

STARTLING AMERICAN STATISTICS.

Mr. Taft, the Republican candidate for the Presidency, bears startling testimony to the growth of crime in the United States in recent years. He attributes it largely to lax administration of the criminal law in America. He says:—

Since 1885 in the United States there have been 131,951 murders and homicides, and there have been 2,286 executions. In 1885 the number of murders was 1,808. In 1904 it had increased to 8,482. The number of executions in 1885 was 108. In 1904 it was 116. This increase in the number of murders and homicides as compared with the number of executions tells a startling story. As murder is on the increase, so are all offences of the felony class, and there can be no doubt that they will continue to increase unless the criminal laws are enforced with more certainty, more uniformity, and more severity than they are at present.

The increase of population might account for an addition of 1,000 murders at the outside, but in that case there ought to have been no more than 3,000 murders in 1904. But there were 8,482. These figures shed a lurid light upon the seamy side of American civilisation.

BARON SPECK V. STERNBURG ANSWERED.

Some time back we gave a digest of an article in the *North American Review* entitled "The Truth about German Expansion." It was written by Baron Speck v. Sternburg, German Ambassador at Washington, and in his article he attributed the alarm professed as to German designs on Holland and Belgium solely to French and English newspaper alarmists.

In the June number of the same *Review* an anonymous writer, under the pseudonym of "Anglo-American," scoffs at the Baron's arguments and assertions, and summarises Professor von Halle's pamphlet, published in 1902, in which the future fate of Holland was sketched out from a German point of view, with results profoundly alarming to the Dutch. The writer, while absolutely acquitting Germany of any intention to impose her wishes upon Holland by conquest, thinks it likely that eventually the commercial, naval, and colonial policies of the two kingdoms will be regulated in common.

"NO LAST WORDS."

Mr. Sidney Holland recently told a story of someone who was sent for hurriedly to see his father who was "in extremis" in the London Hospital. When he arrived he was met at the door of the institution by his sister, who told him that the patient had just passed away. Very much distressed, he asked, "What were father's last words?" "He had no last words," was the answer, "Mother was with him to the end!"

The foregoing reminds us of a Rabbinical story of the Angel of Death, who once obtained permission to take human shape and to reside partly in the world of life. He married, but his wife turned out to be a shrew, and the all-powerful minister of death was worsted in the unequal struggle, and fled ignominiously, deserting his wife and a son who had been born to him. When the boy grew up and had become a physician, the Angel appeared to him and told him that he was his father, but that he had been compelled to retire from the joys of family life. The Angel of Death determined to help his son to professional success. At all his cases "Death" was to appear. If they were hopeless he would stand at the head of the bed, if not, at the foot. The agreement answered, and the son prospered.

Then the King of the country fell ill, and the whole of his people was much perturbed, for the King was a good man and beloved by all. The famous Jewish doctor was sent for, and, to his great distress, he perceived the shadowy form of his father at the head of the King's bed. Nothing would induce Death to change places. The son's patience exhausted, he made for the door. "Where are you going?" asked the grim Angel of Death. "I am going to fetch mother," was the answer. The angel disappeared.

OVERCROWDING AT COURT.

The vast number of motorists and tourists attracted to Dieppe for the Grand Prix found considerable difficulty in getting hotel accommodation, and were obliged to sleep on billiard tables or camp out in the open. A Paris contemporary recalls the fact that the same thing has happened before, and cites the historic instance of the visit of Queen Victoria in 1843 to Louis Philippe, at Eu. The number of visitors then exceeded the accommodation to such an extent that many of the French Court officials had to give up their apartments. Wooden dormitories, some containing nineteen beds, were extemporised in the grounds, and in these, among other exalted persons, slept the Prince de Joinville, the Duc d'Aumale, and the Duc de Montpensier.

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Museums &c.

Royal Picture Gallery. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 9—5. Sundays and Holidays 11—2 free entrance. Wednesdays, Saturdays 9—5. Mondays 9—1. A 1.50.

Royal Kupperstich Kabinett (Zwinger). Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 9—2. Sundays and Holidays 11—2 free entrance. Mondays closed.

Royal Zoological and Anthropological-Ethnographical Museum (Zwinger). Sundays and Holidays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 11—1, Wednesdays and Saturdays 1—3 free entrance.

Royal math.-phys. Sales (Zwinger). Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9—12, Sundays and Holidays free entrance. Saturdays closed.

Royal mineral. geol. and prähist. Museum (Zwinger). Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10—12, Wednesdays and Saturdays 1—3, Sundays and Holidays 11—1 free entrance.

Royal Collection of Porcelain (Johanneum II). Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9—2. A 0.50, Saturdays 9—2. A 1.50, Sundays and Holidays 11—2. A 0.25.

Royal Collection of Sculpture in the Albertinum and An der Frauenkirche 12, I. (Cosel-Palais). In the week (except Saturdays) 9—3, Sundays and Holidays 11—2 free entrance.

Körner-Museum (Körner Strasse 7). In the week 9—2, Wednesdays and Saturdays 9—1 and 2—5, Sundays and Holidays 11—2. A 0.50.

Royal popular Library (Japan Palais). In the week 9—2 and 4—8 (except Saturdays) free entrance. Sundays and Holidays closed.

Sächsischer Kunstverein (Brühlsche Terrasse). Picture exhibition german artists. Open daily 10—5, Sundays 11—2. Entrance fee. A 1.—; Sundays and Wednesdays. A 0.50.

Galerie Ernst Arnold, Schloss Strasse. Perman. picture exhibition.

CHURCH SERVICES: DRESDEN.

ALL SAINTS' (ENGLISH) CHURCH, Wiener Strasse.
Sunday, August 2nd. 7th Sunday after Trinity. 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Sermon. 6.0 p.m. Evensong and Litany.
Wednesday, August 5th. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.
Friday, August 7th. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany.
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THE AMERICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, Reichs Platz 5,
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THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL: Ammon Str. 2. American Consul-General: T. ST. JOHN GAFFNEY, Esq.

VISITORS AT THE SPAS.

Arrivals at Bad Elster up to July 23rd numbered 8,454; at Bad Ems up to July 30th 15,086.

NEW BOOKS.

Tauchnitz Edition, vol. 4,057.
"Love and the poor Sutor," a new novel by Percy White; author of "Mr. Bailey Martin," the "Eight Guests," &c.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.*

Mr. F. Frankfort Moore is a prime favourite among readers of all classes. He possesses an inexhaustible fund of rich imagination with which to entertain and charm. Versatility is not the least prominent of his characteristics, and whether he is painting a strikingly coloured picture of the English Court under Charles the Second, or dealing with one of the modern social problems, he appears equally at his ease. The present narrative is that of a charming young girl, born and bred in an English village of unimpeachable respectability. Her affairs are somewhat officiously attended to by the local vicar and his strong-minded daughter, so much so, indeed, that our heroine finally rebels, and casting free the bonds of conventionality and irksome restraint she sets forth on an excursion into that world which is not bounded by the squire's meadow and the vicarage poplars. She labours under the difficulties created by an innocent deception, and her subsequent adventures with suitors, mercenary and otherwise, are related in Mr. Moore's inimitable style. A clean, wholesome story, meriting more than the attention of an idle hour.

Madame Albanesi's latest work is undoubtedly the best she has written. We have rarely enjoyed reading such an exquisite love story. The keen insight into the qualities and foibles of human nature which this author has already given evidence of is a marked feature of this book. Drusilla is an adorable character, possessing that element of naturalness which is, unfortunately, so frequently absent in the figures conjured up by the majority of our modern novelists. We must confess, however, that we are rather disappointed at the manner in which poor Brian Keston is relegated to oblivion just at a moment when he appeared to be basking in the limelight. We can strongly recommend this volume to the most critical reader of fiction.

* *Drusilla's Point of View*, by Madame Albanesi. 1 Vol.
An Amateur Adventuress, by F. Frankfort Moore. 1. Vol.

MOVEMENTS OF LINERS.

North German Lloyd S. S. Co., Dresden office:
FR. BREMERMAN, Prager Strasse 49.

YESTERDAY'S REPORTS.

"Lützow," from Bremen for Japan, arrived Rotterdam July 30th.
"Zieten," from Australia for Bremen, passed Dover July 30th.
"Rhein," from Tsingtau for Bremen, arrived Bremerhaven July 30th.
"Neckar," from Bremen for Baltimore, left Bremerhaven July 30th.
"Prinz Eitel Friedrich," from Hamburg for Japan, left Genoa July 30th.
"Kleisat," from Japan for Bremen, arrived Genoa July 30th.
"Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm," from New York for Bremen, left New York July 30th.
"König Albert," from New York for Genoa, left Naples July 30th.
"Königin Luise," from Genoa for New York, passed Velletri July 30th.