

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

PRESIDENT OF SWISS REPUBLIC.

Dr. Joseph Zemp, the newly elected president of the Swiss Republic, is regarded as a genuinely capable statesman and eminently qualified to preside over the national council which initiates all legislation in the little mountain state. He is a leader in the conservative party, although he is known to hold tolerant and even liberal views in matters of great weight. Dr. Zemp is 67 years old, and is a native of Entlebuch, Lucerne. One year ago he was elected vice president, and he comes into his present office by virtue of the unwritten law that the vice president shall succeed to the highest office, providing his services in the subordinate positions have been satisfactory to the people. As vice president he was head of the depart-



ment of state railways and telegraphs, where he was well tested in the art of the government. He was elected over two opposing candidates.

BIBLE GIVEN TO THE AMEER.

Abdur Rahman thought much about religious problems. It is not, however, generally known that he was the possessor of a copy of the new testament in Loewenthal's erudite translation into Pushtu, which was forwarded to him by the Rev. Worthington Jukes of the Church Missionary society, stationed in the Punjab, just after the great durbar held at Rawal Pindi by the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, as viceroy, in 1884.

Acknowledging this the ameer wrote, says the London Telegraph. In his own hand, to Mr. Jukes: "I received your letter. You had regretted therein that you had been unable to see me, and that, through want of leisure, you could not. For my part I am exceedingly sorry that, during my present visit to the Indian frontier, I had not the opportunity of seeing the most learned and intellectual of the British kingdom. Everything has its own allotted time. The copy of the bible which you have sent I have received, and I accept it with great reverence. Though we have nothing to do with all that is written therein, yet we respect it, accepting it as a book handed to us by God. I shall take extracts of all those verses which fully correspond with those of our koran, besides all such passages as are interesting; I shall act upon them; I have had the greatest pleasure in receiving this present, which is the best of all."

MAY BE POPE LEO'S SUCCESSOR.

Cardinal Gottl is discussed on every side in Rome as the successor to the papal throne. Much color is lent to this report by the fact that the great Carmelite was recently called in consultation by Pope Leo, who requested to be left absolutely alone with his favorite cardinal. The two were closeted together for two hours. The peculiar instance of the pope on perfect privacy is regarded as giving significant meaning to the interview, and the general opinion is that the pope has definitely and finally selected his



favorite as prime candidate for the papacy. Cardinal Gottl is 67 years old.

India the Land of Reports.

India is the land of reports. There is a monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, annual plague of them. There is no country, probably, in which so many useless reports are written and so few read. In one province the chief business of the local government consists of dunning its officers for statistics and reports, and in compiling them from volumes for the delusion of the supreme government. More than one-half of the time and energy of every civil officer is taken up in writing.

AS THE WORLD REVOLVES

SCARED THE BANK TELLER.

While eating his luncheon in the cozy corner of a downtown restaurant last Friday the teller of a New York bank told an interesting experience that he had had the day previous.

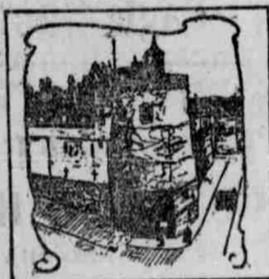
"I never had such a fright in my life before," he said. "When I left home in the morning I planned to have my wife meet me at the bank at 4 o'clock, when we were to start on a little spree—have a dinner at the Waldorf and attend the theater at night.

"I took a dress coat and wore a silk hat, so as to be all ready to start when she came. The hat was placed on a shelf above my window, and from the beginning I planned to be all ready when my wife called. I kept tab on my checks and my cash in such shape that but little time would be required to balance my accounts when we closed at 3 o'clock.

"Matters went along as usual, excepting that a black cat kept in the bank came to visit me shortly after luncheon. Jumped on the shelf and knocked my hat down on my checks and cash. You know that black cats are supposed to bring bad luck.

"Well, 3 o'clock came, and I hurried with the closing of my accounts. As fate would have it, for the first time in weeks there was an error. I was \$10,000 short. Then I was frightened I went over everything again with the same result. Four o'clock and my wife came, and I could not account for the \$10,000. I saw trouble, with a probable accusation of embezzlement. There was no leaving the bank with matters in that condition, so at 4 o'clock again—with the same result. Then I told the president of the situation, and he sent one of the bookkeepers to assist me. We went over everything, and yet the \$10,000 could not be accounted for. My wife was patiently waiting for me, and when 6 o'clock came I decided to go with her to dinner, and come back afterward to renew the search for the error. I reached my hat from the shelf, and as I was placing it on my head out of it fluttered a check for \$10,000. The black cat was responsible for all my trouble."

THE KING'S REFUGE.



The picture printed herewith is of the King's house at the Tower of London, where his majesty is supposed to take refuge in times of civil commotion. This relic of ancient days has been brought into prominence by a recent discussion. There is now little doubt that the real reason for its being so called is because it was set aside in olden times as a royal harbor of refuge.

Graveyard of the Atlantic.

Situated about ninety miles off the coast of Nova Scotia and surrounded by many dangerous shoals is Sable Island, called "the graveyard of the Atlantic." It often lurks invisible in the track of westward bound ships wrapped in the fog which at times enshrouds the shores north of the St. Lawrence. It is now proposed to try planting it with trees in the hope of binding its shifting sands together. Some 80,000 trees, comprising 68,000 evergreens, such as spruce, pine and juniper, have been actually planted. There are three life-saving stations supplied with lifeboats and excellent apparatus, and the population, composed of the men employed in this service, with their wives and families, number forty-five. The funds are supplied by the Dominion government. Shelter huts have been erected for shipwrecked people, and a large store of food is always kept on hand.

Sunshine as Medicine.

No sirup of poppies, no tincture of opium, no powders of morphine, says one of the medical journals, can compare in sleep-producing power with sunshine. The worst soporific is laudanum and the best is sunshine. Therefore it is easily understood that poor sleepers should pass as many hours in the sunshine as possible. Many women are martyrs and do not know it. They shut the sunshine out of their houses, they wear veils, they carry sunshades, and do all that is possible to keep off the subtlest and yet most potent influence which is intended to give them strength and beauty and cheerfulness.

A Commonplace City.

Berlin, as compared with London, is an upstart city, and the Berlin crowd suggests the appearance of people of some great village. They look commonplace, as if just taken from the ranks of toilers that have not yet had time and money to cultivate the more graceful arts of life. The dressing of Berlin women is mostly execrable, and that of the men is scarcely better. You wonder that so much of ugliness of attire, so much commonplaceness in the appearance of men and women could be got together. It is in such a moment that you feel the full difference between London and Berlin.

Persons, Places and Things

HELP FOR YOUNG VIOLINISTS.

A distinguished French violinist has perfected a device of considerable importance to young people who are learning to play the violin. As all who are familiar with violin playing know, it is highly important that the instrument be held correctly to secure the best results. The new device accomplishes this end by furnishing a support for the arm.

It keeps the arm from becoming tired, and at the same time keeps the shoulder in proper position. The support consists of a semi-circle, enfolding the lower part of the arm a little above the elbow. It is connected with a belt that can be shortened or lengthened according to the size of the



arm. By preventing fatigue and keeping the shoulder and arm in position, it gives the player great power over the instrument.

It is said that experiments have shown that young violin players in Paris who use it learn more quickly than those who do not.

Needlework of Nuns.

The most beautiful needlework in the world comes from the convent. The fact is unquestionably due to the training the young apprentice receives on less than a quarter of a yard of cloth all the fundamental rules of sewing. Industrious she piles her needle on this bit of cloth, mastering inch by inch all the finer arts of the delicate needlework; one of the greatest objects lessons to mothers with growing daughters, who are permitted to destroy valuable silks and linen, ruining both temper and goods over something that is pure Greek to the crude beginner. How often materials so eagerly and hopefully purchased become useless in the hands of the person whose brain has no knowledge whatever of the vastness of the undertaking before her.

The nuns, with whom wastefulness is a deadly sin, teach every stitch more carefully, nor is this practice made tedious and difficult by giving the students long hems, heavy coarse garments and yards of tucking. A tiny piece of goods of moderate weight, a needle in size to carry 70 or 80 thread, are the implements of practice.

Irish Granite.

Donegal now threatens the supremacy of Scotland in the matter of granite. Experts who have been paying extended visits of inspection in the neighborhood of Dungloe, in West Donegal, report immense formations of granite, which for variety of shade, durability, and general beauty are said to rival the famous products of Aberdeen and Peterhead. The Dungloe granite, it is stated, embraces almost every variety of color and texture, the predominating shade being red and flesh-colored stones of medium and coarse grain. A still more beautiful variety of stone, which is found in Dungloe, is the very dark micaceous granite, closely resembling the handsome "Labrador" with which many London buildings are pillared.

When it is remembered that one firm alone in America imports \$95,000 worth of polished granite yearly from Aberdeen, and that the demands for the highest class stone in all shades is ever on the increase, there should be thriving times for Donegal in the near future.

AID FOR ORATORS.

German orators who like to appear to be inspired by the ardor of fiery thoughts within them, and yet who cannot speak two decent utterances consecutively without notes, have arrived at a scheme whereby they may



appear as deep as Demosthenes and as shifty tongued as Sheridan. The illustration tells the story. All a man has to do is to let his hair grow long and keep a trained phonograph.

Amazonian Snuff.

On the Amazon river several Indian tribes use snuff called pareca, which is made of the seeds of a species of plant. When a bout of snuff-taking is determined upon the people become highly intoxicated and then use the snuff. The effect is that the taker drops as if shot, and lies insensible for some time; those most accustomed to it are highly excited, dancing and singing as if mad. The effect soon subsides. Other tribes use it to repel

Buddha Reaching Out for Converts.

From the Temples of the Nishi Hongwanji, in Japan. His Priests Are Being Sent Abroad to Study Newer Religions and Preach the Old.



For centuries Christianity has been sending missionaries to Japan to convert the natives. Now the Japanese are proposing to reverse the proceeding and to send one of their leading cults to America and Europe to convert the poor, benighted Christians. But they will do so with a difference, for instead of the pennies which the American missionary societies can collect for their work they will be backed by uncounted millions in Japanese gold.

This work will be directed and supported by the man who in all Japan, with the exception of the emperor, owns and controls the greatest amount of wealth. He is Otani Kozon, Buddhist Abbot of the Nishi Hongwanji sect. Not only is he fabulously rich, in his own right, but he possesses as well the unbounded faith and love of his people to such an extent that at his call their purses open as purses open nowhere else in the world for such a call.

Religion is as dear to the Japanese

as to the American. And there are no more varieties there than here. Though they have no Dowie, no conflicting sects of Methodists, Baptists, Campbellites, Catholics and Episcopalians, they get along comfortably well with different brands of Buddhism, Shintoism and some sprinkling of Confucianism. And with all these they think they are more able to spare a bit to the Christians than the latter to them.

Abbot Otani Kozon has seen his power at the head of a Buddhist sect grow steadily until it reaches through the Orient, to the Philippines and Hawaii, and even to the Pacific coast of America. And with the same enthusiasm that burned in the hearts of the Jesuits, he longs to extend his faith farther.

What his wealth will do in this regard who can tell? There are already Buddhist sect even here in Chicago. Now and then a visionary member of the faith has come from India and established himself at the head of a

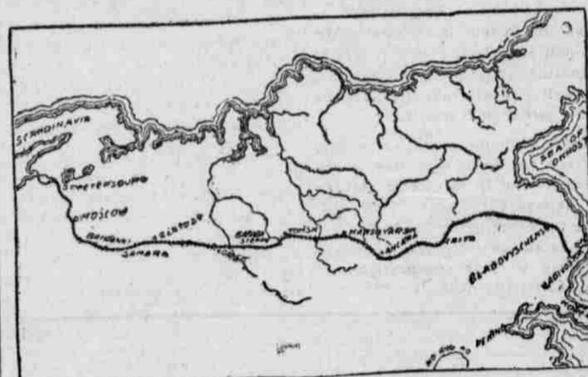
band of worshippers. But these have been mystics, who have found their clientele frequently among the not too brainy persons who were in the search for some new form of worshipping the non-understandable.

It is not this way with the Abbot Otani. He is the embodiment of living energy. His religion is a living, vital one. To him it is the only true one, and he seeks to extend it because to him that extension is as necessary for the world's weal as the extension of Christianity is to the Pope of Rome.

When he sends his missionaries, though they live as he does, abstemiously, drinking and eating sparingly, and denying themselves comforts not absolutely necessary, they will be equipped with money for their temples which will not require any stinting. They will spend a million for a temple for their American capital, and half as much more for another in each great city. They will send out students to learn the ways of Christians, and they will visit and proselyte in the homes of the poor and carry with them material and medical aid to their converts, just as they wish and just as Christian missionaries will do, for they will be well supplied—Chicago Tribune.

SIBERIAN RAILWAY FINISHED.

The last rail of the great Trans-Siberian railway from Moscow to Vladivostok has been laid, and with the completion of this great highway of travel the world is practically girdled by the empire of the rail. This tremendous undertaking was carried to its final success by Russian money and by the Russian government. With all of its branches and its auxiliary undertakings, the railroad has cost \$390,000,000. Of this sum, not less than \$350,000,000 was expended at the beginning of 1900. The first stone of the undertaking was laid on May 19, 1891, by the present czar, who was then heir apparent. The road was begun at both ends simultaneously. The route traverses the most fruitful and comparatively the most populous belt of Siberia—the granary of the czar's domains in Asia. The road spans many large streams with bridges of surpassing strength and size. The largest of these bridges is that over the river Yenisi. It is 2,940 feet long,



and has spans measuring 490 feet. For rapidity of construction the Siberian railway is unequalled, and exceeds the Canadian railway, which has much in common with it, and which took ten years to build.

Value of an Honest Eye.

A business man said that he once devoted half a day to hiring a man whom he needed in his office. In answer to his advertisement a great many applicants called. He rejected the first because he would not look him in the eye. "The second man," said the merchant, "was armed with a double-barreled recommendation from his pastor, with testimonials as to his ability and good character, but, though he looked me in the eye, I saw that we could never hope to get along well together, and so I dismissed him. The third interested me the moment he stepped inside the door. He was poorly dressed, and, though his clothes were whole, they were at least two sizes too small. It was evident that his attire troubled him not the least, for he held his head high, and, as he approached my desk, looked me squarely in the eye. He said that he had no recommendation, that he had no business experience, but that he was willing to do his best to please me. In an instant it dawned upon me that before me was the man that I was looking for. He had nothing to recommend him save an honest, bright eye, and a pleasant face, but that was sufficient. I engaged him on the spot.

"Since then I have seen fit to advance him over a man who had been with me three years. The latter grumbled, but there was reason for my move—the new man had proved himself worthy of promotion."

Instances might be definitely multiplied of the value of an honest eye. That wonderful window of the soul, the eye, is a sure index to character. If you have it not, cultivate a bright, honest, straightforward look. It will more than repay your efforts. Look up and fearlessly meet the eyes of

those with whom you converse. Many a choice position has been lost through an indifferent, flinching eye; and many a coveted position has been won through a fearless, honest eye. That kind of eye is better than a hundred recommendations.—Success.

Strange Island.

One of the most extraordinary islands of the world has been found in the Gulf of Mexico. Like a chameleon it changes color, and a soft as twice every day. When the sand along the beach is not covered with water the island is purple red, and at high tide it has the color of bright gold.

An explanation of this singular phenomenon is to be found in the name of the island. It is called Snails Island, and it is the snails that are responsible for the change of color. The sand is of a golden hue, and when the water rises and spreads over the wide bay, which is strewn with mussel shells, the island glitters with gold. As soon, however, as the water recedes the gold changes to the purple red which becomes ever darker, until it is finally as dark as the purple of a prince's mantle. The reason is because myriads of little purple snails are then spread over the sand, searching eagerly for the food which is cast up to them by the water.

Nails of Aluminum.

After many unsuccessful experiments and trials an alloy of aluminum has been made with which nails, staples and tacks can be made to compete with copper. Among other advantages claimed for the new material is that it is not affected by the weather and will not deteriorate, as in laying roofs, lining tanks, etc.

Side Saddles in Disrepute.

The side saddle has been doomed and will ere long be among the things that were. The ultrafashionable equestriennes who frequent Tuxedo have so decreed, and what Tuxedo says is law. Nearly all its many accomplished horsewomen are beginning to ride astride. Mrs. Paul Tuckerman whose husband is one of the directors of the park, was the pioneer of the movement. She may be seen daily riding man fashion on her spirited saddle horse.

She wears a costume which is a combination of trousers and skirt, and presents an appearance that is conceded to be the smartest and most becoming of any horsewoman ever seen galloping along the winding ways of that aristocratic community.

Popular approval has stamped the innovation, and many other fair horsewomen have either already adopted a similar costume or signified their intention of soon doing so.

Horse Meat in Vienna.

The horse meat butcher shops of Vienna, of which there are no less than 185, present a clean and attractive appearance, and are in no way distinguished from the shops where the usual kinds of meat are sold, save by the sign announcing their specialty. Restaurant keepers who serve horse meat must designate this fact in a special column on the bill of fare offered to patrons.

A man's force in the world, other things being equal, is just in the ratio of the force and strength of his heart. A full-hearted man is always a powerful man; if he be erroneous, then he is powerful for error.—Spurgeon.