

THE PALACE JOURNAL.

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1892.

PEOPLE'S PALACE
Club, Class and General
Gossip.

COMING EVENTS.

FRIDAY, May 6th.—Winter Garden open from 2 to 10 p.m. Admission 1d.
SATURDAY, 7th.—No Concert. Winter Garden open from 2 to 10 p.m.
SUNDAY, May 8th.—Sacred Concert at 4, and Organ Recital at 8 p.m. Admission free.
MONDAY, 9th.—In the Queen's Hall, at 8 p.m., Humorous Entertainment by Mr. Scott-Edwards. Admission 1d., Reserved Seats, 3d. At 8, Lecture on the Principles and Practice of Horse Shoeing by Dr. G. Fleming, C.B., F.R.C.V.S. Admission free. Winter Garden open from 2 to 10 p.m.
TUESDAY, 10th.—Winter Garden open from 2 till 10 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 11th.—No Entertainment. Winter Garden open from 2 to 10 p.m.
THURSDAY, 12th.—Winter Garden open from 2 to 10 p.m. Admission 1d.

THERE will be no concert in the Queen's Hall to-morrow, owing to the large examinations which will be held in connection with the Science and Art Department, and which will occupy all available space in the building.

THE library will be open each day during the week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Newspapers may be seen from 8 a.m. On Sunday it will be open from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission free. The students' circulating library open on Mondays and Thursdays from 6.30 to 9.30 in the Club-room.

THE attendances on Sunday last at the sacred concerts and library, were respectively 972, 1,344, and 872. Total, 3,188.

GORLESTON HOLIDAY HOME.—Owing to the great success of last year's holiday, arrangements have been made to re-open the house occupied then, under the same management. Intending trippers should book dates as early as possible. To suit the members' convenience, weekly or monthly payments will be taken in the office.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SCIENCE AND ART STUDENTS.—Students who are going to sit for this year's examinations, and who have not already signed the General Register, are requested to do so *at once*. The same lies in the school office for this purpose.

ON page 300 will be found a list of examinations to be held this week.

PEOPLE'S PALACE JUNIOR SECTION HARRIERS' CLUB.—On Monday last, the 25th ult., the above Harriers held their usual run, but owing to most of the members not turning up, only one of the committee and the secretary ran. Starting

from the People's Palace at 8.35, we made our way to Charing Cross, viz.: Mile End-road, Fenchurch-street, Cannon-street, Strand, and Embankment. Turning here, we started on our journey home, reaching the People's Palace after one hour's run.

J. MARKHAM, Hon. Sec.

TYPEWRITING.—We would draw the attention of the members to a typewriting class held in room 16, four evenings a week, from 7 till 10. An article on typewriting by the instructress, Miss Hartley, will be found in the columns of this journal. Miss Hartley is a lady who has had a good deal of experience in the art of typewriting, having had an office in Woolwich for some time.

PEOPLE'S PALACE RAMBLING CLUB.—On Saturday last, April 30th, the Ramblers visited Venice at Olympia. As we did not all travel together, I cannot say how many took part in this outing, but no doubt the bus ride from Liverpool-street to Kensington was no small part of the success of this outing, and quite a new departure in our mode of proceeding from one place to another. No time was lost on arrival. The first thing thought of, however, was tea, after which a ramble through the fine art gallery and Modern Venice, including a visit to Dr. Salviati's glass-blowing establishment, occupied the time until the curtain was raised disclosing the grand spectacle, which has been so well described in the daily papers. On the whole, the show is marvellous and worth visiting.—Saturday, May 7th. Arrangements have been made with Mr. Carter (of the Woolwich Polytechnic Institute, and late member of the Palace) to visit the Rotunda, and afterwards take tea at the Poly. Members are requested to attend this ramble. Train leaves London Bridge, S.E.R., at 2.22, book to Arsenal Station, Woolwich; or you can go from Bow-road, G.E.R., 2.15, book to South Woolwich, and walk to Arsenal Station.—Saturday, May 14th. Mrs. Guy's, Buckhurst Hill. Train leaves Liverpool-street, 3.25; Bethnal Green, 3.30, Hackney Downs, 3.38. Book to Chingford, but get out at Wood-street, Walthamstow.

A. MCKENZIE, Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE GIRLS' GYMNASIUM.—A very interesting display, given by the lady members of the Goldsmiths' Institute Gymnasium, was witnessed by a party of our members last Saturday evening (April 30th) at New Cross. The programme was a varied one, consisting of dumb-bell and bar-bell exercises, Indian clubs, fencing (by class of leaders), gymnastics on the parallel bars, tug of war, and concluding with a musical running maze, which was somewhat long, and exceedingly pretty. All the events were executed with grace and precision, and reflect credit upon the members and their able instructor. The bar-bell exercises and figure marching interested us most, and must certainly be voted the more pleasing item of the evening. We wish to congratulate the members of the G. I. Gym. on the success of their first annual display, and also to thank them and Mr. Nelson for the kind way in which we were received.—*Notice*.—Our tea, to which all members are cordially invited, is to

take place to-morrow (Saturday evening) at 7 o'clock in the Social-room. Members will be glad to hear that Miss Elstob has kindly promised us some recitations during the evening.

The following are the particulars and results of the competitions of the above, held in the Gymnasium on Monday evening, May 2nd.

Leaders' Competition.—There were nine entries: The Misses R. Joseph, M. Winfield, C. Baxter, D. Joseph, J. Baxter, D. Blinman, C. Sinclair, B. Huggett, and C. Bonsieur. Result—1st, Miss D. Joseph, with 196 points out of a possible 200. 2nd, Miss B. Huggett, with 194½ points. 3rd, Miss C. Baxter, with 192 points.

Members' Competition.—Six entries: The Misses C. Kibson, F. Clark, L. Isaacs, S. Andrews, Prior, E. Andrews. Result—1st, Miss S. Andrews, with 138 points out of a possible 140. 2nd, Miss E. Kibson with 135 points. 3rd, Miss F. Clark, with 134 points.

At the close of the competition, which was throughout a very keen one, Sergeant Elliott, who had kindly officiated as judge, made some very encouraging and complimentary remarks on the work done by the competitors. Detailed particulars of the competition may be seen posted in the gymnasium.

ANNIE A. HEINEMANN, Hon. Sec.

PEOPLE'S PALACE OLD BOYS' F. C.—The Old Boys' F. C. have concluded a very successful season. The result of seventeen matches played, being eight successes, five losses, and four ties. Thirty-five goals were scored by the Old Boys and twenty-seven by their opponents. The Old Boys have all dates open for next season. Communications to be addressed to the hon. sec., H. Barnes, 64, Beaumont-square, Mile End-road.

ON Saturday, May 14th, the People's Palace Choral and Orchestral Societies are to give a performance of Sir W. Sterndale Bennett's "Woman of Samaria," and Haydn's "Spring." Soloists, Mrs. Helen Trust, Madame Schlüter, Mr. Charles Ellison, and Mr. Charles Holman-Black. On the following Saturday, May 21st, the Popular Musical Union are to perform Handel's Oratorio "Judas Maccabæus" with the following vocalists: Miss Edna Gray, Miss A. B. Devonshire, Miss Helen Pettican, Mr. Wilbur Gunn, and Mr. Joseph Clauss. With this talented array of *artistes* and choruses, we may expect an unusually large attendance on each night.

WAGES IN NATAL.—The report presented to the Immigration Board by the secretary states that the wages of carpenters and joiners in Natal vary from 11s. to 15s. per day, bricklayers 16s., and masons 18s.; that the rent of workmen's cottages is from £2 to £4 per month, and that the coal miners earn from £16 to £20 per month. Mr. Simpson suggests the employment of Europeans in the place of the Kafirs on the wharf, where 1,200 Kafirs are now engaged.

Great Exhibitions.

THE credit of originating national exhibitions must be given to the Society of Arts, which was ostensibly founded to encourage arts, manufactures, and commerce, and which so far back as 1761 offered prizes for improvements in agricultural and other machines. But though small exhibitions fostered by this society existed at so early a date, the true

Parent of all the International Exhibitions

of modern times was one projected by the Marquis D'Avèze, and opened in 1793 at the Maison D'Orsay in Paris.

It seems to have been rather a collection of such objects of French art manufacture as could be borrowed from their owners than an assembling together of competing artists and manufacturers with their respective works; nevertheless, it is interesting as having been the first of these displays of which we have any authentic record. It remained open for but three days, and there were only 110 exhibitors in all.

In 1801 a second exhibition was held in Paris, under the patronage of Napoleon as First Consul. The exhibitors numbered 229, and wooden galleries were erected round the quadrangle of the Louvre for their convenience.

From this time forward exhibitions came to be of frequent occurrence in Paris and the French provinces, and they gradually extended to every country in Europe. In this country they had to fight their way against an immense amount of apathy and prejudice, and it was not until 1828 that an Industrial Exhibition was attempted in London. An organisation selected from mechanics' institutes throughout the country, and under the presidency of Dr. Birkbeck controlled it, while King George IV. gave his patronage.

It was anything but a success, and after dragging out its existence till 1833 was consigned to oblivion as an unfortunate bazaar.

A great success was achieved by an Exhibition of Manufactures, held at Covent Garden Theatre in 1845, and four years later a great Exposition of Industry was opened at Birmingham, which was the most complete of any previously held in this country, and which occupied the first building erected in England especially for such a purpose.

The Eve of Great Exhibitions

began with the opening of Sir Joseph Paxton's Palace of Glass in Hyde Park, by Her Majesty the Queen, on the 1st of May, 1851. The conception of this gigantic idea, and much of the credit of its realisation, are due to the Prince Consort, who, at a meeting of the Society of Arts at Buckingham Palace, in June, 1849, propounded the idea. He devoted himself thoroughly to making the necessary arrangements, and the happy suggestion of throwing the Exhibition open to all nations was his.

The story of the many difficulties regarding plans for a suitable building and the ultimate acceptance of Paxton's plan, founded on his experience of conservatory building as a practical gardener, has often been told. The site chosen in Hyde Park was upwards of

eighteen acres in extent, and upon it was reared the wonderful structure known as the "Crystal Palace," a building which, with the exception of the floorings and joists, was entirely of glass and iron. The general plan was that of a parallelogram 1,851ft. long, 456ft. broad, and 66ft. high, besides which there was a projection on the north side 936ft. long by 48ft. wide. The transept near the centre was 108ft. high, and the entrance of the building was nearly 800,000 square feet.

Four galleries ran lengthways, and others round the transept, and

Eight Miles of Tables

stretched along them and the ground floor combined. Altogether there were 4,000 tons of iron used, and the glass in the roof covered 17 acres, besides which there were about 1,500 vertical glazed sashes.

While the work of erection was in full swing, more than two thousand men were employed, with four powerful steam-engines. The total cost came to more than £176,000.

The general effect of this great building was that of a structure of the "Arabian Nights"; full of light, and with an airy, unsubstantial character about it, which seemed strangely unfitted to this material land of ours, with its solid, heavy details of stone, lime, brick, and mortar.

It is a very curious fact that the Father of English Poetry—Chaucer—foretold the erection of this building in his "House of Fame," even to giving a description of the opening of it by the Queen. He begins:—

"But, as I slept, me mette I was
Within a temple ymade of glas."

And then, after describing the wonders of this "temple," goes on to say—

"Then gan I loke about and see,
That there came entring into the hall
A right great company withal;
And that of sondry regions—
Of all kinds of condicions—
That dwelle in yearth under the Moone,
Poore and riche; and all so soone
As they were come into the hall,
They gan on knees doune to fall
Before this like noble queene.
'Madam,' sayd they, 'we bee
Folke that here besechen thee
That thou grout us now good fame,
And let our workes have good name;
In full recompensacioun
Of good worke, give us good renoun.'"

The number of exhibitors exceeded 17,000, and during the 144 days on which the Exhibition was open, it was visited by 6,170,000 persons, being a daily average of 43,536. The admission fees, including season tickets, amounted to £505,107, leaving a surplus, after all expenses had been paid, of about £180,000, which sum Her Majesty's Commissioners invested in the purchase of an estate at South Kensington, on which subsequently the South Kensington Museum, the Royal Horticultural Gardens, and the Albert Hall were placed.

This great Exhibition was hailed by the public with extraordinary enthusiasm, and the most extravagant expectations of millennial peace combined with increased

trade were widely entertained. No doubt it quickened industrial energy to an immense extent, but the other dreams to which it gave rise were quickly dissipated.

The success, pecuniary and otherwise, of the Exhibition, however, gave birth to a numerous train of successors, some merely local, others international.

Its first prominent successor was the *Exposition Universelle*, which was opened in Paris by the Emperor of the French in great state, on May 17th, 1855. Although the imposing magnitude of the "World's Fair" of 1851 was wanting, an assemblage of objects in the industrial and fine arts was brought together such as the world had never seen.

They were placed in a building which was specially constructed at a cost of half a million sterling, in which each nation had its special district, while the central nave or transept was common to all. At first the arrangements were lamentably imperfect, but as the wonders of industry and art became better known, very large numbers of people flocked to Paris

From all Quarters of Europe,

and immense crowds thronged the buildings.

The total receipts were £128,000 against an expenditure of nearly a million, and the visitors numbered 5,162,230.

Next in order of time came the International Exhibition of 1862. It was held in London, in an immense brick building, part of which was afterwards utilised for the erection of the Alexandra Palace. The building consisted of two vast domes of glass, 250 feet high, and 160 feet in diameter—larger than the dome of St. Paul's—connected by a nave 800 feet long, 100 feet high, and 83 feet wide.

The domes opened into spacious transepts, and the nave into a wide central avenue and interminable side aisles and galleries, covering altogether 16 acres of ground; but in addition there were two annexes of wonderful ugliness which enclosed 7½ acres more, thus making the whole area occupied by the building 23½ acres.

The Exhibition was opened by the Duke of Cambridge on May 1st, 1862, and remained open until November 1st, between which dates no fewer than 6,211,103 persons visited it, an average of over 36,000 a day. The number of exhibitors was 28,653, and the total cost £321,000.

On April 1st, 1867, a second *Exposition Universelle* was opened at Paris, in an immense oval building erected in the centre of the Champ de Mars.

This Exhibition was intended to bring into notice all the resources which industry can create for satisfying the requirements of mankind.

A distinguishing feature was the inclosure of part of the park for illustrations of national dwelling places; and the life, clothing, food, and domestic habits of various peoples were practically illustrated by living families, brought from all quarters of the globe to inhabit the houses of their countries.

The building itself covered thirty-seven acres, and there were 42,000 exhibitors; 6,805,969 persons visited it, and the expenses came to £420,735.

An International Exhibition took place at Vienna in 1873. The building in

which it was held was of enormous size, and

Covered Forty Acres of Ground.

It consisted principally of a grand nave, nearly 1,000 yards long, in the midst of which rose a rotunda 312 feet in diameter, which was covered by a dome larger than that of St. Peter's at Rome.

Situated as it was in a beautiful park, surrounded by trees and fountains, with every resource of ornamental architecture and landscape gardening lavished on the decoration of its grounds, this Exhibition lost nothing in comparison with those which had preceded it. It remained open from May to November, and was visited by 6,740,500 people.

Philadelphia was the scene of a huge Exhibition in 1876. It contained a vista nearly half-a-mile long, the main building was 1,900 feet in length; there were six other large buildings and 200 smaller.

It remained open for six months and nearly ten million people passed the turnstiles, a daily average of over 60,000.

Even this vast Exhibition was surpassed by one held in Paris in the following year. It was on two unequal sites divided by the Seine, and the main building in the Champ de Mars covered 263,600 square yards, besides which there was the palace of the "Trocadero," a stone structure with a rotunda, which was crowned by a dome and flanked by two lofty towers.

The Exhibition was visited by more than

Sixteen Million Persons,

a daily average of eighty-two thousand. The recent Exhibitions at South Kensington are still too fresh in our minds to call for a detailed account. Sufficient to say that 2,703,051 people visited the "Fisheries," while the "Healtheries" saw 4,167,681 within its walls.

The Oldest Will in the World.

THE process of willing away property by a deed to come into effect after the death of the testator, is of course acknowledged to be an ancient one.

The love of power, is one of the first attributes of human being, and the race of man was not long in discovering means, by which that power could be continued after death.

They were quick to see that human life was too short for the continuance to completion of human passions, and only by sentences and commands girt round and solidified by the power of the law, could they hope, after they were gone, to make permanent their favours, and indelible their slights.

The recent discovery of the oldest will in the world, brings before us, in the clear light of to-day, an episode of family quarrels and family jealousy, enacted and forgotten some 2,600 years ago. Exhumed from the grave of a long-forgotten world, is the will of Sennacherib, King of Assyria, who, it will be remembered, "departed, and went, and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh."

Here family quarrels, "circumstances over which he had no control," engrossed

his attention, and the determination to see his favourite (though not eldest) son Esarhaddon, "well done by," caused the setting forth of this inscription; more valued now than when it was written, it runs as follows:—

"I, Sennacherib, King of Multitudes, King of Assyria, have given chains of gold, stores of ivory, a cup of gold, other crowns and chains, besides all my riches, of which there are heaps, crystal, and other precious stones; over four hundred pounds weight, to Esarhaddon, my son, named Assur-ebil-nincinal, according to my wish; and the treasures laid in the temple of Amuk and Neboirik-erba, the harpists of Nebo."

Let us hope that this wholesale gift of crown jewels, and riches of which there are heaps, were of some consolation to that son, for whom, in all probability, the father's life was sacrificed. For immediately afterwards we read that "it came to pass as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch, his God, that Adrammeleck and Sharezer, his sons, smote him with the sword, and they escaped into the land of Armenia, and Esarhaddon, his son, reigned in his stead."

But the effects of the will were not concluded as summarily, as stated in the bare outlines of the text; an inscription of Esarhaddon's found at Konyunik continues the story. "I vowed from my heart. My liver was inflamed with rage. I immediately wrote letters, saying, that I assumed the sovereignty of my father's house; and lifted up my hands to Assur, the Moon, the Sun, Bel, Nebo, Kergal, Ishtar of Nineveh, and Ishtar of Arbela, and they accepted my prayer. . . . Then as a bird spreads its wings, so I displayed my standard, as a signal to my allies, and took the road to Nineveh, with much toil, by forced marches. Getting before my troops in the hill country, their warriors attacked my advance, and discharged their arrows, but the terror of gods, who are my lords, overwhelmed them, and they retreated before the valour of my army. Ishtar, queen of war and battle, stood by my side, and broke their bows, and in her rage destroyed their line of battle, proclaiming herself to the enemy as an unsparing deity. By her favour I planted my standards where I had intended. . . ."

Truly a poetic diary of passion born episodes; and preserved to us by the truthful testimony of those silent witnesses, the graven rocks. The ill consequences of this ancient erring have often been echoed in those of the less durable "6d. forms" of the nineteenth century, and as long as the human race lasts, men will try, through the medium of their "last will and testament," to have a finger in the making of that future which must come after them.

MR. FERRANTI is stated to have a scheme for utilising the water power of Niagara, on the Canadian side of the Falls. His plan is to sink shafts into the bed of the river, and drive Pelton water-wheels at the bottom of these shafts by the water dropping down. The wheels would in turn drive large dynamos, generating electricity, to be distributed by wire. The scheme is said to have been sanctioned by the Canadian Government.

Paris Casuals.

IN Paris, as in London, and in fact in every great city, the people who patronise the night refuges are of every occupation and almost of every class. One refuge received in the year 980 workwomen, 750 chambermaids, and after that, in their order, cooks, general servants, governesses (these sent only a contingent of twenty), lady companions (five), and "persons formerly having money in the funds" (two)—this out of a total of nearly 3,500 picked up and cared for in the one asylum alone. This establishment belongs to an association of a mixed religious and philanthropic character. Then comes the Société Philanthropique, which is purely religious, and which opens refuge for women under the management of the Sisters of Charity. This is called the "work of the hospitality of labour," and its most considerable establishment, or, perhaps, the only one at present, is a house opened at Auteuil at the beginning of this year. Although the police find none of the money, they cannot exactly keep their fingers out of the management, and they insist on having a register kept, just as though the place were an ordinary lodging-house. However, this is not allowed to become an excuse for a too searching inquisition. The applicants for admission give just what answers they like, and what answers they sometimes do give Maxime du Champ will tell us. Many of them have nothing but soubriquets, or do not choose to have any other. "What is your name?" "They call me la Chiffonnette." "That is not a name." "Well, I have no other." "What is your family name?" "I don't know." "Where is your father?" "Where is your mother?" "I don't know." "Did you ever know them?" "Never." "Who takes care of you?" "Nobody." "Where do you live?" "Nowhere?"

The arrangements here at Auteuil are of the simplest. There is a big reception-room, with benches and tables, and with a few religious pictures for its sole ornament; a bath-room beyond, and a disinfecting chamber for clothing, with a wardrobe of cast-off clothes given by the charitable to supply some of the miserable creatures with a new outfit. The rags, once off, are often quite unfit to put on again, and, in fact, cannot be put on. Some of the inmates look on the bath as quite a penal infliction, or refuse to take it because they are "not ill." But, as in the English casual wards, all are tubbed remorselessly, whether they like it or not.

The house at Auteuil is more than a temporary refuge. Those who most need it are allowed to stay there for some time, and many have won their way back into decent positions by the help given them in this way. This is intended to meet a supposed defect of some of the asylums, where the wretched inmates are remorselessly turned out in the morning, no matter what their needs, and many of them to certain and obvious starvation. Of the 3,500 women received at Auteuil in one year, over 1,700 found their way back to modest comfort under this arrangement.

A HUNDRED times more trouble is caused by men who can get work but won't work than by the men who want work but cannot get it.

The Growth of Great Cities.

NOTWITHSTANDING the circumstantia accounts that have been handed down from past ages in regard to the enormous size and large population of the great cities of antiquity, there need not be any hesitation in asserting that there were never before so many large cities in the world as there are at present. If Rome in the time of the Emperor Claudius had, as is alleged, nearly seven millions of inhabitants, it is remarkable that for more than a thousand years after the fall of that great city there was no city in Europe with so many as one million people. Indeed, at the beginning of the present century, there was no city in Europe with that number of inhabitants, the most populous being London with 865,000 persons. There are now five European cities with upwards of a million inhabitants, the first two of which contain in the aggregate 7,000,000 persons.

London stands easily at the head of all modern cities, yet it has added five times as much to its population during the present century as it did during the previous thousand years. There is a difficulty about stating the exact population of London, because the metropolis is not a city in the ordinary sense, but an aggregation of towns, an ever spreading, overgrown aggregate of houses and streets, which is constantly invading new territory and covering it with buildings. Thus the old City of London had at the last census but 50,526 inhabitants. London, within the Registrar General's tables of mortality had 3,814,571 people; the London School Board District had 3,832,441 people, while the London of the metropolitan and city police districts had 4,764,312 inhabitants.

The latter figures may be taken as the proper population of London, regarded as a community. Its increase during the previous ten years was 880,000, or at the rate of 23 per cent. It is easy to figure up what the continuance of such a rate of increase would finally lead to. It would give London at the next census nearly six millions of inhabitants, and at the next succeeding one seven and a quarter millions. Of course, this rate of increase may not be maintained, but that is a matter on which no one can speak with certainty. When London had but two million inhabitants, everyone said that this wonderful growth must soon stop; but since then London has been growing faster than ever. There, if anywhere, will be solved the problem as to how many people can exist in one great city.

Paris, once well abreast of London in population, now takes second place, and will have to go down to third before many decades. Its population at the last census was 2,239,000, it having increased about 570,000 during the previous twenty years. Its rate of increase is, therefore, comparatively slow, and, as the population of France is nearly stationary, it must necessarily be slow in the future.

New York is now the third of the great cities of the world, leaving out of consideration the cities of China, of whose population there is no reliable enumeration. The position of New York as the mart of a vast continent is unequalled, but the narrowness of Manhattan Island and the inferior facilities for rapid transit

prior to the era of elevated railways, have been against it. Its population of 1,206,000 at the last census should have grown to 1,550,000 at the next census, and to 2,000,000 at the succeeding one. If the population of New York was reckoned on the same basis as that of London, it would take in Brooklyn, Jersey City, and a number of small adjacent towns, with a united population at the last census of 2,250,000. The aggregated community thus indicated is growing at the rate of 30 per cent. every ten years, so that the total population gathered here at the next census will be nearly 3,000,000, and at the following census nearly 4,000,000.

Following New York the great cities of the world that have a population of more than one million, are Berlin, 1,122,000; Vienna, 1,163,000; and Constantinople, 1,075,000. The capital of Russia has only 875,000, and the other European capitals, not already mentioned, will fall much below that figure. No doubt St. Petersburg will, before the next census, have passed the one million limit, and become entitled to rank as one of the greatest cities of the world.

Of cities which rank but second in their respective countries the greatest is Philadelphia, with its 847,000 inhabitants at the last census, and which will probably reach 1,060,000 at the next enumeration. The United States will then be the only country in the world with two cities of more than a million inhabitants, and by the succeeding census Brooklyn will be added to the list to form a third, and Chicago also probably to form a fourth. By that time, however, Moscow will have passed the one million limit, and also Glasgow and Liverpool.

At the last census there were in Great Britain and Ireland twenty-seven cities and towns with upward of 100,000 inhabitants, an increase of seven over the number at the previous census. In the United States there were at the last census 18 cities and towns with upward of 100,000 inhabitants, an increase of four over the previous census. No other country in Europe had so many cities of that size as America can show; Germany had 14, France 10, Austria-Hungary 5, and Russia 9; British India has 18 cities, with 100,000 inhabitants and upwards. It is certainly remarkable that "the glorious Republic" should be in advance of such countries as France, Germany, and Austria, with respect to large cities, and so close upon the heels of England, which, however, still retains a good lead, and some of whose younger towns are extremely vigorous in their growth. Oldham may be taken as a striking example of this class, it having nearly doubled its population in ten years, the increase being from 82,000 to 152,000.

DR. NANSEN states that during his projected Polar expedition he will be supplied with provisions for six years, but will take no alcohol except in the medicine chest or to be used as fuel.

ALL the railways in Victoria are the property of the State. The borrowed money expended on their construction to June 30th, 1891, amounts to £33,172,426. The railways open on the date mentioned were 2,763 miles in length.

A Natural Method of Physical Training.*

UNLIKE more pretentious books dealing with the all-important subject of physical culture, this handy little volume is to the point, and, above all, essentially practical. It is not given to every one to write upon such a question (involving physiological detail and the minutiae of muscular manipulation) with the brevity of an encyclopedist and the force of a skilled lawyer at the same stroke of the pen, and yet here is a key to health, to be read at a sitting, and yet arranged with such balance that one can carry away the hints and suggestions crowded into each chapter.

The author, Edwin Checkley, has his opinion of the stereotyped methods of muscle-grinding, and does not hesitate to condemn them as bad. In their place he sets forth,—

First. The essential to all proper exercise is correct breathing.

Secondly. The body will be permanently benefited by the adoption of a natural carriage.

Thirdly. A few simple exercises, without apparatus, by which the contractile power of the muscles and the flexibility of the joints may be increased.

The only book which we have seen in any way to touch this book in interest, is that contributed to the "Knowledge" series, by the late Professor Proctor.—RAPIER.

RECOGNISING the fact that reading and writing practice must proceed side by side whilst the aspiring student is acquiring a practical knowledge of shorthand, we consider he cannot do better than subscribe to the Phonographer and Typist, an excellent illustrated monthly, issued at the low price of 3d. The student will realise that the outlines chosen as a model must be absolutely reliable, and the reading matter practical; a careful glance through its pages convinces us that these essentials are attained. We notice also that a shorthand competition for a calligraphic pen, value 16s. 6d., is announced. Those who delight in the use of a good gold-nibbed fountain pen should compete. Sample copies can be obtained from Mr. A. E. Morton, 309, Regent-street, W., Room 30.

THE LARK TRADE IN LONDON.—In the Metropolis alone dead larks of the value of close upon £2,500 are annually disposed of; and this, taking the all-round wholesale price at 2s. per dozen—which is probably above rather than below the mark—gives a grand total of no fewer than 300,000 of these birds for London alone. This, however, sinks into insignificance beside the fact that just 20 years ago, during the winter of 1867-68, no fewer than 1,255,000 of these birds were taken into the town of Dieppe alone, and the season was not regarded as other than an average one.

To get very well acquainted with some men makes dogs appear more loveable.

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* Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 24, Bedford-street, W.C. Price 2s. 6d.

PROGRAMME OF SACRED CONCERT & ORGAN RECITAL

TO BE GIVEN ON

SUNDAY, the 8th of MAY, 1892.

Organist Mr. B. JACKSON, F.C.O. (Organist to the People's Palace).

AT 4 P.M.—VOCALIST, MR. FRED. VIGAY. THE PEOPLE'S PALACE SUNDAY AFTERNOON CHOIR.

1. ORGAN SONATA, No. 2 Mendelssohn (a. Grave; b. Adagio; c. Allegro maestoso e vivace; d. Fuga.)

2. HYMN ... "Blessed City, Heavenly Salem" ...

Unison. mf Blessed city, heavenly Salem; Vision dear of peace and love, f Who of living stones art builded In the height of heav'n above, mf And, with Angel hosts encircled, As a bride doth earthward move; cr From celestial realms descending, Bridal glory round thee shed, p Meet for Him Whose love espoused thee cr To thy Lord shalt thou be led; All thy streets, and all thy bulwarks Of pure gold are fashioned.

mf Bright thy gates of pearl are shining, They are open evermore; cr And by virtue of His merits Thither faithful souls do soar, p Who for Christ's dear Name in this world Pain and tribulation bore.

Many a blow and biting sculpture Polish'd well those stones elect, cr In their places now compacted By the Heavenly Architect, Who therewith hath will'd for ever That His Palace should be deck'd.

Unison. f Laud and honour to the Father, Laud and honour to the Son, Laud and honour to the Spirit, Ever Three, and ever One, Consubstantial, Co-eternal, While unending ages run.

3. PASTORALE IN A (Sonata, No. 1) Guilmant

4. VOCAL SOLO "Arm, Arm, ye Brave" Handel (Judas Maccabeus).

I feel the Deity within, Who the bright cherubin between, His radiant glory erst displayed To Israel's distressful prayer He hath vouchsafed a gracious ear, And points out Maccabeus to their aid, Judas shall set the captive free, And lead us on to victory.

Arm, arm, ye brave, a noble cause, The cause of Heaven your zeal demands, In defence of your nation, religion and laws, The almighty Jehovah will strengthen your hands.

5. CONCERT STUCK Spark

6. ANTHEM "Praise ye the Father" Gounod

7. ANDANTE, varied Rea

8. VOCAL SOLO ... "The Bells" J. L. Hatton

I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old familiar carols play, And wild and sweet the words repeat, Of peace on earth, goodwill to men; And thought how as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom Had roll'd along the unbroken song, Of peace on earth, goodwill to men.

Till ringing, singing on its way, The world revolved from night to day; A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, Of peace on earth, goodwill to men; But wilful man now drew the sword, And war was rife and cannons roared, And with the sound the carols drowned, Of peace on earth, goodwill to men.

And in despair I bowed my head, There is no peace on earth, I said, For hate is strong and mocks the song Of peace on earth, goodwill to men; Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead, nor doth He sleep, The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth, goodwill to men.

9. MARCHÉ NUPTIALE Lorci

AT 8 P.M.

1. MARCHÉ FUNÈBRE ET CHANT SERAPHIQUE Guilmant

2. ... "Ave Maria" Schubert

3. TOCCATA IN G Dubois

4. ANDANTE IN E MINOR Smart

5. TOCCATA AND FUGUE Bach

6. "God Shall Wipe Away All Tears" Sullivan (Light of the World)

7. MARCHÉ PONTIFICALE Tombelle

There are still a few vacancies in the Sunday Afternoon Choir for Contraltos and Basses.

The Audience is cordially invited to stand and join in singing the Hymn.

ADMISSION FREE.

PROGRAMME OF HUMOROUS ENTERTAINMENT

TO BE GIVEN
ON MONDAY, THE 9TH OF MAY, 1892,

AT 8 O'CLOCK, BY

MR. SCOTT-EDWARDES,

Who will be assisted by the following artistes:—

MADAME BÜLOW, R.A.M. MR. S. C. MONTAGUE AUSTIN. MR. ALEXANDER EDWARDS.
MR. JIMMY JAMES. MR. GEORGE VERNON.

PART I.		PART II.	
1. PIANOFORTE SOLO MADAME BÜLOW	"Welsh Airs"	8. PIANOFORTE SOLO MADAME BÜLOW	"The Gondoliers"
2. BALLAD ... MR. S. C. MONTAGUE AUSTIN	"The King's Own"	9. BALLAD ... MR. S. C. MONTAGUE AUSTIN	"Thy Sentinel am I"
3. CORNET SOLO ... MR. ALEXANDER EDWARDS	"Love's Old Sweet Song"	10. CORNET SOLO ... MR. ALEXANDER EDWARDS	"Dream Memories"
4. RECITAL ... MR. SCOTT-EDWARDES	"Shemas O'Brien"	11. HUMOROUS SONG ... MR. SCOTT-EDWARDES	"The Drama"
5. SONG MADAME BÜLOW	"Plantation Melodies"	12. BALLAD MADAME BÜLOW	"Dearest of All"
6. ORIGINAL MUSICAL SKETCH MR. JIMMY JAMES		13. MUSICAL SKETCH ON THE BONES MR. JIMMY JAMES	
7. HUMOROUS SONG ... MR. GEORGE VERNON	"The Future Mrs. 'Awkins"	14. SONG (Humorous) ... MR. GEORGE VERNON	"The Lord Mayor's Coachman"

Doors Open at 7 p.m. ADMISSION—ONE PENNY, RESERVED SEATS—THREEPENNY.
The doors will be kept closed during the performance of each number on the Programme.

Antiquarian Frauds.

THERE are perhaps few things in which fraud is more easily practised than in antiquarian curiosities, and frequently years elapse before the purchaser of what is treasured as a relic of centuries ago learns, to his vexation, that his inexperienced eye has been deceived, and that the object he has kept so carefully is worthless.

Recently, in Paris, frauds of this description have been successfully carried on by *chevaliers d'industrie*, who have turned to account the finding of an old coffin by some workmen engaged in excavations in the Rue de Beaurain. Beside it were also discovered several old swords, supposed to have belonged to Knights Templars; and since this discovery the number of old swords and helmets that have been offered to collectors of curiosities in the French capital is amazing.

Dupes have been remarkably numerous. One of the latter having paid a large price for some rusty armour, alleged by the vendors to have been worn by a Knight Templar during the Middle Ages, was so proud of his bargain that he despatched his treasures to the museum of his native town. The Mayor of the town thanked him, cordially inviting him to be present at the opening of a new wing in the museum he had enriched. Soon afterwards, however, the "medieval curiosities" were inspected by an experienced member of the French Academy of Sciences, who

chanced to be staying in the town. Without hesitation he declared them to be articles of theatrical "property," which had been plunged into some chemical preparation. They were, consequently, returned to their owner, who has placed the matter in the hands of the police.

Concerning Sleep.

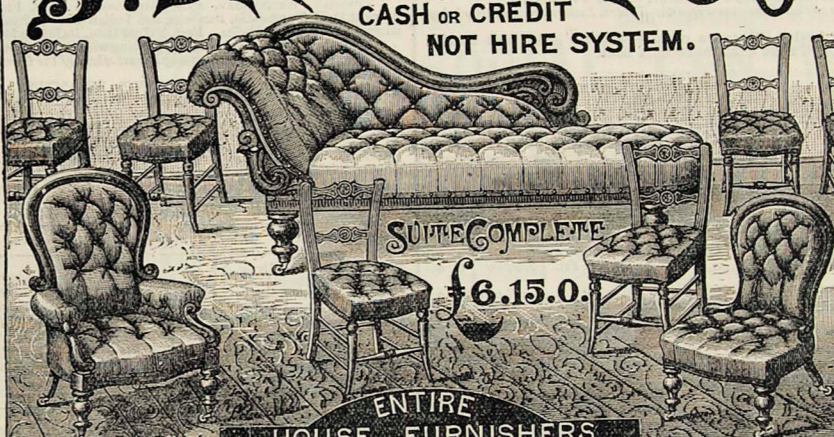
THE immortal Sancho Panza says: "While I am asleep I have neither fear nor hope; neither trouble nor glory; and blessings on him who invented sleep—the mantle that covers all human thoughts; the food that appeases hunger; the drink that quenches thirst; the fire that warms; the cold that moderates heat, and, lastly, the general coin that purchases all things; the balance and weight that makes the shepherd equal to the king and the simple to the wise." Cervantes, like all great brain-workers, evidently understood the value, the comforts, the delights of sleep, which are not fully appreciated by any one until he suffers the pangs of wakefulness. One of the most exquisite forms of torture devised by the tyrants of Europe and of modern China was to inflict death by preventing sleep. A case is somewhere recorded of a Chinese criminal who suffered for nineteen days before he succumbed. Food, drink, and raiment are more easily dispensed with for a considerable period than is rest for the brain. Insomnia or inability to sleep is

a common enough symptom of many nervous and mental diseases, and deprivation of sleep, if kept up long enough, invariably results in loss of reason. The poet Southey laid the foundation of that mental malady which clouded his later years by watching at night at the bedside of his sick wife after the continuous mental labours of the day. Many a mental wreck dates from such over-taxation of the brain. Wakefulness is generally owing to something that irritates the brain through the feelings. Prolonged or excessive intellectual effort, so long as the emotions are not stirred up, does not naturally produce loss of sleep, but rather predisposes to slumber. When the emotions, especially those of a depressing character, are aroused, the brain is kept in a state of irritation, and sleep will not come, no matter how earnestly it may be sought. In fact, anxiety to sleep, like any other form of anxiety, hinders the obtaining of it. Worry is therefore worse than work, and wears out the instrument of the mind more rapidly than anything else. The hard-worked soldier or sailor may sleep soundly in spite of noises or confusion, the roar of cannon or tempestuous winds, while the officer may remain sleepless, when the night is peaceful and everything would seem to favour rest of mind and body. Care and worry over duty unperformed, or to be done effectually, prevent the advent of slumber.

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