



Words of Good Cheer.

In this discourse Dr. Talmage... words of good cheer to commercial travelers and tells of their safeguards and their opportunities; text, Nahum ii. 4. 'The chariots shall rage in the streets; they shall justle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches; they shall run like the lightnings.'

THE DANGEROUS NAUTILUS.

Interesting Account of This Pretty but Poisonous Marine Creature. C. F. Holder gives an interesting account of his experiences with the phylla, the nautilus-like denizen of southern waters, which floats on the surface with its trailing fishing lines extending far below.

THEORIES ABOUT THE "MAINE."

Nothing could be written in better taste and temper than Capt. Sigsbee's 'Personal Narrative of the "Maine," in the Century. The captain's personal relations with General Blanco and Admiral Manterola were, he says, undisturbed by the explosion. They remained 'cordial to the last.'

THE PROPERTIES OF SALT.

Salt is not only valuable as a digestive agent, but is useful in many ways for household and other purposes; for instance, carpets are better cleaned with salt than anything else, as it not only restores the colors but absorbs the dust, and only needs to be sprinkled over and the carpet well brushed.

Couldn't Catch Mrs. Turveytop.

Mr. Turveytop has, up to very recently, considered himself quite clever, and nothing so pleases him as to get the best of some unsuspecting person. For a long time his wife had been in need of a new muff; and after hunting to her lord that her happiness would never be complete till she owned one, he at last decided to gratify her desire.

London's Grain Imports.

London's imports of grain amount to about 25,000,000 bushels per annum, 8,000,000 of which consist of wheat.

CIVILIZING THE SAVAGE.

Dialogue Between an African and a Christian Civilizer. While Czar Nicholas II. recently expressed his opinion of the civilization brought to the benighted heathens by their Christian fellow-men as amounting frequently to nothing more than a shipment of cognac, Andrew Lang tells us of a "savage" tribe which is so shocked at the selfishness and cruelty of the whites that it has instituted a sort of purification rite for those of the tribe who have come in contact with them upon their returning home.

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Not only men and women give way to fancies and humor their likes and dislikes—cats and dogs also are "fanciful" and not slow about expressing preferences. One dog answers everyone because when his owner practices on a violin he howls so distressingly that he has to be shut up. Whenever the piano is played, on the contrary, he edges up to the player as close as possible and beams delight.

Be Pure in Thought and Action.

O commercial travelers, I pray for you the all-sustaining grace of God! There are two kinds of days when you are especially in need of divine grace. The one, the day when you have no success—when you fail to make a sale, and you are very much disappointed, and you go back to your hotel discomfited. That night you will be tempted to go to strong drink and rush into bad surroundings. The other day when you will especially need divine grace will be when you have had a day of great success and the devil tells you you must go and celebrate that success.

The "White Woman."

In some parts of Germany, particularly in Bohemia, some most extraordinary tales are reported of the "white woman." This celebrated ghost is supposed to represent a woman of very modest appearance, excessively tall, and her dress entirely white. She is never seen without a very long veil reaching nearly to her ankles, and which is of such an impervious nature that no person has ever been able to obtain a glimpse of her features.

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Great Ideas—Great Ideas are in the souls of the best men, and the public has to be educated up to them. The English language is gradually becoming the speech of the vast majority of the human race, and through it the most beautiful ideas on the gift of God and the destiny of man will gain almost universal currency.—Rev. R. Thomas, Congregationalist, Boston, Mass.

THE UNFORTUNATE NATIVE TOOK TO THE WOODS AND HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE.

The unfortunate native took to the woods and has not been seen since. Egyptian Diakie of the Frenchman in Egypt is an unpleasant person from the native point of view. French artists, wandering from place to place in search of subjects for their paintings, carry with them, in addition to their artistic paraphernalia, their own peculiar notions of civilization. The Arab Shiekh, who with dignified kindness offers to the perfect stranger the most frank and generous hospitality, is treated as dirt of civilization. The Arab sheik, who passing along the village street, with only her lustrous eyes visible above her flowing veil, is favored with a stare the like of which cannot be conceived by an American man who has never left his own chivalrous country.

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Among the several unaccountable things which one sees in Russia, one is struck forcibly with the differences in shop signs in the large cities. It appears that the Jews are made to write their names out in full, giving the Jewish form of their given names instead of those actually in use by them, while the signs of the Gentiles bear only the initials. When a girl writes her name "Mayme" or "Mal," she puts a label upon herself that contains the word Cheap. She may be sensible in some respects, but no one seeing the label will believe it. The "Mal's" and "Mayme's" are not good daughters, and they will not make good wives. They are silly, irresponsible, and romantic. Show us a girl who changes her name from Mary to Mal, and we can read her palm like a fortune teller.

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