

AS LETTER WRITERS.

Our People Rank First Among All Nations.

The Enormous Business of the United States Post Offices as Compared with That of Other Countries.

There are 200,000 post offices in all the countries of the world enjoying organized facilities of correspondence, and of this number 70,000 are in the United States.

The business of the German and of the English post office department is less than half as large. The postal card system in Germany is in much more general use than in England, and it is for this reason, perhaps, that Germany keeps ahead of England in respect to the amount of correspondence done.

The Italian post office handles 350,000,000 letters a year, the post office department of Spain, 120,000,000, of Canada 100,000,000, of Holland 100,000,000, of Belgium 125,000,000, and of Russia 200,000,000, a considerable proportion of which is carried on what are called "the mail coach roads."

SKINNING RATTLES ALIVE. The Process Necessary to Take Off the Skin in the Best Condition. Reuben Etners, game warden for the Spruce Run Rod and Gun Club, of Bellefonte, Pa., lately told of experiences he has had with rattlesnakes.

"Rattlesnakes, as a rule, are found along the rocks away from the water, and they never strike before giving warning unless surprised; neither can they strike unless they are in coil. Oh, yes; I kill many rattlers every summer. Last summer I slaughtered something more than 200 big fellows, and I skinned every one of them alive. I always skin a rattler alive, because in killing them first you can hardly avoid spoiling the hides, and rattlesnake skins are becoming quite valuable of late.

Goods Made from Iron. Munnall estimates that the total value of goods manufactured from iron in the world in 1890 was \$212,200,000; of steel, \$255,700,000, making a total of \$467,900,000.—Chicago Journal.

THE FASHIONS.

Attractive Additions to Female Costumes for the Season.

Bonnets this season are very much more attractive than the conglomerate creations called hats. In compliance to the queen of England there is a resemblance among many of the imported models to styles popular early in the Victorian era.

Some of the new tailor costumes have bolero fronts and narrow postilion backs. The vest is a fitted blouse which is highly favored this summer in making up toilets of rosebud organdies, lawns, XVI. striped muslins, printed Louis XVI. India mulls and similar diaphanous stuffs. On some models the fronts end at the belt under a fancy belt with a very handsome buckle, or else a girle made to match the dress trimmings.

Beautifully curving revers and sharply notched fronts are characteristics of the new elegant Louis coat basques made by Rauchnitz, Mayer and Felix. A marked feature of the modes this season is the abundance of decoration about the neck and shoulders; gauzy ruffles, fraises and ruffs, accordion-plaited frills and bows of great size are worn in the most becoming fashion, and upon fascinating evening-dress models for the coming summer are Medici, Robespierre, Stuart, Victorian, Josephine, Queen Bess and numberless other stately collars of historical name and fame.

Amazon cloth in many bright colors is favored by French and English modistes and tailors. This make of lustrous cloths wears well if one pays a fair price for it, but cheaper grades are quite apt to spot with rain, and in other ways it is also likely to prove unsatisfactory wear.

The new canvas, which is somewhat coarse, is particularly shiny. It is made up over a silk lining of contrasting color, or otherwise is lined with self-color in a lighter or darker tint than the canvas. Gray watered silk forms the lining of a new sheer canvas gown of silver tint, dotted and barred with mauve. The effect of the moiré silk through the transparent meshes of the canvas is extremely rich and pretty.

—N. Y. Post.

A CENTURY OF DISMEMBERMENT

Where is the Alleged Integrity of the Turkish Empire? That idle talk about the integrity of the Turkish empire deceives nobody today. The dismemberment of Turkey began over 100 years ago. In 1783 Turkey lost the Crimea. In 1830 she lost Greece. In 1857 Moldavia and Wallachia, the two Danubian principalities, were united and finally became the present flourishing kingdom of Rumania under King Charles in 1881. In 1862 the Turkish garrison evacuated Belgrade, and in 1878 Servia became an independent kingdom. Bulgaria is virtually independent under Prince Ferdinand, and Turkey quietly acquiesced in the absorption of eastern Roumelia in 1887. Kars and Batum were snatched by Russia in 1878. England seized Cyprus in the same year, and Austria was comfortably installed in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Where is the alleged integrity of the Turkish empire in the face of the above historical facts? Bosnia and Herzegovina, two essentially Mussulman provinces, have nothing in common with Austria, which now rules over them. But when the question of Crete and Greece comes to be considered all Christian Europe shakes with horror at the unreasonable aspirations of Greece in seeking to free an island inhabited by a homogeneous population professing the same faith and situated at its very doors. But in this advanced era of civilization a new force that makes for justice is always felt on occasions like this among civilized nations, and that is "public opinion." While Lord Salisbury was declaring in the house of lords that Crete cannot be united to Greece 100 English liberals were signing a telegram of sympathy to King George and a monster meeting of 30,000 Englishmen in Hyde Park were passing resolutions in favor of Greece.—North American Review.

James Was a Greater Man.

Carlyle's severest critic, and a critic of his own school, was an old parish roadman at Ecclefechan. "Been a long time in this neighborhood?" asked an English tourist. "Been here a' ma days, sir." "Then you know the Carlyles?" "Well, that's a ken the whole of them. There was, let me see," he said, leaning on his shovel and pondering; "there was Jock; he was a kind o' thoughtless sort o' chap, a doctor, but no bad fellow, Jock—he's dead, mon." "And there was Thomas," said the inquirer, eagerly. "Oh, ay, of course, there's Tam—a useless, munestruck chap that writes in London. There's naething in Tam; but, mon, there's Jamie, owre in the Newlands—there's a chap for ye. Jamie takes mair swine into Ecclefechan market than any ither farmer i' the parish."—London Answers.

A Small Sale.

In one of the suburbs of Belfast trade was dull, and the chief grocer in the district found his earnings becoming smaller day by day. One morning an old customer entered. In expectation of something good, the grocer jumped up from his seat, and, rubbing his hands, said: "Well, missus, what can I get you?" "A ha'penny worth o' soap," was the reply. "Oh," said the disgusted grocer, "ye'll be for washin' the canary to-day?"—London Tit-Bits.

THE TURK AS A FIGHTER.

He Will Run When He Thinks He Is Getting Whipped.

Col. Francis V. Greene, U. S. A., retired, who was sent by this government to Russia during the last Turkish war to represent the war department at Washington, lately told of his observations of the Turkish army while in battle. "The Turks are individually good fighters," said Col. Greene. "They are fine soldiers, very obedient, fanatic in their religion and fatalists. The Turks fight up to a certain point and when he thinks matters are going against him, he will run. Not for any lack of courage, but because he thinks fate is against him. The Turkish soldiers are well armed. During the Russo-Turkish war, the Turks were better armed than the Russians. They are well clothed, but the commissary and transportation systems were fatally defective."

"In numbers the peace strength is 125,000 Greeks and 150,000 Turks, and these can probably be increased to three times as many on each side. In 1877, the Turk put over 300,000 men in the field in Europe and over 100,000 in Asia, and they made a very much stronger resistance than the Russians anticipated. I think Russia put nearly half a million men in the field before the war was over.

"Turkey is bankrupt, but so she was in 1877, and that won't stop her from fighting. They will probably manage to borrow enough money to buy guns and ammunition, and they will get food out of their own country. The Turks 20 years ago fought an entirely defensive campaign. No reason why they should not do so now. Their plan was to seize some important point and throw up fortifications which they constructed with remarkable skill, and then wait to be attacked behind their breastworks. They collected large amounts of ammunition and provisions in their forts and awaited attack. Sometimes their positions were burned. They were compelled to retreat, and then they would abandon all their munitions and stores and fall back on another line of fortifications, 20 or 50 miles in the rear."

Col. Greene was asked his opinion as to the relative strength of the armies of Greece and Turkey. "There is no question," he said, "that the Turks are more than a match for the Greeks. But the whole question is what stand the great powers will take. They are all extremely anxious to keep peace, because if the war is once started among the great powers it is impossible to say when it will end."—Detroit Free Press.

HARD GREEK NAMES.

Not Pronounced Quite as the Average Reader Would Suppose.

Greek proper names have been the source of considerable study to the reading public of the United States since the Greek troubles began, and the pronunciation of the names of some of the officials who are prominent in Athens at the present time has been the subject of controversy.

The man who is well versed on the subject said that the modern Greek peculiarity was to a great extent the accentuation and gave as an instance the name of Mauroimihalas, the Greek secretary of the interior. The name is pronounced Mov-ro-michulis, with strong accent on the second syllable. The secretary of foreign affairs, Alexander Skouzes, pronounces his name Skouzes, with strong accent on the u. The name of Philip Varvoglis, minister of justice, is pronounced Var-vo-chles, the ch in the third syllable being hard like the German ch. Nicholas Metaxas, minister of war, has an easy name for foreigners, but the minister of marine, Levides, pronounces his name Levettes. The president of the chamber of deputies writes his name Zaimes and pronounces it Za-i-mis, with accent on the second syllable. Canaris, the fleet commander's name, is pronounced Canares, with accent on the first syllable. The name of Delianis appears in print every day and most readers have ideas as to its pronunciation. His Greek neighbors call the premier Delee-yaues, with accent on the second syllable.

Like the Russians, the Greeks have no family names, except in the higher walks of society, and a man whose name is Gregorius will call his son Gregorides, pronouncing the d much like th in thought. The son of Demetrius is called Demetriades.

One of the most popular names in Greece is Pappadopoulos, which may be assumed by any man whose father was a priest, and a man instead of taking the name of Antonides may call himself by the longer name, if Father Antonia was a priest. The d in Antonides, Pappadopoulos and in all names where it comes before a vowel, is pronounced like th in thought.—N. Y. Tribune.

Women's Curse Fulfilled.

The grave of Thomas Watt at Bryant's chapel, near Centerville, Ind., was buried into by ground hogs and several of his bones dragged to the surface. The discovery of the above facts makes an interesting prophecy uttered years ago. Thomas Watt was the neighborhood drunkard. His children ran wild as colts and but little more clothed. His worthlessness and depravity aroused the indignation of his neighbors, and particularly of an old woman, who, it is said, had the gift of divination. She remonstrated with him, and upon his failure to heed her advice pronounced a curse upon him. She prophesied that he would die of violence and his bones would not find repose in the grave. Thomas Watt was drowned while in an intoxicated condition in attempting to cross a swollen stream. Now that the latter part of the dismal prophecy has received literal fulfillment the old woman, who is yet alive and in the divination business, is greatly feared and her power as a fortune teller receives much credence.—Chicago News.

Advertisement for A. Xiques Cognac, 327 Rue Decatur, featuring a coat of arms and the text 'IMPORTATEUR DE'.

Vins, Cognacs, Gouilleres, Absinthe, Kirosh, Rhums, Vermouth, Scotch Irish Whiskey, Sardides, Conserves Alimentaires, etc. SEUL AGENT A LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS POUR CAMANDON & Cie.

Advertisement for Epilepsie Convulsions, Hysterie, featuring 'SOLUTION LAROYENNE ANTI-NERVEUSE' and 'PAR L'EMPLOI DE LA'.

Advertisement for Purgatifs et Depuratifs, featuring 'ENGORGEMENTS D'INTESTINS' and 'GRAINS DE SENTE'.

Advertisement for LA FARINE DUTAUT, 'EST LE MEILLEUR ALIMENT DES ENFANTS'.

Large advertisement for L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS, 'JOURNAL QUOTIDIEN FRANCAIS', 'Politique, Littéraire, Artistique et Scientifique', 'FONDÉE LE 1ER SEPTEMBRE 1827', 'Trois Editions distinctes: EDITION QUOTIDIENNE, EDITION HEBDOMADAIRE, EDITION SPECIALE DU DIMANCHE', 'DERNIERES NOUVELLES LOCALES', 'ETRANGERS', 'DEPECHE TELEGRAPHIQUES', 'PRESSE ASSOCIEE', 'Depêches Spéciales'.

Advertisement for VENTES A L'ENCA, PAR KINGSTON & BORN, ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE, 'Cottage Double—No 1024 rue Royale'.

Advertisement for VENTES A L'ENCA, PAR KINGSTON & BORN, ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE, 'Cottage Double—No 1024 rue Royale'.

Advertisement for LES BEAUX MAGASINS EN BRIQUES A 3 ETAGES, 'No 217 et 219 rue Delta et Nos 218 et 220 rue Front'.

Advertisement for LA BELLE RESIDENCE EN BRIQUES A DEUX ETAGES, 'Avec des terrains spacieux et ornés'.

Advertisement for LA BELLE RESIDENCE EN BRIQUES A DEUX ETAGES, 'Avec des terrains spacieux et ornés'.

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