RECENT LITERATURE.

The Second Volume of Lea's History.

Another Installment of an Impartial Account of the Origin, Methods and Purposes of the Inquisition—Florian's Fables—Southern California—Notes.

"A History of the Inquisition in the Middle Ages," by Henry Charles Lea, Harper & Brothers. Mr. Lea has made an impression in the literary and critical world, by the production of his remarkable work on one of the most portentous developments in Christian civilization, which it does not often fall to a writer of any age or country to make. The second volume, just issued, extends the investigation begun in the first into the workings of the engine by which the Catholic Church was forced, the author contends, to hold its ground against the revolt of intellect from its sway. It was no doubt a case in which, however paradoxical it seems, "discipline must be maintained." Bad as the administration of the church was, worse was beyond in a state of ecclesiastical anarchy. For the power of the church was still the only one in Christendom that made for righteousness and the good of mankind, so long as the new power of knowledge was unequal to the battle with feudal brutality. Knowledge and thought indeed must fight its first battle with the church, then man's only protector, though a corrupt one, against otherwise irresponsible, unjust brute force. It is Mr. Lea's insight here which makes his book so philosophical and fair as a view of the times of which he writes. The present volume vividly details the fluctuating battle at first between church authority and assumption, with its merciless methods, on the one hand, and awakening intelligence and reasoning virtue on the other in devoted Languedoc. The most emphatic and the saddest sign at once of the church's and the Inquisition's final victory there was the conversion of Count Raymond, of Toulouse, from a champion of free thought and independent action into a tool of unrelenting persecution. But the spirit of heresy, in all ages the spirit of freedom, was as undying as that of persecution, and Philip was appealed to at Paris. The appeal gave him new power as King of France, but that power proved, like Raymond's, unequal to more than a pretended reform of Inquisition methods. Confiscation of goods was by this time added to the church's war on the person, and with this new weapon all France was attacked. The auto de fe advanced to Paris early in the Fourteenth Century, and even royal St. Louis delivered his subjects over to the cruelties which his bishops opposed. This seems to have been the culmination of inquisitorial power in this direction, however. The latitude was becoming too Northern for its growth. The French parliaments made head against it and an attempt to revive it, against the influence of the University of Paris, in the next century failed, and was avenged in fresh persecution of the devoted Waldenses of the more Southern provinces, until Louis XI. had become strong enough for even their protection to some extent. In the Spanish peninsula the course of things was equally varied. Aragon yielded to the power of Rome in harassing its population, while Castile kept the Inquisition out altogether under Alonzo the Wise, though many of the Waldensian sect of the Cathari found refuge there for the free enjoyment of their opinions. Persecution for heresy was unknown in Castile and but inefficiently practiced even in Portugal. In Italy too there was sufficient political activity to favor heresy for a while, and even after persecution was set up there the popular opposition to it, and indifference to the church which engendered it, constituted a reserve force which always stood ready to justify the State in at last getting control of the Inquisition, as in Venice, the Sicilies and finally Central Italy. To the east of the Adriatic its success was alike precarious. The Cathari followed up its bloody career in Hungary with steady opposition, until Catharism became the State religion there and even reached a hand to Turkish invasion, in its desperate mood of fighting the devil of persecution with fire. Into Germany also did Waldensianism extend its operations, under the earlier tolerance of Conrad of Marburg, and with the favoring circumstance of his death after he had yielded to the urgency of Gregory XII for persecution. The bishops, too, were opposed to this urgency, as in France, and a reaction kept the Inquisition out of Germany. The author's account of the whole extensive fraternity of nonconformists of this period, under their various names, is very full. The Black Death of the Fourteenth Century is also described, from which even Germany is estimated to have lost one-fourth of its population. This seems to have decided Charles IV. on obeying the Pope and beginning persecution in Germany. But the prelates still protected some of the most troublesome of the recusants, and in the end the Inquisition found Germany no more suited to its permanent growth than other soils. When Luther rose it was powerless to harm him. Bohemia was always known for its independence in ecclesiastical matters and early gave entertainment to Waldensianism. The trial of Huss, as given by the author, affords a good illustration of the inquisitorial process, and the exasperating effect of his burning is noted. A series of bloody crusades against the Hussites, in which all Europe was levied upon for warriors, who were indiscriminately guaranteed salvation for aiding in the extermination of the heretics, ended, after ten years of fiendish cruelties on both sides, only in a sort of compact between the church and heresy; and when Rome afterward sent a grand inquisitor to try another crusade, in spite of the compact, he found more serious work in making head against the Turks, fresh from the capture of Constantinople. The compact was maintained, and Bohemia enjoyed more or less of her old independence of Rome. If the reader be disposed to ask why the church did not reform itself instead of fighting the fanatical reformers, he finds answer here that corruption had been so thorough in "mining all within" it that no power was left for self cure. Instead of fighting the sin of its priesthood it made war on Saracens in Asia and on the most cultivated and civilized of its European children, the Southern French, who, but for a century or two of massacre and confiscation, would have anticipated Italy in that great revival of learning which was begun by the Italian Renaissance. In thus ruining thriving and intelligent communities and municipalities the church gave a power to kings and emperors which it could not again take away, and became the more diplomatic temporal sovereignty which it now is. And yet the church had the cunning to prosecute its temporal power, through all these dark and bloody times, even by such monstrous devices as making a political use of the very heresy it pretended to fight with such holy zeal. It sided often with heretical princes against those who would have favored the Inquisition, if a temporary advantage was thus to be gained. Even inquisitorial zealots sometimes became obnoxious by their fanaticism to the supreme authority, and tasted the horrors of the stake in their turn. Mr. Lea may seem to strain his admirable impartiality in not condemning the Council of Constance for violating the safe conduct granted to Huss in appearing before it. It was within ecclesiastical law at that time perhaps. A heretic had no rights, and any man sufficiently accused was a heretic. But if Mr. Lea absolves the council he does not spare the system under which it acted. It would gladly have saved Huss' life at the expense of his retraction of what he honestly held. It made him the martyr it feared he would be, and his followers for years made their country hot for the hordes of crusaders sent against them. But the decisions of councils did worse than this. They confused all moral principles and standards by their decrees, making consistency of belief or obedience an impossibility. As to the giving of the cup as well as the bread to the laity, for which the Bohemians stood, with the whole church for over a thousand years, the Inquisitor Capistrano owned that he would not argue it with them, because of their familiarity with the Scripture and church history arguments for the practice. He would only burn them. But no adequate idea of the excellence and absorbing interest of Mr. Lea's work can be given by description or even by extracts. It is rich in rare historical reading. In addition to its philosophical and candid spirit, its style is straightforward, clear, vigorous, graphic and yet graceful. The preparation gone through for writing it is shown to have been exhaustive. The authorities are fully given, and the most judicious use has been made of them. One is at a loss whether most to admire the vivid force of the narrative or the scientific soundness of the conclusions drawn from the events narrated. The publishers' work, too, it may justly be said, is worthy of the author's. Rarely does an American book delight the historical reader with such fine, and Forts," by L. C. A. De Tracy, with plans and diagrams for that sort of military engineering; Mrs. Leonowens' "Fire Worshipers," and other illustrated and unillustrated matter.

Messrs. Harper have issued their handsomely bound volumes of *Harper's Magazine*, *Harper's Weekly*, *Harper's Bazar* and *Harper's Young Folks* for 1887, in which the accumulated treasures of weeks and months of stories, essays, records of events, and illustrations of the same, often in the best style of the recently almost newly created art of engraving, will be found, for preservation and reference, in substantial and permanent form.

"The Hereafter," by twenty-three religious teachers, D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, is a little volume of answers to the *Boston Herald's* Christmas query "as to proof of a life to come. The answers are signed in fac simile by their several authors, among whom are James Freeman Clarke, Joseph Cook, Wayland Hoyt, Father Hecker, C. A. Bartol, Rabbi Schindler, Julian K. Smyth, Emory J. Haynes, Bishop Whipple, A. A. Miner, Samuel E. Herrick and other representatives of different churches.

The prize principle seems to be acquiring popularity in literature. So respectable a house as that of D. Lothrop Co. employs it to elicit felicity in the expression of good thought in its publications. If that is purchasable it is all very well, and it is hard to tell what is not purchasable in this age, even in the way of genius. Let genius then, if it wishes to compete, get the terms of competition and await the decision of such judges as Edward Everett Hale, Maurice Thompson and President James B. Angell, of Michigan University, upon its work.

Hall's Journal of Health for February considers the kissing habit, which is said to be going out of fashion, and the tobacco habit, which is not. In answer to the question is Romanism overwhelming us its increase is declared to be falling off, notwithstanding that half our population has a Catholic ancestry. Some statistics give but 7,000,000 of Roman Catholics, instead of the 22,000,000 which there should have been, to hold their own. In thirty years the increase in their clergy was 5,100, while that of Presbyterians was 4,256, of Baptists 11,428, and of Methodists, 15,430, or 44,315 for all Protestant denominations.

"Queen Money," by the author of "Margaret Kent," Ticknor & Co., is a story of New York society, in which the reader will get, beside more flirtation, love enough for the strongest appetite in that way. There is the due mixture of the Knickerbocker element in it, and of the New York literary element. But, whether it is ancient Knickerbocker gentility or literary distinction or musical and æsthetic enjoyment generally, all seems to depend, as usual in our cultivated American life, on stocks. Wall street is the real seat of government in the social republic here sketched, and people are millionaires or not as things turn down there.

"The Nun's Curse," by Mrs. J. H. Riddell, D. Appleton & Co. In this new Irish story the author of "Miss Gascoigne" has worked to very good advantage the apparently inexhaustible mine of romance which is furnished in the complications and vicissitudes of Ireland's social, political and ecclesiastical life. The curse indicated in the title seems outwardly to have been lifted at the close, in the apparent prosperity of the chief family concerned, but there is abundant material left for a sequel in the existence of a dissatisfied if not exactly disinherited elder son, who, having been intended for the priesthood, is quite competent to make the profession a source of continued trouble to his kindred.

"Memoirs of an Arabian Princess," by Emily Ruete, D. Appleton & Co., is an autobiography, translated from the German, in which it was originally written for the author's children, in the fear that she should not be spared to tell them the story of her life when they grew up. It gives a picture of the life of Arab princes and princesses like the author; their schooling, matchmaking, the position of woman in the East, the fasts and festivals, the Arab system of slavery, which the author is disposed to palliate mildly, excepting the slave trade incident to it; the medical service of the country and other things of much interest. The author became by her marriage a German subject, but revisited her native country in recent years. Her story is a very entertaining one.

John B. Alden, New York, announces to appear early in the Spring "The Land of the Pueblos," by Miss Susan E. Wallace, wife of the author of "Ben Hur." General Wallace was Governor of New Mexico when the materials for the book were gathered. These include much that is curious in American antiquities and history, as well as interesting bits of Western life and scenery. The announcement is also made of "The Fables of Florian," a "superbly" illustrated edition, translated into English verse by General J. N. Pheips, late member of the Vermont Historical Society. This phenomenon of French wit and purity at once, this delighter of childhood and age, combining the fancy of Rousseau and St. Pierre with the morality of Fenelon, is promised in this edition an artistic and graphic rendering in text and illustration.

Outing for February is strong in the instantaneous photograph line, with its vigorous frontispiece by Remington, "The Frontier Scout," and its article on fencing, by Eugene Van Schaick, illustrated. "The Cruise of the Rebie" is by Thomas Dean. "A Walkaby Drive in Australia," by Allen Irwin, tells of a kind of sport which is at least an improvement on the butchery of bares in England, in that there is some danger attending it, and that extermination is a necessary matter in Australia with some species of animals. "Some Few Facts and Fancies on Ice," by C. Bowyer Vaux, aims at that reduction to a science which skating must experience with everything else amusing in these days of literary treatment. The late General Marcy's fifth paper on "Big Game Hunting in the West" is spiced with danger as well as adventure. Mr. Stevens continues to follow the circummundane revolutions of his bicycle, astonishing the Celestials this month. "Yellow Fever on Shipboard," by Captain Coffin, is grimly picturesque. "Seining at Midnight" is by Charles E. Clay. Frank D. Sherman contributes "The Romance of a Dead Letter" and G. O. Shields tells wonders of buffalo hunting in Texas.

"California of the South," by Walter Lindley, M. D., and J. P. Widney, A. M., M. D., D. Appleton & Co., is a very timely and interesting manual of a region rapidly becoming popular with health seekers of our own and other cities. Dr. Lindley will be remembered in Brooklyn in connection with its ambulance service. In the present volume he and his collaborator, Dr. Widney, give a good account of the physical geography, climate, resources, lines of travel and health resorts of Southern California, supplemented with maps and illustrations. The two Californias are described and the Pacific coast, in contrasted with the Atlantic in respect to seasons, rainfall, fogs and general humidity; amount of sunshine, prevailing winds and general temperature; agriculture, commercial development, harbor facilities, health and disease, education, types of life in city and country and political prospects. Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernadino, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties receive special attention in both their past and their present. Orange and other fruit culture is also particularly treated of. The book is handsomely produced by the publishers. Some of the engravings of scenery and ecclesiastical buildings are quite fine. With all the discount which every prudent prospector, looking for new worlds of health or material profit to conquer, is inclined to make, Southern California is a strong candidate for examination in these respects, and the present book affords abundant suggestion and help therefor.

Latest Publications.

CUPPLES & HURD, Boston.—Life's Problems, Here and Hereafter. An Autobiography.
MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN HISTORY, New York.—Number for February.
JOHN B. ALDEN, New York.—The Fables of Florian. Translated by J. W. Phelps.
FOWLER & WELLS CO., New York.—How to Succeed as a Stenographer. By Arthur M. Baker.
CASSELL & CO., New York.—The Cricket on the Hearth. By Charles Dickens.
I. H. WINCHELL & CO., Chicago.—The School Album. By H. W. Fairbank.
D. LOTHROP CO., Boston.—Wide Awake for February.—The Art of Living. By Samuel Smiles, M. D.
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, New York.—The Book Buyer for February.
D. APPLETON & CO., New York.—Literary Bulletin for January.
FRANK E. HOUSH & Co., Brattleboro, Vt.—The Woman's Magazine for January.
FUNK & WAGNALLS, New York.—The Homiletic Review for February.
WRITER CO., Boston.—Number for February.
OUTING CO., New York.—February Outing.
BROOKLYN MEDICAL JOURNAL.—January Number.
BABYHOOD, New York.—Number for February.
HALL'S JOURNAL OF HEALTH, New York.—February Number.
JAMES A. O'CONNOR, New York.—Converted Catholic for February.
SAFETY VALVE, New York.—January Number.
T. Y. CROWELL & CO., New York.—The Long Exile and Other Stories. By Lyof N. Tolstoi.—Napoleon and the Russian Campaign. By same.
N. D. C. HODGES, New York.—The Swiss Cross for February.
JENNESS MILLER CO., New York.—Dress for February.

French Wit and Wisdom.

"The Fables of Florian," translated from the French by General J. W. Phelps, illustrated by J. J. Grandville, John B. Alden, New York. A delightful book for both young and old. Though a disciple, perhaps, rather than a master, the disciple of Æsop, La Fontaine and the other great fable writers, Florian was such a true disciple, not only of these masters but of truth itself and of a purity of mind that goes only with the highest truth, that it is always a service to the reading world to bring him out afresh and with the excellent appreciation and rendering of this selection and metrical translation. For though the preface modestly claims "no special value" for it, and despite some inaccuracies due to the restraints of verse, it is a flowing and spirited rendering of the simple hearted author's gay and serious meanings. The loyalty to truth which characterized Florian was well shown in his resistance to the cynical influence in literature of his kinsman and patron, Voltaire; in his fidelity, first to his military obligations, then to those of the profession of letters which he afterward chose, and finally to the order of nobility in which he was born and to the unfortunate royal family of the time, for which social and political loyalty he came near being beheaded in the French Revolution. Like a recent sumptuous edition of Dumas' "Monte Cristo," which came out with the original illustrations characteristic of the period, the present edition of these selected fables has the benefit of the old illustrations of Grandville, which are expressive of the character the author put into his various animal subjects and of the truths, ethical and practical, jocose and grave, which he designed to impart. Some of the more suggestive of the fables, provocative at once of mirth and of thought, are, "The Inquisitive Cat," "The Fox as a Preacher," "Hercules in Heaven," "The Two Bald Heads," "The Foxes' Lawsuit," "The Viper and the Bloodsucker," "The Guilty Dog," "The Monkey with the Magic Lantern" and "Death's Choice of Prime Minister." The volume has fine thick paper and a handsome binding and is well printed, with wide margins.

Notes.

Mr. E. P. Roe is writing a war story, "Found; Yet Lost."

The Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society, Boston, offers liberal prizes for the two best manuscripts for Sunday school books.

Viola Gilbert, New York, announces "Millennial Dawn, the Plan of the Ages," which is vouched for by no less a journalistic authority than "Bill Arp."

"Chronicles of the Schonberg-Cotta Family," by Elizabeth Charles, John B. Alden, New York, is a complete cheap republication of this long popular historical novel.

Homer Greene's "Blind Brother," T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York, which is said to have brought a prize of $1,500, has been published in England and also translated into German.

The Home Publishing Company, New York, announces a new edition of "Mr. Barnes, of New York," by Gunther; also his new novel "Mr. Potter of Texas," early in February.

"The School Album," by H. W. Fairbank, S. R. Winchell & Co., Chicago, is a collection of songs for day schools, primary, intermediate and advanced. The words are by Minnie B. Lowry.

D. Lothrop Co., Boston, announce "Patience Preston, M. D.," by Mrs. A. F. Raffensperger, a Pennsylvania story; "Ethel's Year at Ashton," by S. E. Dawes," and "Bybury to Beacon Street," a practical and yet humorous story.

The *Missionary Review of the World* for February, Funk & Wagnalls, New York, has articles on the Evangelical Alliance, on missions in Japan, on the progress of Mohammedanism; "James Hannington, the Martyr of Usoga," and other missionary subjects.

The *Puzzler*, N. D. C. Hodges, New York, is the candid name of a magazine devoted openly to the work of mystifying the riddle loving part of the public. It being new there is no record of mental aberration as yet to be charged to its conundrums or puzzles.

The *Agriculturist* for February is very full of interest to those who live by or on the soil, from the frontispiece, "Caught in a Montana Blizzard," to the English draft horses whose huge proportions are represented in it. Late improvements relating to the farm are given in profusion.

The new magazine, the *American Garden*, New York, is devoted to that novelty in flowers, the iris; to orchids; to a description of the gardens of San Souci; tree planting and lawn making, and the first of a series of articles by Charles Barnard on "The Home Lot," as a source of family income.

The *Phrenological Journal* for February, New York, has a sketch and portrait of Dinah Mulock Craik; a chapter on "Autographs;" sketches and portraits of President Carnot, Chief Justice Wait and Victorien Sardou; the servant girl question, treated in "A Guess at a Riddle of the Nineteenth Century," and matter relating to the American Institute of Phrenology.

Babyhood for February, New York, has a comprehensive article on what should be done in the emergencies of childhood. "Contagion and Disinfection" is by Dr. Chapin and "Childrens' Heads" by Dr. Yale. There are also articles on "The Hardening Process," "Babies and Papas," "A Chinese Method of Baby Feeding," "Nursery Helps, Novelties and Problems," etc.

The *Book Buyer*, Charles Scribner's Sons, for February has a sketch of W. Hamilton Gibson by Horace E. Scudder, with portrait and examples of the artist's style; an article on Japanese book illustration, by Heromich Shuglo, with some exceedingly graphic specimens, which put our artists rather in the background for expression, and "On the Track of Ulysses" by H. W. Mabie.

"How to Succeed as a Stenographer or Typewriter," by Arthur M. Baker, Fowler & Wells Co., New York, sums up its directions in the pithy sentence: "Persevere or don't attempt." It also gives the percentage of failures and a sketch of the difficulties of the study. Having thus warned off the faint hearted, it gives advice as to choice of a system and what to do to the best advantage with proficiency when acquired.

The *Writer* Literary Bureau, Boston, asserts that very little of the manuscript intrusted to it for negotiation is not saleable somewhere. Perhaps the bureau will yet make loans on that species of property. The *Writer* for February has articles on "The Writer's Signature," "Shorthand in Journalism," "Unity as a Vocation or an Avocation," "That Bugbear Plagiarism," "What Readers Want," "Editor and Contributor," etc. It also abounds in suggestions, answers to queries, etc.

The D. Lothrop Co., Boston, announces an historical series, "The Story of the States," illustrated by Bridgeman. "New York," "Ohio" and "Louisiana" will appear shortly, the latter by Maurice Thompson. Other authors are E. E. Hale, Jessie Fremont, Thomas N. Page, Almon Gunnison, Marion Harland, Alexander Black and Charles M. Skinner, who writes "Colorado." The latter four writers are Brooklynites. The aim of the series is to show graphically how the States have been built up.

"Lyrics of the Ideal and the Real," by Coates Kinney, Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, is a somewhat costly investment of paper and ink for the recreation, apparently, of the author, whose name alone, with that of his book, occupies all that there is of a title page. The sentiment of the verses is rather real than ideal and more pessimistic than optimistic, but will find a response in a good many vaguely thinking minds. With so little purpose in the rhymes the wonder is what was the purpose in printing them.

Ticknor & Co. announce "A Moonlight Boy" and "Homoselle" in their paper series, by E. W. Howe and Mary F. Tiernan, respectively; the Mendelssohn-Moscheles letters, portions of which are appearing in *Scribner's*; John Boyle O'Reilly's papers on boxing and other exercises, including Irish games, ancient as well as modern, under the title, "The Ethics of Boxing and Manly Sport;" a novel by Mark Hopkins, son of the late president of Williams College, on life in Paris and Nice, with Russian and French elements in it, and "Harvard Reminiscences" by Dr. A. P. Peabody.

The *Wide Awake* for February, D. Lothrop Co., Boston, is a very attractive number, with its account of Rosa Bonheur and her family, by her friend Harry Bacon, illustrated from her pictures and herself; Sidney Luska's humorous dialect story; Olive Risley-Seward's "Great Wall of China;" Paul Hayne's stirring border ballad, and its spirited illustration by Sandham; the "Children of the White House," with the striking process printed portraits and other interesting matters of the

The Game Imported From Scotland.

A National Sport—Celebrated in Verse—How It is Played—Growing in Favor in Its Adopted Country—The Clubs.

The outdoor sports of Americans may now be said to include not only the universal Winter recreation of skating, but the Scotch national game of curling and the Canadian sports of tobogganing and snow shoeing, not forgetting the Yankee sport of "coasting" or "bob sledding." Skating is the most graceful exercise of all and it is available alike for both sexes. Tobogganing is but a new phase of "coasting," or sliding down hill on sleds, while snow shoeing is merely a pedestrian exercise in which the only sporting feature is the racing. The only Winter game, however, of all of these sports is that of curling, which, beyond all doubt, is the most scientific Winter sport in existence. From time immemorial curling has been the leading game of the Scotch people, furnishing an exciting Winter recreation alike for the Lowland merchant as for the Highland chieftain. Of all the pastimes peculiar to our adopted citizens none so forcibly reminds them of their early days at home or bears with its memories such pleasant reminiscences of "Auld Lang Syne." Curling is a game worthy of the hardy inhabitants of the most northerly portion of Great Britain, played as it is on the ice amid the bleak winds of Winter, and requiring as it does muscular strength, vigor of frame and considerable power of endurance. The poets of Scotland have made the game a theme for verse. The old Scotch song of "Hurra for Auld Winter!" begins with a lively description of the sport, as follows:

Oh, come on, my lads, and shoulther your stanes,
An hour on the ice will supple your banes.
If sorrow hangs o'er you, just drive awa' care.
And bedeen in hand snuff the keen, frosty air.
Awa' in the glen, just outside the toon,
There's a bonny bit loch where often in June
The bairnies hand paddled wi' their wee sonsy feet,
And lads wi' their lassies were whiles wont to meet.
Then rouse yo, keen curlers, and brace up each nerve,
Frae the auld Scottish game we never will swerve;
Wherever we roam, frae east to the west,
We'll never forget the game we lo'e best.

Curling is very similar in principle to quoiting. In the latter game the object in view is to toss the quoit to a point as near the "hub" as possible. In curling it is to slide the curling stone along the ice, on a pond or lake, as near as possible to the center of an arch called the "tee." The game of shuffle board—so familiar to Americans—is a fair illustration in miniature of the principle of curling. Singularly enough the Scotch game has not obtained a popular footing in England; probably because it is not "English, you know," but in America it is rapidly becoming one of our popular Winter sports, American curlers, native and to the manor born, now being very numerous. In the North of Ireland, however, among the Scotch Irish of that section of the British Isles the game finds the same favor as "at home." The laws of the game are promulgated by the Royal Curling Club of Great Britain, and they are adopted by all the clubs on both sides of the Atlantic which are affiliated with the parent organization. The most attractive feature of the sport is the facility it offers for skillful, strategic play. It is full of scientific points from beginning to end, and a player who aims to excel as a "keen curler" must be capable of considerable headwork in handling the stones on the ice. The curling clubs of the United States are governed by the National Curling Association of this country, which, at its annual conventions, arranges the leading contests of the season.

We clip from the National Curling Annual of 1887 the following brief description of the game:

To play the game a field of strong, smooth and level ice is required, about fifty yards in length and some ten yards wide. On this the lines of the rink are laid out. The length of a rink is forty-two yards and at each end two circles of a radius of seven feet are marked off at the distance of thirty-eight yards apart, and the center of these circles is called the tee and the object of the players of each party is to slide the curling stone within this circle as near the tee as possible. There are four players on each side, eight players to each rink, and if all of the eight stones of one side are sent within the circle and none of those of the opposite party, then the former score eight shots for the end, the end in question being equivalent to an inning in cricket or base ball. Should one of the stones of the opposite party, however, be within the circle and also be the second stone nearest the tee, then the party having the stone nearest the tee count one only, even though all the eight stones of their side are in the circle.

Supposing the rink to be in readiness for beginning a match, the players and their respective captains—called "skips"—chosen, and the order of each player appointed, Rink A we will say, having won the toss, begins the match by sending their first player to "cast the first stone." The "skip" having previously taken his position at the back of the opposite circle or the rink—the term "rink" applies alike to the course and its lines laid out on the ice and to the eight players—he at once directs the first player to "draw to the tee"—that is, to slide the stone as near to the center of the circle as he can. This done, the first player of Rink B, of the opposite side, takes his stand on the "crampet"—the iron plate placed firmly on the ice for the curlers to obtain a firm foothold—and his "skip" directs him to "strike" the previous player's stone out of the circle wherein it lies and to leave his own stone in its place. Failing to do this, player No. 2, of Rink A, takes his turn, and he is directed to "draw for a guard"—that is, to slide his stone so that it will lie in front of the stone in the circle and prevent its being knocked out. The object of the opposing player who follows the second player is to remove the "guard," and so the game proceeds until all of the eight players of the two rinks have had their turn, and then the side having the most stones nearest the "tee" scores as many points as it has stones lying in the circle. Before a match of this kind is engaged in for the prize of a club medal, however, a "point match" is played by the members of the club themselves, and it is in these point matches that efficiency in all the strategic points of the game is attained. I now proceed to describe how these several points of play are made:

The special points of play in curling, which every player must become familiar with before he can take part in a club contest, are "drawing," "striking," "guarding," "inwicking," "chap and lie," "wick and curl in," "raising," "chipping the winner" and "outwicking." When a "point" match is to be played the rink has to be specially marked out for the purpose, with small circles of the diameter of the curling stones drawn out on the ice on separate lines within and without the circle of which the "tee" is the center.

The first "point" played in a regular rink match is "drawing to the tee;" but in a "point" match the first point played is that of "striking." To learn to strike the stone lying in the center of the circle and knock it out of the circle, therefore, is the first lesson in the art of curling. While doing this you have to strike out the inlying stone in such a manner as to leave your own stone within the circle and as near the center as possible.

Learning to "strike" a stone out is the first letter of the curler's alphabet—that is, as far as learning to control the direction of the stone is concerned. It is also a question of muscular strength, but command of the stone in delivery is the primary thing. The next point played is that of "inwicking," and the object in view is to strike out two stones of the circle instead of one, as in "striking, and this is done somewhat similarly to making a carom on two balls in billiards; by this means your stone strikes out one stone lying nearest to you and to the right of the center of the circle and then it carooms on to the stone in the center, and knocking that out stands in its place.

Of course "inwicking" is a very skillful point to play and it requires not only thorough command of your stone in the right direction, but considerable practice in giving it the correct amount of force in impulsion. A fine inwick play will frequently change impending defeat into victory at the very last shot.

I now come to the very important point of "drawing," and in playing this point well lies much of the curler's skill, not only in the beginning of a match, but during its progress, especially when the player is called upon to guard a stone on the tee or to "draw" in to the circle through a narrow port.

Drawing is the first point played in a club match, and it depends upon the skill of the players of the opposite rink whether you draw your stone half way between the "hogscore" and the outer line of the arch or closer in to the tee.

Next in order comes the point of "guarding," and considerable judgment is required to properly place the guarding stone, for if it lies too far in front the opposing stone, following the guard, may have a chance to curl in around it, while if it lies too close to the "tee" stone an opportunity is given

The next point to be considered is that of "chap and lie," and this is an incident of the opening point of "striking," as the object is to knock out the opposing stone and to leave your own stone lying in the circle. There is a good deal of calculation of force and direction necessary in "chap and lie," as your stone only requires just sufficient force to send the opposing stone out of the circle, and not so much as to cause it to glance off and go out of the circle itself.

Following this comes the point of "wick and curl in." This is simply a variation of the carom play shown in "inwicking," the point being to carom from a stone lying outside and to the left of the circle to a position near the tee. To play this well a very nice measurement of force is required, as also considerable skill in giving your stone the right direction.

The next point in order is that of "raising," and this is another variation of "striking," the object being to drive a guarding stone out of its position and to place your stone near where the other stood and to the right of it, so as to leave an open "port" for the stone on the "tee" and thereby save your own stone for further service by a good draw to its face.

I now come to one of the finest points of the game and that is "chipping the winner," and to do this successfully the player needs to be a very skillful curler. The point in question is to pass the guarding stone in front of the stone near the "tee" which has the shot, and just caroming on it with sufficient force to send it out of the circle to leave your own stone remaining within the lines.

I now come to the last point, and it is that of "outwicking," the object of which is to send an outlying stone of your own side into the circle when all chance of drawing near to the "tee" for the shot is lost. It will be readily seen that quite a field for strategic play is afforded in these several points of the game. Of course keen ice is required to play the game up to its highest point of excellence, and when this is at command and a clear, cold Winter's day, without a blustering wind to mar the sport, it would be difficult to find a more enjoyable or healthy pastime. The familiar broom feature of the game, in which the curlers of a rink who have already played their stones are engaged in sweeping the ice in front of a gliding stone, affords active exercise during a contest, aside from that of sliding the heavy stones along the ice. The curling matches of the Metropolitan district are played on the Conservatory Lake, on Seventy-sixth street, Central Park; the large lake in front of the Wolf House at Prospect Park, and on Courtland Lake, in Westchester County, near Spuyten Duyvil.

It is a matter of surprise that with so many Scotchmen resident of Brooklyn as we have and with such facilities for curling as the Prospect Park lake affords we have not more clubs here. The Caledonian and Thistle clubs are the only curling organizations we have in this city, but there ought to be half a dozen clubs here at least. We should have a Brooklyn curling club, with plenty of young American players in it, the sons of resident Scotchmen, as they have in the American Curling Club in New York.

H. C.

HIS ONE GREAT FAULT.

Nelson's Love For the Wife of Sir William Hamilton.

When Nelson returned from the glorious work of the Nile in 1798 he found Sir William Hamilton an old man, while Lady Hamilton was still in her prime, being in her 36th year. It may be presumed that most readers know the part Lady Hamilton took in the transfer of the King, Queen and court from Naples in the stormy events that followed and also of the close association into which she and Nelson were thrown as the result of these. When it was announced to their royalties of Naples that the fleet of Toulon was doubtless bent on the conquest of Naples and Sicily, Earl St. Vincent could also say that a "knight of superior prowess" (Nelson) was eager to protect their majesties, so that personal gratitude, in addition to admiration of heroic conduct shared by all the world, must have entered largely into the feelings with which Lady Hamilton now viewed Lord Nelson. One of the results of the close relationship into which Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton were now thrown is known to all the world as well as the open and acknowledged confession of it after the death of Sir William Hamilton, the Merton House being purchased expressly that Lady Hamilton and Lord Nelson's daughter might together reside there. It would be supererogatory on our part, even had we space to go into detail of this period; we can only briefly advert to one or two points and set down a few reflections.

Of Nelson, himself—hero, indomitable fighter, intrepid and gallant sea dog though he was—it is not too much to say that the impression we derive from this book is not altogether such as sets him higher in our regards as a man. Mr. Jeaffreson labors with no little spirit and ingenuity and we had almost said dogged determination, to rebut many of the assertions of Southey, but not a little of his energy and labor seems to us thrown away, since, after all, he comes to much the same broad results as Nelson's biographer in respect of character. His acts only go to show how keen were Southey's instincts on some radical points, though he went wrong on not a few minor details, not having before him the documents which Mr. Jeaffreson had been so fortunate to find and so effectively to set before the reading public. According to Mr. Jeaffreson's own showing Nelson seduced the wife of his friend while enjoying his full confidence and friendship. In the protection of that friend, the erownlile adventuress (who had seen such strange society had been thrown into such doubtful positions) had ever found a haven of respectability and even dignified social influence, such as should have shielded her from a relapse like this; and this in her middle age and when the hey day of passion had passed, when, even Mr. Jeaffreson admits, she had lost some of her earlier charms. Mr. Jeaffreson is fain to plead for Lord Nelson that he only fell under momentary passion and strong temptation; but it is, to say the least, unfortunate for him that Nelson's relations to Lady Hamilton were lifelong and that he died unreconciled to his wife in any way. If Mr. Jeaffreson had only been as successful in his vindication of Nelson's conduct toward Sir William Hamilton and Lady Nelson as he is in the matters of the Sicilian rebels and the execution of Prince Caracciolo, we should have rejoiced. But, alas! it is not so.

The lives of Nelson and Lady Hamilton in relation to Sir William were in the last years of his life nothing but a continuous lie. She bore a child to Nelson (Horatio) and this child was openly acknowledged by Nelson and provided for in his last will and it became a necessity in their policy that duplicity and falsehood should be practiced—which, indeed, it was to such an extent and so successfully that Sir William Hamilton died under the belief that his wife was faithful and Nelson even more his brother than his friend. "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise." Sir William Hamilton's ignorance was doubtless bliss to him; but it would require a fine casuistry indeed to justify such procedure as becoming an English gentleman and officer, or likely to lead to any elevation of character in the man not only consenting to it, but practicing it and persistently persevering in it. Far more excuse is surely to be found for Lady Hamilton, allowing Nelson to rest in the fond belief that she had never given "a pledge of love," as he calls it, to another, than for Lord Nelson and his paramour to let Sir William pass away without any confession of the wrongs of which he had been the victim at their hands. For though it is clear that Sir William had not been a precision in point of morals and the transfer of Emma from Mr. Greville's hands to his was a disgrace to both, yet, from all we can learn, Sir William had been devoted and faithful and in his own way strove to atone by many means for the wrong then done to her. That Nelson so implicitly believed in Lady Hamilton's faithfulness to Sir William and was ignorant of some important facts in her life before her connection with Sir William, is all the worse for him, viewed from the very standpoint which Mr. Jeaffreson would fain hold. And it should never be forgotten that the tone of morals among English gentlemen was not then quite so high as it is, professedly at least, nowadays, though the code of honor was more strict and could, in certain respects, be more directly upheld. Wellington, Nelson's great compeer, who was as averse as any man ever was from sentiment, in speaking of Nelson, once said that nothing was more contemptible and unmanly, or more likely to lower the character, than an acted lie of this very kind.—*Gentleman's Magazine.*

COST OF STRIKES.

Colonel Wright reports that the total loss to American employes from strikes and lockouts during the last six years has been, in wages, nearly $80,000,000. The object of these strikes generally was the increase of wages. Success followed in 10,907 cases, failure in 8,910 cases. By lockouts 564 establishments, or 26 per cent. of the whole, succeeded in gaining their point. This statement reveals the great odds which the strikes and lockouts have against them, and the serious nature of the contest in which they are engaged.—*Boston Herald.*

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Correspondents should not feel disappointed when their questions are not answered immediately, as the information solicited frequently requires considerable research, for which ample time should be allowed.

The name and address of the writer should accompany every question.

NOTES—"A Constant Reader." Your question in regard to the weather was covered in an answer in last Sunday's EAGLE.

"Fidget"—The illustration on old English pottery which you refer to is what is known as the "Willow Pattern." It has been described in the EAGLE several times.

"James L. Goodwin"—You can order such a map as you want of any bookseller in the city, or of the Brooklyn News Company.

"Native"—We find it impracticable to obtain the statistics you desire. The United States Sanitary Commission designed an elaborate work which might have included the nationalities of the Army, but the plan went to pieces for reasons unknown.

"Miss L."—We do not know of any Union or Mutual Benefit Association of Stenographers in this city.

"W. H."—If you will apply to Mr. Ira Moore at the Athoneum, in Atlantic avenue, you will obtain the information of which you are in quest.

"Pills"—We could not ascertain; hence, cannot say.

"Van"—We do not think it is best for the EAGLE to express an opinion on the steamship subject.

"Lamar"—The weather question was covered in last Sunday's EAGLE.

"E. Y. R."—The language of postage stamps was printed in the EAGLE a few weeks ago. It is too early to repeat.

"Lottie Collins"—You can easily understand that if we wrote a letter for you to copy, that would not be your letter. When applying for employment, do so on your own merits. It is not fair to those who present themselves on their merits for you to do so on the ability of somebody else. If you are not able for the position do not apply for it.

"G. H. D." sends us the following:

In Sunday's EAGLE, January 22, it was stated, in answer to an inquiror, that you knew of no such place as New Brooklyn. Indeed anyone may look in vain for it on any map, or among the archives in the City Hall, yet, nevertheless, New Brooklyn, so called, is very well known. Some thirty years ago a German church was erected on Fulton street, near where Ralph avenue now crosses that point. Many Germans from Williamsburgh then settled in that vic