substitute for and superior to Austard or other plaster, and will not blistee the most delication. The pain allaying and curative qua illustrial and active and active and the active and active and the active and relieve bisadeche and activities.

We recommend it as the best and asiest extentionates of critical known, also as an external reformation to the cheet and sho much and all rune neuralgic and gouty complaints.

A trial will prove what we claim for it, be found to be invaluable in the househo people say "it is the best of all y are prepared; the continuation of the conti

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Six Million Dellars have just been invest factories. Four Million more will be investigation of the property o

ambition, and had no appetite with a very languid feeling at al On going to supper one evening my ing mistress recommended my to pans Tabules. She told me her with them, as well as that of other whom she had spoken about the Tabu I decided to make a trial and since I have been taking thom I feel like a new-mi man, and have none of my former complaints, taking a mer: deciled interest in my work and in life in general.

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