

Recent discoveries have also brought to light certain relics of the stone age, and otherwise accentuate Egypt's extreme antiquity. A part of the volume is devoted to interpreting that quaint and queer product of superstition, the "Book of the Dead." The details of this part of the text would better be left unread by the very fastidious. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$2.)

Dante lovers—and who is not a Dante lover?—are always interested in the successive editions of "The Divine Comedy." The latest is by C. E. Wheeler, and is an entirely new translation into rhymed verse, keeping the triple rhythm of the original. The work is published in three small volumes, of a size right for the pocket, and in print and on paper grateful to tired eyes. The edition is a practical one. (E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$3.)

If the bill curtailing the power of the peers did not appear to excite all the English people, and the Coronation was soon a thing of the past, there was something that held their attention from Southampton to Edin-

burgh, and that was the demonstration of "Soyer's Paper-Bag Cookery." Earl's Court, the Glasgow Exposition, and many of the available show-rooms all over the Kingdom were devoted to the new idea. M. Nicolas Soyer, late chef, Brooks Club, London, believes that the simple expedient of cooking everything, almost, but soup, in a tightly closed paper bag, on a broiler in any kind of an oven, will do away with pots and pans and their uncleanness, and insure economical and savory cooking. His explanation, in a little book on his method, is most convincing. Mrs. Virginia Terhune Van de Water has edited and Americanized the recipes, and any one can try the system. M. Soyer, grandson of "the great Soyer," having abandoned his idea of becoming a clergyman, is a worthy descendant of the noted chef. He persevered in his experiments until he has succeeded, and now offers to the public a cleanly, economical, epicurean way of cooking in bags especially prepared for the purpose, as ordinary paper will not answer. The book gives the address of the bag manufacturers. (The Sturgis & Walton Company, New York. 60c.)

LETTERS TO THE OUTLOOK

AN EXTRADITION LOOPHOLE

It seems hardly credible that from our widespread system of extradition treaties the obvious agreement providing for the conduct under duress of prisoners extradited from one country through the jurisdiction of another should remain omitted.

There are at least a half-dozen countries of Europe, and as many more in South and Central America, whence it is practically impossible to transport an extradited criminal without taking him within the jurisdiction, if not across the absolute territory, of another state. To do this without the express authority of that state constitutes a violation and invasion of its sovereignty, for which an offending nation may be held strictly accountable.

In the well-known case of Peter Martin, convicted and sentenced in British Columbia in 1876 for a crime committed in that province, and sent by the Canadian authorities in custody to Victoria, during which transit the prisoner was brought by the Canadian officers of the law across a part of the Territory of Alaska, the Government of the United States claimed the release of the prisoner on the ground that the act of bringing him under duress within the territory

of the United States was a violation of its sovereignty, and the British Government acceded to the demand.

In my experience, a man charged with a crime committed in the United States was arrested in Norway and duly extradited. He was turned over to the custody of the officers, bearing the President's warrant, sent out to bring him to the United States. As no line of passenger steamers between this country and Norway existed, the officers proposed to bring their prisoner across the territory of another Power. In the course of consultation with me upon the subject, I pointed out to them the difficulty of the course they proposed to take, in view of the fact that they were unprovided with any authorization for the act. They concluded, however, as our diplomatic representative in the country in question did not feel justified in requesting such authority, to take the risk of transporting their prisoner across its territory without permission, which they did, thereby committing an invasion of sovereignty for which the Government of that country might, if aware of it, require us to release the convict, who is now serving out his sentence in one of our penitentiaries. Had the prisoner himself been aware of his

rights, he could, without the least difficulty, have gained his freedom on reaching the country in question, as he probably would have done had he not been deluded into the belief by the officers that, even if convicted, his sentence would be a light one, and that his best course was to go to America and stand his trial.

A very simple provision added to a few of our extradition treaties by way of amendment would remedy this defect.

HERBERT H. D. PEIRCE.

Portland Harbor, Maine.

THE JUDICIAL RECALL

A former Governor of Massachusetts, one most highly respected and who served many terms, was about to appoint a judge. Before him came one applicant with several hundred names on his petition, and another with only twenty-six. The Governor appointed the candidate who had few supporters, and said that he was preferable because he was put under obligation to fewer friends. The dozen or so of years which have since elapsed confirm the wisdom of the good Governor's choice.

The familiar statue of Justice embodies the accumulated wisdom of the ages. Those who designed it certainly did not represent Justice as blindfolded to signify that a judge is likely to be unjust through fear, but that he is in great danger of doing injustice through favor, and that it is proper to put constraint upon him if need be, that he may deal with both litigants as though he saw them not. The flesh-and-blood judge is not blind. He sees, it may be, in one litigant a neighbor to whom he is under business obligations, a member of his political party, his club, his lodge, his church, or his social set. Where is there any guarantee that he will not help his friend? The increasing complexity of human relations is causing modern society to become one vast appliance for enabling a man to help his friends and to be helped by them. We say that a judge is so honorable that he will voluntarily, and with eyes uncovered, disregard all considerations of favor, yet we compel honorable executors, administrators, trustees, treasurers, and many public officers to give bonds and sureties for their faithfulness. But the judge gives no bonds, and, in jurisdictions where he is appointed for life or good conduct, the probabilities are not one in a thousand that he will be removed by impeachment. Along certain lines he is as absolute a sovereign as the Czar of Russia, and for his decisions he may give such reasons as he pleases, or none at all, and one who complains takes the risk of punishment

for contempt. All attorneys are, by professional considerations, forbidden to make public comment on his decisions, and few laymen are competent to do it. Of course few judges avail themselves of all their privileges, but they know that they have them, and so do those who seek justice at their hands.

Why, then, should a suggestion for a judicial recall occasion so much surprise? Why does it seem to be necessary, in opposition to it, to seek to roll the crimes of Jeffreys upon the common people, when it is notorious that it was a popular uprising which caused him to be seized and imprisoned in the Tower till he died?

The methods of the proposed judicial recall may or may not be the wisest attainable, but its purpose is good, and, in any case, the people, whose intelligence and steadiness are greater now than ever before in the world's history, and every day increasing, will some time find a wise way to accomplish that purpose.

CANDOR.

Readville, Massachusetts.

[We do not think that the recall will tend to make the judge blind to popular passion and prejudice, or to great vested interests which control, directly or indirectly, great numbers of votes.—THE EDITORS.]

FROM AN EXILE

Madame Catherine Breshkovsky, now in exile at Kirensk, in the Province of Irkutsk, Siberia, wishes to thank her friends for letters, post-cards, and magazines received from them. She is unable to acknowledge them all personally.

In her quaint English she writes in a recent letter, after enumerating the contents of her mail: "You must believe, my dearest friends, how very thankful I feel for such gracious evidence of sympathy toward my old person and her position. Not only thankful but cheerful, too, for it is very pleasant to have every mail bringing some new magazine, new views of far-off lands and countries. I am not able to respond to all these tokens of benevolence, and feel myself ashamed, confused, always guilty against the good people sending me so much. I would like it to be said in one of the magazines or papers that I am delighted in having news and pictures from those who wish me to relish and comfort. Also how much I feel myself obliged and thankful towards people, towards every one who fulfills his wishes to comfort me. A few words of hearty thankfulness is all that I wish to express to my far-off friends. Let these be made, if you think it convenient to the case."

BY THE WAY

"All the devices for protecting railway crossings, aside from the removal of them from grade," says the Brooklyn "Eagle," "are futile." Automobilists dash under gates and through those that are down, run past flagmen, and ignore warning bells. "Not until grade crossings are abolished will the public cease to be shocked by fatalities." The "Eagle" refers particularly to the dangerous crossings of Long Island—over two hundred—about one-eighth of which have been eliminated within recent years.

A new comet has been discovered by Dr. W. R. Brooks, of Hobart College. It is in the constellation Cygnus, and it is said that it will soon be visible to the naked eye, in the early evening.

The horse has not been displaced by the automobile in the affections of Southern people, so a recent article in the "Rider and Driver" declares in describing a horse show in Virginia. "Down here every man owns a saddle horse if he possibly can. If he can't afford a stable for his horse, he'll keep the animal under his front stoop." And yet the writer declares that the art of horsemanship has declined, even in Virginia, as compared with ante-bellum days.

The Rivadavia, the mightiest of war-ships so far, was launched at Quincy, Massachusetts, August 26. Eleven thousand tons of steel were used in building the hull. Her engines will develop nearly 40,000 horse-power. She will help the Argentine Republic to keep the peace.

The alluring description of the charms of Ceylon, where "every prospect pleases," in the famous Missionary Hymn, does not, in the opinion of the Ceylonese, offset the statement that there "only man is vile." The British "Congregationalist" emphasizes a protest made at the recent Universal Races Congress by saying: "Some earnest Christians have in recent years felt and expressed the injustice of the line." Bishop Heber himself, if alive, might recognize that the labors of the missionaries since he wrote the hymn have modified conditions in Ceylon and so justified a revision of the phrase.

Freight-carriers by land seem to be emulating, in the building of enormous railway locomotives, the huge vessels that now transport merchandise by sea. The Santa Fé Railway is constructing for its freight service ten locomotives that will weigh 308 tons each. With their tenders, which will carry both coal and oil, they will weigh 850,000 pounds, or 425 tons, each.

That the flying-machine has really arrived is shown in the appearance in a New York paper of a column devoted to "exchange wants" headed "Aeroplanes." When you can exchange your 1910 automobile for a second-hand flying-machine, why remain on the earth?

Now comes the aero gun, devised for the purpose of bringing hostile air-ships to earth. In a test recently made by the Navy Department, a shell from one of these guns reached a height of 18,000 feet—several thousand feet higher than has as yet been attained by the aeroplane.

The benevolent bacteria of buttermilk, recommended by M. Metchnikoff as a promotive of longevity, have received a strong reinforcement in the palatable bacteria of sour milk in the form of ice-cream. This is not ordinary sour milk, however, and we do not recommend home experiments with these bacteria. Of 179 persons who have sampled the new delicacy, 111 preferred it to ordinary ice-cream.

Mr. Richard F. George, son of the late Henry George of single-tax fame, is a sculptor. He has recently completed a clay model for a bronze statue

to be erected in New York to the memory of the Rev. Edward McGlynn, an eloquent priest who espoused the theories of "Progress and Poverty."

The use of coffee appears to be declining in the United States. In 1902 1,057,220,000 pounds were used; in 1910, 860,414,000 pounds, notwithstanding the increase in population. The reason for the decline is obscure. Chocolate, cocoa, and cereal substitutes may have displaced coffee to a slight extent, but scarcely to the amount of hundreds of millions of pounds.

The printers of Finland—of whom there are said to be more than 2,500—recently struck for the abolition of night work. They declared night work to be unhygienic, unprofitable, and unnecessary. The strike failed, after three months' continuance. Had it succeeded, the morning papers could not have been published, and the Finnish breakfast must have missed its finest zest. More or less night work seems unavoidable in modern civilization, though the trade unions try to discourage it by charging high rates for overtime.

A letter sent in 1660 by Francis Howgill, an English Quaker, to an address in Durham was recently delivered by the English post-office. The letter had been lost in London for two hundred and fifty years. It was found in the Public Record Office and forwarded to Durham.

An American millionaire is, it is reported, to remodel his mansion on the Hudson River by adding ten additional guest rooms. The cost of the work is to be \$1,000,000, or \$100,000 per room. Few Americans of this generation will ever see these palatial apartments. Why should not the owner build them in such a way that many Americans of the year 3911 can see them? The ruined castles on the Rhine and the relics of Pompeian splendor now attract travelers from all over the world; let the American millionaire imitate his forebears, and make the future grateful for his ruins.

Phileas Fogg, Jules Verne's celebrated English traveler in "Around the World in Eighty Days," has had his record cut in two by a Frenchman of German extraction, M. Jager-Schmidt, who has girdled the earth in 39 days 19 hours. The Siberian Railway was the principal factor in lessening the time required for the trip.

Five and ten cent stores, which have proved so popular in America, are to be introduced in England, ten of them in London alone. One of the companies operating these stores is putting up a fifty-seven story building in New York City. Truly "many a little makes a mickle."

Sending dolls from America to France and Germany would seem to be even more inadvisable than the traditional taking of coals to Newcastle, but it is said that American dolls of the unbreakable sort are now being exported in considerable numbers to those countries. Children everywhere are attracted by the unconventional, human-like faces that distinguish these dolls.

A carpet company of Yonkers, New York, recently distributed to its employees of ten years' standing a sum amounting to more than \$40,000, as a share in its profits.

The General Slocum disaster is recalled in the paroling of Captain Van Schaick, who was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for criminal negligence in connection with the burning of the steamboat, and has just been liberated after serving three years and seven months. Captain Van Schaick is seventy-five years old, and this fact is thought to have influenced the Federal authorities in commuting his sentence.