

The annual report on the Michigan state penitentiary at Jackson shows a total population of 720, the lowest in twenty-five years.

In the future the United States steamship Scindia is to be known as Ajax. The Scindia, it is said, acquired an unenviable reputation by the amount of soot and clinders she emitted from her smokestack.

Various scientific departments in England recently held a conference in which they sought to obtain government powers for protecting the delicate instruments in the Kew and Greenwich observatories from any magnetic disturbances that arise from the working of electric tramways and railways in their vicinity.

The New York socialists have commenced a crusade that has for its object the enlistment of the women in their cause. To this end they have incorporated a Woman's Socialist society, which has just held a session in Brooklyn.

No orders have yet been sent out to the Oregon looking to that ship's coming home, but it is said at the navy department that she will be brought to the Mare island navy yard within the next three months.

Eccentricities of genius do not figure very largely in Mr. Howell's recent reminiscences of our great writers of the last generation. There is no comfort in his book for silly young men who try to excuse their own lapses from decency by the examples of Byron and Poe; for Mr. Howell shows that our foremost Americans were clean-living as well as high-thinking citizens.

Forty-two English citizens during the last ten years have changed their surnames, because they were the same as those of famous villains in well-known books and plays.

When the usual committee representing the two houses called on President McKinley on the day they assembled, it is said the president cordially remarked that he was glad to see them and glad that congress was again in session.

The anecdote which follows must undoubtedly be accepted as both authentic and official, since it is contained in a report to the state department by an American consul.

That the young queen of Italy stands on a good footing with the ladies of her court may be inferred from a remark soon after her elevation to the throne. "When one has to stand so long and make so many courtesies, it is best to seek comfort. My own practice is to wear easy corsets and shoes that do not pinch."

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SENATORS TALK OF THE ARMY.

Attack Upon President's Discretionary Power.

QUESTION OF ARMED MENACE.

Mr. Hoar Thought 100,000 Armed Men Would be Within the Limit of Domestic Safety to Liberty—Reapportionment Bill Passes.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 14.—In the senate a vigorous attack was made upon that portion of the army reorganization bill which confers upon the president discretionary power to increase the strength of the army to the maximum limit fixed by the bill.

Passes Reapportionment Bill. The senate passed the reapportionment bill as it came from the house.

For Pneumatic Tube Service. The house committee on postoffices and postroads decided today by a majority of one to report favorably the recommendation of an appropriation of \$500,000 for the pneumatic-tube service.

Wisconsin Man Gets an Omeo. The president has nominated William G. Wheeler of Wisconsin to be attorney of the United States for the western district of Wisconsin.

Heavy Imports by Manufacturers. The manufacturers of the country have imported more raw material for use in manufacturing in the year 1900 than in any preceding year in the history of our import trade.

Breaks Record Over \$4,000,000. Washington, D. C., Jan. 14.—George E. Roberts, director of the mint, in his annual report shows that the coinage of the last year was in excess of that executed in any previous year in the history of the service.

Cleveland Back from Hunt. Charleston, S. C., Jan. 14.—Former President Cleveland, Captain Robley D. Evans, Captain P. B. Lamberton, and General Anson G. McCook came up from the Santee Gun club preserves to Georgetown today, and, boarding their private car Irontoe, left at 4 p. m. for their homes.

Krugger Is Seriously Ill. Paris, Jan. 14.—Private advices received here say that a German physician who recently examined President Krugger pronounced him dangerously ill, scarcely likely to live more than a fortnight longer.

New Way to Trisect an Angle. Lebanon, Mo., Jan. 14.—Miss Gertrude Cutcheon, a member of the 1901 graduating class of the Lebanon High School, has figured out a new method of trisecting an angle.

BRIEF NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

Charles Alexander, grand duke of Saxe-Weimar, is dead. He was born at Weimar in 1818.

The damage which the Boers did to the Kleinfontein mine is officially estimated at \$210,000.

The residence of E. H. Taylor at Model City, N. Y., burned on the 8th, and Taylor, his wife and three small children perished in the flames.

President McKinley, who has been ailing for the past few days, was so much improved in health on the 13th as to permit of him taking a short carriage ride.

The Bucharest correspondent of the London Daily Express says that five Roumanian soldiers, while going home were attacked and eaten by wolves, after a desperate struggle, one day recently.

Among the Philippines there seems to be an organized band of assassins, their object being to just gratify revenge or envy against the rich. Only the other day two more Americans were captured and ordered killed.

Most of the miners in the Weir City zinc mining district, Kas., are on strike. The trouble resulted over wages and the introduction of non-union miners.

It seems certain that a ministerial crisis will occur in Spain after the suspension of the sittings of the chambers. Some of the ministers say the marriage of the Princess of Asturias to Prince Charles, second son of the Count of Caserta, will occur during the first fortnight of February.

Consul-General Gudgeon cables the state department from Columbia that the revolutionists are approaching Panama and making preparations for a fight. The state department intends taking vigorous action if necessary to protect our interests and to carry out the duties we have assumed by treaty for the protection of the isthmus of Panama.

Copies of the North China Daily News received by the steamship Tacoma have a long article on the plot by Corean Boxers to massacre foreigners and follow the recent Boxer programme in China in Korea. The Seoul correspondent of that paper says that without question there has been orders sent to every prefect to this end during November.

Thomas J. Minnock, the newspaper man who made the original charges against Nurses Davis, Dean and Marshall, of Bellevue hospital, New York, which led to the exposure of horrible abuses in the charities department and caused the nurses to be held on the charge of having murdered a patient, has disappeared, and all efforts of the authorities to locate him have been futile.

The application of Attorney Stevenson for a writ of prohibition to restrain the Ingham county circuit court from proceeding with the case against ex-Gov. Pingree, was denied by the supreme court on the 8th. The court held that inasmuch as no proceedings had been instituted in the lower court to quash, they would adhere to the rule laid down in the 42d Michigan that the question must first be raised in the lower court.

The United States transport Ingalls, from San Juan, P. R., December 27, and Havana, January 1, reached New York on the 7th, after a very tempestuous voyage. For 40 hours the vessel was buffeted by enormous seas, stirred by high winds first from the north and later from the northeast and east.

The nitrate building of the Eastman Kodak Co., was destroyed by fire on the 8th. Two firemen were killed by the fumes of burning chemicals, and one other was so seriously injured that he will die.

While Wm. Chidester and his wife who reside near Marquette, O., were absent on the 6th, Thomas, a 9-year-old son, emptied both barrels of a shotgun into his sister Florence, aged 14, killing her instantly. The boy fought for possession of the gun when a neighbor arrived on the scene, but seemed to have no idea of what he had done.

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

HEAVEN AWAITS TRUE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

Tells What May Be Expected in the Next World by Those Who Faithfully Serve God and Help Their Fellow Men—Reward of Self Sacrifice.

(Copyright, 1901, by Louis Klopfch, N. Y.) Washington, Jan. 13.—In a very novel way Dr. Talmage in this discourse describes what may be expected in the next world by those who here bend all their energies in the right direction; text, II, Peter 1, 11: "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly."

Different styles of welcome at the gate of heaven are here suggested. We all hope to enter that supernal capital through the grace that is ready to save even the chief of sinners. But not now. No man healthy of body and mind wants to go now. The man who hurls himself out of this life is either an agnostic or is demented or finds life insufferable and does not care where he lands.

The Mercy of Christ. Sometimes in our pulpits we give a wrong turn to the story of the dying thief to whom Christ said, "This day shalt thou be with me in paradise."

But that brings me to the other those who will, when they leave this life, bound into heaven amid salutations infinite. "For so an entrance shall be administered unto you abundantly." Such exultant admission will await those who enter heaven after an earth living a life for others and without reference to conspicuity.

Again, the bigot will not have what my text calls an abundant entrance. He has his bedwarmed opinion as to what all must believe and do in order to gain celestial residence. He has his creed in one pocket and his catechism in another pocket, and it may be a good creed and a good catechism, and he uses them as sharp swords against those who will not accept his theories.

Necessity of Denominations. Denominations of Christians on earth were necessary in order to better work and to suit preferences—as an army must be divided into regiments, yet one army; as a neighborhood must be divided into families, though one neighborhood.

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CONSECRATED AFFLUENCE.

Well, this man of consecrated affluence is about to go out of the world. He feels in brain and nerve the strain of the early struggles by which he won his fortune, and at 60 or 70 years collapses under the exhaustions of the twenties and thirties of his lifetime.

When the morning papers announce that he is gone, there is excitement not only on the avenues where the mansions stand, but all through the hospitals and asylums and the homes of those who will henceforth have no helper. But the excitement of sadness on earth is a very tame affair compared with the excitement of gladness in heaven.

Christian Benevolence. For thirty years this man has been practicing an economy which prided itself on never passing a pin without all in church would put on the collection plate so insignificant a coin that he held his hand over it so that no one could discover the smallness of the denomination.

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Demands of Filial Devotion. After years of filial fidelity on the part of this self-sacrificing daughter, the old folks go home. Now the daughter is free from marital alliance, but the damask rose in her cheek is faded, and the crows feet have left their mark on the forehead, and the gracefulness is gone out of the figure, and the world calls her by a mean and unalluring name.

But imagine one of these "scarcely saved" Christians entering the shining realm! He passes in a stranger. Saint says to saint, "Who comes there?" And angel says to angel, "Who is that?" He moves up and down the great temple and finds among the throngs of the white-robed not one soul whom he helped to join the doxologies.

Now, the mother of whom I speak as living on the banks of that great river in Ohio or Alabama or Maine has gone through all the drudgery mentioned, and her children have turned out well, good and useful men and women, ornaments of society, pillars in the house of God, and that whole family, after the years have passed by and their work is done, will meet in the heavenly country.

"As Quick as a Wink." "As quick as a wink," is a proverb of comparison. The rapidity of the wink is, however, of more interest to scientists in Germany, who have lately computed that in our waking hours by winking once a second on an average man performs the involuntary function no less than 50,000 times in a day, or in a year something like 19,000,000 times.

THE MARKETS. LIVE STOCK. New York—Cattle Sheep Hogs. Best grades... 31 30 25 50 84 65 55 75. Lower grades... 25 24 50 3 30 30 5 40.

GRAIN, ETC. Wheat, Corn, Oats. No. 2 red. No. 2 mix. No. 2 white. New York 81 2/4 81 1/2 80 3/4. Chicago 77 3/4 77 1/4 76 3/4.