

The Cretan Turmoil.

The outbreak in Crete is in perfect logic with the whole situation. That it has not occurred before is a marvel. That such eruptions will keep recurring until Crete is either a separate principality under a ruler of its own or annexed to the Hellenic kingdom is the conviction of all unprejudiced observers familiar with the history of southeastern Europe. From time immemorial the Cretans have been a turbulent and indomitable race. As much as they have suffered at the hands of the Turk, their miseries have been less than those of other Mohammedan dependencies. They have retaliated with strokes of savage vengeance and inspired a wholesome fear. The heritage of hate between Mussulman and Christian is incurable. Nothing more absurd than the arrangement of the powers, which agreed to govern Crete at arm's length by military rule without any unity of authority, can be conceived. The intense dissatisfaction of both factions was inflamed to the highest pitch. The immediate cause of the outbreak was one of many likely to occur. The Turk, jealous of any concession shown to the Christian, the Christian boiling with rage at the least favor to the Turk, a hundred time ripened questions lying loose in Cretan life like dynamite ready for explosion, a race temperament which is in itself a smoldering firebrand—what can be anticipated at any time but the emente.

Europe could scarcely have been expected at the close of the Greco-Turkish war to have turned over Crete to the defeated country. But it was perfectly practicable to have erected a principality with perhaps Prince George at its head. This plan was debated and rejected. A similar solution has worked well in Bulgaria. There today Christian and Moslem live peaceably side by side. Why should it not serve in Crete, that mother of Greek civilization now reduced to a semibarbaric status? As Crete is today it is a threatening volcano, smoking when not in eruption.

Where Is Andree?

Hope takes years to kill in the case of arctic explorers or African travelers. The justification is sometimes so startling as to turn the mind from despair in all other cases. The chances of Livingstone's death at the time when Stanley found him so easily were regarded almost a certainty. The feeling embodied in Browning's poem of Waring is common in estimating the probabilities under such conditions. It took many years to quench all hope of Sir John Franklin's return. True, the failure of three arctic expeditions, which had search for his traces an object, in whole or in part to obtain some light on his fate, had been reported. Yet no one familiar with the extraordinary facts in Andree's plan feels disposed to despair. The very novelty of the

plan, to reach the pole by balloon, inspires the imagination, in spite of the recollection that the method precluded the safeguards of final resource, which have saved other explorers. The balloon gone, and we may reckon on that, nothing was left but the last savage fight of primitive man with savage nature. That battle, too, would be under one sided conditions, which even the modest Eskimo or Samoyed savage rarely needs to undergo. Judged by all the rules of human evidence, Andree and his gallant companions have been martyrs to their own enthusiasms. But even hard hearted scientists express some confidence that the chapter of accidents will yet give back the lost. Perhaps this is the effect of the novelty of his adventure. Perhaps it is the habit of mind, which looks so cheerfully on the best side instead of the worst in such matters, even when the logic of probability can yield only a shake of the head.

The railway employees of the country, starting from an initiative given in Chicago, are organizing nontreating societies in all parts of the land. This, it is scarcely needful to say, aims to do away with one of the most pernicious habits of barroom drinking, perhaps as prolific a source of alcoholic excess as any single feature in American custom. That it grows out of pure kindness makes it all the more dangerous. It would be difficult to name one trait in American life more destructive to the purse, to health and to good morals. That so powerful a class of men as railway employees, numbering hundreds of thousands of intelligent and reputable persons, have taken hold of this reform is a happy omen. One can only hope it will extend to every branch of business.

A Revolution In Food.

From the savage who drinks hot blood and gnaws the raw meat of the game he has just killed to the epicure reveling in the modern sophistry of the cuisine civilization stretches in a marvelous span. It has depended too greatly on the intellectual and industrial culture, which has been primarily stimulated by the desires ascending in the scale, food, better food, best food. The importance attached to this matter is felt by all, except the transcendental philosopher, exemplified in Kant, who did not know the difference between fish, flesh and fowl except on Sundays, or by the religious devotee who has weaned himself from the lusts of the flesh out of a sense of duty.

The history of food and its methods of preparation is a very considerable portion of the history of the race. It has not been merely an index of primitive need, but a measure of social culture, of racial characteristic and of mental progress. It is believed, too, that the habitual use of certain foods has

contributed in large degree to the superiority of some races over others, as, for example, that the wheat and meat eating peoples have always been the world conquerors. In social characteristics the development of the art of dining has been the most prolific root of refinement and a stimulant of domesticity and home life beyond comparison. There is scarcely an important phase of everyday existence which does not connect itself closely with eating and drinking. These have been the foundation of a hundred important trades and professions, by which millions of persons obtain a support. When we speak of the pleasures of the table, we sound the magic phrase which not only recalls the most widely enjoyed enjoyments of social civilization, but measures not a few of the most vital functions of business economy. When Voltaire said that the English had invented 20 religions, but not one single sauce, he crammed a history into an epigram.

In view, then, of the philosophical value of the food question as a social factor, one contemplates with a feeling of terror the alleged invention of Dr. Lillienfeld of Vienna, Austria. This is artificial albumen, which contains all the value of the essential element of nitrogenous foods and has never before been successfully produced. It is said to be put up in highly compressed tablets, a kind of subtletized pemmican, and a supply for several days can be carried in the vest pocket. It will largely do away with cooks and cooking, reduce the pleasures of the table to a very simple form, emasculate the attractions of social entertainment, increase the ease and economy of warmaking, abolish a host of occupations, and, in fact, kick up a tremendous rumpus generally. All this, if it proves to be a genuine and wholesome albuminous extract, if it can be made cheaply and if people can be induced to use it on an extensive scale. But we fancy that Falstaff's plaint will be generally re-echoed, "What, shall there be no more cakes and ale?" In such a feeling will be the world's protection against such a dismal scientific fact.

Gordon Avenged.

The remarkable campaign of the Anglo-Egyptian army under Sir H. H. Kitchener, which culminated in the crushing defeat of the Mahdist forces at Omdurman, just opposite the ruins of Khartoum, on the Blue Nile, is more than ordinarily significant. Here, near where the martyred Gordon fell with the English flag almost in sight, General Kitchener has finally smashed the whole fanatical dervish following. England has added another splendid soldier to the muster roll of her military genius. He belongs to the superb group among which Marlborough and Wellington stand foremost. A campaign fought with more acute prevision and mathematical certainty from the first