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THE MORNING GUARDIAN.

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1899.

INDIANS GOING TO MEXICO.

Within the past few months a remarkable emigration has been in progress from the Western States to Mexico. It is said that at last 10,000 Cherokees, Creeks, Delawares and other Indians have gone over to the southern republic. They do not complain that the United States has ill-treated them. In fact they have been well fed and cared for. While there are many poor white children there is said to be no such thing as a poor red child among these exodians. The "poor Indian" is a name that is only a figure of speech for the Indian has always some silver jingling in his capacious buckskins.

But the soul of the red man longs for the freedom of his native forests. He finds himself more and more hemmed in by civilization. The United States soldier now confines him to his reservation and his hunting is regulated by law. Hence for years the Indians have looked with longing eyes toward Mexico, as a land where they could have more of their ancient freedom. Now they are going thither on bicycles, wagons, horseback, and on foot—a great army. They expect to set up a tribal government in Mexico, ruled in Indian fashion by one powerful chief. The United States has not made any effort to prevent them from going. In fact it may consider itself fortunate that they are going in such large numbers.

The new Russian Governor General of Finland has at length forced the Finnish senate to promulgate the decree of Emperor Nicholas depriving the Finnish parliament of the exclusive right of discussing measures designed to bring Finland into closer uniformity with the rest of the empire. He threatened, in case of refusal, to proclaim a state of siege and to introduce a force of Russian troops in to the Grand Duchy.

Prof. Lemstrom, of the University of Helsingfors, Finland, has been experimenting on the influence of electricity on growing plants and has found that by this means an average of forty per cent increase in yield was obtained. The experiments were made by carrying wires terminating in sharp points about the field. The wires were connected with one pole of an electric machine, while the other pole was in contact with the earth. The electricity was found to hasten the ripening of fruit, berries, and roots, and also tended to develop sugar. Prof. Lemstrom finds that the electricity caused the moisture to ascend more rapidly in capillary tubes on the inner surface. He thinks it is possible to supply electricity beneficially to large fields.

So far as crime was concerned Judge Advocate General Lieber finds that the United States army made a very creditable record during the war with Spain. The war passed without the execution of a single soldier on account of military crimes. This is believed to be without parallel in history. There were crimes committed, but they were not actuated by malice or premeditation, and there were not any desertions because of cowardice or treachery.

Our Boston correspondent suggests the use of a submarine pneumatic tube for conveying the mails between the Capes. The idea is not new, as it was put forward in THE GUARDIAN three years ago and several times since commended as worthy of a trial. The large use made of pneumatic tubes in the great American and European cities has abundantly demonstrated their usefulness. There seems no good reason to suppose that the tube system could not be worked successfully at the Capes.

The esteemed Examiner is quite right in denouncing the appointment of a notorious Scott Act violator as a bonded warehouse keeper in Cardigan. But our contemporary is wrong and unjust in stating that THE GUARDIAN has been silent about it. When the appointment was first spoken of as probable, THE GUARDIAN protested against it, and on November 9th last, said that "a man many times convicted of violating the Scott Act, or any other law of the land, is an unfit person to be appointed to any office in the gift of any government." At that time we made inquiry at the custom house and were assured that no such appointment had been made. We had hoped that the attempt would be abandoned and only learned Saturday of the fact stated in the Examiner. We regard it as a disgraceful appointment for which there can be no possible justification.

MRS. JOS. WOODWORTH, OHIO, N. S.,

Troubled with Sick Headaches, for over a year—Laxa-Liver Pills have cured her.

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AMONG THE SPORTS.

The Junior Abegweits and the Eclipse team played a return hockey match Saturday morning, which resulted in victory for the Jr. Abbies, score being 5 to 0.

A team of English Rugby football players will visit Australasia during the coming summer. Matches will be played in New South Wales, Queensland and New Zealand. Rugby football is not played in the other Australian colonies.

THE New York Letter on another page, gives a good account of the Victoria hockey club of Montreal, vs. the Brooklyn and All-New Yorks played at New York a few days ago, and will be of especial interest to hockeyists.

NEW YORK, March 18.— Dispatches from Tokio received in this city bring the intelligence that the Japanese government is discussing a plan to make Christianity the religion of the empire.

That such a move would really be startling may be appreciated with the assistance of statistics. There are 44,000,000 persons in Japan. Only 200,000 of them are professing Christians, and of these a large proportion are shaky in their orthodoxy, from the point of view of American missionaries. In other words, one native out of every 220 calls himself a Christian. The remaining 43,800,000 are divided between Buddhism and a cheerful agnosticism, which accords well with the Oriental temperament.

An English philosopher remarked; "you cannot make people moral by act of Parliament." The news from Tokio foreshadows an attempt to make 43,800,000 people Christians by imperial proclamation. Persons interested in foreign missions will be anxious to learn whether the government of the land of the chrysanthemum, if it decides in favor of a Christian country, will adopt the dogmas of any particular Christian sect or whether it will permit the people to construct their own state religion from the teachings of the Bible.

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