

Montreal Weekly Witness.

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 18, 1900.

MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS.
\$1.00 Post-Paid; 5c a Copy.

MEGALIESBERG AFFAIR.

Northumberlands Held Out as Long as Their Ammunition Lasted.

STORY OF THE REVERSE AS RELATED BY GEN. CLEMENTS.

London, Dec. 16.—Under date of Dec. 15 Lord Kitchener reports to the War Office from Pretoria as follows:

'Clements has come to see me. He says the four companies of the Northumberlands held out on the hill as long as their ammunition lasted.

'The Boer force attacking the hill was 3,000 strong, while another force of 1,000 attacked Clements's camp. By 6.20 a.m. the hill was carried. Reinforcements of one company of the Yorkshires failed to reach the top.

'Clements's retirement was carried out with regularity, but, as many native drivers bolted, a considerable amount of transportation was lost. All the ammunition not taken away was destroyed. He reports that all behaved very well.

'Broadwood has gone to Rustenberg and supports Oliphant's Nek, which has been reinforced.

'A flag of truce which has come into Commando Nek from the Boers says Joubert's son was killed, and further reports their losses very heavy.'

THE PRISONERS RELEASED.

'Five officers and 316 men, Magaliesberg prisoners, have been released.'

FURTHER DETAILS.

BOERS APPEARED IN KHAKI AND SURPRISED COL. LEGGE'S PICKET.

London, Dec. 17.—The Magaliesberg affair is described in a despatch to the 'Standard' from Rietfontein: 'The scene of the engagement was a horseshoe shaped depression. The Northumberlands occupied the centre. General Clements's camp was pitched 1,000 yards lower down at the eastern point of the horseshoe, and Col. Legge's camp was about 300 yards distant.

'General Delarey's 1,000 men, against whom General Clements had fought repeated actions, were suddenly, unknown to General Clements, reinforced by 3,000 men from Warm Baths, under Commandant Boyers. At daybreak Colonel Legge's picket descried what seemed a fresh force of British troops, eighty yards distant. The strangers were challenged. They replied with a volley, revealing 400 Boers in khaki. The firing became heavy, and the noise aroused Colonel Legge's troops, who arrived just in time to save the outposts from capture.

'A furious engagement ensued. Artillery was brought up, and it compelled the Boers to retire. Colonel Legge, following up the withdrawal, was shot dead by a bullet through his head.

'General Clements and his staff soon arrived. The staff suffered severely, but General Clements appeared to bear a charmed life.

'While mounted men were driving the enemy back along a slope covered thickly with Boer dead, a deafening rifle fire suddenly broke on the plateau above. The signallers heliographed that the Northumberlands were being attacked. General Clements, convinced that they would easily hold their own, disposed the remainder of his force on the flanks and rear of his two camps.

'At 4.30 a.m. a heliograph from the western peak announced that the Boers were about to overwhelm the Fusiliers. General Clements was unable to send adequate help, but despatched Yeomanry to climb the precipitous hillside and create a diversion. Before the Yeomanry could come into action the Boers overpowered the Northumberlands and were in possession of the entire horseshoe, firing down on the Yeomanry, entangled in the bushes and boulders.

'The Northumberlands made a magnificent defence so long as their ammunition lasted, according to the Boer accounts many, even when the chance was hopeless, died fighting.

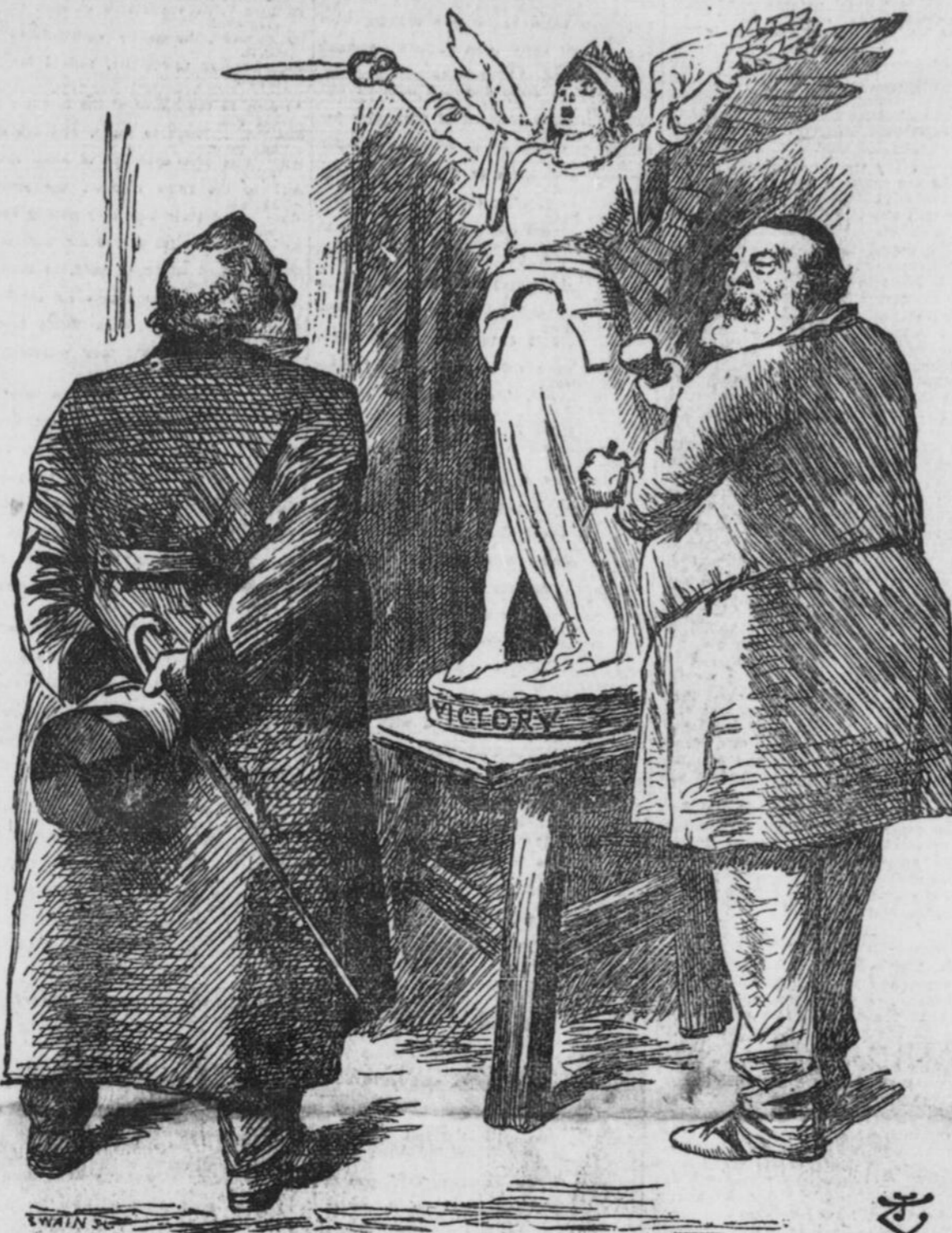
'Gen. Clements, now left with 700 men, made a superhuman effort against the bullets the Boers were pouring over the peaks, and managed to save his guns and the camp equipments. He retired in splendid order, and at four p.m. started to march to Rietfontein, fighting a rear-guard action all the way, and arriving the next day at four a.m.'

MORE FIGHTING.

COL. BLOMFIELD AND LORD METHUEN REPULSE THE ENEMY—GEN. LEMMER DEAD.

London, Dec. 16.—Lord Kitchener reports to the War Office as follows: 'The Boers surrounded and captured 20 of Brabant's Horse in a defile in the eastern district.

'Colonel Blomfield, moving on Vryheid



MONEY NO OBJECT.

Sculptor S-I-ab-ry (at work on a statue of Victory)—I'm afraid, Mr. Bull, I must trouble you for something on account there's a lot more work in it than I expected.—'Punch.'

defeated the Boers with heavy loss, driving them from Scheepers Nek and capturing a quantity of arms. The Scheepers Nek movement occurred on Dec. 13.

'The Boers who attacked Vryheid on Dec. 10 lost 100 killed and wounded before they retired. The fighting lasted all day, the enemy drawing off at 7.30 p.m. The British loss was six killed, 19 wounded and 30 missing. Our casualties include two officers, who died of their wounds.'

LORD METHUEN IN A FIGHT.

Lord Methuen, according to another despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated yesterday, attacked and captured a Boer laager near Lichtenburg, in the Vaal River Colony, on Dec. 14, securing large supplies of cattle and sheep and a considerable quantity of ammunition.

A further despatch from Lord Kitchener dated Pretoria, Dec. 16, says that Lord Methuen has official confirmation of the report of the death of Gen. Lemmer, the Boer commander.

BOERS SHORT OF FOOD.

London, Dec. 17.—Despatches from Lorenzo Marquez assert that all the Boer forces are plentifully supplied with ammunition, but terribly in want of food and clothing.

Mr. Kruger, at The Hague, received Mr. William T. Stead yesterday. Mr. Stead urged him to continue his tour of Europe, and to go to America. The Boer statesman listened attentively, but declined to commit himself by any definite statement. It is reported that he is about to remove from his hotel to a private residence, as though contemplating a prolonged stay at The Hague.

Lord Roberts, now returning to England on board the 'Canada,' did not go ashore at St. Helena, though the steamer touched there.

NEEDS MOUNTED MEN

LORD KITCHENER TO HAVE REINFORCEMENTS.

New York, Dec. 16.—Mr. Isaac N. Ford cables this morning's 'Tribune' from London as follows:

The anniversary of the battle of Colenso was celebrated by the departure from Southampton of the first detachment recruited in England for Baden-Powell's police and by arrangements at Aldershot for the despatch of every available company of mounted in fantry specially trained for service in South Af-

rica. Lord Kitchener has not asked for general reinforcements but he needs mounted troops, lightly equipped, and will have them. While cavalry service will be more arduous than infantry work during the remainder of the war, it will be safer and less irksome.

Colonel Mackinnon, who commanded the London Volunteers, has contrasted the good fortune of troops like his own with the bad luck of battalions of infantry and militia guarding the lines of communication. He has asserted that troops which were constantly marching and operating against the enemy remained in health and good fighting form, whereas battalions condemned to inaction for weeks, and months in garrison duty were exposed to outbreaks of enteric fever and were incapacitated for service. According to Col. Mackinnon's views, the worst that can befall a battalion in service is long halts with necessity of sitting tight in one locality. The men become enfeebled and dispirited, and when caught off their guard are in poor form for resisting a vigorous attack. This is the probable explanation of the feeble defence made by the Northumberland Fusiliers at the Magaliesberg, when its reputation as 'The Fighting Fifth,' and the reverse sustained by it at Stormberg a year ago under General Gatacre ought to have developed more spirited conduct.

THE 'ROSLYN CASTLE.'

DETAILS OF THE CANADIANS ON BOARD.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—His Excellency the Governor-General to-day received the following cable message dated Capetown, Dec. 15, and signed by the general of communications:

'Roslyn Castle' left Capetown on Dec. 13. Had on board for St. John 3 officers and 213 men, Canadian Dragoons; 15 officers and 180 men, Canadian Mounted Rifles; 5 officers and 10 men Canadian Artillery staff; 13 officers and 378 men, Canadian Artillery; also Major Laurie and 4 men of Strathcona's Horse; Major Osborn, medical staff corps; 7 nursing sisters, and 9 men discharged in South Africa, irregular corps.'

STRATHCONAS REMAIN OVER.

Lord Minto received the following telegram from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain:

'London, Dec. 15.—Referring to your telegram of Dec. 11, the High Commis-

sioner, Sir Alfred Milner, on further consideration, telegraphs that Lord Roberts decided not to disturb arrangements already made for departure of Canadians, and they sailed on Dec. 13 under Colonel Drury. They have left guns of one battery. Strathcona's Horse have remained for some time longer.

(Signed) CHAMBERLAIN.'

ON THE 'LAKE CHAMPLAIN'

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL NON-COMMS. AND MEN COMING OVER.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The following are the additional non-commissioned officers and men returning on the 'Lake Champlain' under the command of Col. Otter: R.C.R., A. V. R. Beecher, 26th Regiment; W. J. Rose, 1st Regiment C.A.; A. Chisholm, 9th Regiment; J. Shreeve, R.C.R.; W. P. R. Brellingham, 12th Regiment; H. Martin, 43rd; D. Murphy, 1st P. of W. Regiment; H. L. McLean, 4th Regiment, C.A.; S. Sheris, R.C.A.; J. E. Davis, R.C.D.; H. Hayward, 53rd Regt.; F. Dunlop, 3rd Victoria Rifles; E. Armstrong, R.C.A.; R. H. Barlow, 90th; C. E. Allen, 5th Royal Scots; R. Adams, R.C.A.; J. J. Morrison, R.C.A.; S. S. James, R.C.D.; W. H. Stebbins, 5th C.A.

'E' Special Service, Battery—C. Wollard, 15th, D; V. A. Skering, 6th Battery, C; A. L. McCoy, 42nd, C; J. C. Winger, 7th, C.

Canadian Mounted Rifles—H. Jeffrey, North-West Mounted Police; J. W. Mullen, Edmonton; C. Krag, Regina; H. S. Neville, Mooseomin.

R.C.D.—P. Jenkins, Scotland; L. N. Beers, 2nd Q.O.R.; W. H. Snyder, Berwick, N.S.; H. B. White, Waterville, N.S.; S. J. McGregor, Brandon; J. Coy.

Strathcona's Horse—F. Thompson, Macleod; Artificer N. White, Markham, Ont.

QUESTION OF ARBITRATION.

SWITZERLAND MAY NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE.

London, Dec. 17.—Desperate intrigues have been proceeding in Bern, with the object of the burking of the motion in favor of arbitration by Switzerland, in

the South African trouble, notice of which was given by Deputy Manzoni. The central executive of the Swiss branches of the society known as the Friends of Peace, held an emergency meeting the other day and passed this resolution: 'That Switzerland, owing to political expediency and its position as a neutral state, cannot permit pro-Boer demonstrations such as were recently attempted in this country, and that the Swiss Society of Friends of Peace, although now, as ever, in favor of the settlement of international differences by arbitration, cannot take any part in such demonstrations.'

Deputy Manzoni has withdrawn the motion which he made in the National Council on Dec. 6, that the House adopt an address to the English people and parliament recommending arbitration of the South African question.

AT THE HAGUE.

The Hague, Dec. 17.—Dr. De Beaufort, Prime Minister, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, gave a dinner last evening to Mr. Kruger. All the ministers and a number of high personages and politicians were present, as were also Dr. Leyds, the diplomatic agent of the Transvaal, and Messrs. Wessels, Fischer and Wolmarans, the Boer delegates.

BOERS BEATEN.

Report of Another Severe Battle Current in London.

London, Dec. 17.—The report of another severe battle, resulting in a British victory, is current here. According to the story the fighting began at daybreak to-day and lasted several hours. The Boers, who numbered from fifteen hundred to two thousand men, were surrounded at the Orange River and totally defeated with very heavy losses in killed and wounded. A number of Boers were captured.

DE WETT'S ESCAPE

WAS TWICE REPULSED BEFORE GETTING THROUGH BRITISH LINES.

Maseru, Dec. 17.—It appears that De Wett's force was twice repulsed before it broke through the British lines in the neighborhood of Thaba N'Chu. In the third attack De Wett led in person. With a few determined men he charged and broke the British lines, the rest of the commando following. He was forced, however, to leave in the hands of the British a fifteen-pounder and fifteen wagons, with ammunition and stores. Commandant Haasbroek, with a commando and two guns, tried to get through Springkranz Nek, but was driven back with a loss of forty men.

BOER RAIDS EXTENDED.

A PARTY HAS ENTERED CAPE COLONY NEAR ALI WAL NORTH.

A Capetown despatch, dated Dec. 17, states that 700 Boers crossed the Orange River near Aliwal North unopposed, and entered Cape Colony, where they camped near Kaapdaal.

BOXER MOVEMENT DONE.

London, Dec. 17.—The 'Morning Post' publishes the following from its Pekin correspondent, dated Saturday:

The Boxer organization is nearly destroyed. There appears now to be no danger of the recrudescence of the recent troubles although activity is shown in some unprotected places. The Boxer leaders were in reality not numerous and most of them have been punished by the Chinese authorities.

SITUATION IN MANCHURIA.

London, Dec. 17.—Dr. Morrison, wiring to the 'Times' from Pekin, says: 'Li Hung Chang, at the instance of Prince Ukhtomsky, has wired to the Emperor Nicholas an expression of Chinese gratitude for permission to rule Manchuria under Russian protection. This permission purports to have come from the Czar, who is, of course, quite ignorant of the matter. Prince Ukhtomsky is leaving Pekin within a few days, his mission having been accomplished.'

A CHRISTIAN DAILY.

London, Dec. 17.—The first issue of the London 'Sun' under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, appears this afternoon. The column where the day's betting is usually published contains, under the caption 'Latest News,' the wages of sin is death, and other well-known texts followed up by a vigorous protest against gambling. The article declares, 'If a paper cannot live six days without pandering to the gambler, the drunkard, and the sensualist, let it wither away.' In another editorial Dr. Parker urges the magistrates to 'apply the cat and wipe out Hooliganism.' Otherwise the paper is much the same as usual, the advertising columns being filled with company prospectuses, and the news columns announcing 'another ghastly east end tragedy.'

MR. FOSTER GOING TO ENGLAND.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—The Hon. George E. Foster sails on Wednesday from New York for Liverpool on private business.

DISASTER AT SEA.

OVER ONE HUNDRED GERMAN SAILORS DROWNED NEAR MALAGA.

Madrid, Dec. 16.—According to the naval pocket-book, the 'Gneisenau,' which was built at Danzig in 1879, was an iron vessel, sheathed with wood, and had a displacement of 2,856 tons. She was 242 feet nine inches in length and 45 feet 11 inches in the beam, having a mean draught of 19 feet eight inches, and a capacity of 400 tons. Her speed was 13 knots. Her armament consisted of three four-inch quick-firing guns, one boat or field gun and seven torpedo tubes. Her complement was 461 and she was used for training boys.

The 'Gneisenau' foundered at the entrance to the port of Malaga, where she was about to take refuge from the terrible storm prevailing. She was driven helplessly toward the port and sank. The crew threw themselves into the sea and clung to the wreckage, but the majority quickly disappeared. Captain Kestmann died at his post. The Malaga life-boat rescued fifteen but weight capized the boat and twelve were drowned. The other three were saved by means of ropes thrown them. The port authorities saved many of the sailors. The survivors have been received at the hospital, the City Hall and private houses.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—An official despatch received here to-day from Malaga accounts for 314 survivors out of the 450 persons who were on board the German training frigate 'Gneisenau,' which foundered yesterday at the entrance to the port of Malaga while she was taking refuge from a terrible storm.

ELECTION PROTESTS.

A NUMBER ALREADY FILED, INCLUDING ONE AGAINST MR. FIELDING.

Ottawa, Dec. 16.—It seems that the elections of both Mr. Birkett (Conservative) and Mr. Belcourt (Liberal), as members of parliament for the city of Ottawa, are to be protested.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—The first election petitions of the crop of 1900 were filed at Osgoode Hall this morning. Mr. William Smith, the defeated Conservative candidate in South Ontario, petitions against the return of Mr. William Ross and makes many allegations of corruption. He asks for the disqualification of Mr. Ross for alleged personal corruption.

Three Rivers, Que., Dec. 15.—It is stated here that the return of Mr. Bureau, M.P., and Dr. Fiset, M.P., will be contested.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 16.—The return of Mr. Joseph Matheson, of Richmond; Mr. F. B. Wade, of Annapolis; Mr. C. E. Kaulbach, Lunenburg; Mr. H. J. Logan, Cumberland, and the Hon. W. S. Fielding, Queen's-Shelburne, are being protested. Bribery is set forth as the reason.

COUNT MURAVIEFF'S DEATH

London, Dec. 15.—The London correspondent of the Manchester 'Guardian' is authority for this statement, printed in that paper:

'Dr. Georg Brandes, the eminent Danish critic, has just published in the 'Verdens Gang,' the most influential Norwegian Liberal journal, a long account of an interview with a Russian professor, from the University of Tomsk, in Siberia, who called upon him in Copenhagen.'

In the course of conversation, the professor referred to Count Muravieff, the late Russian Foreign Minister, and said: 'You are aware of what every Russian knows, that Muravieff did not die a natural death. That he committed suicide by taking poison is a well-known fact. The reason why is also pretty well known.'

'Soon after the outbreak of the Boer war he had prepared and laid before the Czar a plan, according to which Russia should avail herself of the difficulties and the dilemma in which Great Britain was placed to obtain command of the Red Sea. Muravieff had obtained the Czar's sanction to the carrying out of the plan.'

All orders and instructions in connection therewith had been prepared, when the Czarina, who has strong sympathies, heard of the plan, and became so agitated that she was seized by a fainting fit. The Czar, in order to secure peace in his own household, suddenly changed his mind and countermanded all orders. Count Muravieff would not survive this disappointment.'

OVERDUE STEAMERS

HEAD WINDS DELAY THEIR ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 17.—About twenty steamships that should have made port yesterday had not been reported late last night. The storms on the Atlantic and head winds are detaining the 'Umbria' from Liverpool, 'Le Champagne,' from Havre; the 'Victoria,' from Gibraltar; the 'Bulgaria,' from Hamburg; the 'Minnahaha,' from London; the 'Colorado,' from Hull, and the 'Rotterdam,' from Rotterdam. Some of the overdue fleet have been out since the 1st of November.

BARBARA BARTON.

(Isabel Maude Hamill, in 'Alliance News.')

Miss Barbara Barton, of Barton Hall, Wilmington, sat before her kitchen fire with her feet on the bright steel fender, warming herself and thinking.

'I can always think better like this,' she remarked once to a friend; indeed, it became well known that when Miss Barbara sat in that particular attitude she was considering somewhat seriously.

She was a tall, handsome woman in the prime of life, with flashing brown eyes and a wealth of beautiful dark hair, in which a silver streak had not yet ventured to show itself.

Next morning, Martha, noticing the tired, anxious look on her mistress's face, remarked: 'Indeed, Miss Barbara' (she never called her Miss Barton; why, neither of them could have said), 'it's a change you're needing, I'm thinking.

'Oh, I can trust you as well as myself, Martha, and,' tremulously, 'come here. You are my friend as well as maid.

'The woman looked anxious as she answered, - 'Now, Miss Barbara dear, if it's 'he government demanding of money, my advice is, don't give it 'em, Tories or Liberals.

'But it was something far more serious than money that Barbara Barton was pondering, as she sat by her kitchen fire - she had sent Martha early to bed, in order to be alone - and drew the thin blue envelope from her pocket.

'The thing is impossible, quite impossible!' and as she uttered the words she closed her lips tightly, then she unfolded the letter and read: 'I did you a great wrong, the greatest wrong one woman can do another.

'Oh, Martha, you are funny. But it's not the government, or money, or the farm, but whether I should take a child into the house. In fact, should I bring up a girl of eight years old. There now.'

'A child!' gasped Martha, and as visions of her spotless kitchen and tidy rooms overrun with dirty feet, and toys and books flung here and there, rose before her mind's eye - 'Certainly not,' she replied, with emphasis.

'But, Martha, I am lonely sometimes.' 'Maybe, but that doesn't say you're to cure your loneliness by taking on care, and a child would be an awful care, Miss Barbara.

'Well, then,' said Martha, mollified by her mistress's conciliatory tone, 'suppose the child comes for a time, and you see how you get on with it? Happen you'll soon tire.'

'I might, and I might not; anyway, I shall think well over before deciding,' and she ended the conversation by leaving the kitchen and going outside to feed her poultry.

'Seems as though that verse were a message sent me direct from heaven,' she thought, as she sat down to breakfast, and hence her conversation with Martha. That day a long one to

teen years of loneliness, what generous recognition of one's virtues! And she laughed a bitter laugh. 'George's child, and like him she says; and to doubt is like her mother in duplicity and cunning. But she takes care not to tell me so. Oh, no. How can she ask me to do this thing?'

Presently she rose, and taking a candle went into the next room, unlocked a desk, and took out a packet of letters. The paper was yellow and discolored, the ink faded, and the piece of white ribbon with which they were tied together had lost its original whiteness.

'Oh, George,' she said aloud, 'I think about here I am hard and cold, but you little think that you made me so; you, with your sunny smile and kindly ways; you, who told me that I was the one woman in the world for you. And I believed you, fool that I was. But I loved you, and no one has ever taken your place, and I am a lonely lonely woman. Your child to be running about this house, with your eyes, hair and voice. No, George, it cannot be.'

Again she turned the bundle of letters over in her hand, then she began to read them slowly and carefully, and it struck twelve before she had replaced the last twelve before she had replaced the last one in its envelope. Slowly, and it seemed as with reluctance, she looked at the desk, blew out the candle, and returned to the kitchen, her face still hard. Then picking up the sheets of paper that were on the floor, she took her candle, and went to bed. Alas! not to sleep, uneasy dreams of things long past, of the present, and the future disturbed her rest; but the central figure was a fair blue-eyed, golden-haired, sunny girl, who fitted in and out amidst her waking and dreaming, and called her 'auntie.'

'I think, Miss Barbara, the little bedroom overlooking the garden would be the pleasantest for her. You see, the beeches are there, and the thrush always sings early of a morning in the big chestnut, and James takes the cows past the gate every morning, and children like a bit of life, bless 'em,' suggested Martha, and Miss Barbara agreed that was the very room, and the one she herself had thought of, and it was so sunny, too.

'Oh, I can trust you as well as myself, Martha, and,' tremulously, 'come here. You are my friend as well as maid. I want to ask your help in deciding about a matter that I feel I cannot decide wholly for myself.

'The woman looked anxious as she answered, - 'Now, Miss Barbara dear, if it's 'he government demanding of money, my advice is, don't give it 'em, Tories or Liberals.

'But it was something far more serious than money that Barbara Barton was pondering, as she sat by her kitchen fire - she had sent Martha early to bed, in order to be alone - and drew the thin blue envelope from her pocket. Before looking at its contents she, as it were, strengthened herself to resistance, and said aloud - 'The thing is impossible, quite impossible!'

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'Just, merciful!' I like that. To be told I am these two things after four-

Barbara, and she went about the farm with a distracted air, so much so that James, the factotum, who had grown gray in the service of the Bartons of Barton Hall (he always spoke of them thus, never the Bartons only) 'wondered what had upset the mistress, and short-tempered much better, so that when he went for his eleven o'clock glass of home-brewed. There was something up, or some bother on; reckon he'd hear of it soon enough.'

Again Barbara sat up late, but before the clock struck twelve the struggle which had been going on between her lower and higher nature ended in the triumph of the latter, as such struggles must end, if those into whose lives they come (and into whose life do they not enter?) earnestly and with single-mindedness ask for Divine guidance. Next morning she wrote a kind, if somewhat stiff, letter to George Nixon's widow, saying that she would give her little girl a home as long as she needed one, and that she hoped the letter would reach her in time. She never in any way alluded to her own love for the dead man, it was too sacred a subject; but she said, 'As to the past, I will say nothing. I forgive you, but to tell you I do so fully has cost me, as you will understand, a hard fight. God is more merciful than man. But do not fear, I shall love your child.'

Martha, seeing her mistress so interested, soon followed suit, and before the lay was over mistress and maid appeared to be vieing with each other as to the best way of promoting the happiness and well-being of the child neither of them had seen!

'I think, Miss Barbara, the little bedroom overlooking the garden would be the pleasantest for her. You see, the beeches are there, and the thrush always sings early of a morning in the big chestnut, and James takes the cows past the gate every morning, and children like a bit of life, bless 'em,' suggested Martha, and Miss Barbara agreed that was the very room, and the one she herself had thought of, and it was so sunny, too.

'Oh, Auntie Barbara! Auntie Barbara! Do come and look at those dear little chickens; they are so pretty, and Martha says the little yellow one's to be mine till it's grown up, then when it's big it's to be yours again.'

'That's it, is it, Alice? Very well I will come as soon as I have finished my butter-making. I have nearly done, and as she spoke Barbara Barton stooped down and kissed the little flushed, eager face, so full of happy excitement. Six months have passed away since Alice Nixon became an inmate of Barton Hall, and from the day she entered the house, with her blue eyes and merry laugh, Martha had been her devoted slave. How Barbara loved her it would be impossible to say, and between the two women the child ran a good chance of being spoiled, save that in most respects she was 'unspoilable.'

'Please, Deuss, 'et Santa Taus tum down to-night, And b'ing us some p'esents before it is light; I wish she should dr' me a nice 'litle a'ed, With bright shinin' 'unners, and all painted red; A box full of tandy, a book, and a toy, Amen, and then Deuss, I'll be a good boy.'

'Eight, nine, and the little French clock had struck ten, Ere the father had thought of his children again. He seems now to hear Annie's half-suppressed sigh, And to see the big tears stand in Willie's blue eyes.

'I was harsh with my darlings,' he mentally said, 'And should not have sent them so early to bed; But then I was troubled; my feelings found For bank-stock to-day has gone down ten percent. Put, of course, they've forgotten their trouble ere this, And that I denied them the thrice-asked-for kiss; But, but to make sure, I'll go up to their door, For I never spoke harsh to my darlings before.'

'So saying, he softly ascended the stairs, And arrived at the door to hear both of His Annie's 'Bless papa,' drew forth the big tears, And Willie's grave promise fell sweet on his ears.

'Strange-strange-I'd forgotten,' said he, with a sigh, 'How I longed when a child to have Christmas draw nigh. 'I'll atone for my harshness,' he inwardly said, 'By answering their prayers ere I sleep in my bed. They turned to the stairs and softly went down, Threw off velvet slippers and silk dressing gown, Donned hat, coat, and boots, and was out in the street: A millionaire facing the cold driving sleet. Not stopped he until he had bought everything, From the box full of candy to the tiny gold ring; Indeed, he kept adding so much to his store, That the various presents outnumbered a score. Then homeward he turned, when his holiday load, With Aunt Mary's help, in the nursery was stowed. Miss Dolly was seated beneath a pine tree, by the side of a table spread out for her tea; A work-box, well filled, in the centre, was laid, And on it the ring for which Annie had prayed.

'You are the Mr. Howard, then, who has bought the Abbey Farm? 'Exactly so; but until my ride this morning I had no idea that our land joined. I fancied Barton Hall was seven or eight miles away. 'Oh, no; only three, as the crow flies, You have a fine horse here,' patting its head as she spoke.

(To be Continued.)

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

ANNIE AND WILLIE'S PRAYER.

BY MRS. SOPHIA P. SNOW. (Printed by request.)

'Twas the eve before Christmas, 'Good-night' had been said, And Annie and Willie had crept into bed: There were tears on their pillows, and tears in their eyes, And each little bosom was heaving with sighs.

For 'twas their stern father's command Had been given, That they should retire precisely at seven, Instead of at eight-for they troubled him more, With questions unheard of than ever before: He had told them he thought this delusion a sin, No such creature as 'Santa Claus' ever had been.

And he hoped, after this, he should never more hear How he scrambled down chimneys with presents each year. And this was the reason that two little heads, So restlessly tossed on their soft, downy beds, Eight, nine, and the clock on the steeple tolled ten, Not a word had been spoken by either of them.

When Willie's sad face from the blanket did peep, And whispered, 'Dear Annie, is 'ou fast asleep? 'Why, no, bro'er Willie,' a sweet voice replied, 'I've long tried in vain, but I can't shut my eyes. For somehow it makes me so sorry, because, Dear papa has said there is no 'Santa Claus, Now, we know there is, and it can't be denied. For he came every year before mamma died; But then, I've been thinking that she used to pray, And God would hear everything mamma does say: And maybe she asked Him to send Santa Claus here, With the sack full of presents he brought every year.

'Well, why tan't we pray, deest as mamma did den, And ask 'em to send him with p'esents aden? 'I've been thinking so, too,' and without a word more, Four little bare feet bounded out on the floor, And four little knees the carpet pressed, And two pair hands were clasped close to each breast.

'Now, Willie, you know, we must firmly believe, That the presents we ask for we're sure to receive; You must wait very still till I say the 'Amen.' And by that you will know your turn has come then.'

'Dear Jesus, look down on my brother and me, And grant us the favor we are asking of Thee. I want a wax dolly, a tea-set and ring, And an ebony work-box that shuts with a spring. Bless papa, dear Jesus, and cause him to see, That Santa Claus loves us as much as we see: Don't let him get fretful and angry again, At dear brother Willie and Annie. Amen.'

'Please, Deuss, 'et Santa Taus tum down to-night, And b'ing us some p'esents before it is light; I wish she should dr' me a nice 'litle a'ed, With bright shinin' 'unners, and all painted red; A box full of tandy, a book, and a toy, Amen, and then Deuss, I'll be a good boy.'

Their prayers being ended, they raised up their heads, And with hearts light and cheerful, again sought their beds. They were lost soon in slumber, both peaceful and deep, And with fairies in dreamland were roaming in sleep.

'Eight, nine, and the little French clock had struck ten, Ere the father had thought of his children again. He seems now to hear Annie's half-suppressed sigh, And to see the big tears stand in Willie's blue eyes.

'I was harsh with my darlings,' he mentally said, 'And should not have sent them so early to bed; But then I was troubled; my feelings found For bank-stock to-day has gone down ten percent. Put, of course, they've forgotten their trouble ere this, And that I denied them the thrice-asked-for kiss; But, but to make sure, I'll go up to their door, For I never spoke harsh to my darlings before.'

'So saying, he softly ascended the stairs, And arrived at the door to hear both of His Annie's 'Bless papa,' drew forth the big tears, And Willie's grave promise fell sweet on his ears.

'Strange-strange-I'd forgotten,' said he, with a sigh, 'How I longed when a child to have Christmas draw nigh. 'I'll atone for my harshness,' he inwardly said, 'By answering their prayers ere I sleep in my bed. They turned to the stairs and softly went down, Threw off velvet slippers and silk dressing gown, Donned hat, coat, and boots, and was out in the street: A millionaire facing the cold driving sleet. Not stopped he until he had bought everything, From the box full of candy to the tiny gold ring; Indeed, he kept adding so much to his store, That the various presents outnumbered a score. Then homeward he turned, when his holiday load, With Aunt Mary's help, in the nursery was stowed. Miss Dolly was seated beneath a pine tree, by the side of a table spread out for her tea; A work-box, well filled, in the centre, was laid, And on it the ring for which Annie had prayed.

'You are the Mr. Howard, then, who has bought the Abbey Farm? 'Exactly so; but until my ride this morning I had no idea that our land joined. I fancied Barton Hall was seven or eight miles away. 'Oh, no; only three, as the crow flies, You have a fine horse here,' patting its head as she spoke.

(To be Continued.)

As if getting ready more presents to drop, And as the fond father the picture surveyed, He thought for his trouble he had amply been paid; And he said to himself, as he brushed off a tear, I'm happier to-night than I've been for a year; I've enjoyed more true pleasure than ever before. What care I if bank-stocks falls ten percent more. Hereafter I'll make it a rule, I believe, To have Santa Claus visit us each Christmas eve.'

So thinking, he gently extinguished the light, And, tripping downstairs, retired for the night. As soon as the beams of the bright morning sun, Put the darkness to flight, and the stars one by one, Four little blue eyes out of sleep opened wide, And at the same moment the presents espied; Then out of their beds they sprang with a bound, And the very gifts prayed for were all of them found. They laughed and they cried, in their innocent glee, And shouted for papa to come quick and see.

What presents old Santa Claus brought in the night (Just the things that they wanted), and left before light; 'And, now,' added Annie, in a voice soft and low, 'You'll believe there's a "Santa Claus," papa, I know.' While dear little Willie climbed up on his knee, Determined no secret between them should be, And told in soft whispers how Annie had said, That their dear blessed mamma, so long ago dead, Used to kneel down by the side of her chair, And that God up in heaven had answered her prayer.

'Den we dot up and prayed dust well as we could, And God answered our prayers; now waan't He dood? 'I should say that He was if He sent you all these, And knew just what presents my children would please. (Well, well, let him think so, the dear little elf, 'Twould be cruel to tell him I did it myself.)

Blind father! who caused your stern heart to relent, And the harsh words spoken so soon to repent? 'Twas the Being who bade you steal softly upstairs, And made you His agent to answer their prayers.

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BEGONIA REX. J. J. asks as to treatment of the above begonias and has had a sad but common experience with them. Why do they curl up and drop off - these handsome gaily marked leaves? No doubt they have not had sufficient water and the air has been too dry. They must not have water put on the leaves at all, for this they resent, and yet love moisture in the soil. A partially shaded position is the best for them, though I have seen them recruit in a south window when leaves have dropped as the writer mentions. Thank you for appreciative words.

THE DATE PALM. C. L. asks to know something about the date palm, and if it is difficult to cultivate. Ans.-Phoenix dactylifera produces fruit in Florida, at St. Augustine, and is well adapted to the soil of that state. It is usually ten or fifteen years of age before producing fruit, and in Italy there are living specimens of this palm planted over a thousand years ago. In contrast to this I have a plant grown from a date stone and now nearly 20 feet high. It is as easily managed as any other palm and endures a good deal of neglect.

VARIOUS QUESTIONS. Iroquois, Ont.-A Rudbeckia 'Golden Glow' will winter out of doors with you quite easily. It does not need any more protection than a few fallen leaves. If the writer will send full name and address an answer will be mailed giving the address of a business man who can probably answer the questions regarding Halifax, as they are not in place in these columns.

DISEASE OF CACTUS PLANT. Cacti-Your mammillaria is attacked by a fungus, due to over-watering. Cut out the spots as soon as they appear, and spray with a solution of copper sulphate and sulphur, then cease giving water for a while, and when necessary let it be only a moderate supply.

A WINDOW GARDEN. Delta Sigma gives an account of her window garden as follows:-You have asked us to tell about our window plants. Mine are in a box in the east window where they get the morning sun. The box is lined with zinc and has two holes in the bottom for drainage. I have in it a row of Roman hyacinths just coming into bloom, and in front of them two dwarf geraniums of new shades, in crimson and violet - and the background is all red and white in a little white. But I have a north window where flowers will not bloom; what would you recommend in it? Ans.-Nothing does so well as ferns in it! A window, or any other that is pretty or 'cocoa' with ferns. Then the water hyacinth will keep green and odd-looking though it needs sunshine to flower well - and the umbrella plant if given plenty of water will be satisfied with a north window for things factory. We use a north window, and all that are to be brought into flowering when last longer if put there, because the coolness and lack of sunlight will prevent withering. A few pots of these things - daffodils, narcissus, tulips or hyacinths among the ferns will give charming results.

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THE FLORAL CLUB. How do you manage to have so many beautiful plants? is a question often asked of successful window gardeners; and the answer might be that of the doctor in the case of the woman who had been taking too much medicine that all that is needed is Light, air, water and soil.

But there are many things involved to attain this and for best results a southern window with a glass inside door or a curtain is necessary to shut out draughts and exclude dust - sprinkling the leaves with a fine brush, if an atomizer is not handy, keeps the breathing pores open and healthy. Injudicious watering often destroys plants. Plants moist, but not saturated and to have the water the temperature of the room.

For the green fly, and other insects there is nothing more effectual than hellebore and soap-suds to which is added a little skim milk, as hellebore will not combine with water.

All soft-wooded plants should be placed nearest the light, the harder ones in the rear. Always see that pots have drainage of broken pots or other rough material that will not allow the soil to become soggy and clogged. Too much heat is often given and hyacinths, and other bulbs will thrive in a room with very little fire if there is not any frost, after the sunshine becomes strong. It is agreed that gas from the furnace is more injurious to plants than illuminating gas, but by proper attention to moisture, and screening the window from dust and from excessive heat it is possible to achieve success. Keep the thermometer never more than 70 degrees by day and 45 to 50 at night. Cobea scandens on one side and a lophospermum on the other, trained on a wire across the window to meet in the middle will bloom with ordinary care, but the cobea grows too much foliage before flowering. A calla makes a good center plant. Do not give it too large a pot and see that it has plenty of water. Carnations and Chinese primroses are usually successful, the latter in partial shade bear neglect bravely, if not over watered. Ret azaleas in a basin of water every day, instead of watering the soil so much, and sprinkle leaves with atomizer daily. If seen of magnonette and sweet alyssum in the window, they will repay in February - so will peonies. The fancy chrysanthemums will be nearly finished flowering, and when they are moved away there will be room for the bulbs that have been rooting in the cellar. No roses are ornamental when in bloom, but there are only a few real winter bloomers and they must be selected with care and tenderness. If the room is cold where plants

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LITERARY REVIEW.

THE CRADLE OF ISLAM.

'Arabia: the Cradle of Islam,' by the Rev. S. M. Zwemer, F.R.G.S. (Fleming H. Revell, Toronto, \$2.00) is an interesting and valuable addition to the existing knowledge of Arabia. It is written by a missionary who for ten years has been working on the shores of the Persian Gulf. The author explains that, from a missionary standpoint, no books exist upon Arabia, save the biographies of the missionaries Keith-Falconer, Bishop French, &c., and the only modern English work on the subject is Bayard Taylor's somewhat juvenile 'Travels in Arabia.' Dr. Dennis, in the introduction, states that the writer is entirely familiar with the literature of his subject, including English, French, German and Dutch authorities, and the less accessible Arabic authors. The fine illustrations, maps and plates, with accounts of different places, make the book attractive for family reading, while the care with which it has been written will make it an authoritative book of reference on a little-known region. The following extract gives an idea of the book:

All the way from Busrah to Bagdad, but especially along this part of the river, we pass Bedouin tribes encamped in the black tents of Kedar, engaged in the most primitive culture, or irrigation of their land, or rushing along the banks to hail the passing steamer, moving the thoughtless to laughter, as they scramble up and down the banks into the water to catch a piece of bread, or a few dates thrown to them.

Meanwhile, we steam along and reach Bustani Keera, or the arch of Ctesiphon. The little village of Soleiman-Pak is named for the pious man who was the private barber of Mohammed, the prophet. Poor, pious Pak was buried here only a short distance from the great arch. A village sprang up near the tomb; pilgrims come from everywhere, and miracles are claimed to be wrought by him, who, when alive, only handled the razor.

The arch of Ctesiphon is not a shrine. It is the only prominent object that remains of Ctesiphon on the east bank of the Tigris, and Seleucia on the west. The arch is now almost in ruins, but must once have been the facade of a magnificent building. Its length is 275 feet, and its height has been given variously as eighty-six or one hundred feet; the walls are over twelve feet thick, and the span of the magnificent arch is nearly eighty feet.

What Ctesiphon was in the days of the Sassanian kings we read in Gibbon. Now its glory has departed, and the tomb of the barber has more visitors than the ancient throne of the Chasores. Eight hours after leaving Ctesiphon's ruins, our steamer is in sight of the city of Haroun-al-Rashid.

Bagdad is one of the chief cities of the

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A BADLY SPRAINED ARM.

HOUSTON, Texas. DR. RADWAY & CO.—Dear Sirs: August 25th last I had a badly sprained arm. After using six different (what were called) remedies, I never got relief till I used Radway's Ready Relief, which cured the pain at once and cured me in two days. My father, who is 56 years old, says: 'Radway's Ready Relief and Radway's Pills are the best of all medicines.' We keep them in the house year round. Yours respectfully, THOS. HANSBOROUGH, Special Police, City Hall.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

A Cure for all Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbago, Inflammations.

RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Frostbites, Chills, Headaches, Toothaches, Asthma, Difficult Breathing.

CURES THE WORST PAINS in from one to twenty minutes. NOT ONE HOUR. Reading this need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN. 25 cents a bottle. Sold by Druggists.

RADWAY & CO., 7 St. Helen street, Montreal, Can.

Warranted by Manufacturers FREE

By selling only 2 dozen Patent Lever Buttons at 10c each. These Buttons are heavily Gold Plated, latest style, and are easily sold by any bright boy. Write and we forward the Buttons, free of all charge. Sell them, return the money, and we send postpaid this handsome Watch, with polished nickel case, ornamental strap, heavy, reliable and second hands, keyless wind and genuine American movement. It is a thoroughly accurate and reliable Watch, and with care should last for years. The Maxwell Co., 2 Richmond St. E., Dept. 427 Toronto.

GIRLS FREE!

This beautiful Doll is given for selling only 2 dozen Patent Lever Buttons at 10c each. Our perfume is in three odors—Savoy, Violet and Rose. It is so fragrant and is put up in such beautiful packages, that it can be sold in any town. Any girl who sells one of these perfume bottles, we will send her this beautiful Doll. She is a real beauty, 12 inches tall, with movable head, arms and legs, so that she can sit in a chair. Her dress is of rich material, cut in the latest style, and beautifully trimmed with velvet and lace. Her hair is extremely fashionable, and she has also stockings, slippers and underclothing. She is very pretty, with rosy cheeks, red lips, blue eyes and an abundance of light, curly hair. Remember, we ask no money in advance. Simply write and we send perfume. You can return it, return us the money, and we send you our doll, certainly worth 25c. Max's Specialty Co., Box 21, Toronto.

Turkish Empire, and has a history much older than the empire itself. It was the capital of the Mohammedan world for five hundred years. Situated in the midst of what was once the richest and most productive regions, it now reminds us of decay and dissolution. The untidy soldiers, evil-smelling bazaars, and ruined mosques, the rotten bridge of boats, the faces of the poor and the miserable, who go begging about the streets, indicate the curse of Turkish transition and oppression.

On the west bank of the river is the old town enclosed by extensive orange and date groves. On the east bank, is New Bagdad, which looks old enough. The city has a motley population. The Arabic spoken is comparatively pure; Bedouin manners still prevail. Dr. Sutton remarks: 'I have been at the bedside of a patient, where in a company of half a dozen people we had occasion to use five languages; on another time, in a company of about forty people, in a room, no less than fourteen languages were represented.'

The population of Bagdad has been estimated variously at from 120,000 to 180,000. Nearly one-third are Jews, while the Oriental Christians number about 5,000.

RECENT FICTION.

'A Man's Woman' is a powerful story of Arctic adventure, by Frank Norris (Mussion Book Company, Toronto.) The sufferings and endurance of exploring parties have seldom been better described. Here is the description of one scene:

A wilderness, beyond all thought, words, or imagination, desolate, stretched out before him there forever and forever—ice, ice, fields and flocks of ice, laying themselves out under that gloomy sky, league after league, endless, sombre, infinitely vast, infinitely formidable. But now it was no longer the smooth ice over which the expedition had for so long been traveling. In every direction, intersecting one another at ten thousand points, crossing and recrossing, weaving a gigantic, bewildering network of gashed, jagged, splintered ice-blocks, ran the pressure-ridges and hummocks. In places a score or more of these ridges had been wedged together to form one huge field of broken slabs of ice, miles in width, miles in length. From horizon to horizon there was no level place, no open water, no pathway. The view to the southward resembled a tempest tossed ocean suddenly frozen.

One of these ridges, Bennett had just climbed, and upon it he now stood. Even for him, unencumbered, carrying no weight, the climb had been difficult; more than once he had slipped and fallen. At times he had been obliged to go forward on his hands and knees. And yet it was across that jungle of ice, that unspeakable tangle of blue-green slabs and cakes and blocks, that the expedition must now advance, dragging its boats, its sledges, its provisions, instruments, and baggage.

'The King's Pawn,' by Hamilton Drummond (Gage & Company, \$1.25), tells of the passionate devotion with which Henry of Navarre inspired his warriors. The hero, Blaise de Bernaud, tells his own story. It is the time when the death of the Duke of Anjou makes Henry heir to the crown of France, but the interest centres in a reckless excursion into Spain, made by Henry, with only three followers. The story is told with uncommon clearness and vigor.

'The Footsteps of a Throne,' by Max Pemberton (Gage & Company, Toronto, \$1.25), is a tale, the scene of which is laid in Russia. The heroine is a Russian Princess, the hero an English lord, and the rival a Cossack captain. The tale is a record of thrilling adventures and final escape from despotism and police surveillance. The glimpses of Russian life are specially interesting.

'Lord Jim,' by Joseph Conrad, author of 'Tales of Unrest' (Gage & Company, \$1.25), is a story of sea adventures, which has been running as a serial in 'Blackwood's.' It is a tragic tale of Malayan savages and modern buccaners, with a thread of romance. The author has been able to draw from his own experiences as a Master in the Merchant Service.

'A Dream of a Throne,' by Charles F. Embree (Mussion Book Company, Toronto, 75 cents) is a story of a Mexican revolt. The hero, brought up among fishermen, is supposed to be a descendant of the ancient kings of Texcoco. Under the guidance of Dominican monks he comes forward at a favorable moment to claim his rights, with tragic results. The time is the early part of the century.

'The Stickit Minister's Wooing,' by S. R. Crockett, is the title of a volume containing more than a score of tales which have already appeared in periodical literature. Among them are 'Tadmor in the Wilderness,' 'The Troubles of Israel,' 'Gibbie the Eel,' 'The Lass in the Shop,' and 'Dr. Girmigo's Assistant' (George N. Morang, 75 cents).

'The Gateless Barrier,' by Lucas Malet (Gage & Co.) might be characterized as a modern ghost story. A young man, already married, falls seriously in love with a reincarnated lady, who, however, avoids complications by betaking herself again to her tomb.

RELIGIOUS WORKS.

Christ to come in person. Righteousness to prevail on the earth for a thousand years. The Christian thought agreeing so far, makes a starting point for the post-millennial argument of a book by Dr. Goodspeed, professor of systematic theology in McMaster University, Toronto. This work, entitled, 'Mes-

siah's Second Advent,' agrees in its conclusions with Dr. David Brown's standard work. An outline of the new book, however, was published before Dr. Goodspeed had seen Dr. Brown's work. It was at the request of a number of brethren that this study in eschatology was undertaken. Pre-millennial literature is to be found everywhere, but those who wish to study the other side find it difficult to obtain anything on the subject, hence the felt need for such a book as this. (William Briggs, \$1.00.)

'The Making of a Christian, or Studies in the Art of Holy Living,' by the Rev. Dr. John Maclean (W. Briggs, Toronto, 75 cents) contains most helpful spiritual teaching. Some of the topics treated of will give an idea of the trend of the book. 'The Changed Cross,' 'The Music of the Will,' 'The Art of Pleasing God,' 'The Safety of Sinking,' etc. The last chapter is entitled 'Waiting and Willing.' Dr. Maclean says:

We must not only wait; we must also will for the fulfilment of the promise of the Father. God seeks quality of service, more than quantity. Ten sentences from a man sanctified by God will do more toward helping men than a long speech of an inconsistent professor of religion. One man gives a thousand dollars and gets no fruit; another drops a tear, and wins a soul. Willing service is definite and determined service of God.

CHRISTMAS MAGAZINES.

The magazines this month are full of Christmas pictures.

'The Century Magazine' has perhaps the most reading matter and the most superbly colored, though rather inexplicable pictures. The May 'Century' contained an article by President Thwing on 'Significant Ignorance About the Bible in the Colleges,' an article widely read and commented upon. Dr. Munger, who was visiting Hampton Institute at the time, drew the attention of Miss Briggs, one of the teachers, to this article, suggesting that the colored students should be given the same test questions. The experiment was tried, with the result that 'out of 839 possible answers, 645 were given correctly,' or 77 percent, against 43 percent in the northern college. The article is entitled 'Significant Knowledge of the Bible,' in the December 'Century.' (Century Company, New York, \$4.) 'Scribner's Magazine' (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, price \$3.00) contains one of Ernest Seton-Thompson's thrilling animal stories, a well-illustrated article on Puvic de Chavannes, an article on George Eliot and several short stories.—'The Cosmopolitan' (Irvington, New York, \$1.00 per year) has stories by Rudyard Kipling, Maarten Martens and Grant Allen. Sir Robert Hart contributes a valuable article, entitled 'The Pekin Legations.'—'In McClure's Magazine' (S. S. McClure Company, New York, \$1.00) Dr. Watson gives an epilogue to his articles on 'The Life of the Master,' which have been appearing in this magazine through the past year. Rudyard Kipling's 'Kim' begins, and there is a 'Dolly Dialogue' by Anthony Hope.—'The Ladies' Home Journal' for December (Curtis Publishing Co., Philadelphia, \$1.00) has a gorgeous crimson pictured cover. The many departments include 'Heart to Heart Talks,' by the founder of the King's Daughters, 'Luxurious Economy,' by Mrs. Rorer; an 'Illustrated Life of Christ,' by Clifford Howard; a serial story by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps.—'The Missionary Review of the World' for December contains valuable articles on China, Madagascar, the Zionist Congress, and general missionary intelligence; a special feature is the 'Round Table Conference on Co-operation in Mission Work.' (Funk & Wagnalls Company, \$2.50).—'Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly' (Frank Leslie Publishing House, New York, \$1.00).—'Ainslee's Magazine' (Street & Smith, 238 William street, New York, \$1.00).—'Everybody's Magazine' (John Wannamaker, \$1.00).

From the Religious Tract Society, 59 Paternoster row, London, E. C., come the usual bright Christmas numbers of their long established and popular magazines. The 'Leisure Hour' (sixpence), 'The Sunday at Home' (sixpence), 'The Girl's Own Paper,' with its extra Christmas part, and the 'Boy's Own Paper,' Christmas part, with two fine colored plates, 'The Cottager and Artisan' (one penny), 'Friendly Greetings,' 'Our Little Dots,' 'Light in the Home,' and 'The Child's Companion.'

FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. The Congregational Publishing Company, Boston, issues the 'Pilgrim Teacher,' a monthly, edited by M. C. Hazard, Ph. D. (50 cents a year), the 'Senior Quarterly,' the 'Junior Quarterly,' and the 'Little Elgrim,' a weekly Bible story paper (F. E. Grafton & Sons, Montreal).

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED. The Imperial Idea in Advertising' (Mitchell's Advertising Agency, Snow Hill, London). 'Lecture on Malt Liquor,' by Joseph Livesey (National Temperance League, London). 'Courses in Finance and Economy,' and in 'Business Practice and Banking' (University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia). 'Second Annual Report, New York State College

of Forestry' (Albany). General Outline Pan-American Exhibition, Buffalo.' THE 'SCROLL.'

The latest venture in the Canadian literary world is 'The Scroll,' a very neatly gotten up magazine-booklet, devoted to the publication of literary selections from masters, past and present. The first number, issued this month, gives 'The tale of King Constans, the Emperor,' by William Morris, abridged and adapted for publication in its present form. This is the first publication of the kind in Canada and 'attempts,' the publisher modestly says, 'to please lovers of pretty books.' The publisher is Mr. John Macatlay, second master of the Royal Arthur School, and well known among a large circle in the city. It will be published monthly at 603 Craig street price, 10 cents a number.

THE ROMANCE OF A PRINCE THE CAREER OF THE YOUNG MAHARAJAH OF PATIALA, SPORTSMAN AND LOYAL SOLDIER OF THE QUEEN.

(By A. Sarath Kumar Ghosh.)

India to-day mourns a Prince for whose loss there can be no recompense. The young Maharajah of Patiala was in one sense the unique figure in all India. He was the first of her reigning Princes to blend the English gentleman with the Indian potentate.

In union with Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji, his compeer in England, he has been made the theme of many a story of romance and adventure. Which of us has not read in fiction of the Indian Prince who, educated at Cambridge, returns to his throne in India—who excels in all deeds of skill and daring on the sporting-field, and the battle-field—who weds an English maiden, and then ends a crowded hour of glorious life in sudden tragedy.

The English half we know and love; the Indian half is not less interesting. Born in the same year as Ranjitsinhji, Patiala succeeded to the throne too early to come to an English university; he received his education at the hands of the versatile education that befits a Prince.

A daring rider and a splendid shot, he was unrivalled as an all-round sportsman. The best polo-player in India, a second Kanji in cricket, he was, in the opinion of John Roberts, the finest amateur billiardist of the day. His death will be mourned by lovers of sport even in England. The captain of a team coached by Brockwell and J. T. Hearne, he was the head of the cricketing talent of India. It was, therefore, proposed last year that he should bring over a representative Indian eleven, which, strengthened by Ranjitsinhji, might show their prowess before an all-England eleven.

An Indian Prince, batting at each wicket at Lord's would, I feel sure, have appealed to the imagination of England and India, and have drawn those countries together in a closer union. Now one is gone, and the other, his personal and intimate friend, left behind. When will India find again so fine a pair?

No less famed was Patiala for his loyalty to the British crown. Serving in person in the frontier campaign in 1897, he again offered his sword and his army at the outbreak of the Transvaal war. When these were reluctantly refused he sent his favorite Arab charger to Lord Roberts.

Yet the most striking episode of his brief life was his marriage in 1893, when he was barely twenty-one. Miss Florence Bryan was comparatively of humble birth. Her brother was in Patiala's employ; she had gone out to India to join him. The young Prince saw her and loved her. His love was returned. He proposed to wed her and raise her to the throne.

The Sikh chieftains were up in arms. As the head of their race, they owed homage to young Patiala; wherefore their wives also must bend the knee to his wife. They murmured openly, and the Supreme Government heard of their murmurings.

It remembered that the Sikhs formed the flower of the Indian army—that the Sikhs to a man had stood by the Empire in the darkest hour of the mutiny, and that they had marched under the British flag to Dergah—and that this occurred to-day, would have seen them thundering at the gates of Patiala. Wherefore the government was loth to displease the Sikhs. Yet it knew not how to forbid the match.

Then the lovers took counsel for their lives. They remembered that the Sikh high priests had power to admit whom they chose into their mystic band. The maiden became a Sikh—one of the brotherhood thenceforth and forever, with all its privileges and all its burdens. Thus she wedded him, and became, in the sight of all loyal and true-born Sikhs, the Maharani of Patiala—to receive the homage of all lesser Rajas and their Ranas.

But the fates had willed that their happiness should be short-lived. Priding himself in the past glories of his race, the Maharaja maintained a large army for the service of the Imperial government. He went forth in person to guide its manoeuvres. The Maharani, as he was a Sikh Princess, rode by her husband's side at the head of the army.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.



'Now, don't you call him a perfect picture?' 'Well, it seems to me the picture is spoiled by so much framework.'—'Punch.'

Uncle (an old friend, to daughter of the house)—'Good-bye! I won't kiss you, my dear; I've got such a cold!' Nephew (with alacrity)—'Can I do anything for you, uncle?' Sleeplessness.—When the nerves are unstrung and the whole body given up to wretchedness, when the mind is filled with gloom and dismal forebodings, the result of derangement of the digestive organs, sleeplessness comes to add to the distress. If only the subject could sleep, there would be oblivion for a while and temporary relief. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will not only induce sleep, but will act so beneficially that the subject will wake refreshed and restored to happiness.

Guido (referring to Egyptian Pyramids)—'It took hundreds of years to build them.' O'Brien (the wealthy contractor)—'That it wor a Governor's job—eh?' The Flagging Energies Revived.—Constant application to business is a tax upon the energies, and if there be not relaxation, lassitude and depression are sure to intervene. These come from stomachic troubles. The want of exercise brings on nervous irregularities, and the stomach ceases to assimilate food properly. In this condition Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will be found a recuperative of rare power, restoring the organs to healthful action, dispelling depression, and reviving the flagging energies.

'Now, there is a carpet,' said the dealer, 'that can't be beaten.' 'Just what I want,' said the tired-looking man who had recently undergone a little experience in his back yard. 'Send a man up to my house at once and measure every room.'

If your children are troubled with worms, give them Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator; safe, sure, and effectual. Try it, and mark the improvement in your child.

'Women ought to have administration—her touch will calm and purify the turbid, muddy pool of politics.' 'Now, go slow, Eliza; you've temporarily overlooked the Empress of China.'

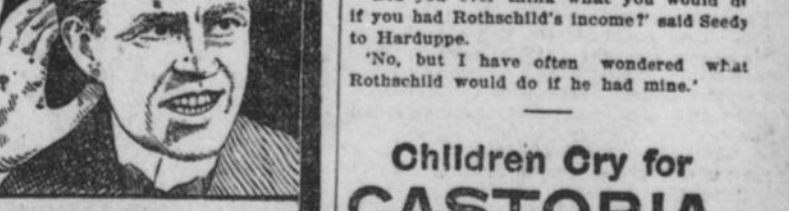
Ill-fitting boots and shoes cause corns. Holloway's Corn Cure is the article to use. Get a bottle at once and cure your corns.

'Women ought to have administration—her touch will calm and purify the turbid, muddy pool of politics.' 'Now, go slow, Eliza; you've temporarily overlooked the Empress of China.'

So rapidly does lung irritation spread and deepen, that often in a few weeks a simple cough culminates in tubercular consumption. Give heed to a cough, there is always danger in delay, get a bottle of Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, and cure yourself. It is a medicine unsurpassed for all throat and lung troubles. It is compounded from several herbs, each one of which stands at the head of the list as exerting a wonderful influence in curing consumption and all lung diseases.

MORE TO THE POINT. 'Did you ever think what you would do if you had Rothschild's income?' said Seedy to Harduppe. 'No, but I have often wondered what Rothschild would do if he had mine.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.



Hearing Restored by the use of Wilson's Ear Drums. The only scientific sound conductors. Invisible, comfortable, efficient. They fit in the ear. Doctors recommend them. Thousands testify to their efficiency. Information and Booklet Free. WILSON EAR DRUM CO., 397 Trust Bldg., Louisville, Ky.

CADBURY'S COCOA. ABSOLUTELY PURE, THEREFORE BEST NO CHEMICALS USED.

For Infants and Children. 'Papa,' said Willie, 'why did you buy a golf coat?' 'To play golf in, my son,' said Mr. Willis. 'Did you need it?' 'Of course I did.' 'Then I need a top coat to play tops in. I seen 'em advertised.'

The Boys' Page.

Baden Powell's 'Aids'

QUICKNESS OF EYE.

(Continued.)

Quickness of eye and ear are one of the secrets of successful scouting, says Baden-Powell, and both are largely a matter of training and practice in peace time. Quickness of eye means ability to see an object the moment it is within possibility of being seen, whether before or behind you, far away or near. For this the eyes must be never resting, continually glancing round in every direction, and trained to see objects in the far distance. Riding with a really trained scout, such as Buffalo Bill or Burnham, you will notice that while he talks with you, his eyes scarcely look you in the face for a moment, they keep glancing from point to point of the country round, from sheer force of habit.

A moving enemy is easy to see, but one who stands still, or who is of the same color as the ground around him, is very hard to see for the unpracticed eye. Common sense and a little reflection will often suggest to you the most likely points to look at to find him.

Thus, once I was having a match with a Shikari in Kashmir, as to which of us could see farthest.

He pointed out a hillside some distance off, and asked me if I could see how many cattle there were grazing on it. It was only with difficulty that I could see any cattle at all, but presently I capped him by asking him if he could see the man in charge of the cattle. Now, I could not actually see this myself, but knowing that there must be a man with the herd, and that he would probably be up-hill above them somewhere, and as there was a solitary tree above them (and it was a hot sunny day), I guessed he would be under this tree. A look through the glasses showed this surmise to be correct.

A man who has not trained himself at looking at distant objects is very apt to mistake such objects for what they are not. I have often known cattle reported as horses, walls as troops, cavalry as infantry, carts as artillery, cavalry as infantry, and so on. I won a bet once when riding with the staff at the Berkshire manoeuvres: it was a misty day and on a neighboring hill we saw four parties which one officer said were squadrons of cavalry and another offered to bet were guns. For myself I saw one individual cross over from one party to the next, which made me willing to bet that they were sheep. An orderly was sent to see, and sheep they proved to be.

So, on seeing distant signs, don't jump to conclusions altogether as to what they are, but watch carefully for the movements of individuals or other unmistakable explanation.

Baden-Powell warns the would-be scout, however, not to miss signs close at hand, while looking far afield, and he gives some instances from his own experience to show the value of small signs:

I was once acting as scout for a party in a desert country where we were getting done up from want of water. I had gone out two or three miles ahead to where I thought the ground seemed to slope slightly downwards, but except a very shallow dry watercourse, there was no sign of water. As I was making my way slowly back again, I noticed a scratching in the sand, evidently recently made by a buck, and the sand thrown up was of a darker color, therefore damper, than that on the surface. I dismounted and scooped up more with my hands, and found the under-soil quite moist, so water was evidently near and probably could be got by digging. But at that moment two pigeons sprang up and flew from under a rock near by; full of hope, I went to the spot, and found there a small pool of water, which yielded sufficient for the immediate requirements of the party.

Had I not noticed the buck-scratching or the pigeons flying up, we should have had a painful toil of many miles more before we struck on the river which we eventually did come to.

I remember, too, on one occasion, when riding to headquarters' camp with despatches, in the night, I had guided myself by the stars, and had ridden, as I calculated, a distance such as should have brought me to the camp, but I could see nothing of it. Rather than overshoot it, I proposed to myself to dismount and sit tight till dawn, when a distant spark caught my eye for a moment. I remounted, and made my way to where I had seen it, and there found a sentry and the camp I was in search of.

The sentry was smoking, and it was the glow of his pipe that had caught my eye.

This one little spark thus saved three or four hours in the delivery of my despatches, and also, by the way, saved me from a drenching, for I was no sooner under cover in camp than a heavy rainstorm swept over the country.

After remarking on the valuable information ashes of fire afford regarding the enemy's moves, the author dwells in the necessity of studying the ways and habits of the enemy, so as to be the better able to read his motives: "Thus, knowing that it is the custom of Zulu scouts to lie along the crest of a hill watching your moves, your eye gets into the habit of noticing any suspicious object looking like a stick or stone along a ridge, where an unthinking stranger would notice nothing. Presently you see that the stone has disappeared; you know at once that you are being watched."

Speaking of the employment by the scout of the other senses besides that of sight, Baden-Powell says: "At night, especially, when there is a stillness in the air, the beat of a horse's hoof, or the ordinary tone of a man's voice, carry a long distance, as compared with the same sounds by day. And if you apply your ear to the ground, or place it against a stick which is touching the ground, you can often hear the stroke of a horse's hoof, or the thump of a man's footfall, for a still greater distance. I have known the 'eigh' of a Zulu's wooden pebble to be the

first notice one had of his presence close by, and I have frequently passed to and fro through outposts after having found the exact position of pickets or cossack posts by the low talking of their men. Dogs barking suddenly and violently mean someone is on the move near them."

'Also the sense of touch will help you much in tracking by night. I have followed up tracks by feeling them with my bare feet. Burnham, the American scout, who made his way back to the main body when Wilson's party were massacred on the Shangani in Matabeleland, did so during the night by feeling his way along the track made by the party in coming.

TO TEACH ONE'S SELF.

Every boy will benefit by practicing Baden-Powell's simple directions for gaining quickness of eye and ear during peace time. The author says: "To develop long sight, I find it useful to get on to some good look-out place with a pair of field glasses or a telescope, and to look at very distant objects, people or animals, and see what you can make of them, and then correct myself by studying them through the glass. Also it is a most useful practice to find with the glass some such object in the far distance, and then to gaze at it until you can see it with the naked eye. Afterwards try and find objects at a similar distance without the aid of glasses. In this way you will find that you gradually become able to see men or animals at extreme distances where they are scarcely visible to untrained eyes."

"When riding as one of a party to practice quickness of eye, it is a useful practice for the leader to ask questions to test the men as to whether they have seen some figure in the distance or any small points near by. It should become a constant practice with you to notice everything, whether it is a broken cart-wheel at the roadside, a bent weather-cock on a steeple, the color of the wool which an old woman is knitting in an upstairs window; let nothing go too small to escape your notice. Always try to be the first to see any new object. It should be a point of honor with a scout that nobody sees anything, either near or far, that he has not already seen for himself; and it should be a matter of shame for him if he passes by a man without seeing him, even if he be to a certain extent hidden."

"Walk out at night and practice listening for sounds and finding their meaning, as well as using your eyes in the dark. You will thus find you're relying on your hearing, which, although it is the common-sense way to get information, is very generally neglected by us from want of practice in peace-time."

(To be continued.)

Our Note Book.

WHY DEC. 25?

It is not general knowledge, perhaps, that the date for the celebration of the anniversary of the nativity has been the subject of much learned discussion. In the absence of any conclusive record—for the earliest historical traces of its observance date from about 180 A.D.—it is of interest to note that the Eastern Church first celebrated it on April 20 or May 20, and afterwards on Jan. 6, the Feast of the Epiphany.

PADDY'S SANTA CLAUS.

In Ireland no such personage as Santa Claus is known, but there is somebody very like him called 'Father Christmas.'

THE YULE LOG.

The ancient Britons held the oak to be a sacred tree, belonging to the god of thunder. Their sacred fires were of burning oak logs, and the Yule log burnt at their great feasts was of oak. Every year the people put out the house fires and kindled them from the sacred fires. This was the beginning of a custom that has only recently died out. In every house a Yule log was laid on the Christmas fire, and then taken off half burnt and kept all the year to re-light the next Christmas fire; and the children always gathered round to see the great log laid on the hearth before the merry games began.

THE MISTLETOE.

To the ancient Briton everything that grew on the oak tree was especially sacred, and when an oak was found with some mistletoe growing on it, they thought it was sent from heaven as a sign that their God had chosen this tree for himself. The Druids who found the tree with the mistletoe growing on it said it had been revealed to them in a vision. They formed a solemn procession, and dressed in white garments, leading two white bulls, they marched to the sacred tree. The bulls were tied to it by the horns, and the mistletoe was cut off with a golden knife and dropped into a white cloth held to catch it. The bulls were then sacrificed, and the mistletoe was distributed among the people, who made medicines from it.

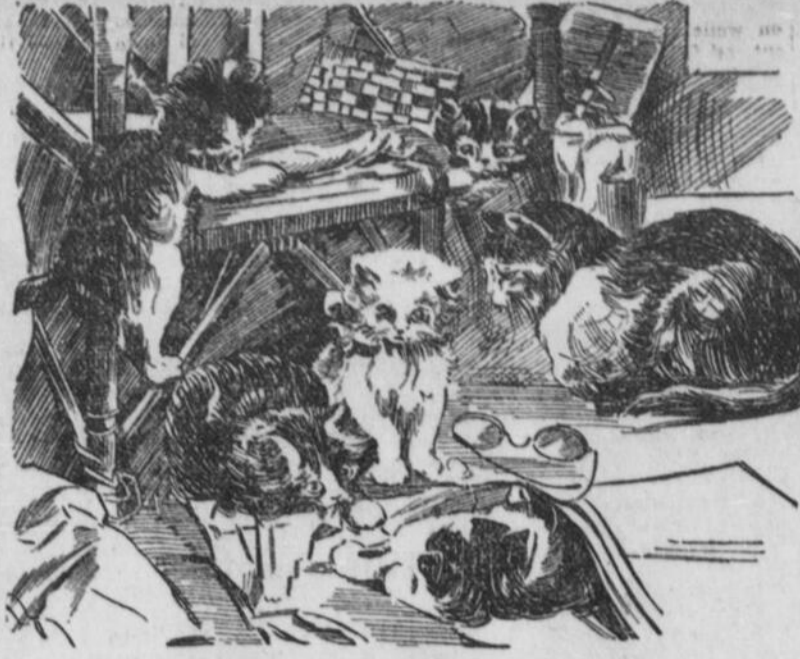
MERRIE CHRISTMAS.

Merry is a good old English word, which we find used in its simple and original sense in the King James version of the Bible. It then signified a gentle cheerfulness of a grateful and contented heart, as in the expression, 'Let us eat and be merry.' When we use it in the Christmas salutation it retains this good old meaning.

WHY OXEN AND SHEEP ARE HONORED AT CHRISTMAS.

On the coast of Normandy, among the sea villagers, oxen, asses and sheep form part of the congregations attending the quaint little churches at Yuletide. These are given the preference among animals, being so intimately connected with the birth of Christ, and a Christmas mass called the adoration of the shepherds is a most impressive spectacle.

A spotted lamb, drawn by a newly-washed sheep—its white, glistening wool tied with ribbons—is taken in a two-wheeled cart to the church, accompanied by a long procession of shepherds and musicians. It is the lamb of sacrifice, only as an illustration, being blessed by the priest at the altar, after which it is prettiest maiden in the village taken in



DEVOURING THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

From the painting by E. Orczy.

charge, the shepherds standing near her, while the oxen and other animals are eating hay from a manger close by.

At midnight a choral mass is sung, into which the crowing of the cocks, the lowing of kine, and the braying of asses are introduced by special performers, who make a wonderful harmony among the chorists. The sights and sounds of these elaborate Christmas ceremonies are most imposing, especially when the night is silver moonlight and the soft souging of the sea mingles with the music and the intoned words of the priest.

A CHRISTMAS CHRISTENING.

Amongst the natives of Gibraltar the custom prevails to celebrate Christmas by the christening of as many babies as possible according to the sacramental rite of baptism of the Church of Rome. The ceremony takes place at nine p.m., and long before that hour the 'coches' of Gibraltar are bowing along the narrow streets to the church with freights of elaborately-robed babies, with their parents and sponsors. The occasion is made one of unlimited rejoicing. 'Putting water on the baby,' as the poorer classes quaintly express it in their broken English, is usually—and unfortunately—accompanied by a great consumption of 'flavored' water by their sponsors.

A CHRISTMAS SONG.

Sound over all waters, reach out from all lands,
The chorus of voices, the clasp of hands;
Sing hymns that were sung by the stars of the morn,
Sing songs of the angels when Jesus was born!
Blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace;
East, west, north and south, let the long quarrel cease:
Sing the song of great joy that the angels began,
Sing of glory to God and of goodwill to man!
Hark! joining in chorus
The heavens bend o'er us!
The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech slow to music, all hearts beat as one!
—Whittier.

[For the Boys' Page.]

How I Foiled the Thieves.

(By A. L. Harvey.)

My name is Jessie Hamilton. My brother Bert, and I are twins. For a number of years we attended a business college in Minneapolis, Minn. After graduation Bert secured a position as telegrapher, ticket agent, etc., from one of our western railways, and took charge of the station at Fairburn South, Dakota.

In the summer following Bert's appointment I went out to Dakota to pay him a visit. I found Fairburn to be a little wayside station in the midst of a large ranching district. The settlements were far apart and the nearest house—a ranching station, where Bert boarded, was two miles from the depot. I enjoyed riding horseback over the breezy hills and across the wide stretches of country which lay in all directions as far as the eye could reach. I used to spend much of my time with Bert. At the depot, for as there were only a few trains passing in the day, his duties were of necessity very light. We conceived the novel idea of putting up a 'private wire' from the ranch to the depot. With the assistance of some of the ranchmen, Bert put up the 'line' and placed the instruments in the freight shed, which also did duty for a waiting room. It worked splendidly and I could 'talk' to Bert over the wire without being obliged to go down to the depot. I should have stated that I, too, had studied telegraphy at college. But an incident shortly occurred which considerably marred the pleasure of my visit. My brother, in jumping off a moving freight train, had caught his foot under a projecting tie and broken his right ankle. He was brought to the ranch and lay helpless for several weeks. As I had gained considerable insight into the 'workings' of a station it seemed quite natural that I should assume, for the time being, my brother's duties. Accordingly, I secured permission from headquarters to act as a 'relieving' agent while Bert was incapacitated.

My work was not very difficult as a rule. But when cattle were shipped there was considerably extra work to do in connection with making out 'shipping-bills,' etc. Also, the account of money in my charge was of necessity much greater on such occasions. One night toward dusk I was busy in the office making out the returns for the day. A great number of cattle had been shipped during the day and the amount of money in the safe far exceeded anything I had yet handled. Accordingly I determined to 'remit' by the night express, which was due in about an hour's time. My attention was suddenly diverted by the sound of hoofs and in a twinkling two horsemen dismounted and rushed into the office. I had barely succeeded in turning the 'combination' in the safe when one of the men seized my wrists in a vise-like grasp while the other stuffed a large gag into my mouth. They then dragged me into the freight shed and having untied a coil of binder twine they securely tied my ankles and bound my hands behind my back. Then having placed me on the floor they commenced operations upon the safe. My presence of mind did not forsake me for a moment; and immediately I set about considering what could be done. I was unable to scream on account of the gag in my mouth, and even if I had screamed it would have been useless as there was no one near who could render assistance. I looked round the freight shed in the hope of seeing some way out of the difficulty. The twilight still lingered, making objects dimly visible, and in their quest my eyes rested on the telegraph instrument. Bert had put in in connection with our 'private wire.' But alas it was of no use so long as my hands were tied. Vainly I tried to wrench my hands free. In desperation I glanced round the shed again and espied, standing in one corner with its sharp edge outermost, a new scythe blade, which had been placed there a few days previously awaiting its owner. To roll over to the corner was the work of a moment, then sitting up with my back to the wall, I managed to get the blade of the scythe across the cords which bound my wrists. In a short time I succeeded in sawing through the cords and freed my hands. To take the gag out of my mouth and untie my ankles was my next task. Then stepping cautiously over to the telegraph instrument I gave the 'call' to Bert. 'Send help quickly! Thieves have broken into the depot!'

Then I listened to ascertain whether the thieves had noticed my movement. They apparently had not for they were still working at the safe, but not knowing the combination, could not open it without using dynamite.

I strained my ears listening for the sound of horsemen, and was soon rewarded by hearing them approaching. A moment later six of the ranchmen rode up to the depot and after two had placed themselves in front as outposts the remaining four dismounted and prepared to enter the office. The safe-breakers were by this time aware of the arrival of the newcomers and made a dash for the door. They ran straight into the arms of the ranchmen and were quickly overpowered. The ranchmen cut lengths off the binder twine and securely bound the would-be robbers, hand and foot. Not being expert 'safe-crackers,' they had not succeeded in gaining an entrance to our safe.

The express thundered in a few minutes later and we handed our prisoners over to the keeping of the baggage-man for transportation to the nearest police station. The railway officials hearing of the affair, congratulated me on my conduct, and offered me a position in their office, which I have held ever since.

HOLIDAY GAMES.

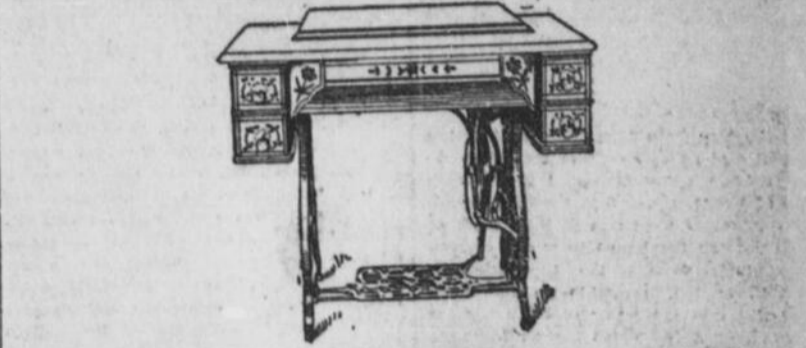
The French have a Christmas game which serves as a substitute for the giving of presents, and creates at the same time a world of fun. The game is played thus: The members of the party who expect to dine together on Christmas day enter into a compact some days before the festival, by which each binds himself to give a present to every other person in the circle; but no present to cost more than a certain small number of cents, say, five, ten, fifteen, or, at the most, twenty-five. Ten cents is a very good sum for the purpose. Each, also, agrees to keep secret from the rest what he intends to give, and to convey to the house all his presents carefully wrapped up and sealed. The French,

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of course, display great taste in enclosing the articles, using a great variety of the colored papers and ribbon, and putting the daintiest wrappings over the coarsest commodities. Each present must be labelled with the name of the giver and the recipient, and should contain a written sentence, or (if agreed upon), a motto in verse, either original or selected. All the presents are to be delivered into the hands of a designated person (usually one of the young ladies of the house) by twelve o'clock on Christmas day. They are arranged on a table, each person's presents being placed by themselves; and when all the guests are assembled, the door of the room is thrown open, and every one takes and opens his own.

Our readers can see what a chance this little game affords for the display of wit, ingenuity and taste. In selecting the gifts, the French display an astonishing fertility of resource, as well as a happy knack both in flattering and satirizing their friends in the distribution of the various articles. The reading aloud of the mottoes also creates a great deal of amusement. No article is so commonplace or insignificant but what it can be made to tell in the game. Admirable hits have been made with such as these: a gimlet, a pound of tennepny nails, a thimble, a piece of soap, an almanac, a pumpkin, to say nothing of the serious articles, such as watch-guards, pin-cushions, and the other small wares, the work of ladies' fingers.

YULE TWIGS.

This is a pretty game for a holiday gathering. It is simple, but there is a lot of merriment in it. It is essential that each one invited should know the names of the others who are invited, for this game begins at home. Each guest there provides himself or herself with some trifle, and this is wrapped in paper, accompanied by a suitable verse and addressed to one of the guests. This 'twig' is again enveloped in another wrapper with the name of another person subscribed upon it, and so proceed until all the guests have been included. Each person takes his little and much addressed gift to the house, and they are all piled on the table. Each one picks out the parcel addressed with his name, opens it and finds that it does not belong to him, and passes it on to the next one, until finally it reaches the one for whom it was intended. The unrolling of these Yule twigs is attended with great sport, and the poetry always hits the mark.

one else may slip into his place. Then he must get the vacant chair before the giver of the feast can get it, or he will have to tell the story.

Whenever the person telling the story says 'The Christmas Feast' all rise and turn around, and there is a general changing of places, and the one who does not get a chair takes up the story.

CHRISTMAS TURKEY GAME.

The 'Christmas Turkey' is played much like some other games. The company sit in a circle, and some one selected by a counting-out rhyme says the Christmas Turkey is— The person he looks at must be ready with an adjective beginning with the letter already agreed upon by the company. The Christmas Turkey is— 'Angry,' promptly answers the person looked at, if he is in the A's. 'Basted,' if in the B's, and so on.

GIVING A DINNER.

Another favorite game is played in this way: After the company is arranged in a line or circle, No. 1 says to his neighbor: 'I'm going to give a dinner. What shall I have?' No. 2 replies by mentioning a single article of food, as 'turkey.' No. 2 then puts the question to No. 3, who must repeat the first suggestion with an addition of his own—as 'turkey, cranberry sauce.' No. 4 must add another edible, No. 5 another, and so on, each one repeating the entire list of the good things previously mentioned. If any member of the company omits an article he is out of the game. This is an excellent memory exercise—for the list becomes absurdly lengthy in time—and the game may be pursued until only one is left, as in a spelling match.

WHO AM I?

One member of the company does not know who he is to personate, and on his back is pinned a paper bearing his name, which is carefully whispered to all the others. They then proceed in turn to ask this man without a name all sorts of questions about himself, calculated to throw light (very gradually) on the mystery of his identity. The more out-of-the-way and unexpected the character chosen, the more interesting the process of enlightenment.

TEA KETTLE.

The company agree upon some common word—generally one with different meanings—which is to be guessed by 'it,' who of course is sent out of the parlor during the conference. When he returns he is the one to ask the questions. In their replies the others are to use the meaning of the word, but to substitute tea kettle. Example 1. Are you going to Boston tomorrow? I shall watch the tea kettle before I decide. How are you getting on in school? It would make me tea-kettle to answer that question. What do you think the Paris Commission will agree upon? It is in tea-kettle for me to predict. The word—as the reader may have already guessed—proved to be vane (vain).

THE CHRISTMAS FEAST.

The 'Christmas Feast' is another old game that may be played under a reasonable name. The giver of the feast is selected by counting out. He has no chair; the rest of the company have. He names everybody after some article of food. Then he tells a story, how he purchased and prepared the feast, and every time he mentions an article the person having that name must get up, turn around and sit down again. While 'the article' is doing this some

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Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States, and sold at a higher price than the best American saws.

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GROWING FAT.

HINTS BY AN EMINENT PHYSICIAN FOR REDUCING THE GIRTH.

(New York 'Herald'.)

At forty a man should be approaching his prime physically, according to all the authorities from Socrates to Attila, yet to the average New-Yorker of middle age, or even younger, the pressing question, 'How may I reduce flesh and keep in good condition?' grows from a passing query into a nightmare of interrogation.

What's to be done? Shall I bant? Or become an acrobat? Massage or medicine, which shall it be? To Croesus, Dr. Pangloss says, 'Oh, go to the park and ride a spirited horse for a couple of hours a day.' But Paterfamilias says, 'I can't afford that, with six mouths to feed and coal going up like toy balloons.'

Dr. George F. Shrady, when asked what he would advise for the average man who cries in horror 'Obesity!' when he sees his shadow, said:

'It all resolves itself into Bion's maxim, "Know thyself." When we line ourselves with capons within and furs without we must pay the penalties. Neither is essential to our comfort and well being. Fortunately, the real necessities of life are within the reach of all. Flour is cheap; bread is wholesome; meat is easy to obtain, and water is plentiful and good. Nature is prodigal with our necessities, but jealous of our luxuries. Comparatively little effort is required to provide sufficient nourishment. But exercise, which is a real necessary of life, is neglected, aye, even scorned.'

'The temptation to make money is one of the explanations of the average man's tendency to undue flesh. He will ride in his cab if he can, or his street car, when he really should walk to business. He will indulge in sweetbreads, terrapin, filet Mignon, capon and plum pudding because he has no healthy appetite for simple food. He will stay in his office and watch the ticker and have luncheon brought in to him when he positively needs the exercise of going to get his provender. He will linger at the desk or counter till the last minute and rush home in a conveyance of some sort when he owes it to himself to quit work half an hour sooner and spend that time walking homeward and reducing his girth.'

'Primitive man was not Falstaffian,' continued Dr. Shrady. 'He had to work, run and fight to obtain sufficient food. He had one meal in forty-eight hours, or perhaps two in two hours, as circumstances favored him. He was out in the open air all the time. He was inured to climatic changes. He had little or no shelter. He did not sleep too much. Ergo, he was tall, sinewy, athletic, admirably proportioned, long lived, healthy, happy and free. Exercise, constant exercise, was his habit. His was no toy club. If he could not use his stick to advantage he knew he would go hungry. It was the actual sweat on the brow that entitled him to eat.'

'Now, it should be borne in mind that every man has his own standard of fleshiness. No one can say a healthy man of such and such a height should weigh so many pounds. One man of that height might properly weigh ten pounds more than the standard thus arbitrarily set, and another man might weigh ten or fifteen pounds less and be perfectly healthy, too.'

'A great deal depends on heredity. Some families run to fat as naturally as others to leanness, and mere changes of diet very seldom have any special influence in markedly controlling or altering such conditions. It is the percentage of nutrition that one gets from his food that makes the difference as shown in the storing of fat instead of using it up by oxygenation. Thus, if one has the habit of growing fat on the simplest diet he must work the harder to trim down his proportions. Obviously there is no absolute rule for all. It is not so much a question of quantity and quality of fuel as of draught to burn it and the riddance of ashes. Thus it is generally agreed by the highest medical authorities that the strictly diet treatment involves very many complex questions as applied to individual requirements. Generally speaking, fat people and large eaters of starches and fatty foods are in-disposed to physical exertion, and hence it is often difficult to decide without medical advice how much of reduction of supplies can be tolerated without injury to the body as a whole, and how much exercise can be borne short of exhaustion. It is thus much easier to prevent obesity than to cure it. As to habits, inclinations and tolerance, each has his own standard.'

'It is just the same setting a standard of digestibility. The time table of that sort of thing was originally made from experiments conducted on the well known Alexis St. Martin, many years ago. Because of a gunshot wound of the stomach which left an opening for the introduction of various foods it was easy to determine just how long it required him to digest pork and mutton, and cheese and beef, and eggs and chicken, and it was authoritatively set down as the invariable rule that such and such food stuffs took so long to be digested in every case.'

'I used to know an old farmer who said, "What I want the 'hall year' round

for breakfast is salt pork and cabbage, so's my stomach can have suthin' 'chaw on while I'm working." But he went out and followed a plough through rough going all day long or swung a scythe, and he needed such fuel, for his body consumed it and felt well over it. He took his work, nourishment and exercise together and when eighty years old could squat like a boy and jump like a frog.'

'In considering the means to the end we must get down to a common basis. Usually the remedy for common ills is always near at hand. Almost every one, rich and poor, male and female, old and young, can walk.'

'Walking, systematically and persistently,' concluded Dr. Shrady, 'will reduce your fat in the easiest and safest way, clear your brain and put your vital organs in proper trim. Don't sleep quite so much if you are becoming aldermanic. Exercise all you can in the open air in the sunlight, and even in bad weather a brisk walk home from the downtown office will save much more than a car fare.'

'Some people say, "But, Doctor, I can't walk unless I have some objective point, some reason for going." Well, the caged bear paces his cell up and down by the hour. His health demands it. So does yours. If you yourself are not in good company when you are alone your mind must be a vacuum. I am glad to see business men making a practice of walking up town. Nothing could be more beneficial. Pity it isn't made a regular duty. One gentleman who is getting becomingly small around his equatorial region, tells me he is now exercising himself instead of his horses.'

'Cycling is good, but it keeps the arms in a comparatively constrained position and does not give the lungs the fullest play. It strengthens the lower limbs, but usually that part of the body is less in need of exercise than the rest of it. We all use our legs considerably for exercise.'

'But muscularity is not all—not by a long shot. The muscles of the body are really only the common carriers for the vital organs—the lungs, liver, kidneys and so on. But, again, such man has his own standard. One should walk five miles, another ten, and another fifteen miles a day. Ask your postman what is the actual limit in that line.'

'Home gymnasia,' continued Dr. Shrady, 'are well enough in their way, but they are open to these objections: They are indoors, and everybody should exercise daily in the open air and sunlight, and they are monotonous.'

'It is worse than foolish to start with the assumption that your system needs only nitrogenous food, or your dietary is deficient in albuminoids, and measure out so many ounces of this or that, and later go and weigh yourself. Equally foolish is it to take fat reducing medications.'

'We all know that some men have to be fat to live, but that is no reason why they should get fatter. The various nostrums that guarantee to reduce fifteen pounds in fifteen minutes are likely to provide a very flabby corpse in short order. If it is palpable that one is unhealthy fat, it is best to have a competent physician make a thorough investigation and prescribe proper treatment. But this taking of anti-fat cures is like suddenly putting on brakes on a fast train. Often the heart is irretrievably damaged.'

'What about rope skipping?' 'You are now speaking of using an apparatus and I have been talking about what the poorest man alive could do without extra appliances. Still, skipping the rope is capital exercise.'

'A few years ago a well-known horse-man was sadly concerned about his corpulency. His physician recommended rope skipping. He took it up and steadily kept at it. A few weeks ago, on his return from Europe, the usual entertainment was given on board the steamer. A young college athlete contributed a rope skipping act as his share in the evening's programme. After he had skipped some 900 times, our horseman, then lithe and trim, went forward and skipped about 1,500 times. The spectators were delighted and applauded enthusiastically.'

'When he stopped, half a dozen ladies asked to be introduced, and one said, "Mr. E—, you do that like a boy at school recess." "Yes, I am fifty-six years young," he replied, "and I've almost forgotten my three R's." And he was not out of breath when he said it.'

'What about other exercises without apparatus?' 'Oh, there are a dozen feats with common chairs that would reduce flesh on the abdomen and tend to keep a business man trim figured. You see we are still confining ourselves to the means of exercise within the reach of all. For instance, put your hands on the point of

the chair seat, your toes well back, then raise and lower your body by your hands and arms, up and down a dozen times. That will tire you a little at first, but you are not apt to grow rapidly fat by the exercise.'

'What other movement reduces flesh on the stomach?'

'One way is to lie flat on the back on the floor and throw the feet up so that the legs and body form a right angle. Then down again, and so on. Another feat is to lie flat on one's back, grasp a chair and raise it slowly until you can bring it over the chest and then slowly replace it again.'

'Still more vigorous, and therefore more beneficial, is the feat of picking up a coin while lying prone on the floor, facing downward. Raise your body with both hands and dip until you can seize a coin or any small object with your teeth.'

'All these movements not only give work for the muscles of the abdomen, but they strengthen those of the chest and arm. Have one of your family draw your hands backward as far as possible and notice how your abdomen shrinks away. Do it yourself with dumb-bells, or cords or corneops, ten minutes at a time, morning and evening, and see how large the waistband of your trousers seems.'

'Lean over as far as you can obliquely forward, first to the right and then to the left. Repeat this as long as you can without too much fatigue. Take two chairs, set them back to back, about a foot apart. Then grasping the top of the back rise and lower your body, keeping your feet off the floor. This exercise develops the abdominal muscles, stimulates respiration and makes walking easier and pleasanter.'

'By the way, walking, skipping the rope, jumping, ladder climbing, are all excellent for disposing of extra adipose tissue. Anybody can avail himself of such anti-fat remedies.'

'Simple home exercises assisting physical development and arresting the fat man's burden may be suggested without trouble. The primary object is, of course, to wear away the superfluous fat. The tricks of our boyhood are the best resource of middle age.'

'But exercise without apparatus is feasible for every one. There's no reason for the average business man becoming too fat, and if he thinks he is he can easily reduce his flesh by the most sensible of all forms of exercise already so often urged—walking morning, noon and night.'

'How is your friend the waddling bank president? As a boy he used to "chin the bar" half a dozen times in succession. He was slim then. If he could raise himself up so now he would grow slim again.'

'As a kitten he put one hand on the back of a kitchen chair and the other on the front edge of the seat. Then he jumped through his hands forward and then backward. He couldn't do a better "stunt" now.'

'He used to play squatbag, sitting down almost tailor fashion and springing up a dozen times in five minutes. No better exercise for the quadriceps extensor femoris, or under thigh muscle, could be devised for the business man of to-day. He used to lie on his back on the floor and raise himself to a sitting posture without using his hands. Your friend the corpulent bank president cannot do anything in that line now, but if you have any pity for him start him on the right track again by asking him to dismiss his carriage and join you in your enjoyable walk home.'

MELON-GROWING UP TO DATE.

A LATTER-DAY DISCOVERY.

(London 'Daily Express'.)

This is the age of competition and ingenuity, and no matter in what place a man's lot falls he must become a pioneer if he hopes to out-distance his fellows in the race for success.

This not only applies to the nobler walks of life, but to the humbler also. For instance, though you might not have known it before, there is room for a vast amount of ingenuity in such an apparently common-place thing as melon growing.

Like all truly great discoveries, the latest device for rearing the corpulent vegetable, may be described as simplicity itself. Indeed, the most wonderful part about it is that it should not have been found out before.

Your melon, like a Moorish bride, should be plump to be prime; and, as they cannot be stuffed with rice like grown humans, the question is how can they best be fattened?

Well, like babies, they are tender things at best, and so some enterprising growers bethought them that by treating them in similar fashion similar results would be obtained—and they were! Of course, only the flowers of their

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IS NECESSARY TO SAVE THE LITTLE ONES.

Thousands of people have to be constantly, unceasingly guarded! Born with hollow chests, stooped shoulders and general bodily weakness such people are highly susceptible to every change, a slight draught, damp feet, foggy weather, any little thing is sufficient excuse for an attack of sore throat, cough and even pneumonia. Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure builds up the system and gives strength to resist these attacks. It never fails to do so. It will make a naturally weak person comparatively strong and



Shiloh Cures Croup In a single night.

robust, and will positively heal up and permanently cure sore and inflamed membranes. If it does not do so the purchaser's entire satisfaction his druggist will refund the purchase money in full. No Cure no Pay! The following testimonial speaks plainly:

S. C. WELLS Co., Colborne St., Toronto.—'I come from a family of Consumptives and none of my ancestors have reached old age, to my knowledge. Twenty-three years ago I chanced to hear of the Shiloh Consumption Cure, and being more thoughtful than most young men, probably owing to the family curse, as we termed our hereditary consumption, I thought I would get a bottle and find out what it purported to do and, if it seemed reasonable, give it a fair trial. I carried out this plan and am, I implicitly believe, as a consequence, here to write this testimony. I am now 45; fifteen or twenty years older than the age usually reached by my family, am hale and hearty and as likely to reach a ripe old age as the next man, thanks to Dr. Shiloh. Yours for ever.

BENJ. GREEN, Ogdensburg, N.Y.
Great Britain 1s 2d - 2s 3d; 4s 6d.

race are deemed worthy of such up-bringing; but you must bear in mind that where melons most do congregate there is astonishing how many flowers there are.

You see, the good grower is constantly running his eye over the younger members of his pets; and as soon as his keen expert vision detects a reasonably symmetrical baby of good proportions he singles out by his guardian to be subjected to treatment for increasing his corpulency in after life.

At first sight the slight operation which is necessary to produce this delectable result must be somewhat painful; but then, you should bear in mind that one often has to be cruel to be kind.

'Spare the rod and spoil the child,' is what the tender-hearted grower mutters by way of mastering his emotions as he procures a good-sized bottle—an old quinine bottle for preference—fills it with sugar-sweetened water, and taking a darning-needle threaded with a cotton string, pierces the stem of the melon pulling the end of the string to the middle of the aperture, puts the other end through a cork, thence to the sweetened water, after having removed the needle, and—leaves the melon to do the rest.

Time heals all things, whether it be a broken heart or a wounded melon, and in a remarkably short time the patient is drinking more water in a day than the average man.

Needless to say it speedily begins to expand like a city alderman, and soon becomes the heavy-weight champion of the field.

Due time is taken, however, that its life shall not become a burden to it, for after it has lain in a comatose condition for a while, it goes the way of all vegetables, and is sent to market.



Communications should be addressed to the Chief Editor, 'Witness', Montreal.

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 1900.

PROBLEM NO. 99.

Composed for the 'Witness' by H. W. Barry, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.
Black—7 Pieces.



White—10 Pieces.
Mate in TWO. Solution Jan. 15.

SOLUTIONS AND COMMENT.

Problem No. 96, by H. M. M. Hackett. White K at Q B; Kt at Q B 3; Bs at Q Kt and K R 4; pawns at Q R 4, Q 2 and K Kt 4—seven pieces. Black K at K 4; Q at Q 2; Kt at K R 7; Kt at Q R 6; B at K 2; pawns at Q 5 and K B 3—seven pieces. Author's solution, 1 B-Kt 3 ch, K-K 3; 2 B-R 2 mate.

Correct from—Sisley, Toronto, who also enters his name for our Correspondence Tournament. (We would like to have the initials repeated.)

Criticism.—The author of this problem seems to have the principal idea of 'check' and 'mate' O.K., provided he has a written agreement from the Black forces not to interfere on behalf of their sovereign. H.M.M.H. is ahead of most of our readers, in that he takes sufficient interest in the success of the column to hazard a contribution.—Ed.

Further Criticism of Problem No. 95.—A very clever composition, in pleasing contrast to many amateur productions. 'Greenhorn.' It is difficult to find a problem with a free Black Queen producing mates both neat and pretty, like this one. The Black Knight at B 8 also provides some interesting play.—St. Maurice. A superb combination. The key develops surprising depth, and actually is the means of curing the

one apparent dual (upon Q-Q 8). B-Kt 3 and R-R 2 are beautiful tries, while P x B is also close. The White pawn on R 4 prevents a cook by K-R 4; and at the same time is apt to mislead the 'expert,' who makes a superficial examination of the position. A masterpiece.—Barry.

THE POST-CARD TOURNAMENT.

Several players have written us almost identically with the following just received: 'I would join the correspondence tournament but I fear I do not play sufficiently well to make it interesting for my partner.' Let the weak players come in as well as the strong. We propose to form the groups with players of the same strength, as far as known, so that every one will have an 'interesting' adversary. We have twenty-two contestants so far, and hope to hear from many more. Every one who has sent his own name should surely be able to secure one other as well. Our readers should not lay themselves open to the charge of sluggishness.

GAME NO. 83.

A curious specimen of Mr. Bird's early play:

- | White. | Black. |
|-------------|--------------|
| Bird. | C. F. Smith. |
| 1 P-K 4 | 1 P-K 4 |
| 2 Kt-K B 3 | 2 Kt-Q B 3 |
| 3 B-Kt 5 | 3 B-B 4 |
| 4 P-B 3 | 4 Q-B 3 |
| 5 Castles | 5 K Kt-K 2 |
| 6 P-Q 4 | 6 P x P |
| 7 P-K 5 | 7 Q-Kt 3 |
| 8 P x P | 8 B-K 3 |
| 9 Kt-B 3 | 9 Castles |
| 10 P-Q 5 | 10 Kt-Q sq |
| 11 Kt-K R 4 | 11 Resigns |

Game 84.—Staunton's Opening.

'Die Bohemia' gives the following as having been played in Augsburg, in September 1893:

- | White. | Black. |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Herr Bachman. | Herr Kuntsmann. |
| 1 P-K 4 | 1 P-K 4 |
| 2 Kt-K B 3 | 2 Kt-Q B 3 |
| 3 P-B 3 | 3 Kt-B 3 |
| 4 P-Q 4 | 4 Kt x K P |
| 5 P-Q 5 | 5 Kt-K 2 |
| 6 Kt x P | 6 Kt-Kt 3 |
| 7 B-Q 3 | 7 Kt x K B P |

At first sight Black's capture of the K B P seems a very plausible move. White has, however, a winning retort in hand.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 8 B x Kt | 8 Kt x Q |
| 9 B x P ch | 9 K-K 2 |
| 10 B-Kt 5 ch | 10 K-Q 3 |
| 11 Kt-B 4 ch | 11 K-B 4 |
| 12 Q Kt-Q R 3 | 12 Kt x Kt P |
| 13 B-K 3 mate | |

By 12 Q to K sq ch. Black might prevent immediate mate at the cost of the loss of a piece. He, however, prefers 'sudden death.'

ALI BEY TO THE SULTAN.

Among the messages received by the Sultan, on the occasion of his recent jubilee, was the following from Ali Bey, the son of Midhat Pasha: 'I congratulate Your Majesty. I recall the blood of my father, innocently shed in the fortress of Taif. That tragic death, in the face of justice, of humanity, and of Europe itself, is never to be forgotten. I have nothing to say on the subject of the strangling of my father after the promises made to those same powers who have now come to celebrate Your Majesty's jubilee; but I leave the judgment of the matter to the peoples and to the future. I am prepared to endure the wrath of Your Majesty before the spectre of Midhat.'

NOTES AND NOTICES.

A Cure for Asthma.—Asthma sufferers need no longer leave home and business in order to be cured. Nature has produced a vegetable remedy that will permanently cure Asthma and all diseases of the lungs and bronchial tubes. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases (with a record of 90 percent permanently cured), and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all sufferers from Asthma, Consumption, Catarrh, Bronchitis and nervous diseases, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail. Address with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noyes, 847 Powers Block, Rochester, N.Y.



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ADVERTISEMENTS.

HOME DEPARTMENT



HER MAJESTY SELECTING TOYS FOR HER GRAND-CHILDREN.

(By Sarah A. Tooley, in "The Young Woman.")

The Queen's Christmas, if we take preparation into consideration, begins about six weeks before the actual anniversary. Directly Her Majesty returns to Windsor from her autumn sojourn in the Highlands, she begins to select articles for her forthcoming gifts. A large assortment of the

ready for Christmas presents, but it is only special favorites within the Royal Family circle, or amongst old retainers, who are honored with these gifts.

THE FAMILY GATHERING.

It has been the Queen's invariable custom since the death of the Prince Consort to keep Christmas at Osborne. The Court removes there about the middle of Decem-



PREPARING THE BOAR'S HEAD IN THE ROYAL KITCHEN.

latest novelties is brought to Windsor for her consideration, and she spends many days in choosing for her large family circle just the thing which will suit each individual taste, as the Queen is no perfunctory donor. Nothing pleases her so much as the juvenile presents. Amongst the toys the royal grandmamma becomes a child again in feeling; and the dolls which talk, the animals which play tricks, and the various other mechanical toys, afford her endless amusement. They are all put through their "paces" for the Queen's delectation, and a right merry place the private sitting room at Windsor becomes, for no one enjoys a good hearty laugh more than Her Majesty. Purveyors of mechanical toys rack their brains each year to get a new and original consignment of goods for Windsor. "That will be just the thing for Prince Edward," says grandmamma when a horse that eats his food at a manger is displayed; or, "Put that on one side for Russia—how it will please little Olga!" when a doll's house, with fine ladies and gentlemen, walking in and out, is set on the table. And so the selection goes merrily forward, until Her Majesty's private apartments are a veritable bazaar. Next to mechanical toys, illustrated books of fairy stories find favor: with the Queen as presents to children, for she loved them dearly herself when she was a child. To the ladies of her household the Queen invariably gives Christmas presents of jewellery—usually rings or brooches; and here again, careful selection takes place, and the royal memory is called into requisition lest a previous style of gift be repeated. The task of selection becomes each year more arduous, as there are members of her household to whom the Queen has given Christmas presents for twenty and thirty years past, and I have never heard that she has a stock present for the festive season, like the proverbial Indian shawl for brides.

PRESENTS FOR THE POOR.

Like less exalted people, Her Majesty has poor relations—poor for the position which they are called to occupy—and many of them are relieved of pecuniary difficulty by a timely cheque from her hands at Christmas. Then there are the old and infirm dependents, and for these there are comfortable woollen goods, sometimes made by the Queen's own hands, for she is fond of a little plain knitting. She uses large bone needles and double Berlin wool. It amuses her to make comforters and cuffs

daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, it is ROYAL CHRISTMAS FARE.

We must not forget to mention a most important arrival at Osborne—the Queen's master cooks with pieces de resistance for the Christmas dinner, which have previously been cooked at Windsor. These are the bacon of beef—which consists of two arlons, not cut asunder, but kept together by the backbone of the ox—the boar's head, and the famous woodcock pie—dishes which the Queen always has upon her sideboard on Christmas Day, in recognition of the custom of olden times. The famous 'baron' is cut from an ox bred and fed on the Queen's own farm at Windsor. It is roasted in the great kitchen of the castle, at a huge open fireplace, which suggests the furnace of Nebuchadnezzar, and is only used for the Yuletide preparations, and when there is a great dinner party at Windsor, as on the occasion of the Jubilee.

"You can have no idea what a sight it is to see that fire," said an old retainer, who was conducting me through the royal kitchens; but as I looked into the cavernous depths of the huge grate it was easy to imagine the picture it would present when filled with burning fuel.

The third standard dish for the Queen's Christmas dinner is the woodcock pie, and there is keen competition among the royal sportsmen as to who shall supply the finest birds for it. The Duke of Connaught has often won this honor. This dish is a survival of the 'stately pye' which graced the sideboards of castle, hall, and grange, in Shakespeare's time, and was doubtless a wonderful feature in the Christmas dinner of Her Mightiness Queen Bess. These pies were of enormous dimensions, and boasted of a variety of ingredients which was fairly appalling. Here is a recipe given in a newspaper as late as 1770: 'Two bushels of flour, twenty pounds of butter, four geese, two turkeys, two rabbits, four wild ducks, two woodcocks six snipe, four partridges, two neat's tongues, two curlews, seven blackbirds, and six pigeons.' When made, the pie containing these ingredients measured nine feet in circumference, and weighed twelve stone, was fitted into a case upon wheels, and required two men to lift it on to the table. Osborne can boast of nothing like this. The Queen's woodcock pie would be a dwarf beside it. December is a time at which heavy mists hang over the Solent, and make navigation dangerous, and it has often occurred to me: 'What if it were found impossible for the Royal yacht to cross on Christmas Eve, and the Queen's Christmas dinner lay at Cowes, and the sideboard at Osborne was bare of the time-honored dishes! Such a contretemps has never, I believe, happened, although there have been rather narrow escapes.

AT THE ROYAL CHURCH.

We will assume instead that Christmas morn breaks bright and sunny at the Queen's island home, just such a glorious day of sunshine as I witnessed there two years ago; in which case the Queen will probably breakfast in a sheltered spot in the open air. Children and grandchildren will crowd around her with congratulations. There will be mutual felicitations and show of presents, and the silver-haired grandmamma with the smiling face will stoop down from her wheel chair to kiss the little ones, and will listen with animation as each describes the most particular treasure which it has received. We forget for the moment that she is the monarch of the greatest empire in the world, and that in yonder despatch boxes, standing beside the bulging letter bags, are important documents which claim her attention before the piles of Christmas cards, and think of her only at this joyous Yuletide as 'grandmamma.' Telegrams of greeting are arriving from the members of her family abroad, and from her representatives in all parts of the world. Softly through the air comes stealing the sound of the Whippingham church bells; and at the Christ-



CHRISTMAS TABLEAUX BY HER MAJESTY'S GRAND-CHILDREN.

The Plight of the Democracy and the Remedy

By Former President

GROVER CLEVELAND



The Audience of the Diplomats, by Hon. John W. Foster. United States Ministers and their amusing struggles with the etiquette and customs of Foreign Courts.

Our Cities in the 20th Century. Chicago—Its Present and its Future, by Mayor Carter H. Harrison.

Tales of the Banker, by Hon. James H. Eckels, former Comptroller of the Currency. The good and bad that bankers do, how financiers fall, and why banks fail.

In this week's (December 22) number of

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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mas of which I am specially thinking they bring tears to the Queen's eyes, and cause a hush to come over the children's laughter, for it is the first anniversary since the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg—he who was wont at this season to arrange all the games and merrymakings for the family gathering. Already his sorrowing widow has been to pray beside his tomb in the village church, where she had stood a bride. Later, in the morning the Queen drives to the church, and alighting at the lych-gate enters her wheel-chair, and is drawn through her special entrance, by the chapel, up to the tomb of Prince Henry, which stands in the newly-constructed side chapel, and lays upon it a large wreath of holly with a tender message attached.

THE FESTIVITIES.

At two o'clock comes what is technically the Queen's luncheon, but at Christmas it serves for the family dinner party, as all the children are present who would not partake of the more stately dinner in the evening. 'Grandmamma' in reality makes her Christmas dinner with the juveniles, as Her Majesty always prefers to take her heaviest meal at midday. Shortly after luncheon she takes a long drive, accompanied by one or more of the princesses. Upon the Queen's return from her drive the festivities begin. We now picture Osborne looking like a baronial castle of the olden time. The room is gaily lighted, and yule-logs shed their ruddy glow from the hearth, and holly and mistletoe gleam from the walls. Everybody in the castle, from the highest to the lowest, receives a Christmas box. This is a rule which has obtained in the Queen's home since her marriage, nearly sixty years ago, and was largely due to the Prince Consort, who introduced into the English Court the customs of his own Fatherland. From her mother, too, the Queen inherited a love of

German customs. After the distribution of presents from the Christmas tree the young princes and princesses make merry at Yuletide games, as other children are doing all over the land. Grandmamma does not care to be disturbed by the romp, but she takes a great interest in watching the tableaux vivants, which form the conclusion of the Christmas Day festivities. These are always arranged by Princess Beatrice, who is very clever at amateur theatricals, and they are joined in by the older members of the family party, and by some of the ladies and gentlemen of the household. I have seen charming private photographs of these tableaux vivants, and in one of them Princess Ena of Battenberg is seated like a fairy on the bough of a tree in a woodland glade; and a very lovely fairy princess she makes, with her fair face, blue eyes, and long rippling flaxen hair. For the last few seasons Christmas has been observed with less joyousness at Osborne, owing to the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, and only the younger members of the gathering have taken part in games.

QUEENLY FORETHOUGHT.

While the Queen keeps the festive season in family style after the best traditions of old English custom, she follows also the rule of making it a season of good-will for the poor and needy. At Osborne suitable gifts are distributed to the poor, and a special treat is provided for the children of the workpeople on the estate. Years ago the Queen always visited the children's treat herself, but latterly she has not done so, and the management of it has devolved on Princess Beatrice. Most of the royalties staying at Osborne take a part in this interesting festivity, and Princess Ena of Battenberg, with the young Princesses Margaret and Victoria of Connaught, may be

seen fitting hither and thither distributing the Queen's gifts to the children.

WINDSOR BOUNTIES.

At Windsor the royal bounties are upon a larger scale, and are given on New Year's Day. They consist of beef and coals, which are given away to hundreds of poor people in Windsor, and in the adjoining parish of Clewer. The distribution takes place in the riding school attached to the castle, in the presence of the Mayor, the Dean of Windsor, and the local clergy. It would be more of a gala day for the poor folks if they were gratified by Her Majesty's presence, as in the time gone by, when in the heyday of her life the Queen kept Christmas at Windsor in right royal style, and when she and the Prince Consort, with their children, always attended the distributor in the riding school; but it is needless to say Her Majesty cannot be everywhere at one time. During the season a similar treat to the one at Osborne is given to the children attending the Queen's schools in Windsor Great Park; and the Princess Christian assisted by the Princess Victoria, manages this on the Queen's behalf. There is little to relate of the royal New Year's Day observance. This anniversary is passed rather quietly at Osborne, but Her Majesty is of course the recipient of numerous cards and letters and of congratulations by telegram from the members of her family abroad. When the Prince Consort was alive, the Queen always had a private ball at Windsor, to dance the Old Year out and the New Year in, according to English custom, and there was added also the German fashion of having a flourish of trumpets blown in the middle of the dance, just as the clock was striking twelve. This joyous observance has never been revived since the death of the Prince, and indeed

for many years after her widowhood the Queen's Christmas at Osborne was shorn of all merrymaking. It is since the grand children have begun to cluster around the Queen that she has returned to the time-honored festivities. Never, however, in her deepest grief did she forget the poor.

AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY.
During the week succeeding Christmas, the Queen takes a great interest in arranging her many presents about her private rooms, in which she is assisted by Princess Beatrice, and the ladies-in-waiting. She has scrap albums for the Christmas cards, which are so placed that the name of the sender, written upon the back, is visible on the reverse page. It will be readily understood, however, that more Christmas cards find their way to Her Majesty than can be placed in her scrap-albums. These books are reserved for the cards of very special interest; large numbers of others find their way to children's hospitals and kindred institutions, along with books and pictures.

The Duchess of York, before her marriage, devoted much time to collecting pretty trifles from her friends and relatives for her children's mission, and there was no more generous donor to Princess May's little institution than the Queen, who has ever a soft side to the little ones. Her private rooms are filled with children's portraits, and the two principal pictures in Her Majesty's bedroom at Osborne are Raphael's 'Virgin and Child' and Dyce's 'Madonna and Child.'

[For the Home Department.

ABIDE IN ME.

Abiding in Jesus,
What rest in the thought;
What calm to the soul
This assurance has brought.

Abiding in Jesus,
Though dreary the day;
Though storm-tossed and weary
I press on my way.

Abiding in Jesus,
When joy fills my heart;
When sorrow and sadness
No more claim a part.

Abiding in Jesus,
The promise is mine,
And dearer each hour
Is my Saviour divine.

JUNE HAMPTON.



Plum Pudding.—The following simple plum pudding is not so rich as that which graces the Christmas board of our English cousins, but may be recommended as lighter and more digestible, and with accompanying rich sauce will certainly prove very palatable. Mix together one cup of finely chopped suet and one cup of dark molasses. In the cup in which the molasses was measured dissolve a teaspoonful of soda in a very little warm water. With the suet and molasses mix one cup of sweet milk and three cups of sifted flour. Now add a teaspoonful each of salt, cinnamon, and cloves, and half a teaspoonful of grated nutmeg. Mix well, add the dissolved soda, and last of all two cups of seeded raisins torn in two, and two tablespoonfuls of shredded citron. Before adding the fruit mix with it two tablespoonfuls of flour. This will prevent it from sinking to the bottom. Put the pudding in a greased mold or pudding dish, cover closely and steam three hours. When ready to serve loosen carefully from the mold, turn upon the platter, stick a sprig of holly in the centre just as it goes to the table.

Christmas Pound Cake.—One pound each citron, currants, butter, and sugar, two pounds of seeded raisins, one and one-half pounds flour, twelve eggs, and two-thirds of a cup of nice jelly, one tablespoonful of soda, one cup of molasses, a pinch of black pepper, and a small pinch of cayenne. Divide the flour into two equal parts. Mix the fruit with one-half; into the other put one teaspoonful cinnamon, one nutmeg, grated, one-fourth teaspoonful of cloves, and two-thirds teaspoonful allspice. Cream the butter and sugar, add the eggs, well beaten, dissolve the soda in warm water and stir into the molasses. Mix all together and turn into a pan lined with buttered paper, or it may be divided, as it will make two large loaves. Bake in a moderate oven for two hours.

Curried Oyster Sandwiches.—Cold cooked oysters are not particularly toothsome; so we suggest chilled raw oysters, dusted with salt and curry powder, placed between buttered slices of brown bread, and served with olives.

Chicken Pie.—Take two full-grown chickens, or more, if small; disjoint them, cut backbone, etc., small as convenient; let boil quite tender; then take out the breast bone. After they boil and the scum is taken off, put in a little onion cut very fine—not enough to taste distinctly, just enough to flavor a little; rub some parsley very fine when dry, or cut fine when green—this gives a pleasant flavor. Season well with pepper and salt, and a few ounces of good fresh butter. When all is cooked well, have liquid enough to cover the chicken, then beat two eggs and stir in some sweet cream. Line a five quart pan with crust made like soda biscuit, only more shortening; put in the chicken and liquid, cover with crust same as the lining. Bake till crust is done, and you will have good chicken pie.

English Plum Pudding.—Seed first one pound of raisins, when preparing to make English plum pudding; mix with them one pound of currants and half a pound of dried orange peel; dust over a quarter of

a pound of flour. Chop fine one pound of suet; add to it a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, half a nutmeg, grated, three-quarters of a pound of stale, dry bread-crumbs. Mix all the ingredients together. Beat five eggs, without separating, until light; add to them half a pint of grape or orange juice; pour over the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. The mixture should not be wet, but each particle should be moistened. Pack this into small greased kettles or moulds. It will fill two three-pound kettles. Put on the covers, stand the moulds in the steamer, and steam steadily for ten hours. The easiest way is to get the ingredients ready the night before; mix and put them on early in the morning, allowing them to cook all day. Take them from the steamer, remove the lids of the kettles or moulds, and allow the puddings to cool; then replace the lids and put the puddings away. They will keep in a cool place for several months or a year.

Home-made Candies.—Almost every one has a 'sweet tooth,' and bonbons, therefore, are very acceptable as a Christmas gift. The price of really good candies, done up in an attractive form, is not small, and if one can manufacture the bonbons and their receptacles one's self, many presents may be given at the cost of one box of the confections of some fashionable maker.

Plain boxes may, with the aid of a little enamel, be transformed into attractive receptacles, and if you can use paint brushes, they can be prettily decorated, and a satin ribbon tied in a bow will give the box a pretty finish. As to the candy, many pounds of it can be manufactured in an afternoon at small cost, and a little care will bring highly satisfactory results. When boiling syrup, remember not to stir it or dip into it with anything; otherwise it will become cloudy and return to sugar. Vinegar or an acid will prevent this. Do not use the scrapings of the saucpan, which should be thick, and of iron or marbled—never of copper, which is liable to poison the syrup.



THE SEASON'S GREETINGS.

M.H. asks (1) When the compliments of the season or 'a merry Christmas' is addressed to her, what is the proper way to answer? (2) In answering the door to a relative on New Year's Day who should be the first to give good wishes? and if the caller, what should she reply? Ans.—(1) There is no general rule in such matters as these salutations are quite informal and supposed to arise from the heart. A very frequent answer heard to 'I wish you a merry Christmas' is 'And the same to you,' or 'Thank you, I wish you the same.' Frequently people say, 'I wish you the same and many more besides.' (2) You must be guided by circumstances. Sometimes the words are on the lips of the visitor as the door opens: then you would wait till he or she finishes and reply as above, 'And the same to you,' or 'And the same to you and an extra happy one. How kind of you to look in,' and so on, just as your feeling dictates. But supposing your visitor is shy, or has not words ready, you will quickly say, 'A happy New Year to you, and how good of you to come, etc.,' your answer being to put the visitor at ease at once and implying that you feel the favor of the visit. A good plan is to imagine yourself in the visitor's place and think how you would like to be received. It is better at such times to err on the side of kindness and politeness. M.H. is thanked for her nice appreciative letter.

ANNIE'S AND WILLIE'S CHRISTMAS.

M.C.S.—The poem was too long for this department, but we have published it in the Children's Corner.

RECIPE WANTED.

M. E. Parson, Camborne, Ont., would be glad to get the recipe for the 'Poor Man's Plum Pudding,' published in the Home Department some years ago and which she found excellent. Unfortunately she lost it.

A SOLITARY WAY.

In answer to an inquiry published last week 'Reader' writes to say that the poem, 'A Solitary Way,' can be got at the Gospel Book Room, Phillips Square, Montreal, in a small four-page leaflet for a cent or so. M. Little, of Westmount, most kindly sent us the leaflet published by the Bethany Publishing House, 1822 Centre ave., Pittsburgh. Miss Bertha Cochrane, of Hillhurst, also sent us the leaflet published by James Nisbet & Co., 21 Berners street, London, England. Price threepence the dozen. We have to thank many other readers for similar information.

A Scotch servant girl named Bella, has been the means of spreading the Gospel of Christ to the heathen in a wonderful way. She became a follower of the Saviour at twelve years of age, and, becoming interested in mission work, stored her mind with missionary information from the publications of the China Inland Mission. Her practical interest in Chinese missions was shown by her saving and selling her sugar and storing her three-penny bits for the missions. Hearing of a certain place in Scotland where the plan was adopted of supporting a native preacher, she interested a number of friends, chiefly girls engaged in a paper factory. The result was that they came in touch with the London Missionary Society, and have for a number of years supported a native preacher. They have constant prayer for this man; and shall we not say that his success is largely due to their intercessions?

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

The Bishop of London has refused to receive curates in four churches where his directions as to the use of income are not obeyed.

The Duke of Norfolk will head a pilgrimage of Roman Catholics to Rome at the end of next month for the celebration of the new century.

Bishop Tugwell and his party have been well received in Hausaland. The missionaries have constructed two bicycle tracks upon which to obtain exercise during the rainy season.

Princess Beatrice held an exhibition of clothing, in connection with the Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Needlework Guild, at Frogmore House, Windsor. The articles are intended for distribution amongst the poor of the two counties.

The Sultan is a stickler for Mohammedan propriety. An Imperial Trade has just been issued stopping the growing trade in picture post-cards, bearing drawings of the Raaba mosques and other religious buildings, portraits of Mohammedan women, or the names of God and Mohammed.

Prof. George Adam Smith denies that the churches of Glasgow are losing their grip on the working men. He says that eight years of study of social conditions in Glasgow has revealed to him much activity among the wage-earners in the East End churches for their fellows, and that, were it not for the working classes of Glasgow, the evangelical tone of religious life in the city could not be kept up a week.

The new Spurgeon tabernacle is more architectural than the old one was, is finished in pale green, gold and cream colors, is completely lighted with electric globes, and is thoroughly heated and ventilated, which could not be said of the old building. It will seat close to three thousand persons. The acoustics are pronounced remarkably good. The total cost of rebuilding was \$270,000, about one-half of which came from insurance on the old tabernacle.

Next week, says the Boston 'Congregationalist,' at sheriff's sale the Christian Commonwealth Colony in Georgia, founded in February, 1898, near Columbus, will cease to be a socialist community, and the land and buildings will revert to private ownership. Most of the members of the community came originally from Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. They were of more than usual intelligence and they started with considerable capital. For a time the colony prospered, then dissensions arose, and now the usual fate of such projects has come.

Whatever may be the success of the Holy Year, in Rome, it has been characterized thus far by one very serious defect. No crowned sovereign, no prince of the blood has taken advantage of the seat prepared for Catholic royalty by the side of the Pontifical throne. It was hoped that two Bavarian princes who have Spanish wives would have graced St. Peter's with their presence, but the hope has not been realized. Another disappointing circumstance is the moderation exhibited by Catholic sovereigns in their offerings. They have sent contributions, but never with any approach to lavish generosity.

In the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York building on an elevated site, New York makes a close approach to the builders of Baalbec. Thirty-two great monoliths are now being cut for it from the granite quarries of Maine, which, when finished, will each weigh a hundred and sixty tons. In the rough they weigh nearly twice as much, and when hewn from the quarry are sixty-seven feet in length. When finally polished and set up they will be fifty-four feet high and six feet in diameter. The builders of Baalbec would have been glad of the labor-saving achieved by the specially adapted stone-cutting lathe that does the trimming with a fifty horse-power engine to drive it.

A remarkable advance in cordial feeling between India and the United States is said to be one result of the famine. Three years ago when the last famine came to an end the Hindu newspapers expressed a prevailing prejudice against the missionaries retaining care of the famine children. The cry was, 'Save them from the missionaries.' Funds were raised by the natives, and some small orphanages were started for this purpose. But no such cry is heard now. Very kindly references are being made in the native press to the service rendered by the missionaries. The 'Indian Spectator,' the leading Parsee organ, declares that the sympathy and intelligence with which missionaries entered into the work of famine relief has been a revelation to them all. The assistance from America is again and again gratefully referred to.

A new hymn, written by Dr. Parker and with music written by Mr. Philip Phillips, was sung at the noonday service in the City Temple on a recent Thursday. In announcing the hymn, Dr. Parker said: 'I saw to-day Mr. Moody, son of the renowned evangelist. He would be more welcome but for an awful theft with which I thus publicly charge him. He is taking from us one of our best evangelists—the Rev. G. Campbell Morgan. It is too bad. It seems to me that America would take away from us all our best preachers, teachers and evangelists if it could; and yet America, in doing so, is quite right. I begrudge this last Christian burglary. Words fail me, but what they want in delicacy they will have in strength. England ought not to have let Mr. Campbell Morgan go. Poor, old, sleepy England! Give me Campbell Morgan, John McNeill, W. R. Lane and several captains and colonels of the Salvation Army and we should do a great work if the churches were united and enthusiastic in the matter. I do not want these brethren to go. The whole place will be colder and barer without them, they are so gracious, so devout, so full of the best faculty for Christian work.'

WESTERN READING ROOMS.

When the Rev. L. L. Witt was laboring as a missionary in Alaska, he opened reading rooms in Juneau, Douglas and

Nome. Many books and periodicals were sent to him and were eagerly read by miners and others in these new towns, most of whom had no homes of their own. A young lawyer of ability had gone to the gold fields frequented one of these reading rooms. He was an agnostic, but finding a copy of Henry Drummond's 'Natural Law in the Spiritual World,' he became deeply interested in it. He was led by it to belief in Christianity and to accept Christ as his Lord and Saviour. He entered the ministry and, though there was no council to ordain him, served for some time as pastor of the Congregational Church at Nome, which was organized as a self-supporting church. He is now in California. His name is Raymond C. Robins, and the 'Pacific,' which has a sketch of him, says he has decided to devote his life to Christian socialism. This instance is an illustration of the value of Christian literature placed in reading rooms within reach of those who would not otherwise seek it for themselves.—'Congregationalist.'

OPIUM AND THE TROUBLES IN CHINA.

(Rev. Cyril E. Bousfield, of Shaohing, China, in 'Baptist Missionary Magazine.')

The experience of the last few years in China has convinced me that an answer to the question now asked so often, as to what is the cause of the recent outbreaks in China, can be found in the compulsory introduction of opium by the British Government. We do not say that opium is the cause, or the most important cause, but that it is very largely responsible. Since all have not time to read Chinese history, it may not be inopportune to recount very briefly the history of the introduction of the baneful drug into China.

Opium was first brought to China by the merchants of the East India Company and sold to the Chinese at Canton and elsewhere. At that time the Chinese emperor and the Chinese people were inclined to be friendly to foreigners, and to honor them, a fact which is often forgotten now. The emperor heard of the terrible injury that opium was doing to his people, and took measures to stop all importation of it. The English pleaded that it was good for medicine and a benefit to the Chinese. The emperor yielded to the specious lie, and allowed a small fixed quantity only to be imported each year. Then the English Government took over the trade of the East India Company and attempted to smuggle opium into China wholesale. In this they succeeded. The emperor, aroused by this monstrous wrong done to his people, sent Commissioner Li with a small force of soldiers to Canton. He acted promptly but moderately. He closed by force all the English stores where opium was sold and threw all the opium he could discover into the sea. It was also said he found an English ship laden with opium, but with a few other commodities as a pretext for coming into port. Commissioner Li dumped the whole cargo aboard. Then the English came with a fleet of warships and blockaded Canton and other places. They found China unprepared, and forced her to receive as much opium as the English chose to send, to throw open five or six of her ports to foreign trade, into every one of which ports, from that time to this, countless boxes of opium have been poured annually. This is done by the British Government in spite of the Chinese protests, because they say they cannot govern India without the immense revenue derived from the opium trade with China. They also exacted an immense indemnity, took the island of Hongkong, China's finest harbor, and to-day hold it as a British colony.

Now as to the effect of opium on the man who smokes it. At first it acts as a powerful stimulant. It braces his nerves and muscles, and on a fictitious strength enables him to work as he never could without it. Then reaction follows, and the poor fellow is tempted to take more. After each dose, the reaction slowly becomes more and more powerful. Soon he finds himself worse than a slave to the hateful poison. He finds his physical strength rapidly getting less, his mind impaired, and his body emaciated. He then vainly would free himself from what he now finds to be a potent enemy. But he cannot. It is beyond man's power to give up opium after he has once become the slave of it. Then follows ruin to himself, to his home and his family, then despair; then he loses self-respect, conscience, all sense of shame, all regard for decency; he falls as low as even man can fall. He attributes all of this—for he is fully conscious of his awful condition—to foreigners, who, in spite of the emperor, in defiance of justice and right, for 'auri sacra fames,' brought him the opium. This is the state, and this the feeling of hundreds of thousands of the Chinese people. They are ready to form desperate mobs prepared for any crime and filled with hatred for foreign nations who have ruined them.

Add to this the seizing of ports by France, by Germany, by England, by Russia, the demand of Italy, the iniquitous aggression of the French Roman Catholics, and their outrages, and can any one wonder at the terrible murders and outrages by Chinese recently that have made the world shudder with horror during the last few months? So conscious are the whole Chinese people of the way they have suffered by the forcing of opium upon them, that it is scarcely possible to preach the gospel and speak with them for even a few minutes without hearing, 'You foreigners brought us opium,' for they cannot distinguish between Americans and English and French or other foreigners. Do not these things stir us to give them

the only cure for opium? By the gospel alone can an opium smoker be really cured.

There is a notable instance of its power to do this in our Eastern China Mission. A few years ago an opium smoker heard that gospel, which has a greater power than even this instrument of the devil, and he believed it. He was converted by it, and he gave himself to God and prepared himself at Dr. Jenkins's Seminary at Shaohing to preach it. He has preached it at his own charges and now is preaching it at Difu without a cent of salary under the Chinese Baptist Home Missionary Society, which is auxiliary to our Eastern China Mission. He found the only effective cure for the opium habit, and the gospel will cure that and all the troubles of China's millions.

A THOUSAND MISSIONARIES IN ANSWER TO PRAYER.

The 'Church Missionary Intelligencer' says: 'What has become of the thousand missionaries? It is just ten years since a number of leading clerical friends of the society happened to meet at Keswick, at the time of the convention, and sent up to the committee what came to be known as the "Keswick letter." The letter also suggested the sending forth "within a few years" of one thousand missionaries. The phrase "within a few years" was variously interpreted. Some said five; some said "before the centenary" (that is, eight years and a half); some said ten years. It occurred to us a few days ago, remembering that just ten years had elapsed since the letter was sent, to make a calculation as to the result. This has to be done carefully, because some names added to the roll within the period ought in fairness not to be counted, as they stand for workers already in the field in other connections; for instance, the F. E. S. ladies taken on last year, and C. E. Z. ladies who have married C. M. S. missionaries, and existing missionaries like Bishop Cassels. The whole number added to the roll, from August, 1890, to May, 1900 (when the list in the report was made up), proved to be 1,054. The names to be deducted on the grounds just mentioned proved to be 61. That left a net number of 993. But between May 31 and Aug. 31 of this year nine names were added to the roll, making one thousand and two within the ten years. When we started the calculation, we had no idea what the result would be. Is it not deeply interesting? Is it not a result to praise God for?'

BREWERY SHARES.

At a temperance meeting held by Canon Wilberforce in Westminster Town Hall Lady Henry Somerset in a powerful address expressed her belief that until we as a great nation have faced this gravest of our dangers, we are not going for one single second to make any real way in this matter. The 'trade,' as a body, are not only organized, but they have disseminated their influence so widely that an immense mass of people are pecuniarily interested. She remembered a woman saying with some pride, 'My little boy is one of the cleverest children I came across in all my life. The other day he came and said, "Oh, mother, I dreamt last night that All-sopp's shares went down."'



Dec. 30, 1900.

THE OLD MAN AND THE NEW; YOUR PURPOSES.

Matt. xiii., 51, 52; Luke v., 35-39.
(A New Year's Meeting.)
'God is Love.'
'If a man say, I love God, and hate his brother, he is a liar; for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?' (1. John iv., 20.)
On the threshold of a new century we pause for an hour to think over the past and to plan for the future. The past is irrevocable, the future is bright with visions of happy service for God. 'Let us lay aside every weight, and let us sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.' Is there in your heart to-day a hard spot of pride or rebellion or unforgetfulness? Is there a little dark corner that you do not wish God to see, a spot that you do not wish to have cleansed? Are you nursing a petty grudge, allowing yourself to brood over

it, allowing your brother to feel the effects of it, allowing your whole spiritual life to be soured by it, and yet trying to hide it from God? You can not hide it from God, but if you keep trying to do so you will place your whole life under the shadow of it. Look the matter squarely in the face. Be honest with yourself and with God, you can not afford to carry the old century's wrongs on to the fair, un sullied page of the new year. You can not afford at any time to let anything come between you and your Saviour. A very little obstacle, if held close to the eye, can completely hide the brightness of the sun, so what seems a very small grudge or dislike of one's neighbor, may so spread its dark shadow over the heart as to completely shut out the heavenly light of God's love. Has your brother offended you? Have your neighbors been mean or unkind to you? Has anyone injured or taken anything of yours? In the name of Christ, forgive them (Matt. xviii., 32-35) for in no other way can you find the enjoyment of the fullness of God's love and favor.

The grace of God makes it easy for us to forgive those who have offended us. If Jesus had not been anxious for the forgiveness of his most bitter enemies, we could never have had a chance of salvation. If we ask it, he puts his own spirit of peace and goodwill into our hearts, and it becomes easier to forgive than to hate. But there is a kind of setting things right which is, humanly speaking, far more difficult to accomplish than that, when you have offended your neighbor. Do not shrink from God's eyes, do not make excuses nor try to shift the blame, if you have wronged anyone at all, confess it first to God, but do not think that that alone is enough to set things right. God demands restitution for every wrong done by one man to another (Lev. vi., 2-5; Ex. xxii., 1-6; Matt. v., 23-24.) It is not enough that we forgive those who wrong us, but we must by all suitable means seek to be reconciled to those who have been offended by us. If you have taken what did not belong to you, restore it quickly, with meekness and penitence. If you have robbed any man of character or good name, do everything in your power to make amends. It may not be easy or agreeable, but the only way to be right with God is to be right with their fellow-man. The peace of God in your heart will make you at peace with all men. It is well to enter the opening year of the new century with the mind at rest and the heart 'in charity with all men,' but the passivity of a sluggish mind must not be mistaken for restlessness, neither the indifference of carelessness for the 'charity which thinketh no evil.' The man who strives to beautify his life by working merely at the ethical side of it, must remember that without the indwelling of the living, loving Saviour the whole structure is unstable. Jesus Christ is the Rock foundation, the only foundation on which a life can be built. This Saviour is not a theory of goodness, but he is goodness, and life and love and light, he is the living God.

POINTE AUX TREMBLES MISSION SCHOOLS.

To the Friends of the Schools:
We began this session with a great change in our ranks. For twenty-nine years the principal, Rev. J. J. Bourquin, had been here every fall to welcome the numerous boys and girls who came from every part of the land. This year the scholars did not see their good friend whose love never forsook his pupils. Two weeks before the re-opening the Master had called that great worker to his rest, after a life of active labor, self-denial and good deeds, which will long be remembered and spoken of among our present and future scholars and my aim of the late principal—have been to succeed him. Having been connected with the schools for eleven years, and taught here during seven sessions, I was thus privileged to learn much from my worthy predecessor. Under my direction these schools will keep their strong reputation and my aim will be to maintain here an open Bible in which our countrymen, the young French-Canadians, will find free salvation through Christ, and the freedom promised to the children of God.

The staff of teachers consists of: Miss L. Hadow, the director; the Girls' School; Melles V. Giroux and Bourquin, both graduates of McGill Normal School; Miss McLeure, a former pupil; Rev. S. Rondeau, B.A., graduate of McGill University; Mr. H. Jolliet, a young man from France, who has Christianized many in view.
We have received this year about 215 applications, and have at present 135 pupils: 75 boys and 60 girls; 63 belong to Roman Catholic families; 65 to families converted from the Church of Rome; 6 to Protestant families; 69 are in their first session; 35 in second session; 22 in third session; 19 in fourth session; 8 in fifth session; 27 are in the first class; 23 in the second class; 26 in the third class; 30 in the fourth class; 13 in the fifth class. We have four free pupils; the others pay from 25 cents up to \$2.00 per month.

Daily Programme: Rise at 5.30 a.m.; study from 6 to 7; breakfast at 7; house work from 7.30 to 8.45; family worship at 9; Bible lesson from 9.10 to 10; lessons from 10 to 12; dinner at 12 noon; recreation from 12.30 to 1.30; lessons from 1.30 to 4 p.m.; recreation from 4 to 5; lessons and study 5 to 6; tea at 6; recreation from 6.30 to 7; family worship at 7; study from 7.30 to 9; lights out 9.30; lights out for the advanced 11.
Subjects taught:—Bible, reading and writing, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, book-keeping, grammar, composition, Latin and Greek, geography, history of Canada, history of England, history of Rome, drawing and music, physics and science, literature, recitation, sewing for girls.

Regular services and a Sabbath-school are held on Sunday; on the morning of that day the pupils have a prayer meeting, conducted by themselves.
A committee of the Board of French Evangelization visit the schools every month, spending a part of the day in examining each class, after which the whole school meets these gentlemen in the chapel, where they sing and hear the pupils and interesting addresses from the visitors are listened to.
In casting a glance over these statements you can realize, dear friends, what a great work you are carrying on. You give light to nearly 150 French-Canadians who are your countrymen and your brethren in Christ; it means that next spring 150 homes in the Province of Quebec will hear something of what is taught in Pointe-aux-Trembles schools. The beautiful stories of the Bible will be related, hymns will be sung, and the great light of heaven will find its way into places still in darkness.
Where would our scholars be without your generosity? In thanking you for your past gifts we bespeak a continuance of your interest and prayers on behalf of our work. — DR. BLANT, Principal.
Pointe-aux-Trembles, Nov. 15, 1900.
All contributions or scholarships should be forwarded to the Rev. Robt. H. Warden, D.D., Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

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Any subscriber of the Montreal 'Witness' who would like to have a specimen copy of the paper sent to a friend can be accommodated by sending as on a postal card the name and address to which he would like the paper sent.

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The club rates for the 'Weekly Witness' will be as follows:—

3 copies separately addressed \$2.40

4 " " " " 3.00

10 " " " " 7.00

The postage is prepaid by publishers to Canada, United States and Newfoundland. For Great Britain add \$1.04 per annum for each copy.

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'In His Steps'..... 10

'Sea, Forest and Prairie'..... 50

Reprinted Stories'..... 25

'The Ram's Horn' one year..... 1.50

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All for \$2.65.

WEEKLY CLUB RATES.

The club rates for the 'Weekly Witness' will be as follows:—

3 copies, separately addressed.....\$2.40

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10 copies, separately addressed..... 7.00

To all new subscribers the remainder of this year will be included free. The postage is prepaid by publishers to all places in Canada, the United States and Newfoundland. To Great Britain add \$1.04 per annum in each case.

WITNESS' SEWING MACHINES.

The 'New Witness' sewing machine can be had by paying freight and sending a list of twenty-five new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each.

The Witness.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1900.

Lord Salisbury has shown his appreciation of 'the fitness of things' in two of the appointments he has made to the International Arbitration Court.

The cable message announcing the re-election of President McKinley, which was transmitted from this continent to Manila in the record time of forty-nine minutes, went by an 'all-British' route as far as Hongkong, from which it was sent by a British cable to Manila.

Of all intoxicants, absinthe takes first place as a soul and body-destroyer, and M. Vaillant declared the other day in the French Chamber of Deputies that its enormously increased consumption in France 'marches arm in arm with the increase in the number of cases of insanity, which will end by becoming a national malady.'

Voting machines, wherever used in recent elections in the United States, gave entire satisfaction. In some places the returns were bulletined in eighteen minutes after the polls closed, and newspapers were able to publish complete city returns within an hour after the last vote was polled.

Long ago the prediction was made that the Oberland rock would be all the ever-encroaching sea would leave standing of the island of Heligoland. The late landslide, by which thirty houses were engulfed, is but one of many such catastrophes which have occurred from time to time.

The Emperor William of Germany has certainly rid himself of his early prejudice against Great Britain. He has ordered the English language to be taught in the higher schools of Germany instead of French.

vals were intent mainly on extending the power of their church and exploiting treasure. But the trader outstripped the theologian and the freebooter, and when his modern rivals entered the field his language and ways of doing business were established in a manner that could not easily be disturbed.

The Prince Edward Island elections, which took place Wednesday, resulted in the return of the Farquharson Liberal Government by a large majority, 21 Liberals having been elected against but nine Conservatives.

'Let me write the songs of a nation and I care not who makes its laws,' is a saying which might have been declared by Henry Russell, the poet, whose death in London was recently reported.

It was far from nice of the Governor of Nova Scotia to insist on giving the returning volunteers beer instead of lemonade at the Halifax banquet. Even from his own point of view with regard to that beverage, was he not allowing his personal prejudices to trample on those of a large proportion of those whom it was the purpose of the entertainment to honor?

from it free from an old bondage, have had the whole struggle for better things annihilated by such a kindness, as that recommended by Mr. Jones.

An anthracite coal combine has succeeded in securing complete control of the Pennsylvania coal fields, and its first act is to increase the price of coal. All the mines and coal railways are now under one control through its having obtained possession by purchase of the Delaware Valley & Kingston road and the collieries in connection therewith.

Reported negotiations between Britain and Spain for the purchase of the Balearic Islands recall many stirring and some gloomy incidents in British naval history. Foiled in his attempt upon them, Admiral, afterwards Sir George, Rooke took his revenge in the capture of Gibraltar in the year 1704.

The teachers of this province, who have been meeting at Knowlton, are reported to have been criticising the McGill Normal School, which they regard as being fifty years behind the times. There is no doubt that this Normal School is not what it should be, and that public criticism and pressure are called for in order to bring it into line with similar institutions.

party now in power a complete rehabilitation of the Normal Schools may be included.

We are greatly pleased to see some of the Quebec Liberal statesmen and newspapers calling to mind that educational reform has been all along one of the leading aims of their party. Every one recognizes the difficulties that are in the way. The cheapness of ecclesiastical education makes it hard to awake in the people much enthusiasm for the expenditures necessary to secure a virile common school system.

The success of the Conservatives in Ontario in the Dominion election inspired them with the hope of defeating the local Liberal Government of the province. 'Now for Ross' was the cry raised by the more sanguine of the Ontario papers and 'Ross must go.'

The temperance cause has won a signal victory in the adoption by the House of Representatives at Washington of an amendment to the army reorganization bill absolutely prohibiting the sale of liquor in military barracks, camps, reservations, or transports of the United States Government.

rience, however, does not bear out this contention, for it has been found that in certain regiments when liquor was excluded from the canteen there was less drunkenness than when it was allowed. The fact that a soldier on duty is not permitted to enter any place where liquor is sold, except under orders of his superior to quell a disturbance, is proof of the estimation in which the traffic is held by military authorities.

Our correspondent, 'F. W. D.' demure to our remark as to 'the central doctrine of what is nicknamed higher criticism.' He says that phrase is not a nickname, and that it has no doctrines. We readily admit that 'F. W. D.' uses words more precisely than we did.

Returns of the lake traffic for the season just closed show that from April 15, when the first vessel cleared from Chicago, to Dec. 9, when the last ship of the season left that port, the amount of grain forwarded reached within a few million bushels of the best years in the past.

ships now under construction by the American Shipbuilding Company for the season. The grain cargoes from Chicago to European ports on their initial trips next season. If the experiment should not be successful they will be used in other lines of traffic. The high rates of insurance on vessels and cargoes are against this route. Lake vessel owners who sent their ships to the seaboard via Montreal this season had to pay insurance of from four and a half to five percent on the single trip from Lake Erie to New York. Such figures are prohibitive of all business that has a choice of route.

PROHIBITION.

The letter of Mr. McCrimmon is a fine expression of the uncompromising devotion to the betterment of the country which governs very many Canadians. Croakers will say they have heard this appeal a hundred times before in almost the same words—the denunciation of anything else than the absolute prohibition of the sale of all that can intoxicate—the declaration of complete lack of faith in politicians in parliament and the appeal to all Christians to organize work and pray to secure prohibition so that some at least of the thousands now going down to destruction may be saved. Yet all who know anything of the ruin caused by drink will agree that it warrants the persistency that will go on repeating this demand till it is granted or till its end is reached in some other way. There is one consideration, however, that must always be kept fully in mind in connection with this warfare, namely, that its real object is to bring the people to a right mind. Till this is done nothing is done, when it is done all is done. For one thing we cannot hope to have a prohibition law till we have a prohibition people. We may rail at our politicians as we like; they are at least as good as the average of those they represent; that is, ourselves. As soon as they are convinced that the people want prohibition they will hasten, like Mr. Hugh John Macdonald, to grant it, whether they believe in it or not. Until they are convinced of this they will not and cannot grant it, no matter how much they believe in it. It may be said that they ought to have been convinced by the plebiscite; yet our correspondent is himself under the impression that prohibition is still an unpopular cause, even in Ontario, which gave such a large majority in its favor.

Besides, law-making comes under entirely different rules from gospel preaching. The duty of the Christian is to adopt for himself and set before all others an uncompromising ideal of absolute right. He can accept nothing less, he can preach nothing less. In fact, the gospel demands more than absolute righteousness; it asks for entire self-sacrifice. When it comes to using force, however, as law always does, the Christian ideal steps out and the conviction of the community steps in. Force is not the weapon of Christianity. 'My kingdom is not of this world, else would my servants fight.' But with the community, as such, it is different. It is a kingdom of this world. It has to make laws and regulations of some sort and to use force in applying them. These regulations must in these days of self-government express the convictions of the mass of the community. What we have to labor for then is to convince the mass of the community. Where prohibition cannot be got we should accept gladly any advance in repressive legislation which the community may be induced to impose upon itself. Some parts of Canada seem to have reached the point at which the sentiment in favor of prohibitory legislation can no longer be ignored by statesmen. This is the case in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, and is, we hope, the case in Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, on whose legislatures demands are to be made. But the matter in hand at the moment is municipal regulation. Every municipality has the power within itself to prohibit. Municipal elections are imminent over a majority of the Dominion. Now is the time, as one correspondent says, to seek to get good men and true into the councils, and so secure that measure of prohibition at least. What is done in this behalf will all tell equally in favor of the greater measure. What fails to be done will all tell against it.

A RETROSPECT.

'Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle flags were furled.' Such was the vision that displayed itself to the poet Tennyson fifty years ago, when an era of peace appeared to be unfolding itself to the nations. The great exhibition had been opened, and the nations had been summoned to take part in the new competition of craftsmen and traders which was to supersede the barbarous wars of the past. Certainly, not without excellent reason was this expect-

ation at least partially accepted, for during the last half century the progress of almost every industrial art has been marvellous, and the social and economical conditions of the world have been revolutionized. But the poet's Utopian vision hardly survived the Palace of Glass in Hyde Park. In 1854 the war drums began to beat again on the shores of the Black Sea, and they have rarely been silent since. Fifty years of intense militarism have followed the successful inauguration of the new industrial era. One colossal campaign has succeeded another, and the nations, so far from beating their bayonets into pruning hooks, have been assiduously arming themselves to the teeth. The expansion of commerce has been self-evident, but what branch of it has been equally buoyant with the trade in armaments? So far from a reign of peace having obtained during the last fifty years, the century is about to close with more money spent on fleets and armies, on cannon, rifles and battleships, than perhaps in any year of recorded history. But the industrial rivalry goes on in spite of all, and yearly grows keener.

To this competitive strain Canada, itself one of the richest countries in the world in undeveloped natural resources, but lying alongside one of the most resourceful nations and territories on earth, is not less severely exposed than the older leaders of manufactures and industries. Certainly, prosperity is seeking its shores, and cities and plains ungrudgingly, but it is during the early part of the twentieth century that the full brunt of trade competition will have to be experienced. British trade has marvellously increased since 1851, but it no longer holds that unchallenged superiority which at that time it was fondly hoped to retain forever. Then the empire possessed all the essential advantages of good order, a sound banking system, superabundant capital, an untouched credit, and unequalled mineral resources. Now many of these good gifts are shared by others. The United States in particular, with a wider territory, enormous natural wealth, and a population increasing with phenomenal rapidity, is pressing forward in the race. Nature has been too bountiful to these fortunate competitors to expect that they can be anywhere but well to the front. With Germany it is otherwise, for neither climate nor geography has been exceptionally favorable to the Teutonic federation. Yet the recent growth of German industry is prodigious, and not without reason fills British manufacturers with amazement, and perhaps even with apprehension. What is the cause? The answer, which is none the less true because by this time it has become somewhat hackneyed, has very recently been emphasized by one of England's great statesmen. If Germany is growing rich and great, in spite of her somewhat ungenial skies and poor soil, it is by the same methods which enabled the peaceful German peasantry to overthrow the fiery legions of France. Scientific preparation, foresight, care and the systematic education of all classes, rendered Germany powerful, and now seem likely to make her wealthy. Those who are striving to hold their own with her must be content to learn and adopt her methods, namely, scientific training, specialization of individual effort, the study of business matters in a technical manner, and the discarding of the dead languages as an essential branch of education, with the substitution thereof of the more important modern languages, which are the vehicle of commercial correspondence. Without belittling real classical acquirement, it will be admitted that a thorough working knowledge of modern tongues, such as Continental youth succeed in acquiring, would even prove more educational than such poor knowledge of Latin and Greek as is generally the total result of those studies.

THE YUKON ELECTIONS.

The British residents of the Yukon have been given a share in the government of the district. The first election was held in October, but as the navigation and consequently rapid transportation had ceased before that time, the newspapers containing detailed accounts of the elections and their results have only now reached us in Southern Canada. There were four candidates for election to the two elective seats in the council of the territory. These seem to have been run in pairs, one pair, Messrs. Wilson and Prud'homme, the 'Yukon party,' and the other pair, Messrs. Noel and O'Brien, 'Independents.' The 'Yukon party' seems to have been 'agin' the government,' and as government which means 'taxation' and 'royalty' collecting is not popular, the opponents of the

'agin' the government' candidates called themselves 'Independents.' It is said, however, that a government official named 'Wade' proclaimed Messrs. Noel and O'Brien the government candidates. There were 3,867 votes cast, of which Wilson received 1,326, Prud'homme 1,134, O'Brien 826, and Noel 831. So the result is claimed to be 'a great triumph for the people's party over the government.' The 'administration of the Yukon' has, we are told, been condemned by the people. If the Yukon free electors have declared against the toleration of wide-open saloons, with the accompaniment of drunkenness, gambling, prostitution and vice and crime generally, it is to be hoped that their representatives in the council will fight for and secure the abolition of these evils. If they have elected Messrs. Wilson and Prud'homme to oppose corruption and the accepting of bribes and acts of favoritism on the part of the appointed officials of the government, we hope that they will succeed in exposing these alleged practices, that is, if they exist, which has never been proved, and so in ridding the Yukon of the officials and of the offences. But if the Yukon party is merely opposed to the policy of the Dominion government, which is to make the Yukon support its own government by taxing the output of gold, we trust the opposition of the 'Yukon party' representatives will fail to remove the government. There is no good reason in the world why the taxpayers of the east should bear the burden of the government of the Yukon. The district is able to pay its own way, and it should be made to keep on doing so.

A MAGNIFICENT PROJECT.

Mr. Clergue's project of making Montreal the ocean terminal of a direct railway from Lake Superior, which would run along a straight line through Central Algoma, Nipissing (? Parry Sound) and Haliburton districts certainly opens up magnificent prospects for this city. Montreal would be the eastern terminus of a railway system which, when completed, would have two ports on Lake Superior as its western termini, and a port on Hudson's Bay as its northern terminal. Mr. Clergue is at the head of a company which has already, it is said, spent eight millions of dollars in constructing and improving water power works, pulp manufacturing works, foundries, and nickel refining works at Sault Ste. Marie, and in the development of iron mines at Michipicoten, a hundred miles north of Sault Ste. Marie, and of railways at Sault Ste. Marie and Michipicoten. Mr. Clergue's company is building a railway from Sault Ste. Marie to Hudson's Bay by way of Missinabie and Moose River valley to Moose Fort, on St. James's Bay, which he expects to complete within three years. The Ontario Government gave him a land grant, in return for which he was to establish fifteen thousand settlers in New Algoma. He says he has already established that many persons in the country and that he is going to arrange for the emigration of five hundred more per month to the district. The settlement of the districts through which his railways run is a necessity to the success of his operations. The railway between Sault Ste. Marie and Hudson's Bay will connect with the Michipicoten railway.

From a point midway on the line between Michipicoten, which is a port on Lake Superior, and Sault Ste. Marie, Mr. Clergue proposes, according to the story, to construct his main line eastward through Algoma and Eastern Ontario to Haliburton, on Parry Sound, where he hopes to make arrangements with Mr. Booth for running rights over his system to Montreal. This project would make direct connection between Montreal and Lake Superior and Hudson's Bay, through as yet vast unopened and undeveloped regions of Northern Ontario, which Mr. Clergue says are fertile and will have a population within ten years of five millions of people, or about as many people as are now in all Canada. Mr. Clergue is the director of a syndicate of capitalists, principally of New York and Philadelphia, which seems to have no end of money for investment. Though they have already spent eight millions, and must spend even much more to complete their railway projects alone, they have not yet issued a single bond or in any way mortgaged their vast properties. It is also said that Mr. Clergue contemplates the establishment of an ocean line of steamers with Montreal as the port in connection with this scheme. The description of this project does not come direct from Mr. Clergue; it is probably a trial balloon sent up at Ottawa in order to ascertain whether there would be any prospects for a Dominion subsidy for so grand a project. Mr. Clergue should take courage from the example of Mr. Booth and do without railway subsidies. The Dominion Government should, we think, at least, secure a dividend paying mortgage upon all railways it subsidizes hereafter.

DEAR COAL OIL.

The Canadian people are undoubtedly compelled to pay extortionately high prices for coal oils of all grades. How to remedy this evil is a difficult problem. The petroleum fields of Canada, so far developed, have not yielded abundantly. The best flowing wells pay fairly well while the wells which yield little are the great majority and pay but poorly. The United States wells have been out of all comparison abundant in their yields, as well as very numerous, and the best fields have made two or three successive sets of owners wealthy. The Canadian wells, which have cost much to develop, and are in the hands of many different owners, cannot therefore compete at all on the same terms with the American wells as to cheapness in the production of crude oil. Besides the American oil wells are for the most part under the control of two great companies, which, owing to the economical methods of transportation employed by them and the largeness of their market, are able to ship their oil cheaply everywhere. It would therefore seem to be the part of wisdom for our government to sacrifice the interests of the few scores of coal oil producers to those of the millions of coal oil users by putting coal oil on the free list and opening the Canadian market to United States supplies.

But it seems doubtful that the cheapening of coal oil in Canada would be ensured by the reduction of the duty. The Canadian refineries in Canada are in the hands of one of the two companies which control American oil, and since it secured control of the refineries it has put up the price of coal oil, slightly raising the price allowed by itself to the Canadian owners of the oil wells. During the last year the company has been able to induce or compel the Canadian railways, both the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific railways, to ignore or break the law of this country forbidding discrimination of freight rates, both as to shippers, as to localities and as to distances. The companies have been convicted of this offence twice by the government, but there seems to be no penalty attached to the offence and the companies are willing to break the law and sacrifice the people of Canada in order to serve the Standard Oil Company and their own supposed interests. To abolish the coal oil duties would certainly injure the Canadian oil well owners, would probably close them up, but it is not certain that the Standard Oil Company would be compelled to reduce the price in consequence, for instead of selling refined Canadian oil they would probably sell American refined oil in Canada and they would not be compelled to reduce the price unless the competition of the other American company forced them to do so. Certainly the Standard Oil Company's United States rival has hitherto fought strenuously for its share of the Canadian trade. It would be difficult to induce Canadian capitalists to embark money in the refining of oil in competition with an American company of such strength as the Standard Oil Company, which is reaching out for the control of the world's supply of coal oil. The government by embarking in the industry, as a correspondent suggests in this paper, might, with the help of legislation, shut out American oil and give Canadian consumers oil at the cost of government production in Canada, but we fear that cost would be at least as great as the prices at present ruling. Government management of industries is very seldom either successful or economical.

WAR PARALLELS.

Some United States journals have been joining in the hue and cry raised against Great Britain by the press of Continental Europe on account of the barbarity of the British in burning down houses and barns of burghers which have been used by the Boers as ammunition and supplies storehouses, or in the neighborhood of which British officers have been shot down treacherously, or railways broken up. The German journals have kept quiet about the practice adopted by the British because it is not only one of the regular methods of war but it was practiced by the German armies in the Franco-German war to an extent in comparison with which British measures were mild indeed. A United States journal has had the candor and taken the trouble to forcibly remind its contemporaries that in the war of the rebellion similar measures were carried out by Federal generals, with the approval of General Grant, the commander-in-chief. A short despatch to General Grant from General Sheridan detailing his operations in the Shenandoah Valley is given in full as follows:—

Woodstock, Va., 9 p.m., Oct. 7, 1864. Lieut.-Gen. U. S. Grant—I have the honor to report my command at this point tonight. I commenced moving back from

Port Republic, Mount Crawford, Bridge-water and Harrisonburg yesterday morning. The grain and forage in advance of these points had been previously destroyed. In moving back from Blue Ridge to the North Mountain has been rendered untenable for a rebel army.

I have destroyed over two thousand barns filled with wheat and hay and farming implements, over seventy mills filled with flour and wheat, have driven in front of this army four herds of stock, and have killed and issued to the troops not less than three thousand sheep.

This destruction embraces the Luray Valley and Little Fort Valley, as well as the Main Valley.

A large number of horses have been obtained.

Lieutenant John B. Meigs, my engineer officer, was murdered beyond Harrisonburg, near Dayton. For this atrocious act all the houses within an area of five miles were burned.

P. H. SHERIDAN, Major-General.

General Grant must have approved of even the sternness of these measures, for General Sherman afterward in the course of his march from Atlanta to the sea similarly devastated the region he traversed. We stand aghast at the extent of the destruction which must have fallen on many who took no part in the war. It is hard to see how the burning of five hundred presumably innocent homes could have any relation to a murder that might have been done by one of the officers' own soldiers. If such be war, 'may wars cease.' In like manner, foreign critics who condemn the British Government for refusing any terms to the Boers but unconditional surrender should remember that the same was precisely what General Grant demanded of Generals Buckner and Pemberton, of the Confederate army. The situation in South Africa now is analogous to that which existed in the United States when General Grant gave his ultimatum. Absolute supremacy must be acknowledged, after which details for the restoration of peace, order and security for life and property according to law would follow as a matter of course. The wise and gentle and courageously Christian words spoken by Lord Roberts at Capetown show the spirit in which the British Government is ready to settle all differences, and the speech of Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords should convince the Boers that nothing is to be gained by continuing the war. So far, the British have done nothing in South Africa which was not done by Northern generals in the civil war, and the terms offered to the Boers are precisely the same as were offered to the Confederates.

INSOLVENCY LAWS.

Steps are again being taken to procure the reformation of the Canadian insolvency laws, which has so long been desired and worked for by the leading commercial bodies and the press of the Dominion. In England, too, the agitation has been renewed and it has been decided to again bring this important subject forcibly before the Federal Government. So long ago as October, 1897, a deputation of British traders waited upon the Hon. Mr. Fielding, in London, with respect to the unsatisfactory state of the Canadian bankruptcy law, and the subject was fully discussed with him. Since that interview, a memorial very influentially signed by English merchants was presented to our House of Commons, which embodied the views of practically all the important chambers of commerce in the United Kingdom. The legislation which was desired included: 'One law for all the provinces and territories; abolition of all preferences; registration of liens on goods, book debts, or other securities; liens and preferences given within a period of three months prior to an assignment to be deemed invalid; provision against fraudulent and preferential settlements; provisions for the means of enforcing an assignment of an estate of a debtor who is insolvent; provision for proper examination of a debtor before a judge or other authorized official; in the appointment of official receivers, the right of creditors to a proper supervision, and control of the estates to be safeguarded, and traders to be compelled to keep proper books of account.' Mr. Fortin, who has already introduced an insolvency measure, is understood to have promised to include these provisions when again introducing his bill to parliament, and with some slight modifications, perhaps, these provisions will receive the hearty support of all the parties interested.

What is now required is that there shall be unanimity of all the forces desiring a Dominion insolvency act and such a strong presentation of influential commercial opinion in favor of it that the representatives of the farming interests, who have hitherto opposed legislation will be convinced that it must be had in the general interests of the country. Spor-

adic agitation having this end in view has been carried on since 1890, when the unworkable bankruptcy act of 1875 was repealed; but the hostility of the farming classes, which had suffered under the old act, and the opposition of the banking interests, have made it difficult for the government to carry such legislation. The opposition of the bankers has now been withdrawn, however, it is hoped by the advocates of the measure that the majority of the farmers now recognize that our insolvency laws need reforming, and if all the business organizations would now present a solid front, backed by all the British exporters, parliament would probably be induced to pass an acceptable measure during the opening year of the next century.

The need of an insolvency law for the whole Dominion, that shall be just to all Canadians and uphold our fair fame in the eyes of the world, has been so forcibly presented to the public during the last fifteen years that few can be unacquainted with the evils from which our commerce now suffers. The common law in all of the provinces, except Quebec, allows preferences in the shape of transfers of book debts made and goods bought. In the lower provinces, in addition to giving chattel mortgages, a debtor can, at the time he assigns his estate to a trustee, and in the very deed of assignment, instruct his trustee to pay creditors in schedule A in full, and to divide whatever is left, if there is anything left, among the creditors in schedule B and instruct his assignee also to divide his estate up among those creditors only who are willing to sign such an iniquitous deed. In Nova Scotia, preferential creditors have been arranged in groups by a debtor, from first to sixth, or even tenth, and the ordinary creditors have not received a cent. In British Columbia, when a retailer stops payment, the eastern merchant often wipes the account off his books, as he has learned by sad experience that further action will only mean throwing good money after bad. There is scarcely a wholesale merchant who has not suffered from the immoral methods referred to, and many have refused to do business in some localities altogether. This also applies to British merchants, and one of these actually closed a good account in Montreal some time ago, because he had been most outrageously swindled by a trader in New Brunswick. People living here are quite aware, of course, that the insolvency law of the Province of Quebec is equitable and the best in the Dominion, but the English house in question was evidently of opinion that all the provinces were tarred with the same brush. It is for this reason, and also that trade may be conducted honestly among ourselves, that the law requires to be reformed and made the same throughout Canada, and if the present Liberal Government will proceed to pass such legislation, it will redound greatly to its credit among business men. It is difficult indeed to conceive how it could make one year of its rule more successful than by the passage of a wise insolvency act.

THE WAR SITUATION.

Under Lord Kitchener's command the British forces in South Africa are suffering from a series of what Lord Roberts euphemistically termed 'unfortunate incidents.' The commander-in-chief reports that the four companies of Northumberland Fusiliers who held the key of General Clements's position in the Magaliesberg mountains, between Pretoria and Rustenberg, and who lost it to the Boers under General Delarey, thus compelling General Clements to retreat to Heckport, were captured, but they have been released again. The Boers numbered about 4,000 men, but they did not succeed in capturing any cannon or ammunition. Everywhere the Boers seem to be gathering into large commandos with the object of surprising the small scattered British garrisons. At Komati Poort and at Vryheid, in the eastern Transvaal, and at Bethlehem, in the Orange River Colony, determined attacks by numerically superior forces of Boers upon the British are reported. At Komati Poort the position of the British is said to be serious. In that malarial fever-stricken district the garrison is likely to be a small one. Lord Kitchener does not say anything about the progress of General Knox's operations against General De Wet, which British newspapers again reported on Friday as being attended by success. Had there been any decided advantage Lord Kitchener would probably have reported it. The Boers seem to have been encouraged by the departure of Lord Roberts and the colonial troops, whom they are said to have feared most, and who certainly never surrendered in large numbers and seldom in small numbers, but preferred fighting to a finish with the chance of getting away or being relieved. The most amazing defences of weak positions, like Mafeking, Elands River and Jammersberg Drift, at Wepener, were by colonial forces.

WITH THE FIELD TELEGRAPH

THE ROMANCE OF THE WIRE IN WAR.

(Percival C. Franklin, C.I.V., in London Daily Express.)

Tick-a-tick, tick-a-tick. These sounds emanate from one of the outhouses of a Boer farm. Inside the shed are seen half a dozen men in their shirt sleeves, working away like niggers at telegraph instruments placed on old boxes or commandeered tables.

Outside the shed are a dozen City Imperial Volunteers trying to squeeze into the scanty shadows cast by the walls of the farmhouse. They are mounted orderlies for the delivery of telegrams.

The army is a few miles ahead, steadily advancing into the enemy's country. The little farmhouse, therefore, is not surrounded with the bustle usually connected with military operations.

'TATA, BOYS!' Everything is quiet and peaceful. The telegraph flag (blue and white) is hanging limp against the flagstaff. No sound is heard except the continual 'tick-a-tick' of the instruments and the occasional impatient pawing of a horse's foot.

Presently an engineer emerges from the shed and lustily yells out in a stentorian voice 'Orderly.' The dozing orderly, whose turn it is to go out, rises and stretches himself. In a few seconds he has tightened the girths of his saddle, shouted a cheery 'Tata, boys,' and galloped off.

The heat becomes still more oppressive as the sun approaches the meridian. The monotony is unbroken, except for the occasional departure or return of an orderly. The returned orderlies can give no news beyond the fact that 'there's a scrap going on about five miles ahead.'

One of the men presently goes to the well to get a drink. On returning something on the horizon suddenly catches his eye. He gives a prolonged whistle, and says 'Look here, chaps.' Everybody's interest is aroused, and soon every eye is gazing on three spots in the distance. They are three horsemen racing hard. At the telegraph station there is great excitement. One man swears that the right-hand man will arrive first. Another swears by the centre man.

The riders are reeking with sweat. Their horses are straining every nerve. The last few yards are covered at a pace which would not disgrace an English racecourse.

'What on earth is this for?' would be the first question asked by one uninitiated. It is for the British newspaper-reading public. They are war correspondents, each striving to get his own despatch in first. Little does John Bull know of the hardships endured and difficulties surmounted by the intrepid journalists whose cables he peruses every morning over his coffee.

assist the pressmen in every way possible, and in almost every instance the utmost good feeling prevails between the correspondents and the telegraphists.

The press wires handed in, the correspondents presently leave the telegraph station and proceed to the front again.

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS.

Suddenly there is a stoppage of the tick-a-tick of the instruments. Something gone wrong with the wire perhaps. The Engineers, however, do not waste time in theorising. A couple of mules are harnessed in a 'Scotch cart,' in which are placed a spare ladder, a length of wire, a telegraph instrument, and necessary tools.

The little party sets out, the escort scanning the horizon, the Kaffir driving the cart by the side of the wire, and the Engineers steadily gazing at the wire with the practiced eye of the skilled artificer. The latter have to give an eye to many things, for the course of a telegraph wire, like that of love, seldom runs straight. The wire has possibly been cut by the enemy, in which case the engineering part of the business is comparatively easy, but the risk of an interfering Mauser bullet uncomfortably probable.

Every mile or two the wire is 'tapped.' With the help of the length of wire a connection is made between the wire and the instrument carried in the cart. Communication is opened with the office at the end of the wire. Should the interruption, therefore, be passed over, it would be discovered at the next 'tapping,' and the party would return and examine the wire more closely.

THE WIRE TRAVELS. After examining about eight miles of wire the fault is discovered, the ladder is propped up against a pole, and with nimble fingers the engineer repairs the wire. The wire is then tapped to test the efficacy of the repair, and the party partake of a well-earned meal. The job has been a comparatively easy one, and the little band returns with a feeling of satisfaction. For on these little expeditions one never knows what length of time their performance may take or what dangers may be encountered.

Next day the Telegraph Headquarters Staff are ordered to advance fifteen miles. The line has been laid by the Telegraph Battalion simultaneously with the advance of the army. A minimum staff is left at the old office. Most of the baggage is put on a mule wagon, and the Telegraph Headquarters are rapidly shifted. When the march is over there is no rest for the telegraphists. Unlike the combatant troops, they cannot throw off their kits and indulge in a delicious sleep. They must immediately commence work to relieve the temporary congestion caused by the removal of headquarters. The work of the Army Telegraphists on active service is enormous. The normal period of work is twelve hours a day, but often this is exceeded. The pressure on the Telegraph Service was notably great at Bloemfontein soon after the occupation of that town by Lord Roberts. On several occasions the telegraphists were working seventeen hours a day.

The incidents connected with the delivery of telegrams are so many and varied that I make no attempt to describe them.

ABOUT PROMINENT PEOPLE.

Sir Chichen Lo Fenglu, the Chinese ambassador at the Court of St. James, has been stationed in London since 1894. He was once private secretary to Li Hung Chang, and is one of the few ambassadors who have been honored with the insignia of the Royal Victorian Order. He is highly educated and speaks English as fluently as if it were his mother tongue.

Perhaps the most remarkable working shoemaker living is Gottfried Bruderli, whose career before he settled down to the arts of peace was a striking one. He left Berne, Switzerland, his native place, at the age of sixteen, and travelled through France as a journeyman shoemaker. Shortly before Arabi Pasha's rebellion, he found himself in Alexandria, a sergeant on the Egyptian police force, and he passed through the perilous times that followed, acting for a considerable time as orderly to 'Chinese' Gordon. He then travelled through the Holy Land as a shoemaker. In his wanderings he has managed to become proficient in speaking, reading and writing seven different languages, and to acquire an intelligible speaking knowledge of five more. He speaks English, German, French, Spanish, Arabian, Turkish, Polish, Greek, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian and Italian. He has been for some years settled at Grand Rapids Wis., where he mends shoes and raises fruit and poultry.

The Baroness von Ketteler, widow of the German ambassador murdered in China, has arrived in the United States, and it is expected that for the present she will make her home with her father in Detroit. It is not improbable that an indemnity to be paid to the American widow will be one of Germany's exactions in the way of reparation for the murder of the ambassador. The baroness has many warm friends and the sympathy felt for her in her awful bereavement is universal. As Miss Maud Leydard, daughter of President H. B. Leydard, of the Michigan Central Railway, she was a great favorite in Am-

erican society. She met the baron at Washington, where he was attached to the German embassy. They were married in Detroit in 1897, and during the three years of their brief wedded life the baroness was a brilliant, zealous and clear-headed aide to her husband in all the affairs of state and society. No legation in the Chinese capital was presided over by a more popular hostess. She is stately in appearance, and shows the true patrician in face and bearing.

Sir Robert Hart, K.C.B., Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, is the most famous man in China to-day. He went out to China in 1854, and in little more than five years was appointed Inspector-General by the Chinese Government. He speaks the language fluently, and much of his success in dealing with the natives has been due to the fact that he respects national prejudices and invariably observes official etiquette. He has been instrumental in bringing about numerous reforms, gradually overcoming Chinese prejudice against them. He is a man of sixty-three years old, of medium size, not striking in appearance, modest and unassuming in manner, but of great decision and strength of character. He is a hard worker, and seldom takes a holiday. Wearing the same old leather apron that he has worn for years, he habitually stands at a high desk during office hours, and he keeps in touch with every part of the customs service. The staff under him is composed of a thousand foreigners and 4,700 natives; the duties are not very heavy but he expects that they shall be performed promptly. He is a bit of an autocrat, but has used his authority wisely and well.

A large proportion of both senators and representatives of the United States started in life as poor boys. Mr. Perkins, of California, was a cabin boy, shipped before the mast when twelve years old, and followed the sea for twelve years. Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, was a stage driver. Mr. Thurston, of Nebraska, supported himself as a boy in Vermont by farm-work and by driving teams. Mr. Needham, of California, was born in an immigrant wagon. He is one of the youngest members of the House. Mr. Adamson, of Georgia, worked on a farm and hauled goods and cotton. Mr. Lorimer, of Illinois, who while still under forty, is prominent in the Republican politics of Chicago, was a bootblack and a car driver. Mr. Cusack, of Illinois, was a sign-painter. Mr. Smith, of Illinois, worked his way through college from a blacksmith shop. Mr. Robinson, of Indiana, was a newsboy, and worked in a shop from the age of fifteen till he was twenty. Mr. Haugen, of Iowa, began to earn his own living at fourteen, and when he was eighteen had bought a farm. Mr. Mercer, of Nebraska, taught school, clerked in a store, worked on a farm and edited a newspaper. Mr. Robinson, of Nebraska, worked as a mechanic in a hinge factory. Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, was a printer. Mr. Weeks, of Michigan, bought books and studied law in the intervals of teaching school. Mr. Baker, of Maryland, worked on a farm until he was thirty-two. Mr. H. C. Smith, of Michigan, did chores for farmers for his board while he was getting his education, and taught school in vacation. Mr. Brazzale, of Louisiana, clerked in a dry goods store while studying law. Mr. Daly, of New Jersey, was a moulder by trade. Mr. Spalding, of North Dakota, left home at the age of eleven to earn his own living. So the list might be continued. The men who have made records in Congress are, as a rule, those who have had to fight their way.

The Gaunt family of Australia is versatile. The father is a Melbourne judge; a daughter, Mary, is a colonial novelist, who made a considerable reputation in England; a son in the navy (Lieut. Gaunt) distinguished himself during the recent fighting in Samoa, and Capt. Cecil Gaunt, another son, attached to the 3rd Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, was among the defenders of Ladysmith.

Pope Leo XIII. is now in his ninety-first year. He was born in 1810, of an ancient and noble, but not very rich, family called Pecci. Joschim Pecci rose rapidly in his career in which Queen Victoria was crowned. At thirty six years of age he was a bishop, and seven years later a cardinal. He became Pope in 1878. His reign has not been particularly eventful; perhaps its most notable feature has been the bringing about of a better understanding with Protestant countries. He has not exercised much influence in the political affairs of the Vatican, but the good he has accomplished in other quarters has been considerable. His conception of life has been lofty, and the moral tone of the inner life of the Vatican has been elevated through Leo XIII. His personal habits have been characterized by pronounced asceticism, according to Italian ideas. Up to the time of his illness his daily life was much as follows: He rose before six o'clock and after a short prayer entered his chapel to say mass; then assisted at the mass of his own chaplain, after which he partook of a simple breakfast, with coffee and milk. At eight he transacted state business, and afterwards, if the weather was fine, spent some time in the garden, where he dearly enjoyed the sunshine and flowers, and songs of the birds. Returning to the palace, he received in the state room the principal authorities of the household, the heads of the several departments, and afterwards those private persons who had obtained the favor of being admitted. In the afternoon came a drive of state, and in the evening he listened to reading from the newspapers. Leo XIII. has written many Latin poems that are considered very fine. A recent visitor to the Vatican described him as 'very pale, very upright, very thin, with eyes clear and bright, and a tender, timid kindness lurking between his lips and peeping out when he smiled.'

KIPLING'S EXILE.

PEANUTS AND HARD CIDER HAVE MUCH TO DO WITH IT.

When it was announced that Rudyard Kipling had sent a deposition of 400 typewritten pages to avoid visiting this country and testifying in his suit against G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishers, the old rumor, that he prefers the drug line in a South African engagement to a visit here, took immediate root. Some of the knowing ones say boldly that the story writer and poet is much afraid of his big brother-in-law up in Vermont.

'Mr. Kipling is, of course, not afraid to come to New York,' said a man familiar with the trouble between Kipling and Beatty Balestier. 'But if he put foot on this country nothing would do but a trip to his Vermont home, Naulaka, near Brattleboro. He would not go there on his own account, although he loves the spot, and says he can work more there and turn out better stuff than anywhere in the world. The Brattleboro people admire Kipling and hate Balestier, despite the fact that the farmer is one of their own kind, bred back a long way in the local history.'

These friends of Kipling, among whom are included many of his wife's and brother-in-law's relatives, would come to New York, or wherever he happened to be, and insist on his going to Vermont under their protection. This is what he dreads. The very sight of his brother-in-law makes the little tale-teller weak in the knees and there is good authority in Brattleboro for the spriting he has done down the road and through the pine woods. Balestier is a great big fellow, as strong as an ox, and when he goes up town and absorbs a few bags of peanuts and glasses of hard cider he is not the person Kipling wants to meet upon the highway alone.

'Balestier is not a bad fellow when he is out of peanuts and cider, but when he is in he simply goes out and waits on the side of the road for Kipling to come along. When the small Englishman passes by in his leisurely fashion, talking to the chipmunks and dreaming of the pines and the white birch, Balestier bobs from behind a bush, and right there Kipling loses all the inspiration lent by the scented woods and spreading green fields beyond. Generally Balestier needs more peanuts, and if Kipling has wandered out, as he is wont to do, without going down into Mrs. Kipling's pocketbook he may not be able to accommodate his petulant relative.'

If this is the case, trouble follows, and when Kipling gets a good chance to break away from the conversation he makes for his East Indian-shaped cottage on the hilltop, with Balestier in hot pursuit.

Why the brother-in-law has it in for the author is not known except to himself, and many of the natives who side with Kipling do not believe Balestier knows himself. The first trouble arose when Mme. Balestier, mother of Kipling's mortal enemy, and also mother of his wife, sold the poet a portion of the old Balestier estate, which is large enough for a dozen Kiplings, especially if they are all as modest as this one. Then her wayward son took a dislike to his talented brother-in-law and has since pursued him diligently whenever opportunity affords.

For over two years the Kipling house has been closed and in the possession of a caretaker and two bob-tailed house cats. It is kept up to some extent, and Kipling and his wife evidently hope to be able to reside there again, but certainly not while this relative has access to the town cider. It is a prohibition state, you know, and probably this is unlucky for Kipling.

He announced when he came back from Africa that he hoped to visit his country place this fall, and his friends there have anxiously awaited his return. Now that he has sent this huge deposition here to take the place of his verbal testimony, they fear he has determined not to run any risks.

'Certainly nobody has accused him of cowardice, but there can be no mistaking his desire to steer clear of Mr. Balestier.'

If it came to the test, there are many natives of Brattleboro who would fight for Kipling against his unruly brother-in-law, although he is their fellow-townsmen and is closely related to a large number of prominent and wealthy families in all parts of the state.

'So far as I know, Kipling has never offended any one in the town. On the contrary, he is liked by every one, and if he ever comes back to this country his friends will try to get him to come back in spite of Balestier's unfriendliness and aggressive ways.'—New York Telegraph.

ON THE GIVING OF NAMES.

(From 'Puck.')

There is a consensus of opinion—sweet phrase, dear to reporters—that the wonderful progress of the United States is due not to the trusts, the tariff, or even to our natural advantages, so much as to our ingenuity in design and our refusal to be bound by the manners and customs of the Old World. We are great because we are original. If proof were wanting it could be furnished in an examination of our system of giving names to the natural and artificial features of the land we live in.

Take New England for a starter. The settlers came from England, and therefore they ingeniously chose New England as a name. In the same way the residents of Manhattan Island had a name made to order, but they put their wits to work and evolved New York, which was much more original. Old York in England, New York in America! See?

But this method, ingenious as it may appear, was destined to be surpassed by other communities. There was Carolina; and when it became advisable to divide, the strictly original thinkers got together and evolved North and South Carolina. North Carolina was north of South Carolina, and South Carolina was south of North Carolina, and there you were. A great many years later, when it be-

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Castoria. 'Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me of its good effect upon their children.' Dr. G. C. OSGOOD, Lowell, Mass. Castoria. 'Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me.' H. A. ARCHER, M. D. Brooklyn, N. Y.

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came necessary to divide Dakota, this ingenious theory was again put into effect. Draw a line across the country from east to west; call the northern half North Dakota and the southern half South Dakota. Could anything be more original? There was a proposition advanced that one of the halves be called Pembina, or some such Indian name, but it was properly rejected with more or less scorn. On the same principle, when the western part of Virginia was erected into a state some common people suggested that it be called Kanawha, as distinctive, but they were properly rebuked. The new state lay west of Virginia, and any one ought to have seen that the only proper name for it was West Virginia. At the extreme north-western corner of the Union lies the State of Washington. Since Columbus discovered America, and there is no state named after him, it was suggested that here was an eligible chance to repair the omission; but the original thinkers would not have it so. Every state has a Washington county, and from ten to fifteen towns named Washington, therefore why not a state named Washington? So distinctive, you see, and such a rebuke to names like California and Idaho. It is, however, in the naming of towns that the ingenuity of the American mind is most happily displayed. Some genius discovered that the terminals, 'town,' 'ville' and 'burg' would hitch on to any old name, and then the original thinkers worked them in every direction. From Jamestown and Johnstown to Jonesburg and Smithville the ground has been completely covered. The foreign traveller has often had his attention called to the fact that in nearly all minor American cities the main street is called Main street. Could anything be more appropriate? Puts the matter before you in its proper light at once. But still more ingenious is the habit of numbering the streets. For instance, here is the first street from the river, and we call that First street. The

second street from the river is Second street, and so on with Third, Fourth, ad infinitum. When the intelligent foreigner tells his native guide that he never heard of such a thing in Europe, the guide is properly astounded. Why, what would you call the third street? It is the third street, isn't it? What else could you call it? When the foreigner continues his indecent merriment, the native refers him to the culminating illustration of national ingenuity, very appropriately displayed in the capital of the country. Who but an American genius could have evolved the idea of naming streets after the letters of the alphabet? Think of the brains that could have conjured up such names as A, B, C, and so forth. When to these are added 4 1/2 Street, the combination is dazzling. Once started on a career of originality, why not go the full length? Let us number the states—State One, State Two, etc. Then number the counties and the towns. Then a letter could be addressed to 'John Jones, 101 N 10th St., Eight, Six,' which being interpreted reads, as to the latter portion, 'Albany, New York.' New York being the sixth state, and Albany being number 8 city. What a strain on the brain that would save when future states or cities were to be named! Why not number the people? Why not? Abolish all names for everything, and give us the straight goods. Pretty soon we will have to think of names for new towns and rivers in the Philippines or Hawaii or Puerto Rico, and we might as well give them numbers as introduce Jonesburg or Smithville. There will be plenty of original and pretty names to hand, but our originality of thought will not allow us to use them. SIDNEY. Dr. James Barr expresses his opinion in the 'Lancet' that antipyrin, phenacetin and acetanilid do a great deal of mischief in typhoid fever, and are wholly unnecessary for any other disease.

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People who have been operated on, and have had the cancer come back on them again with increased severity; those who have had the cancerous lump drawn out by plaster, or eaten away by a paste, and who find themselves worse than before; cancer sufferers who have spent hundreds of dollars on all sorts of remedies, seeking a permanent cure in vain, very properly are anxious to know if the constitutional treatment for cancer and tumor will cure so that the cure will be a permanent one? We answer, yes, and so there may be no doubt about it, we give cases and patient testimonials. 'Cancer, its Cause and Cure,' where the persons were cured many years ago, and up to the present time, the disease shows no signs of returning. One lady, cured of cancer of the breast six years ago, and is perfectly well to-day. Another lady was cured of an obstinate tumor in 1892, and has never had any return of it since. A case of cancer of the nose that was cured in 1891, shows no signs of coming back. Thus we might go on multiplying instances of permanent cures. Those who desire further information about this permanent and painless treatment for cancer and tumors, should send two stamps to MESSRS. STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont.

FUR RUFF FREE. Earn this handsome necktie by selling only 2 doz large packages of delicious perfumes at 25 cts. a package. It is so fragrant and lasting that a single package placed in a handkerchief box or bureau drawer will perfume the entire contents for years. It is in the 3 popular colors: Rose, Violet and Heliotrope, and is put up in packages bearing lovely designs of flowers and leaves in all the delicate and varied colors of nature. Nothing else like it. Everybody buys fur dress. Write and we will send the perfume. Sell it, return the money, and your Ruff will be sent the same day postpaid. This offer is good up to Dec. 31. THE GREAT PERFORMER CO., BOX 16, TORONTO.

IN A MANDARIN'S PALACE.

(By the London 'Express' war correspondent, Mr. T. C. Cowen.)

Pekin, Sept. 7.

Pekin has always been a remarkable city. At the present moment, if it has not been so before, it is the most remarkable city in all the world.

It belongs to no one. It is divided into districts under British, American, Japanese, Russian and French jurisdiction, and the streets are patrolled and order, more or less, maintained by troops of all complexions, from the white Wyoming 'cowboy' to the swarthy Sikh. But the powers of the troops are undefined. They are agreed only in one point—namely, that anything without an evident owner may be appropriated—anything at all, from a Chinaman to a 'shoe' of silver, from a house or a horse to a bundle of rags.

I am living in a mandarin's palace on the Ha-ta-m'n road. The mandarin is, I trust, in heaven. At least, he is not here. He was a Boxer champion; Boxer flags, Boxer hats, and Boxer arms are stacked in corners of the rooms, and the house has not been touched either by Chinese or foreign troops. Very few houses have thus remained unmolested.

SOLDIERS ON THE PROWL.

Before the siege of the legations placards were posted up for the direction of the populace as to which were the houses of friends—that is, Boxer sympathizers—and which those of enemies, meaning everybody who in even the remotest way ever had anything to do with foreigners. My mandarin was left alone by the Chinese, and his house, or my house, is left alone by foreign troops, except by occasional patrols, who sneak into the courtyard and peer around inquiringly for loot.

Then the servants at the lodge—the mandarin's servants at the mandarin's lodge that is to say, my servants at my lodge—run across the three courtyards into the mandarin's hall to me, and shout 'Soldiers!' I go to the outer courtyard, and inquire what business the soldiers have here, and they walk slowly to the gate, explaining in whatever language happens to be theirs that they were merely patrolling. I slam the gate sharply after them, and the servants bar it, giggling.

Well may they giggle, for if they had been alone here they would probably have been shot. The women would not have been shot, but worse. I am not exaggerating; this thing happens almost daily.

I do not feel free to say under which of the great civilized powers of Europe who have partitioned Peking I am living. I will only say it is not Anglo-Saxon, nor Japanese.

For some reason the British troops

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Are Offered by Dr. Slocum to all Those Who Desire a Positive and Permanent Cure of Consumption in any Form.

Good advice you say, but how can we do it when one remedy after another has been tried without improvement or hope of a cure. Quills true. Scores of sufferers from all kinds of lung troubles have been a mark for unscrupulous medical con-men who never intended to cure you. Dr. Slocum has made the cure of Consumption and Lung Troubles the study of his life, and thousands of men and women in all parts of Canada are ready to testify to the marvellous curative properties of the Slocum system. Dr. Slocum is ready and willing to prove the efficacy of his treatment, and has no hesitation in offering it to you or your sick friends ABSOLUTELY FREE. This, in order that you may test the Slocum system and judge for yourself regarding its merits.

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You or your sick friends can have a FREE course of Treatment. Simply write to THE T. A. SLOCUM CHEMICAL CO., Limited, 179 King street West, Toronto, giving post office and express office address, and the free medicine (The Slocum Cure) will be promptly sent.

When writing for them always mention this paper.

Persons in Canada, seeing Slocum's free offer in American papers, will please send for samples to the Toronto Laboratories.

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Directors of the Canadian Gold Fields Syndicate, Limited, have declared a Dividend of Three percent on the paid-up Capital Stock of the Company for the quarter ending 31st DECEMBER, 1900, payable on 2nd JANUARY, 1901, to the Shareholders of Record on the 28th December, 1900. Transfers for books will be closed from the 20th until 28th December, 1900. J. B. HODGSON, Secretary.

have been allotted the poorest slums of Peking as their portion. It is a good thing for the slum residents, but not for the British. I have no wish to live in an East End hovel with the roof burnt off, so I live in a Belgravian mansion, and am under foreign jurisdiction, and there is a daily struggle as to whether the Union Jack is to float over this house or not. It still floats, and it will continue to float.

A LOVELY GARDEN.

As I write, I look out across my garden, the mandarin's garden. He has good taste, and I wish him well in his future career. There are trees five times the height of the house, with lovely foliage, rustling in the cool wind. A fish-pond lies in the middle, with a rustic bridge just like that on a 'willow-pattern' plate, but the water is gone, the fish gone, and long, reedy grass grows out of the mud.

There is a curious wooden edifice in one corner of the garden; it may be meant for a tea-house or a band-stand—I do not know. Fruit trees, which I cannot name, bearing abundance of fruit which I have never seen or heard of before, are trained under the walls, and rockeries are artistically arranged here and there.

In the paddock are about a dozen ponies and mules, and in the stables a few more. Some were found strolling ownerless near the city or in it, and out of charity I appropriated them and feed them on the mandarin's fodder. Others have been honestly bought, one pony for a tin of cigarettes, a fine sturdy mule for half a bottle of Scotch whiskey, and some were left here by owners who have gone to see their friends in Manchuria.

One affectionate old mule keeps coming into the drawing-room to see me; he can break any rope the stable-boys can tie, and he persists in leaving his hay and bran and eating the mandarin's choice chrysanthemums.

SALUTES FOR KHAKI.

I go out into the street; most of the foreign soldiers salute as I pass, for I wear a khaki uniform, which I borrowed in Tientsin. It looks military, hence the salute. It is the uniform of the Tientsin Volunteers, who were disbanded after the taking of Tientsin native city, because the volunteers got ahead of the regulars at the looting.

The British troops do not salute me, because they know all about this; Americans do not, because they are not built that way; and some other nationalities do not, because they can see I am English. But there are some who do salute, and I return the courtesy as well as I know how, and hope it is all right.

I am glad when they do not, as it relieves me of a little anxiety; it takes me all my time to maintain a controlling influence over my Chinese horse, who cannot understand that I have to go along different streets to those the mandarin used to frequent, and we frequently have arguments at street corners.

As I ride towards the legation I meet a brother-journalist. The last time we met was in Ludgate circus. This meeting causes no surprise; we have got past that. We compare the number of dead bodies seen by each of us in the river up to Tungchow, the state of the stone road from Tungchow to Peking, the amount of cigars and soda water remaining unconsumed, and whether the commissariat supply of potatoes still holds out. These are vital questions.

The conversation is interrupted by my horse trying to stand on his head in the middle of the street; the mandarin has trained him to a pitch of perfection in the balancing art, and the pony's next ambition is to climb a tree by the roadside. Having satisfactorily demonstrated his agility, my steed consents to resume his way to the legation.

A QUEER AUCTION.

Here, on the bare remnant of what was once a lawn, are assembled Gen. Gaselee, Sir Claude and Lady Macdonald, and civil and military officers, sitting around three sides of a square, the fourth side being occupied by Mr. Herring, Constable of the legation, holding up a great roll of silk and calling, 'Going at five dollar. Going, gone! To you, sir. Name, please?' In front of him, in the middle of the square, lie heaps of valuable fur robes, rich silks, and ornaments of all kinds.

It is a sale of loot, and Herring is auctioneer. The bidders are officers, pressmen, diplomatic service men, a few ladies, anybody who has money—terms strictly cash. Market rates are rather eccentric. An ornamental trouser-button, worth fourpence, may fetch ten dollars, while an embroidered or brocaded dress, which may have taken months of patient labor to construct, is sold for next to nothing.

Loot is valuable in proportion as it is portable. A mule or pony cap only be kept as far as he can travel; it will not pay to put him aboard ship and convey him home. A big bronze vase would cost its own weight in silver to ship home. But almost anything that can be put in the pocket is worth ten times its

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ASTHMA CURED

AFTER 35 YEARS' SUFFERING.

Mr. H. LaClare, St. Peter Street, Montreal, writes: 'For 35 years I have been a great sufferer from Asthma, which I inherited from my mother, who has since died from Asthma. I have spent thousands of dollars with doctors and remedies. Finally my doctor advised a change of climate. My friend, Mr. J. Thom, who had been cured by Clark's Kola Compound, brought me a bottle, and I afterwards took six bottles of this great medicine. It has made a new man of me, and I have gained nearly thirty pounds in weight, and my asthmatic attacks have entirely disappeared. Two dollars sent on Dr. Clark's Kola Compound has done for me what over two thousand dollars failed to do. I consider it a God-send to the Asthmatic. A regular free sample bottle of Clark's Kola Compound will be mailed free to any person troubled with Asthma. Enclose 2 cents in stamps for postage. Address: Dr. Griffiths & Macpherson Co., Ltd., 41 St. Charles St., Toronto, Ont.'

weight and frequently twice its ordinary value. The proceeds of the sale go to a prize fund for the army, and the daily takings average about four hundred pounds. The sales have been in progress three weeks, and there is enough material in store for three months of such daily auctions. How long the buyers' money will last is the question. The days of private confiscation of conquered people's property are, it is to be hoped, almost over. Nothing in the world is more demoralizing.

The innermost city, called the 'Forbidden City,' comprising only the Imperial Palace and its appurtenances, is closed and guarded, and that is a good thing. There has been a surfeit of vandalism. It does no one any good. Those who got nothing are vicious, and those who got something are tormented by a jealous suspicion that their neighbor got more.

It is a sad sight, this great city. The Chinese have received such a blow as they have never experienced before in all their two thousand years of wars, famines and insurrections. Riding back home, I notice the Chinese stand aside meekly to let me pass; they walk in the mud to give me room, they who six months ago would have crowded round the foreigner and jeered.

I might have stood their jeers; I do not want them to plunge in the mud. I ride pensively into my courtyard, and the servants run out to hold the stirrup as I dismount, take my whip, and bring me a fan and a light for my cigar. I feel sorry for my mandarin. If he comes back I will allow him to sleep on the band-stand floor.

GEN. BULLER AS A COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

(Edinburgh Scotsman.)

Lying not far from Crediton, on the road to Exeter, is Downes, the general's country house. From the white road that meanders through the countryside the carriage drive sweeps up beneath the elm and the beech to the park, where the white shadow of the house itself glances through the foliage and the tree trunks.

It is here that the rescuer of Sir George White spends his leisure hours, a familiar figure in his well-worn shooting suit, as he tramps across the undulations of hill and dale. Crediton itself does not see overmuch of General Buller; the one long street of which it is really composed is not a favorite touring ground for him; but he is frequently to be met upon the high road or in the lanes that bisect the country for miles around.

Here he casts off his official manner, and chatting now and again with the men he may meet it is difficult to think that it is the Buller of red tape and pipe clay. This, however, explains the respect in which he is held locally, a respect that may be tempered with fear in a few cases, but which does not affect his popularity in the slightest when the real occasion for a display of feeling arises.

In local circles General Buller has never been approached in a deserving case without satisfaction having been afforded. But he does nothing blindly, and on the impulse of the moment. Any case laid before him is considered solely upon its merits, and so his decisions are arrived at. The habitual law-breaker has little to hope for if he seeks his assistance, but a man whose foot has slipped over the border line, and who really desires to retrieve his reputation, can depend upon a helping hand being extended him.

In one case that came under my notice some few years back, a man, a native of Kidderminster, was convicted of a petty theft at Exeter. Beyond a doubt he had been led away by his companions, and upon his release from prison an appeal was made on his behalf to General Buller, who at that time had influence in a certain quarter.

He saw the man, questioned him closely, and at length decided to extend a helping hand. His confidence was not misplaced, for at the present time his protegee is occupying a responsible position in the city, trusted by his employer, and with the one black sheet of his former life wiped clean again.

Able-bodied vagrants, men who seek work at shovelling snow, or 'making hot-cross buns,' however, need not apply for assistance, financial or otherwise, at Downes. There is no hope for them, although the hard worker, who has happened upon hard times, need not despair of being able to secure a re-start in the battle of life.

And then, there is a tender spot in almost everyone's heart for the children. A little mite had toddled through the park gates, and was brought up with a gruff 'Hallo! Where may you be going?' She excused herself tremblingly, but returned home laden with flowers and with a glistening coin reposing in her pocket. She had gone round the gardens, so she told her mother, with 'oh, such a nice gentleman!' He had plucked the flowers, had patted her on the head, and had kissed her at parting.

This gentleman? Oh, only 'the General.'

A PROPHECY FULFILLED.

'De Patriot' (a Dutch newspaper in South Africa) has reprinted a remarkable sermon delivered by the Rev. Mr. Spoelstra at Pretoria on June 13, 1897. The reverend gentleman came out as assistant to the Rev. Mr. Goddefroy, but soon tired of the 'cunning, deceit and corruption' he saw around, and speaking his mind too freely, was requested to return to Holland.

In his farewell sermon (on the sins of the nation) he used these prophetic words: 'I hear in the spirit the sound of marching of the hosts of great armies, who come up from all sides of this land. I hear the clash of swords and the rattle of musketry, also the roar of cannon. A hopeless strife follows, a life and death struggle. It is decided. The inheritance of the fathers falls into the hands of the enemy. For the God of the Fathers hath been deserted by the children, and he executeth judgment against a faithless and appetite people.—'Cape Times.'

SQUEAKY VOICES.

WHY THE BOERS POSSESS THEM.

At a recent meeting of the irrigation congress, held in Chicago, a scheme was discussed which seems to be attracting considerable interest in the Transvaal. The plan is to dam the water of certain American rivers so as to convert the arid, cactus plains of the south-western states into fertile fields.

Hermans De Boer, a lawyer of Dutch descent, now practicing in Chicago, is in receipt of a letter from the Transvaal Volksraad, inquiring as to the feasibility of the scheme, and it is said that President Kruger will come to America to investigate for himself in order to find a home for his countrymen, who, according to Mr. De Boer's correspondent, will leave their native land rather than live under British government.

The climate of the Transvaal is greatly similar to that of New Mexico, and if the irrigation scheme is successful, Mr. De Boer believes that thousands of the Dutch farmers will surely emigrate there. Rain is very uncertain in the Transvaal and the farmers have to depend largely upon irrigation. Consequently the scheme to utilize the flood waters of large rivers is of peculiar interest to them just now.

On Thanksgiving day four years ago Mr. De Boer ate luncheon with President Kruger on the famous porch of his Pretoria residence. At that time Mr. De Boer was in business in Johannesburg and called on the President to see about a government concession for the syndicate he represented.

Mr. De Boer speaks Dutch fluently, but says he had to employ an interpreter to make himself understood. 'In the first place,' says Mr. De Boer, 'in the Chicago Journal' 'Mr. Kruger is nearly as deaf as the proverbial adder. I screamed at him for a time, but finally was compelled to make my request through the President's son. In the meantime old Oom Paul placidly stroked his fringe of whiskers and smoked a huge burgher's pipe.'

The reason I failed to make myself understood was that the Transvaalers do not speak pure Dutch, but have a dialect of their own, flavored with many colloquialisms. Another marked peculiarity of the Boers is their high-pitched, squeaky voices. I never heard anything so peculiar, and I have travelled in many countries.

After living there a few months I think I discovered the secret of the peculiarity. Nearly all of the transportation in South Africa is done with teams of oxen. From one end of the country to the other the shrill voices of the ox-drivers can be heard at all hours of the day or night.

This has been the custom for generations. From personal investigation I have learned that at least ninety percent of the men have at some time during their lives driven cattle to the yoke. I believe it to be a pathological fact that the Boer children inherit squeaky voices from their parents. I don't think there can be any other explanation. Even the children speak in high pitched, shrill tones. It has become a national characteristic with the Boers.'

AMERICA'S SMALL MERCHANT MARINE.

The American newspapers are fond of printing glowing descriptions of our unprecedented export trade, descriptions bristling with figures to show that the United States is elbowing the other nations out of the world's markets. In contrast with these evidences of commercial and industrial prosperity, the size of our merchant marine (as disclosed by the report of Eugene Tyler Chamberlain, United States commissioner of navigation, just issued) cuts a rather sorry figure. Although the past fiscal year has been the most prosperous period known to American shipping for a considerable time, our total tonnage is still 374,974 tons less than in 1861. In that year our tonnage was 5,539,813 tons, and was larger than Great Britain's and nearly equalled the British Empire's. British shipping now amounts to 14,201,000 gross tons—ours amounts to 5,164,839. When the part of our tonnage that is used in the foreign trade is examined separately, a still more surprising fact appears. Our tonnage in the foreign trade last year was only 816,795 tons, only nine percent of our exports and imports. A century ago, in fact, American shipping registered for foreign trade was 609,921 tons, while this tonnage now in the thirteen original states amounts to 482,907 tons. For serious competition with foreign nations in the ocean-carrying trade, we are practically restricted to ninety-seven registered steamships of over a thousand tons, aggregating 260,325 tons. There are single foreign steamship corporations that own greater tonnage. As regards American shipbuilding, the commissioner shows that our entire construction of ships for foreign trade in the last ten years is not much more than half of Great Britain's output of 1,340,000 tons during the single year 1899. The main reason for this state of affairs, he says, is that the cost of shipbuilding in England is much less than here, and wages on the British ships are twenty-five percent lower than on the American. A freight steamship carrying 5,000 tons cargo now costs \$275,000 in the United States, compared with \$214,000 in Great Britain.

What is to be done about it? The commissioner of navigation favors the shipping subsidy measure that will be considered by the coming session of congress, a measure that would pay a bonus out of the federal treasury to ships of creditable size and speed, built in American shipyards, and would thus, it is claimed, encourage American shipbuilding. This measure, however, which is known as the Hanna-Payne shipping subsidy bill, is bitterly opposed by an overwhelming majority of the press. Republican as well as Democratic, on the ground that it would enrich one industry at the expense of the rest, without giving any adequate return, and on the ground that it is so framed that most of the subsidy would go to a few lines that

ALMOST 100,000 BOTTLES

Of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine

SOLD LAST YEAR IN CANADA ALONE.

The Most Popular and Most Thoroughly Satisfactory Family Remedy for Affections of the Throat and Lungs That Was Ever Devised.

These figures are quoted in order that you may form some idea of how many thousands of homes there are in Canada where Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is considered indispensable as a certain cure for coughs and colds, and safeguard against Consumption and Pneumonia.

Unlike the mixtures so frequently offered by druggists for coughs and colds, Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is a thoroughly scientific preparation, and one which would cost three or four times as much if prepared in small quantities in a drug store. It contains many of the most effective remedial agents for irritations and inflammations of the throat, bronchial tubes and lungs that nature has provided, and is surprisingly prompt in curing the most severe and deep-seated coughs and colds.

Mothers have unbounded confidence in this great prescription of the famous Recipe Book author, because it has so often saved their little ones from croup, bronchitis and severe chest colds. Children like it, and as it does not contain morphia or other dangerous drugs, it can be used by young and old alike with perfect safety, and with absolute assurance of benefit being derived.

Mr. J. R. Robinson, 37 Bishop street, Toronto, says: 'Dr. Chase's Syrup of

Linseed and Turpentine absolutely cured two of my children of croup. Both my wife and myself have utmost confidence in it. This remedy is no stranger in our home, having frequently been used before with the greatest success.'

Mrs. G. H. Reid, North Augusta, Ont., says: 'The greatest seller in my store today is Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. To the virtues and results of it I can truthfully say the following: Being troubled with bronchitis and asthma for a long time, have tried several remedies, but all failed to touch the spot, until I tried Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine. I got relief from the first bottle. I can highly recommend it to all humanity suffering from throat or lung troubles. And you are at liberty to use this testimony as you see fit.'

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is the stand-by in Canadian homes. It has by far the largest sale of any similar preparation, and has won this immense popularity because it not only relieves promptly, but absolutely cures coughs and colds, and guards the way to the lungs from the attacks of consumption, pneumonia and complicated lung troubles; 25 cents a bottle, family size (three times as much), 60 cents, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

are already making a good profit, and the rest, which really need encouragement, would get nothing at all. The New York 'Journal of Commerce,' for example, says: 'Our fundamental objection to the subsidy bill is that it proposes to defray the loss, real or alleged, of operating American vessels out of the proceeds of taxation, without guaranteeing the country that it will have any greater or better shipping facilities than it now has, but that American will be substituted for foreign vessels at a cost of nine million dollars per annum.' On the other side, the New York 'Sun' says: 'No nation with a large extent of seacoast and dependent for a large part of its commerce upon transportation on the seas has complete independence until it carries or is able to carry its own goods. The United States have complete political independence, but they have not yet achieved complete commercial independence. Any measure that will hasten that desirable day of freedom should be welcomed. The matter of cost, that is, the mere question of dollars and cents, involved in the bill to secure this freedom, should be the last element to be considered.'—'Literary Digest.'

THE AMEER IN A NEW LIGHT.

'The Monthly Review,' a new magazine published in Edinburgh by Mr. John Murray, and edited by Mr. Henry Neubolt, had, a short time ago, a most interesting and original bit of autobiography from the Ameer of Afghanistan. From this we learn that Abdur Rahman is an untiring worker in the interests of his government and people, so much so that he has rarely time to see his wives. He thus bears testimony to his own industry and earnestness: 'So deeply do my thoughts take possession of me when I am planning various improvements and considering state affairs, that I do not see any of the people who are in my presence. Many nights I begin reading and writing answers to letters, and do not raise my head until I see that the night is past and the morning has come. . . . My doctors and hakims tell me that this never-ceasing activity is the cause of all my illness, that I work too hard, and do not take my meals regularly at fixed times. My answer is: "Love and logic have never agreed together." And as I am a lover of the welfare of my nation, I do not feel my own pains, but the pains and the sufferings and weakness of my people, which I cannot bear for them, and those who have never been in love do not know how sore are the sufferings of lovers. . . . On many occasions I get quite discouraged on account of the misbehavior of my people, who keep on rebelling, quarrelling, and intriguing against each other, and making false reports of each other to me. I have then to make inquiries to find out the truth, and this wastes more than half of my valuable time; so that as I try to walk in the steps of progress they keep on pulling me back. I get very weary, and sometimes think that their position is unchangeable, and their intrigues incurable, and that it is impossible to raise them to that standard which would make them

equal to their neighbors in strength and character. I feel that it would be well for me to retire from this life of everlasting anxiety and struggle, and take a quiet, peaceful life somewhere else, leaving my people to fight amongst themselves until they are ruined. But this would be a cowardly action and a refusal to fulfil the duties ordained by the real Almighty Master and Sovereign, for which he has created me.'

LORD BUTE'S UNINVITED GUEST.

The late Lord Bute was eminently hospitable, and it almost goes without saying that his hospitality was shared on occasion by uninvited individuals. An amusing instance occurred a year or two ago, when His Lordship had a garden party at his lovely London home at Regent's Park—St. John's Lodge—near the Zoological Gardens. In the course of the afternoon a countryman in his Sunday clothes was observed wandering in a state of bewilderment about the grounds. At length he sauntered up to a group of guests and said, 'Can you tell me where the hammers are?' 'Animals?' 'Yes.' 'There are no animals here. This is the Marquis of Bute's private park.' 'O-oh!' exclaimed the yokel. 'I thought it was the Zoo. I seed a lot o' folk a-comin' in, and I follered on. A lady and gentleman at the top o' the garden's shook 'ands wi' me an' asked me 'ow I was, and I came on to the tent yonder, where they asked me what I'd ave—and they ain't charin' for anythin'. Then I've been a-listen' to the music, but I couldn't see no hammers. So I thought I'd ask somebody. I see I've made a mistake. Good-day.'

ENGLISH VIEW OF CROKER.

(London 'Chronicle.') There is no deep mystery in American politics. They can be understood by anybody who will give the subject serious study; but one thing will always remain unintelligible to him who has not studied the conditions on the spot—and that is, the stupendous local ascendancy of Richard Croker. This remarkable dictator, holding no official position, without education, with a youthful record as a prize-fighter and 'Bowery tough,' spending the income of a prince derived nominally from a 'real estate business,' carries in the palm of his iron hand the administration of a great city of three and a half million people, the financial and commercial heart of the richest nation in the world. An Irishman, his power derived from the political activity of the Irish-Americans, he lives in England, a country which his followers hate, and engages in an aristocratic amusement—racing—which they despise. His career is the most striking example of power without responsibility which democracy can show. Professor Bryce might go to Wantage Road, study this unique and sinister personality, and add a chapter to 'The American Commonwealth.'

BOBS' AT ETON.

A RECOLLECTION OF TWENTY YEARS AGO.

(Maurice Lightfoot, in London 'Daily Mail')

Youth after all is not a matter of years, says the editor of the 'Eton School Journal.' 'A fellow who is leaving may feel a hundred, and he will be lucky if he can last like Buller, or be as lively at one-and-twenty as our little Roberts at seventy.' Eton is proud to claim 'Bobs' as her own.

The great general's schooldays at the Royal Foundation were during the forties, when schools were rougher than they are now, and the life of a new boy was a terrible one.

BULLIES OF THE PAST.

Fagging was very severe. Fags made the beds, says the newest of Eton writers; got water from the pump in Weston's yard, brought coals in their gowns



FIELD MARCHAL LORD ROBERTS.

from Windsor and looked after the fires. They were frequently tossed in blankets until one unhappy occasion just before young Roberts entered the school, when a boy was nearly killed.

The same writer adds that it was no unusual occurrence for a boy to be dragged suddenly out of bed by a cord fastened to his toe, and so to be hauled up and down the room. And sometimes he was treated as a living football, in a narrow square hemmed in by four beds, by the Sixth Form boys, who were entrusted with the authority of keeping order.

I have vivid recollections of seeing Eton boys take their hands out of their trousers pockets—a most unusual thing to behold in the public streets—and unharnessing the horses from Lord Roberts's carriage when the general visited the school in March, 1881, to receive a sword of honor. They attached ropes to the vehicle and drew it in triumph through the narrow High street to Windsor Bridge, where, toll having previously been paid, General Roberts alighted, and entered one of the Queen's carriages, which had been sent to meet him, from whence he was driven to the Castle, followed by the students and residents, who only ceased their applause as the equipage disappeared within the Grand Quadrangle.

It is a somewhat remarkable coincidence, that, after the presentation of the sword of honor at the college, Lord Roberts went to Windsor Castle to take leave of the Queen on his departure for the Cape to succeed the late Major-General Colley as commander-in-chief of the troops in Natal and the Transvaal.

THE WHIRLIGIG OF TIME.

It had been arranged that the presentation of the sword should take place at a banquet to be held the night before, but owing to the appointment of Sir Frederick Roberts (as he was then) to the command in the war with the Boers, the banquet was abandoned, and it was expected that the public presentation would have been dispensed with.

Having, however, arranged to visit the Queen at Windsor, he availed himself of the opportunity to see his old school. Accordingly Sir Frederick, accompanied by Lady Roberts and children, arrived at the college, where he inspected the school volunteer corps, drawn up in the quadrangle under Major Warre (now head master of the school). He was next conducted to the steps on the north side of the chapel, where the rare distinction of the presentation of a sword of honor took place.

The sword, placed on a polished oak case, rested on a table. On the scabbard are the arms of Eton, the insignia of the Order of the Bath, the arms of the Royal Artillery, and the arms of General Roberts. On the hilt is the insignia of the Order of the Bath, and on the reverse side the Victoria Cross. The sword has a record of the general's campaigns up to that date—viz., 'North-West Frontiers of India, Abyssinia and

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Afghanistan,' and the arms of Eton; and on the reverse side is the inscription: 'Duci Egregio Frederico Sleigh Roberts, Etonensis sui. A.S. MDCCCLXXXI.' The presentation was made by H. G. Cust, captain of the Oppidans, and Macnaghten, captain of the Collegers, who jointly handed it to Sir Frederick. When the cheers, which fairly wound round the historic buildings, had died away, and Sir Frederick had shaken hands with Mr. Cust and Mr. Macnaghten, he made the following characteristic speech, parts of which I reproduce because it is of intense interest, especially that part of which speaks of his brave son who has fallen in South Africa.

WHAT 'BOBS' SAID.

'While you are thinking of Eton men in Afghanistan,' said he, 'we were not unmindful of the boys in our old school, and during the two years that the campaign lasted, as many of us as could manage it dined together on the fourth of June and wished prosperity to Eton. Our motto there was, and it is here, "Floreat Etona." While we discussed our fights there, we remembered those in "Sixpenny," and alluded deviously and I trust with becoming gratitude, to the switching we doubtless deservedly received. We also recollected that we were Old Etonians, and even between those who were strangers up to then, to each other a friendly feeling was rapidly established, brought about by that freemasonry which is always found among Etonians.

Eton has from time immemorial in point of numbers been well represented in the army, and I am proud to think that in every campaign Eton men are well to the front. During the last two years in South Africa and in Afghanistan many gallant fellows, who were educated here, have succumbed to the fortunes of war. The sore which I proposed to place in the chapel will serve as a fitting memorial of the feeling with which Eton regards her sons who have given their lives in the service of their country.

'To you boys who intend to enter the army, the studies and sports of this place are your best training. England's greatest general, himself an Etonian, is reported to have said that the battle of Waterloo was won in the Eton playgrounds. In thus expressing an opinion, the Duke of Wellington meant bodily vigor, power of endurance, courage and rapidity of decision are produced by the many games which are fostered here.

HIS GALLANT SON.

'As a soldier, I have spoken throughout to those who hope to be soldiers; but I would again thank you, one and all, for this handsome and much-valued sword. I assure you I shall prize it most highly. I wish you all every success in the life that is before you. In a few years I hope my son may be enrolled among you, and it is my fervent hope that he may prove himself worthy of Eton, and that he may receive your welcome as you have welcomed his father before him.'

There was a feeling of pride in the gallant soldier's voice when he spoke of his son—his only son—who subsequently passed through Eton with honor, and died, as perhaps his father would have him die, a brave soldier's death.

In thinking over Lord Roberts's reception at Eton, one naturally recalls the fact that the Duke of Wellington had a similar greeting at his old school. An old collegian, writing of seeing the Iron Duke once at Eton, says the great soldier ran along the Long Walk wall, followed by his two young sons and others, 'chattering to the boys, and the boys laughing and chattering back, until he jumped down in the midst of them the veriest boy of them all.'

On August 6, 1814, Windsor conferred the freedom of the borough upon the hero of Waterloo, and Charles Knight wrote the address presented to His Grace by the corporation.

'I very much fear that as stilted paragraphs,' says the author, 'were a humble imitation of that address of the speaker of the House of Commons, when he said: "This nation well knows that it is largely your debtor." The Duke received the corporation in the hall of the Castle Inn, somewhat weary, I suppose, or in the manner in which he said, "he had been received in different parts of the kingdom." I crept into the narrow hall between the red gowns and the blue gowns, some of whom stood in the street, and I was not very proud of my five paragraphs when I looked upon that impassive face, and thinking of Bonaparte was made, fancied how little the men of action appreciated the sounding periods of men of words.'

PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMAS.

It is possible that we are often over-practical in giving.

To the struggling, needy servant or dependent it is certainly proper to give something that shall add to daily comfort; but with others a little 'uncommon sense' which bestows less practically, may be very welcome.

It is not best always to consider the homely, commonplace needs of life at such a festive time as Christmas. The made or purchased luxury, which from lack of time to make it or means to buy it a friend would not otherwise possess, may be the most appropriate gift then.

Good materials for fancy-work are always costly, and before expending considerable sums upon such articles, it is well to study whether a like sum of money may not be more wisely invested in something less flimsy and fading—something that will for years be a reminder of the love that prompted the gift.

Silver is much favored for jewellery. There are bangles of all styles, beads, ear-rings, hair ornaments and wonderfully pretty brooches; especially the enamelled ones fashioned in the form of some dainty leaf or flower. But for the benefit of those who wish to manufacture pretty as well as useful presents for their friends we reproduce some hints from the 'Ledger Monthly':

CHEESE-BOX WORKBASKET.

Nothing is more attractive than a work-basket made out of an ordinary cheese-box. This pretty article was designed by a clever needlewoman who



THE MONKEY PRESENTED TO THE PRINCE OF WALES BY THE C. I. V. FIELD BATTERY.

AND NOW IN THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—(Illustrated London News.)

The pet monkey of the C. I. V. in South Africa has found a home in the Zoological Gardens. On the return of the volunteers, it was presented to the Prince of Wales, in his capacity as Captain-General of the Honorable Artillery Company. It is quite as active as its fellows in captivity, but its coat shows distinct signs of a chain-belt. The records of the 'Zoo' describe it as 'Sooty Mangabey (cercopithecus ferrugineus), male.' Presented by Major McMicking, commanding the C. I. V. Field Battery.

lived away from the big centres, and who declared she could get up in the middle of the night and find any sewing utensil she needed.

For the uprights, curtain-poles cut into the required length, thirty inches, do good service. Secure these to the bottom of the box by means of screws. The cover, which forms the under shelf, is also secured into place at the required distance from the floor. Over the shelf lay a sheet of gray wadding and then cover neatly with cretonne or any material chosen for the purpose. To the edge tack a frill, forming box-plaits, and finish the edge of the shelf with cord or gimp.

For the basket cut a circle a seam larger than the bottom of the box. To



CHEESE BOX WORK-BASKET.

this seam a strip a little more than twice the depth of the basket. Line the box with this, allowing the straight piece to fall over the outside to the bottom of the box. To this sew pockets of various sizes for buttons, tapes and the like. To the inside secure also small receptacles, like a needle-book, a cushion, etc. When all this is done, finish the lower outside edge with a heavy cotton cord.

A BUTTERFLY LAMP-SCREEN.

In hunting up specialties which charm the home-maker, the butterfly-screen is peculiarly interesting from the fact that any woman can make it. It requires but few objects for the scheme—a small piece of cardboard and some crinkled tissue-paper, a clothes-pin and a yard of thin wire, with a child's box of paints.

The pretty one shown in the illustration is made of tissue-paper painted in gold. Cut the wings out of some smooth cardboard and cover with tissue-paper, pasting firmly the ends of the paper to



A BUTTERFLY LAMP-SCREEN.

the edge of the cardboard. For the body, cover closely and well the clothes-pin in a liberal amount of tissue, and then paint in gold like the one indicated on the page. To make the antennae, twist lightly around the neck of the pin some silver wire, which afterward should be covered with silk and bent like those of the natural feelers. Under the body fasten two stout wires, which serve as hooks for the hanging to a globe.

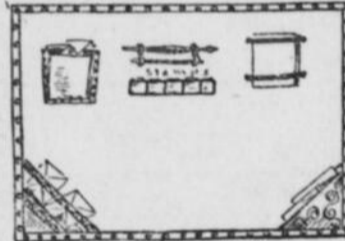
In painting the wings, any design might be copied, but if the real butterfly is made to meet this demand, so much the better.

A WRITING-TABLET.

In novelties not seen elsewhere, the writing-tablet certainly takes a place not only as a household toy, but as an artistic decoration as well.

It is made out of a half-inch wooden

board and is thirty by eighteen inches. The model shown is in leather of a brown tone. After this is smoothly laid on, it is closely tacked around the



WRITING TABLET.

edge of the board with gilt tacks of a medium size. The pockets given to the board are six in number, and are made of the same leather, tacked on with a smaller gilt nail and held in place by straps of etched leather in the same tone as the board. There is a paper rack, a place for pens and stamps, also for note paper and envelopes and for unanswered letters. If desired, it may be made of denim, or any cotton material that is durable and strong, the articles being held in place by a braid and invisible tacks, and the outer edge finished by a heavy silk furniture braid neatly tacked on.

TRASH BASKET WITH ETCHED COVER.

The illustration indicating a trash basket is made of one of the ordinary and inexpensive straw kind, with an ornamental etched-leather cover. To make a perfect decorative scheme, the leather



TRASH BASKET WITH LEATHER COVER.

should fit smoothly and evenly at all points. It is cut in four sections, which are laced together by thongs, showing the straw of the basket beneath, the holes being made by a shoemaker's punch. The etching is a graceful device of tiger lilies and cat-tails. The top of the basket is finished off by a manilla rope, or a cotton cord in two shades of tan.

This effective scheme can be made of linen and then worked in all the natural tones of the flower. If this be the case, the sections can be laced with ribbons. As a finish for the top, there may be a heavy cord.

AN AUTUMN-LEAF NEEDLE-BOOK.

Among fashionable trifles, the autumn leaf has now come to the front in a new



AN AUTUMN LEAF NEEDLE BOOK.

dress as a useful needle-book. To make this pretty affair, cut out of cardboard two leaves like the one indicated on the page, cover them with green silk etcher in taffeta or India of a medium shade. The covering of these two pieces should be alike on both sides, and then closely overlapped on the edges in a silk of the same color in green. To give the maple-leaf effect, paint, if possible, in water-colors the outside one in all the glorious autumn tints. Between these leaves there should be placed some long and narrow pieces of flannel for the holding of needles nicely buttonholed on all sides in pale green. To complete the book, tie together the leaves with a dark red ribbon.

LEADERLESS LIBERALISM.

(Sheffield 'Independent'.)

We wish we could see clearly signs of a desire for Liberalism to rally from the sectionalism that is undermining public confidence and paralyzing the forces that are the safeguards of progress. What is needed is a leader in thorough sympathy with Liberal principles who can and will go on boldly on his own initiative, without waiting to be pushed from behind by the more restless and demonstrative, but less thoughtful, of his followers. Failing such a leader, the immediate aims of the Liberal party seem to be suggested by anybody and everybody, with considerable chance of drifting farther and farther from statesmanship into trivialities and mistakes that will seriously and perhaps permanently, damage the party in the eyes of the level-headed mass of Englishmen who coolly judge political tactics. Parliament is about to meet, and the question is being asked, naturally enough, what line will the freshly-formed band of Liberals take in the short session at Westminster before Christmas? The answer to that question ought to be supplied by the wisest and most influential tactician, or tacticians, in the party. It would have been so supplied in Mr. Gladstone's time. What do we see now? One irresponsible group of leagued Liberals, at any rate, is hastily putting proposals before Liberal associations throughout the country with a view to inducing a united Liberal action, when parliament meets, on lines that will perpetuate those bickerings, and that pitifully futile skirmishing warfare in the House respecting South Africa which damaged the party so greatly in the eyes of the country before the general election. This league, which has its headquarters in Manchester, is kindly undertaking to 'run' parliamentary Liberalism, in lieu of a leader. It suggests that Liberals may really unite upon a two-plank platform. First, all Liberals will see the necessity of a 'stop the war' crusade, on the ground of British barbarity, a la Mr. Stead and Mr. Kruger; and, secondly, all Liberals will wish to 'go for' Mr. Chamberlain, on the ground that he and his relatives have money invested in firms known to have tendered for government contracts. We have not the appeal to the Liberal associations from this Manchester League before us, and give its effect from memory, but the gist of it is outlined in the previous sentences. On these two points, then, namely (a) backing of the Kruger campaign against Lord Roberts, and (b) a pin-pick policy against Mr. Chamberlain, it is thought, by the self-appointed Manchester suggestions of a Liberal parliamentary policy, that a grand Liberal national rally will be possible. What an understanding of Liberalism and of English men!

Now, we do not say that there is no reason for seriously considering the methods by which the remnants of resistance are being overcome in the Transvaal and Orange River territories. But humanity and wise military methods are not the prerogatives of any English political party. The vast bulk of our countrymen, at home and in the field, wish to take a high standard of conduct towards an enemy; and that our generals are doing otherwise has not been proved. What we do know is that wild charges of the most violent character are being made now, by prejudiced partisans, against our countrymen at large, as they have been made ever since the war began. A regular campaign of calumny has been carried on by people who write and act as if everything the Boers do must be right, and many things that the English do must be wrong and cruel. The burning of homesteads is not a course to be lightly followed in war in any case; but those who denounce it ought to state in fairness why it is deemed imperative in certain places. If the farms concerned have been used as storage places for arms and ammunition, the facts ought to be acknowledged before indiscriminate abuse is heaped upon those who destroy what has been practically a detached arsenal for the enemy. To take a few casual letters as evidence enough to plunge the whole Liberal party into a denunciation of our generals' plans is to act with a rashness that is sure to react disastrously upon those who are so ready to be the accusers of their own countrymen. Of course when parliament meets there will be enquiries and explanations, and every Englishman hopes, and almost every Englishman believes, that the explanations will be satisfactory. But the Manchester policy is to commit Liberalism at once to a belief in England's guilt. No advice could be more fatal. Then, again, as regards the crusade against Mr. Chamberlain. Already Liberalism has lost ground in the eyes of the general public owing to the passion with which Mr. Chamberlain has been pursued. Surely Liberals have seen enough of that in the case of the Tory hate which tried to make Mr. Gladstone appear a monster. Mr. Chamberlain has enough to answer for rightly. His electioneering style a few weeks ago was of the worst American type. Many of us believe that as a national leader he would be supremely dangerous. But none the less we are bound to treat him according to the best

English standard of political controversy and to carry our opposition into such petty channels as enquiries respecting the limited liability firms in which he and his near and distant relatives have invested a few hundreds, or thousands, of pounds is to play the political game at a lower level than has yet been known in politics. Apply the method to Sheffield and see how it would work. We have in Sheffield at least half a dozen great firms that work for the government when they get a chance. The shareholders in these firms are the general public. Is every man who happens to hold shares, or to have relatives who hold shares, in Vickers's, Crammell's, Browns, Hadfield's, etc., to be debarré on that account from serving his country in parliament? The independence and integrity of our rulers cannot be too strongly insisted on, and jobbery ought to be scotched at any cost, but the purity of commercial and political life is not likely to be upheld by personal prying of the kind used against Mr. Chamberlain's relatives, and it will be a sad day for Liberalism if it should ever be dragged into official association with such methods. No doubt the private investments of the Chamberlain family in all its branches will be brought before parliament; but to put that, and an anti-Roberts crusade, before Liberalism as its great aim when a new parliament is being born on the eve of a new century betrays, to our thinking, a most pitiable conception of the duties and responsibilities of a great party, whose aim it should be to be worthy of the admiration and confidence of the whole country.

A GOOD IMITATION,

BUT IT WASN'T MARK TWAIN'S FAULT THAT IT LACKED 'INSIDE.'

'When I was here about eight years ago,' says Mr. Twain, 'I was coming up in a car of the elevated road. Very few people were in that, and on one end of it there was no one, except on the opposite side, where sat a man about fifty years of age, with a most winning face and an elegant eye, a beautiful eye, and I took him from his dress to be a master mechanic, a man who had a vocation. He had with him a very little child of about four or five years. I was watching the affection which existed between those two I judged he was the grandfather, perhaps. It was really a pretty child, and I was admiring her, and as soon as he saw I was admiring her he began to notice me.

'I could see his admiration of me, in his eye, and I did what anybody else would do—admired the child four times as much, knowing I would get four times as much of his admiration. Things went on very pleasantly, I was making my way into his heart.

'By and by, when he almost reached the station where he was to get off, he got up, crossed over, and he said: "Now, I am going to say something to you, which I hope you will regard as a compliment."

'And then he went on to say: "I have never seen Mark Twain, but I have seen a portrait of him, and any friend of mine will tell you when I have once seen a portrait of a man I place it in my eye and store it away in my memory, and I can tell you now that you look enough like Mark Twain to be his brother. Now," he said, "I hope you will take this as a compliment."

'"Certainly," I said, "I take it as more than a compliment. Yes," I said, "this is the proudest moment of my life to be taken for Mark Twain, for most men are always wishing to look like some great man, General Grant, George Washington, or like some archbishop or other; but all my life I have wished to look like Mark Twain. Yes," I said, "I have wished to look like that synonym, that symbol of all virtue and purity, whom you have just described. I appreciate it."

He said: "Yes, you are a very good imitation, but when I come to look closer you are probably not that man." I said: "I will be frank with you. In my desire to look like that excellent character; I have been playing a part." He said: "That is all right; that is all right; you look very well on the outside, but when it comes to the inside, you are not in it with the original."—New York 'Jou na!'

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BREAKFAST SUPPER EPPE'S COCOA

A BOTANICAL GARDEN.

Many Rare and Valuable Plants are There.

AN INSTITUTION LITTLE KNOWN TO CITIZENS—IT HAS DONE VALUABLE WORK.

The illustrations accompanying this article will be the first intimation to a large number even of Montrealers that among the institutions of the city may be included a botanical garden. Yet such a garden there is, though not worthy of the metropolitan city of Canada. It is connected with McGill University. Colonies such as New South Wales, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, which can only compare in wealth and population to one of our own larger provinces, can each boast of botanical gardens that in extent, beauty and educational value leave but little to be desired. Yet through the length and breadth of Canada there is practically nothing worthy of the name. Indeed, to anyone who has seen in other lands what can be done in this line, a sight of the McGill Botanical Gardens must cause a smile and a sense of wonder that so rich a community should be content with such an apology for one of the most valuable mediums of educational effort. It must not be inferred from this that the gardens and greenhouses on Cote des Neiges hill are without value, or

Both are ruinously out of repair. Indeed, it is doubtful if they are capable of repair, or of any patching that would keep them together for very much longer. Every wintry gale or summer storm threatens them with dissolution, that is only deferred by propping and continual patching. What would be the result were a blizzard to unroof the crazy structures and lay the many valuable and delicate plants open to the nipping air of a Canadian winter night can be easily imagined. Yet that is what is likely to happen at any moment. And not only are the glass houses in a ruinous condition, but they are also far too small. The whole range is not more than two hundred and fifty feet long by about twenty feet in width, and is crowded from end to end with rare plants, which have room neither to grow nor show off their beauties of form and foliage. Even the water supply is inadequate, and has to be brought in carts. Yet poor and mean as are these arrangements, they have been of the greatest educational value to something like two hundred and fifty students every year.

It is, of course, idle to compare Montreal with New York, but it will be interesting to note in this connection what is being done in the largest city of the United States. A little over two years ago a board of trustees was formed, representing in part the City of New York, also in part the state of the same name, but in much larger proportion the Columbia University. A site was selected in Bronx Park, already belonging to the city, and about 600 acres in extent. About 250 acres of the best portion of the park, lying on both sides of the Bronx river, were selected for the new gardens. They are, in fact, the botanical branch of that university, and while the public are freely admitted to



PLUMBAGO CAPENSIS.

Delicate lavender-flowered Cree per. Cape of Good Hope.

tralian fern, Todea Barbara, said to be three hundred years old, and very rare. Behind it is a tree fern (Cyathica Medularis) from New Zealand. Every little while this splendid fern must undergo a curious process. Damp moss is heaped round the trunk, inducing it to take root above ground. Then it is cut down and replanted with its new roots in the ground. This is necessitated by the low pitch of the roof, rendering it impossible to allow the plant to reach its full growth. This is one of the inconveniences arising from the inadequate accommodation for one of McGill's most valuable branches of learning.

THE TRANSFORMED BRITISH SOLDIER.

In these last months a very notable change has come over the British soldier. He used to be a whey-faced, kitchen-fed, poker-backed, jointless man, clad in ready-made regimentals which were his sole identity. Observe him now in the London streets, back from the war, and happily recovered from wound or fever. Loose, beltless, easy with khaki clothes, khaki boots, and khaki complexion, he goes about like a free man with a history. There is a world of meaning in the contrast. The effect of it has even reached his fellow of the depot. Although not so browned or individualized as the campaigner returned from quarter rations on the waterless veldt, with its blanketless nights, he is still free of limb and gait, loosely clothed, and apparently with a spirit above 'Attention!' and the barrack-yard. An undoubted change has come over the War Office dream and the Horse Guards regulations. How great the change is can best be seen in the soldier's hat. It is amazing to consider what things the soldier has had to wear on his head. Go, for example, to the Guildhall and examine the last charge of the Guards at Waterloo, as carved in marble on the pediment of the Wellington monument. There you see a long line of men of uniform height, with knapsacks, cross-belts, and cutaway tail-coats, rushing home on the French in

perfect Hyde Park formation, not a button wanting, not a gap in the ranks, and every man with his hat stuck, and sticking, straight on his head. And such hats! The Guards have done wonderful things, but they could never charge the enemy and keep those extraordinary things balanced on their heads. The hat in question is the familiar length of stove-pipe, with a brow-shade, and a ball on a stem stuck on the front top edge. The soldiers of those days were long-service men and hard campaigners, and if they brought these hats home with them they are entitled to more credit than they have ever received. Unless the hats were lined with iron, and used as camp-kettles, they simply represent a waste of cubic space. Historically they are interesting, as practical objects they are a miracle.

If the costumes of the famous 'Roll-Call' picture are correct, the Guards wore their bearskins in the Crimea. We know a retired Guardsman who declares that during the last few weeks of the siege of Sebastopol he did not possess a single garment belonging to his own regiment. The dead furnished a good deal of clothing for the living. But soldiers' tales are not always to be believed, any more than monuments or pictures. The men represented on the Guards' Monument in Waterloo Place are wearing great-coats and carrying them in their knapsacks at the same time. In a campaign the first thing to go is the hat. Once gone, perhaps the soldier wears the handiest thing he can lay hold of. Doubtless it was a pleasure for him to lose his ancient bucket-hat, or bearskin, or cumbersome Highland bonnet. The British soldier went through the last Egyptian campaign in helmets, and started with helmets for Africa. The worst of helmets is that they are uncomfortable to sleep in. Mr. Atkins has slept so much out of doors in Africa as to make this a consideration. Whether the tam-o'-shanters so numerous made for him ever reached him where they were most needed is doubtful. Perhaps the block

of tam-o'-shanters on the railway stopped the rations and the medical necessities. In any case, a helmet is a poor kind of nightcap.

On the whole, there are signs that the war has started an era of reform in all matters affecting the soldiers' apparel. The question, however, is not altogether one of utility or convenience. The soldier's dress must be attractive, or we shall lose a large number of recruits. The day of the recruiting sergeant with his flaunting ribbons is not over yet. We saw him in all his glory the other day in a country town doing good business. That is why the new Irish Guards are to have the bearskin, with its shamrock and special adornments. The parade of Guards, poker-backed and tight-strapped, is a majestic thing. It is easier to laugh at cumbersome fashions than to invent reasonable ones, not to speak of compelling their adoption. Red-tape is own brother to pipe-clay. There are not wanting signs that he, too, will be less often visible than of yore. Just as the soldier, by discarding antiquated drills and regimentals, will gain ampler scope as a man, so must the official fling aside his stiff, unlovely departmental unrealities, and come forth a natural man into the free air of the world's facts. To this end the newer contact with colonial men and methods should be no small gain.—London 'Outlook.'

AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS.

THE INTERESTING PLATYPUS.

Although the horse, hare, rabbit, and other animals introduced into Australia have rapidly multiplied, and in several instances, as in the case of the rabbit, have become a nuisance, by reason of

their place being taken by a series of horny plates. As a mammal, the platypus is chiefly interesting because of the fact that it lays eggs. These are white in appearance; usually two in number, although three and even four are sometimes laid at one time; and in texture they are similar to the eggs produced by rep-



BRUGMANSIA SUAVEOLENS. A beautiful white flower from Brazil.

tiles. When hatched the naked and helpless young are nourished on their mother's milk, as in the case of all mammals. The nest of the platypus is formed at the end of a burrow, which is reached by two openings—one above and the other below the surface of the water.

To the same family belong the native porcupines, or echidnas, which are also egg-laying, but differ from the platypus in that the females carry their two eggs in a pouch, where they are hatched by the warmth of the body.

Other native mammals are the Aus-



View showing Todea Barbara (Australia) in right foreground, with Eyathea Medullaris (New Zealand) in rear.

their excessive numbers, the native mammals are comparatively few; there are none of the monkey tribe, nor any of the thick-skinned animals, such as the elephant or rhinoceros, and none of the ruminants, such as the deer, the ox, or sheep—the herds and flocks which constitute the pastoral wealth of New South Wales and the other Australian colonies being the descendants of imported stock.

Of native animals, the marsupials are the most numerous. They are so named from the females having a pouch (marsupium) in which to carry their young. They are said to be nearly a hundred species of kangaroo, those found in New South Wales including the great kangaroo, with a tail as thick as a man's arm, and the red kangaroo, with fur of a bright orange color. They live on vegetables, grass, roots and fruit, and are of a timid, inoffensive nature, but dangerous when brought to bay. The skin makes an excellent leather, and the flesh is used as food.

Another marsupial includes various kinds of opossum; flying mouse, one of the smallest marsupials known; native bear, resembling brown only in name; wombat, bandicoot, and native cat. The latter possesses many of the characteristics of the weasel, with a lightish brown fur, covered with white spots. It is carnivorous, and forms the dread of the poultry farmer.

The dog family is represented by the dingo, which, despite its usefulness in keeping down the numbers of marsupials, is frequently a pest to pastoralists and agriculturists alike. It is about the size of a foxhound, has a long rose and bushy tail, and resembles a cross between a dog and a wolf. It is easily tamed, but cannot be trusted. In the less settled country, the dingoes will collect in large numbers, and destroy sheep, fowls, etc., if not watched and scattered.

The flying fox, which is the pest of the orchard, forms immense camps in the bush, and when one is discovered, the settlers turn out in large numbers and destroy thousands of the animals.

Among minor animals are the bat, land rat and water rat.

In New South Wales, as in other parts of Australia, is found the duck-billed platypus, one of the most interesting of known animals, forming, as it does, a connecting link between the bird and the mammal. The male is much larger than the female, and may be distinguished by the horny spur on the hind foot being of a very large size. The total length of the male is twenty-four inches, while the female seldom exceeds nineteen inches. In color the platypus is of a deep brown above, and of a grayish or yellowish white below, the fur being close and velvety. The muzzle is prolonged into a broad, flattened beak, which is covered during life with a delicate and sensitive skin; the tail is well developed, broad, and flattened, and the feet are modified into swimming organs, the five toes being extensively webbed, while the teeth, which are unlike those of any other existing mammal, are shed early in life,



SPARMNIA AFRICANS.

Fine Stag-horn Fern hanging overhead.

that they have suffered any avoidable neglect at the hands of the university authorities, since that is far from being the case. But the very valuable work that has been done by Prof. Penhallow, of McGill, with such inadequate means, only serves to show how very desirable are larger and more improved facilities. The grounds which are at present used

the grounds and hot-houses, the educational standpoint is always kept first and foremost. It is also interesting to note that the board of trustees includes men of such financial standing as Messrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Andrew Carnegie and Pierpont Morgan. At the start a fund of \$250,000 was guaranteed. This has been almost entirely spent in the erection of spacious conservatories and the laying out of the gardens. Arrangements are now being made to assure the institution a yearly income commensurate with its needs.

Montreal may not be in a position to inaugurate a botanical garden on such a princely scale as this. Even the famous Kew Gardens, in London, fall short, in extent at least, compared with Bronx Park. For as against two hundred and fifty acres, Kew has only one hundred and forty. But, apart from finances, there is no reason why this city should not be able to afford her universities this essential adjunct to the magnificent educational advantages with which she is already endowed. And the educational advantages derived from such an institution would not be confined to the students. It is only rich people who are able to fill conservatories and gardens with rare plants, and so learn something of the flora of other lands. Were a properly arranged botanical garden provided it would be possible for the poorest to gain a wider vision not only of tropical flora but also of the rarer shrubs and trees and flowers of our own land, with which the gardens would be stocked. They would see side by side the growths indigenous to British Columbia and the eastern provinces and learn to recognize at sight such as are only occasionally seen nearer home. Plants from other countries also, but with similar climates, would show new possibilities for gain or for ornamentation, and it is safe to say that the result would be an increase of variety and beauty in private gardens.

The plants of different kinds which now crowd the glass houses on Cote des Neiges hill, under the care of the able gardener, Mr. Cipe-land, are sufficiently numerous as well as valuable enough to be given fully double the space. Dense thickets of Camellias are overhung with pretty creepers, of which the prettiest is the Plumbago Capensis from the Cape of Good Hope, covered in season with flowers of the most delicate lavender hue. Further on may be seen a tropical undergrowth of palms and ferns, then a house full of the rarer kinds of chrysanthemums, succeeded by a smaller conservatory in which may be seen the Aus-



A VIEW IN THE SUB-TROPICAL HOUSE.

The hanging basket contains a fine specimen of the Asparagus Sprengeri, a native of South Africa.



Galtonia (Hycacinthus) Candicans (South Africa).

by the university for botanical purposes are situated, as has been mentioned, on the Cote des Neiges hill, just beyond the terminus of the Guy street line of the Montreal Street Railway, and are some ten acres in extent. They originally belonged to the late Mr. Donald Ross, and were left by him to the Trafalgar Institute, from which they are leased by the university. On the grounds, which are very prettily situated, are an old one-story house, formerly used as a sort of summer house by Mr. Ross, and a range of low-pitched glass houses.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of

W. D. Wood

See Pac-Stallo Wrapper Below.

Advertisement for Carter's Little Liver Pills, listing ailments like headache, dizziness, and biliousness.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

Advertisement for a 'FREE!' product, possibly a watch or jewelry, with a small illustration.

alone and should take a fair price when he can get it, letting the other fellow hold for something better.

I have always enjoyed farmers' meetings and have always made it a part of my business to attend them and get out of them all I could, and help to make them interesting and beneficial to others.

The great difficulty is and always has been to get farmers to attend institutes and take part in the work, thereby both receiving and rendering assistance.

Housekeepers who have never had a tin-covered table for kitchen use are still unacquainted with one of the most valuable articles of domestic economy.

I have had as high as seven stalks grown from one stool to fruit the same year, and have had fine raspberries as late as October. This berry possesses another characteristic that I did not expect.

Feed stack hay before that stored in the barn to avoid loss. While the hay will dry out nearly as much in one place as in another, there is a far greater loss in feeding value in that put up in stacks, due to spoiling on top by the weather and on the bottom by dampness from the ground.

If all the bones in the country were to be collected and used as manure instead of lying upon the surface of the ground bleaching and wasting all their valuable ingredients, the soil would be considerably enriched, and the gain would much more than pay for the trouble.

der through a cutter, then feeding in connection with the ground corn, gives excellent results, saving about one-third I give my hogs about four quarts of oats and corn and cob meal twice a day with a bushel basket full of cut fodder.

The old way of feeding fodder uncut or unshredded should be relegated to the past with other ancient practices. Experiments show that the extra expense of cutting or shredding will more than be repaid by the increased palatability of fodder and larger amount eaten.

A well-informed writer, one who has seen nearly all of the great show yard contests in the United States during the past twenty years, suggests that the monarchs of the show rings to-day are not as good from any point of view, as those of twenty years ago.

Instinct teaches all animals to regard man with fear—all domestic animals on our farms when quite young flee at our approach; this is a teaching of instinct as a means of safety, and in order to handle any or all our farm animals the most successfully we must take steps to overcome this feeling of fear.

Have good water within reach of colts all the while, and provide a small lot, on the east or south side of the barn, where the little fellows can take exercise and sun themselves when the weather is pleasant.

It is not difficult to secure two litters of pigs a year if the brood sows are managed right. One litter should be farrowed about the first of April and the other not later than the first of October.

Old rats are very wary, and can only be caught by kindness. To destroy them give them a good meal every day. Do not put any poison in the food, but simply prepare a dish for them daily, as a free lunch, composed of cornmeal, moistened with milk, into which an egg and a little salt, to season, has been beaten.

POULTRY PARAGRAPHS.

When fowls or people are crowded together in large numbers, risk from disease increases.

There are three chief reasons why hens do not lay in winter—improper food, a poor house, and an unsuitable class of fowls.

Remember that the laying hen while at large during the summer picks up for herself all that is required to make egg and shell, grit wherewith to grind up her food, green stuff in the shape of grass and clover; rolls in the dust to keep her body free from vermin, withal keeping herself in constant activity.

Provide good winter quarters for your ducks, and feed plenty of grain during the winter, so as to start them laying early in the spring. If you do not raise ducks it would pay you to investigate.

During December the fowls often go on the roost at five o'clock, and do not come off till seven o'clock the next morning. This keeps them fourteen hours without food. If not fed, however, until daylight is well on, and an hour before roosting, the time is lengthened to sixteen hours, while only eight hours interval occurs during the day.

til they will have but a very short time before going on the roost.

The rule to adopt is that the nest should be warm in winter and cool in summer. It was once supposed that the hens preferred a damp situation in summer, which led many to believe that eggs required sprinkling if they are to hatch well, but we now know that hens select somewhat damp places, not because they are damp, but because they are cool.

Give the poultry house an application of hot whitewash before the winter sets in, so as to destroy any vermin that may remain, and also to make the interior of the house light. The whitewash on the walls, and that which may be spilled on the floor, will serve to purify the premises and keep disease away.

The most common source of roup is the poultry-house. The ventilator may permit a cold draught of air to flow down and over the birds when they are on the roosts, or a crack in the wall may allow a small stream of air to play right on the head of a hen.

It is well to again call attention to the importance of using cut straw on the poultry-house floor after cold weather begins, as it serves to keep the house warm. Leaves are also excellent, but the supply is soon exhausted.

Some are of the opinion that after the trade in fattening poultry for the British market is thoroughly established, farmers will be able to do their own fattening and shipping. While there is nothing in the trade or the conditions affecting it to prevent every farmer raising chickens and fitting them for export, it may not be expedient for him to do so.

HEIR AND ADMINISTRATORS. Ont.—A inherits property from his father, who is occupied previous to his father's death as a tenant. Can administrators come and collect cedar logs and rails and posts, on property, and dispose of same for the benefit of other heirs?

ENFORCING A MORTGAGE CLAIM. Ont.—A man owns 100 acres of land under certain conditions. He has his brother-in-law as a tenant. He signs a mortgage with this brother on the south end, which the brother fails to pay, the mortgage being signed for the brother's benefit.

TO MAKE HENS LAY IN WINTER. Good breeds of fowls are becoming quite common on the farm, and many are using more pure-bred males. A greater interest is taken in the improved flocks and better quarters.

DEVOLUTION OF ESTATE. An inquirer, Ont.—A mother receives property from home, a house and lot. She dies without a will, leaving children. Her husband marries again and lives on this property. If he continues to do so until his decease, can the mother's children claim their rights? If so, what portion? If not, how long after her death before they should claim this property to the lady named. Ans.—The children will be entitled to claim the whole of the property at their father's death.

MAKING A WILL. J.B.—Is it necessary to employ a lawyer to make out a will? What course is to be adopted if his services are not required—the mode of procedure? Ans.—It is not requisite in point of law, but practically it is necessary.

COUNTY FRANCHISE. A 'Witness' Reader, Ont.—Can a man vote in his own municipality where he lives for county commissioners and then go to another municipality where he has a vote for township council and vote for one or two more county commissioners and all sit at the same county council? Or can he vote if it is in another county? Ans.—Not if the two municipalities are in the same county council division. 2. Yes.

FLOODS—OUTLET REQUIRED. Subscriber, Riverview.—There is a certain tract of land in this township which has overflowed during summer and caused a great deal of loss to the farmers of late years. Some four or five years ago a petition was drawn up describing 12,000 acres, asking the council to put an engineer on and have improvements done to the stream at the outlet that would stop these floods. The petition was signed by nearly two-thirds of the owners of the land described. The council refused to do anything in the matter. Can the signers of the petition sue the council

caused by a lack of grit to grind the whole grain. I find ground oyster shell relished in small quantities, especially by the Leghorn family. It furnishes material for the eggshells.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

[We invite questions on all possible subjects of general interest, to which we shall do our best to obtain correct answers, and shall insert such queries and replies as we can make room for. This must not be used, however, as an advertising column or as an agency bureau for matters not of public interest. Every query must be accompanied with the name and postal address of the sender, and no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.]

GENERAL.

MINISTERIAL SALARIES—EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS.

An Old Subscriber.—Will you kindly answer the following questions through the columns of your valuable paper.—1. What is the salary of (a) the Prime Minister of Canada, (b) the Prime Minister of England, (c) a member of the British Cabinet? 2. Is the English system of education as good as, or superior to, the Canadian system? 3. Would the cost of attending an English public school, such as Harrow or Rugby, exceed that of similar schools in Canada? Ans.—1. (a) \$8,000 per annum. (b) \$5,000 per annum. (c) from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per annum, according to portfolio; the Secretary of State receive \$5,000; the First Lord of the Admiralty, \$4,500; the respective presidents of the comparative Education Board, Board of Trade, and Education, £2,000. 2. Some idea of the respective systems was given in the correspondence department not long ago. It is difficult to draw a direct comparison; in Canada we have the provincial system, each province with its own curriculum and standard, while in England the same system prevails throughout. Ontario is the province which most nearly resembles England in the matter of education. 4. There are no large public schools in Canada similar to Harrow or Rugby. The expenses at these institutions are comparatively high; a year at one of them costs more than at one of our large universities.

LEGAL.

(QUEBEC.)

AN UNPAID ELECTION BILL.

XX.—It is over four weeks since the election and the election people who had my best room have not paid me yet. What shall I do? Ans.—Apply to the returning officer for payment, and if satisfaction is not obtained place your claim in the hands of a lawyer.

(ONTARIO.)

PEDLERS' LICENSES.

Subscriber, Ont.—Can a person carry samples of merchandise, and take orders from customers, without a pedler's license? Goods ordered will be booked and delivered at a future date, and price collected. Some lawyers say you have to take out a license. Ans.—If of London, Ont., says in a letter to his agents: 'No license required. Should you be interfered with I will guarantee to pay all costs and expenses. Providing you follow my instructions.' He sells teas, coffees, spices, etc., through agents. Ans.—Yes.

BLACKHEADS.

W.B., asks for a cure for pimples and blackheads. He is 19 years of age, and has been troubled with the above condition for at least three years. Has a good appetite, and his general health is very good. Is somewhat pale. Has tried tonics and ointments, but has experienced no benefit. Ans.—Ointments in this condition do more harm than good, since they lead to clogging up the pores of the skin. Tonics also are valueless, since the condition is due to a local disorder, and not to a defect in the general system. Blackheads are most frequently found between the ages of 15 and 25, when the glands of the skin are most active. The condition is due to plugging of the ducts of the minute glands which exist in the skin. It is the result of over-secretion of the gland, or according to some, an altered condition of the skin, which leads to the duct of the gland being obstructed. The dust from the air accumulates upon this, so that on squeezing the spot a little worm-like mass comes out, with a black spot at the end, representing the contents of the duct. If the gland is plugged up for any length of time, it inflames and forms a small painful pimple or pustule. These are found frequently about the nose, chin and forehead, but they present a similar condition of the body. The only satisfactory treatment is the following: A visible blackhead should be squeezed out between the thumb-nails or with the barrel of a watch-key. Any matter spools should be evacuated by pressing them with a clean sewing-needle and pressing on the contents. The face should be washed night and morning with a piece of flannel dipped in very hot water, and upon which a little spirits of green soap is poured. This is made by dissolving three ounces of green soap in sufficient water to make eight or ten ounces. Rub well in and do this for ten minutes at a time. The soap must then be washed off with very hot water, and the face massaged or kneaded between the fingers, so as to force out the contents of the glands. After it is dry, the skin should be painted over with a lotion composed of boracic acid, two drachms, and rectified spirit, four ounces. This may be applied at night, and allowed to dry in, remaining on all evening.

SUPERFLUOUS HAIR.

M.E.H. asks if there is any place in Montreal where the electric needle is used to destroy superfluous hair. Ans.—Yes. The eye and ear specialists usually include this branch in their practice. We do not know of any general practitioner who does this sort of work. Olive, aged 24, is troubled with superfluous hair on the face. The trouble is not hereditary, but due to a habit she had three or four years ago, of singeing the downy hairs on the face to remove them. It is naturally very sensitive, and feels the trouble keenly. The hairs after about six months or so fall out, and a finer hair seems to grow in again. Some of the hairs are very much longer than the others, and the finer ones, when they fall out, never reappear. The coarser ones always grow in again when pulled out. Ans.—There is only one way to remove superfluous hair permanently, and that is electrolysis. This method can only be used to remove the coarser hairs, and cannot be applied to the removal of the down. The plan consists in using an electric battery, passing a current through a needle, which is inserted into the root of the hair. The hair then comes out and the root is destroyed, so that the cure is lasting. The process is rather painful. As to your plan you had better consult your family doctor, and ask him to recommend some one near you. Most specialists who do this sort of work. It can probably be done at hospitals in Ottawa. You can remove the downy growth for a few weeks by means of a paste. It has to be used repeatedly, of course, of the hairs return. It cannot,

and collect damages for any damage they receive from summer floods in the future, on the ground that the council refused to prevent the flooding of the water, but tried to prevent the flooding by the way. The overflowing is caused by drainage into the stream from high lands. In the last five years there have been about \$100,000 worth of drains dug opening up new country at the head of the stream and no improvements at the outlet, the water flowing in faster than it can get away, and therefore overflowing this valley of about 15,000 acres. Ans.—The matter is one about which a lawyer ought to be consulted in the regular way.

TEACHER AND TRUSTEES.

Trustee, Ont.—1. When is the latest possible legal date that notice should be given a teacher, stating that her services will no longer be required by the trustees, if the agreement says 'two calendar months' notice will terminate the agreement given by either party, supposing the trustees wish to sever connection with their teacher Dec. 21, 1900? 2. How many holidays are given a teacher for visiting other schools during a year by law? 3. Is a teacher allowed proper time to be absent in order to vote at an election? If so what is the limit? Ans.—1. Oct. 21, 1900. 2. None. 3. No.

MEDICAL.

[Letters for this department should be addressed 'Medical Editor, 'Witness,' Montreal.' Should a subscriber ask a question which is not suitable for publication, a reply will be sent by mail if a stamped addressed envelope and 25¢ physician's fee, be enclosed with each question.]

WRINKLES.

H.G. asks if there is any possible way to remove wrinkles from the forehead. Also, a recipe for a hair tonic. Ans.—We are very skeptical about the value of any treatment to remove wrinkles. The wrinkles on the forehead usually are the result of a bad habit, namely, the elevating of the eyebrows during study or reading. This leads to the production of wrinkles, and their perpetuation. Wrinkles about the eyes and mouth are due usually to the diminution or absorption in the amount of fat in the part. The wrinkled skin of old age is due to the same cause, and to actual atrophy of the skin. Possibly by exercising on the watch, you can avoid wrinkling the forehead, and perhaps prevent the condition going further. Attempts are made to overcome the trouble by massaging the part affected with a small roller. You might try the alternate application of hot and cold water at the rate of one minute for a total period of ten minutes. Do this night and morning, and then thoroughly knead the parts with the balls of the fingers. The prospects are not, however, encouraging. To promote the growth of the hair try the following routine: The head should be washed with Castile soap and hot water not oftener than once a month. This ensures that the hair will not be deprived too much of its natural oil. Every third day the head should be combed with a fine-toothed comb to remove dust and dandruff. Every night and morning brush the hair vigorously with a hard brush for about five minutes. This stimulates the scalp, promotes the flow of oil, and thus renders the hair more glossy. As a useful application to the hair you should use the following wash. This should be applied only once daily, and discontinued for one week in every five if it irritates the scalp use it every second day: Tincture of cantharides, one drachm; castor oil, one ounce; bay rum, two ounces; rectified spirit, three ounces; rub well into the roots of the hair.

however, remove the coarse hairs. The paste consists of Barium sulphide, two drachms; zinc oxide and powdered starch, each three drachms. A little of this is mixed with water to form a paste, and is then applied to the part for ten or fifteen minutes. It is to be washed off as soon as any burning sensation is experienced. A boracic acid ointment is applied. The bleach you refer to is peroxide of hydrogen. This may be applied frequently to the hairs with a brush, and is usually an efficient bleaching solution. It acts very gradually, however. Care must be taken to get a freshly prepared and a reliable article.

Letters have been received from L.D.S., Mr. H. Patterson, and others, for which thanks are returned.

VETERINARY.

(Conducted by D. McEachran, F. R. C. V. S.)

BONE SPAVIN.

A Twenty-year Subscriber, Curran, Ont.—We have a valuable mare that has been lame for more than four years. The first lameness was a small bone spavin. We did not doctor her for it, and in about three years it disappeared. About ten months ago we put her to tramp straw, and we thought she hurt herself then, for before long she manifested considerable lameness again, and this continued getting worse. In the month of June we took her to a surgeon. He said it was rheumatism in the hip. From then until now we have been doctoring for that, but she does not improve. In the stable she stands with the sore leg about one foot or more ahead of the other. When walking she walks more on the toe of the foot. She seems to recover from the lameness after walking a short distance, but if a miststep is made, or a lump struck on the road, she starts off on three legs. There is no heat in the hip more than any other part of the body. The spavin joint on the sore leg is larger than the other; the swelling is hard and bone-like. It does not seem to be sore to the touch. Her general health appears to be good. She is in good condition in flesh. 1. What do you think is wrong? 2. What remedy would you suggest? Ans.—The symptoms as described point clearly to a bone hock as the seat of the disease. Keep her in a loose box. Feed her on mashes of bran with the occasional addition of a quart of crushed oats. Remove the shoes, level the feet, and re-apply the shoes, which should be flat with the heels slightly thickened. Clip the hair close off round the entire hock, wash the skin clean and apply, with smart friction for a quarter of an hour, a blister of biniodide of mercury, or if a slight bluish is not objectionable, have it blistered all round the hock. Blister again in about five weeks, and repeat as often as necessary. Such cases usually take most of a year to ossify the small bones, which must occur before lameness ceases.

TRY FOR IT.

Twenty-five new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each will secure the 'New Witness' sewing machine as a premium. For particulars of machine see advertisement in this issue.

LIVE STOCK.

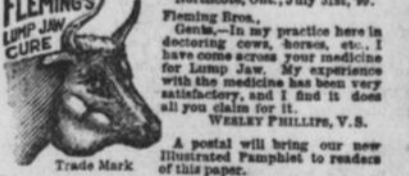
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LETTERS FROM READERS.

THE DELPIT MARRIAGE CASE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—In the famous case of Delpit versus Marie Jeanne Berthe Aurore Côté, of this city, the sentence rendered by the Roman Catholic official of Quebec has just been confirmed by Rome.

The facts of this case are the following: Eight years ago, Mr. Albert Delpit, then secretary to Lieutenant-Governor Chapleau, married Miss Côté, before a minister of the Unitarian Church. Since, they lived together, and from that union three children were born and are still living. About March last, Mr. Delpit, who is now secretary to the present Lieutenant-Governor, took proceedings before the diocesan official of Quebec to have his marriage annulled, on the ground that when married, both parties, being Roman Catholics, the acting authority was not competent to celebrate the said marriage.

In July last the diocesan official of Quebec decided that there was no marriage, and recently that decision has been confirmed by the Propaganda. Mrs. Delpit refused to acknowledge the Roman Church as an authority in the case, on the ground that: (a) She was not a Roman Catholic at the time of her marriage; the facts revealed at the inquest established that she had virtually renounced the said religion when her parents had given up that faith; that the young lady had been a student of the Methodist Institute of St. Antoine street, and had, at that time, made a declaration stating that she was not a Roman Catholic; that after having quitted the Methodist Academy she became a pupil at Mrs. Marchand's academy—the said academy being a Catholic one—but all provided she would not be obliged to perform the duties as performed by the Catholic pupils, and, in fact, this agreement was carried out. (b) That the marriage was performed before a minister of the Unitarian Church, at the request of Mr. Delpit himself, who claimed then that the Unitarian creed was the nearest to his own and to his bride's creed.

Mr. Delpit is now taking proceedings to have this last decision of Rome confirmed by the civil court of this province. Mrs. Delpit, being by herself utterly unable to meet the expenses of a civil suit, and her parents being also unable to help financially in the vindication of her rights, makes a call, through your widely spread paper, to all her brethren in faith, whose rights are similar to hers, and must, consequently, be in sympathy with her in all her troubles. She makes an appeal to the charity and to the sense of justice of all the Protestants, to enable her to carry that case before the highest court of this province, and, if necessary, before the Privy Council.

MADAME CÔTÉ. Montreal, Dec. 14, 1900.

HIGHER CRITICISM.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—Will you allow a word or two in reference to the subject of the Bible and higher criticism, which has recently been discussed in the 'Witness'? And, first of all, to Mr. John Hopeson, before he stops his paper, as he has threatened to do. Where he will find a more wholesome family journal it is hard to say. I recognize the fact that Mr. Hopeson is one amongst the millions of those who read and love the Bible, and one who is possessed of a deep religious experience. But would it detract from the character of his profession if he exercised a little bit of religious toleration towards men like 'Nova Scotian,' who differ from him in regard to Biblical interpretation?

Mr. Hopeson affirms that every word in the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is inspired and true, and just as God would have it. Now, in the Bible there are the words of false prophets, and even of Satan himself; or take, say, Psalm cix., and cxxxvii., 9, are such words inspired and true and just as God would have them? It strikes me that Mr. Hopeson has a good deal to learn about the Bible yet.

In regard to Mr. M. R. Prowse, 'Nova Scotian' and your own editorial, it strikes me that care has not been manifested in distinguishing between higher criticism and the results of higher criticism. The two are quite distinct. Higher criticism is simply a method of study; that is it, and nothing more. It may be applied to secular as well as sacred literature. There are higher critics and higher critics, some destructive and some constructive, some rationalistic and some truly Christian and evangelical. The results arrived at may differ as night from day, but to confound higher criticism with the results at which these different classes of critics arrive is to deal with it most unjustly.

The second sentence in your editorial opens with the words 'The central doctrine of what is nicknamed higher criticism,' etc. Now, I have a notion that higher criticism was named, not nicknamed, just as higher mathematics was named, not nicknamed. May I point out also that higher criticism has no central or other doctrine. It is not a system of doctrine at all, but a method of study. Mr. Prowse, in referring to certain antiquated and defective interpretations of the Bible, falls into the same error when he states that 'the higher critics' are bound to proceed on these (antiquated) standards as their premises,' etc. I shall not pause to comment on the gross injustice of this assertion, but simply say that the true critic of the Bible proceeds upon no such antiquated assumptions, but approaches the Bible with a reverent and open mind, free from prejudice; studies the sacred writings themselves, ascertains the facts, finds out as far as he is able their real meaning, and afterwards deduces his conclusions and forms his opinions.

'Nova Scotian' is right in holding that there are errors and discrepancies in the Bible (no impartial student doubts this), but he errs in denying inspiration. A man may be an inspired man, and yet make mistakes. Inspiration no more makes a man infallible than regeneration does. For example, we all, I suppose, agree that the authors of the four gospels were inspired men. But take, for example, the inscription on the cross, how did it read? Matthew has it one way, Mark another, Luke a third, and John a fourth. All cannot be right, and yet they were inspired men. The dictation and 'infallible oracle' theory must at least be given up.

Are the Scriptures, then, at all inspired? Each must answer this for himself. Do they inspire you? Then to you they are inspired. Do they inspire me? Then to me they are inspired. And this latter is my testimony. F. W. D.

P. S.—I should be delighted to hear Mr. M. R. Prowse's interpretation of Genesis, chap. i. Is it history, allegory, or what? F. W. D.

THE SECOND COMING.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—We in the country must thank you for sketches of Montreal meetings. Those from the recent Stanley Street Presbyterian Church were helpful. The synopsis of Mr. Hill's paper on the 'Second coming' gave a wish for further detail.

The conflicting views on the second coming should not cause division. It is simply a matter of which is the happier and more consistent method of interpretation of Scripture. The twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew is thought difficult upon this point. One commentator has said it is difficult to know which part refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and which to the second coming. But Jesus says: 'This generation shall not pass away till all these things be fulfilled.' There were some standing there that should 'see the Son of Man coming in his glory.' The 'clouds of heaven' and scenic glory 'with angels (that is, any divine agency, animate or inanimate), the sun and moon 'not giving their light,' are simply Old Testament language similar to that Isaiah used referring to the destruction of Babylon: 'The stars of heaven shall not give their light, the sun shall be darkened,' etc. On the day of Pentecost Peter quoted from Joel: 'I will show wonders in heaven, blood and fire and vapor of smoke, the sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood,' etc., but in the absence of that spectacular display Peter was satisfied that the prophecy was fulfilled in the gift of the Spirit: 'This is that which was spoken.'

The Jews expected a calamitous coming in the first coming, when David's throne was to be literally established, and their political enemies destroyed. It was consistent with many Old Testament and modern ideas of personal vengeance. Even John the Baptist was disappointed that the 'chaff' was not immediately burned and sent from the prison to ask in his doubt, 'Art thou he?' Even the disciples, after the resurrection, expected political supremacy: 'Wilt thou not at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' But Jesus came not to kill but to save, and without servant or soldier to win by love. And, though he came in a way to insult the pharisaic mind, yet we believe he came in the ideal way, too glorious for sinful man to conceive, in a material form, that he might come in spirit, and in strict response to the most spiritual prophecies. He came 'to save, not to destroy,' and so far disappointed the popular Jewish idea.

The scenic coming of Christ bringing translation to a few only and calamity to such a vast proportion of the race, is a sad expectation. How ill prepared is the world for such a coming. The motive of a few, 'to escape death,' is selfish, and the true Christian need not fear death. The position is atheistic, for it assumes that his gospel of love cannot regenerate the world. Our Lord has more faith in humanity and in love than that, and it was not misplaced in the disciples. The idea of the destructive coming is only consistent with the pessimistic idea that the world is getting hopelessly bad, and that the powers of evil are greater than God's forces.

We must explain the Old Testament language and New Testament language in line with our knowledge of Christ's first coming and Jewish expectation, in line with his own words, and in line with the operations of the gospel for now nineteen hundred years. Paul himself said that the Thessalonians should not idly wait but work with their hands, that he would not immediately come, but there must first be a falling away. He comes in the truest sense and the only regenerating sense when he comes to the heart. 'I will manifest myself,' are Christ's words. The vision of Christ is not with the outward eye. The kingdom cometh not with observation (margin, 'outward show,' R. V.); it is 'within you,' and Jesus said to the high priest: 'Henceforth (not hereafter, as in A. V.) ye shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven.' Paul's 'glorious appearing' is often wrongly quoted to mean the so-called second coming, and 'at his coming' may be translated 'in his presence,' as in every instance I think the R. V. has 'presence' as an alternate translation with 'coming' (parousia). Again, 'in like manner' simply 'vanishing out of sight,' is not in great scenic display. The phrase 'Hon tropus' (in like manner) is so translated only in this place.

At the risk of ambiguity, the thought in this letter has been condensed, as your space must not be trespassed upon for further consideration that Jesus' coming is, as he has been coming for nineteen hundred years, to save not merely the souls of men, but man in its widest sense. L. M. ENGLAND. Georgeville, Que., Dec. 4, 1900.

KING ALFRED AND HIS WORK.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—How strongly we feel now, who reflect, the truism contained in the words of the Psalmist, addressed to Jehovah, 'a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday,' when we recollect that ten centuries have passed since Alfred the Great commenced an era of national education and reform, which has culminated in the elementary education acts of to-day, and inaugurated the Witenagemot, or Assembly of Wise Men, the combination of whose intelligence culminated in a form of popular government by the people for the people that is to-day called a parliament. Alfred the Great was likewise named Alfred the Good, and, being a good man, he measured time by improvement.

As Edward the Sixth was the luminary of learning in the dark ages of English superstition, Alfred was the rising star of an international civilization, the refulgence of which has for a thousand years reflected advantageously over all the world. Canadians boast of pride and patriotism. Let them in 1901 rise to put into practice these professions and with heart and voice unite in thanking God that in King Alfred the Great he gave us the impetus of universal education, while in Queen Victoria he has vouchsafed to us the consummation of beneficent rule with that Godliness, which, with contentment, is great gain.

Great Britain next year will celebrate the thousandth anniversary of Alfred's reign; may I suggest that Greater Britain should join in a befitting manner, and that Montreal should lead the way to perpetuate that learning and erudition which the greatest of Anglo-Saxon kings introduced, and which our most gracious sovereign to-day is fostering on all hands amongst all classes and all races within her dominions? What a fitting period for the consummation of imperial federation.

I hope some of your readers will suggest how best to perpetuate the memory of Alfred the Great in Canada. E. C. CURRIE. Montreal, Dec. 14, 1900.

FOX BAY SETTLERS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—In the issue of Nov. 27, which has just reached me to-day, I notice some references to the Fox Bay settlers. Whilst sympathizing with the poor creatures in their hardships and bereavements, we cannot but refer to the shortsighted policy of taking those 'men of the sea' and placing them in the middle of the Manitoba prairies, where they have practically everything to learn.

Perhaps it is not too late to suggest something more congenial, and which ought to have been done at first, i.e., give them a plot of land, or a whole island, somewhere on the shores of the Pacific, where they could follow their calling as fishermen and cultivate a small farm as well. I could point out fifty spots in British Columbia where those people could be made comfortable and happy in a very short time, and at a very small cost, with plenty of timber for building and fire, and a climate much milder than their old home on Anticosti.

Trusting that this suggestion will meet with favor, C. M. TATE, Methodist Missionary. Duncans, V.I., B.C., Dec. 3, 1900.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO BRING ABOUT THE TOTAL PROHIBITION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC?

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—We hear a lot to-day about placing the sale and manufacture of alcoholic liquors in the hands of those who will not profit by it, or in other words, our government. And it appears that many earnest temperance men are endorsing this movement. To my mind that is only making a compromise with Satan. The nation is awakening and beginning to realize the blighting influence of the liquor traffic, and the question is being asked on every hand, How are we to secure its prohibition? His Satanic Majesty, fearful lest he should lose so valuable a currency, always looking for a loophole where he may work and counteract any movement for reform, meets the temperance people half way with the compromising suggestion that we cannot enforce reform in advance of public opinion, and therefore we should place its sale in the hands of those who will not profit by it. Now, I believe that the evil arising from such a course would be as great, if not greater, than it is with the present system. And that it would defeat the object it is intended to accomplish, that is, to curtail the sale and manufacture of alcoholic liquors. I believe in no half-way measures.

Read God's command to the Israelites, concerning the Canaanites, who may be taken as a type of sin. 'And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee thou shalt smite them and utterly destroy them. Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them.' (Deut. vii., 2.)

Then where are we to look for a deliverer? Not to a worldly-minded government, not to the government of this or any other country. For have not the great majority of the men who compose our parliaments reached their position by worldly means? An ambition to gain rank, power, or fame as the case may be? Such men are not willing to risk bringing upon themselves the displeasure of society. The government is afraid to risk the combined opposition of the liquor forces. If we are to get temperance legislation, the temperance people must bestir themselves and impress the government with the fact that we are going to have prohibition at

any cost. If we want prohibition we should organize every available force, enforce all prohibitive laws with rigor, giving the enemy no standing ground where we can force him back. Now that the general elections are over, we should give the government no peace until we get our rights. And as the time has come that we have to decide who are to manage our municipal affairs for the coming year, we should see that our candidates are temperance men of the right stamp, and that the local option is enforced in every possible locality. I fancy that I hear some rosy philosopher say that this cannot accomplish much; that our local option laws are not practical. If only one life could be saved from ruin, one soul saved from destruction in each municipality where the law is enforced, what a blessing it would be to humanity. To do this we want strong, active, God-fearing men in every locality, men who love their God and humanity, and who are not afraid to spend a little of their time and money in the cause of righteousness. We have the latent material if it only could be brought out. Who knows how many Gideons and Baraks we have who are capable of leading the people to victory against the enemies of good government. The trouble is we cannot get men to realize their responsibility, we live too much for self. We are afraid to lose sight of the dollar. I shall never forget a parting advice that I received from the late Brigadier John Read, of the Salvation Army, Toronto. His words were: 'Remember, John, God wants Christian men in the business of our country.' I grant that there is nothing that the world hates so much as an attempt to reform its laws, or to bring about a change in its old customs and habits. The world never let a man bless it before it fought him. But with men of strong spirits who are not afraid to strike at every wrong, anything at all reasonable may be accomplished. How small are the difficulties in the way of prohibition compared with the obstacles that some of the great reformers had to contend with.

We should lose no time, immortal souls are perishing. Who that stops to think, but realizes something of the blighting, damning influence of the rum trade? Was there ever famine, or pestilence, or war, that left such destruction in its train? Its pathway is a pathway of grinning skulls and howling fiends. Oh, to think of the suffering, the heart-rending anguish caused by this traffic; to think of the vast army of bright, promising young men, men of talent, men who might be kings among men. Who that has any feeling, any love in his heart can fold his arms and do nothing? If some of these anti-prohibition champions could only have gone through the country at the time the Dominion plebiscite was taken and see the drunken sets and foul-mouthed bartenders, exhibiting long newspaper columns of their poor sophistries. I think they would repent with shame, and use their influence in some better cause.

If we are to get the best results, we must seek help from the hand that moves the world. What small advantage we have taken of that weapon which is within the reach of all, and which causes even the very devils in hell to tremble when it is used even by the weakest saint. If the great sisterhood of churches in this country would only band themselves together in prayer and earnestly ask God's help and guidance in the solution of this question, what mountains of difficulty would be removed and what wonders would be accomplished.

All who have the love of God and the interest of man at heart may take part in this work. There is no one but has some influence. We should not be afraid to assume responsibility. How much talent is lost to the cause of temperance for the want of a little courage. If a man is to accomplish anything he must be willing to take the chances of failure and not be afraid to expose himself to the criticism and ridicule of the world for an unpopular cause. May God send us men who love the freedom that comes from purity of life, and who cannot rest and say that all is well until this fiendish traffic is washed from our land. J. R. McCRIMMON. Vankleek Hill.

NOT A DEAD ISSUE. (To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—I am very far from agreeing with your correspondent, Mr. John Shearer, in his opinion that 'prohibition is a dead issue for a long time now.' The day of the great 'temperance revival,' like the day of the religious 'revival,' is perhaps over, but that religion and temperance are silently and by unexpected channels making their way and achieving very permanent results should be evident to any one studying the signs of the times. To cite only a few points in evidence of the state of public opinion in regard to the liquor traffic, we have the recent order of the commander of the forces in Canada abolishing the sale of spirits in the canteens, we have the prohibitory legislation enacted in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, and lastly we have the endeavor of earnest-minded non-prohibitionists to tackle the question by anti-treating regulations, Gothenberg systems and kindred measures intended to curb and control this anarchic evil which so loudly threatens the vital interests of the empire.

The duty of the prohibitionist should, in the estimation of the writer, under these circumstances be very clear. Satisfied with no half measures, and looking confidently forward to a time when the mandate of a united people shall drive the means of intoxication from our borders, he will greet these partial efforts very heartily and lend them every assistance that lies in our power. The Gothenberg system, as sketched by your more recent correspondent, Mr. Alex. Bell, although far short of what might be desired, offers a means of checking the ravages of the drink traffic, which has lately found much favor in the eyes

of many well-known political economists and reformers. A steady effort to secure the enactment of some similar legislation in the non-prohibitory provinces would be a movement that should gain the support of the best men of every nationality, creed and class, would materially minimize the destructive influences of the traffic, and would certainly prove a stage in social evolution from which more rigorous legislation might be sought and obtained. JAMES W. ROCH. Montreal, Dec. 13, 1900.

KINNEAR'S MILLS AFFAIR.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—There has appeared in a recent issue of your daily a synopsis of Commissioner White's report re the Kinnear's Mills post office affair. Let me say, that I am one of the interested parties, and pastor of the Presbyterian congregation, in which said post office is situated. We have just had a most enthusiastic congregational meeting to discuss said report. It was unanimously agreed that we procure a copy of the evidence taken in the inquiry, and give this and a history of the case to the public, through the public press, so that they might form their own opinions, not from a synopsis but from the full facts of the case. J. M. WHITE LAWS. Manse, Kinnear's Mills, Que.

THE PRESS AS A MISSIONARY AGENT.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—The press plays such a vigorous part in awakening, shaping and guiding the thought of India that it promises to become what Napoleon said it was in Europe, the fifth great monarchy. Has the Church of Christ met this sublime crisis in her history, by flooding the newly awakened world of Indian mind with her life-giving light. This question has been asked by a missionary at Benares, India. In response to a call of this nature, the Western W.C.T.U., meeting in Welcome Hall, 207 St. Antoine street, Montreal, is sending out Christian literature to be circulated from Bangalore by a Eurasian lady. Undenominational Christian and temperance papers, leaflets and tracts are in great demand, both for the railway racks and the barracks at Bangalore. In addition to this the Western W.C.T.U. expect to send papers to a lady who is interested in a soldiers' home at Calcutta. This lady makes no secret of the fact that the literature from America is much to be preferred to that sent from Great Britain. She is described by a missionary as a 'very wide-awake, successful Christian worker, and makes a special request for illustrated Christian papers.'

In response to an article inserted in the Montreal 'Witness,' and also in the Home Department of the 'Witness,' a large quantity of valuable papers have been sent to Welcome Hall for this department of the Western W.C.T.U. These have been prepared in part for the post, but as the postage is a very heavy item, the superintendent cannot send them to the post office without the useful item which it is such a delightful privilege to give and receive—namely, consecrated money. Among the Christian readers of the 'Witness' there are undoubtedly many who would gladly send stamps to help on this grand plan of a missionary press. These can be mailed to Mrs. Score, treasurer of the Western W.C.T.U., 207 St. Antoine street, Montreal. If it is so blessed to give, then you can realize how delightful it will be to receive. One missionary, in writing from India to a mission paper, says:

There is a good school here teaching English, and scores of boys come, asking for English papers, and the home Sunday-school papers would be just the thing to give them. The postage would be money well spent. As a proof of the power of the study of the English language in India kindly allow a few selections: The influence of English education is undoubtedly against the religion of Islam. 'Those who learn English do not believe in idols,' said a young native to an English traveler. The head of a native college testified to his belief that every one of their students who left knowing English had ceased to believe in Hinduism.

This is the bright side, but there is a dark side, which we in Canada would do well to consider. What the Englishman does the native wants to do, to wear English clothes, to carry a cane, to smoke, and to drink. The English were the first rulers of India ever to make liquor an article of government revenue, and the liquor habit is growing at a fearful rate. There is enough wine alone drunk by church-going English people in India to support all the missions of the country. The alarming part of it is that intemperance is spreading rapidly among women. For the above items on intemperance the writer has to thank a surgeon-major of the army for information. In view of these facts, the Christian temperance workers will realize how important it is that we give our literature, both Christian and temperance, our time and our money for stamps, to the work of spreading our principles in the land which is the 'key of Asia' and the 'prize of the east.' MAGGIE EDWARDS COLE, Superintendent of Missionary Literature, Western W.C.T.U.

PRICE OF COAL OIL.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—Permit me through your columns to call attention to a serious grievance which the people of Canada suffer, and to which you have often referred—the exorbitant price paid for coal oil. In 1896 the Liberal party promised to largely reduce the duties on oil, or put it on the free list. That promise has not been kept. As the oil duties might be an advantage to Canada, while negotiating a reciprocity treaty with the United States. The wisdom of retaining the duty on oil, I do not deny, but surely our government is strong enough, and wise enough, to deliver the people of Canada from the fetters that controls, it seems, even the railways built by the Canadian people, and taxes every home, from Cape

Breton to Vancouver, to enrich a conscienceless foreign monopoly. The minerals are the property of the people, and should be developed for the benefit of the public. Now, since the Standard Oil Company has become possessed of the Canadian refineries, petroleum is exploited in the interests of an insatiable monopoly—a monopoly, as tyrannical, and unjust, as the dynamite monopoly in South Africa, about which so much has been said. A monopoly so powerful, it is vain to expect relief from its extortion, through the competition of private Canadian enterprise. Under those conditions, our government should find relief for the people by establishing refineries of oil, and develop the resources of the country, for the benefit of the citizens, rather than have them exploited to enrich foreign millionaires. By doing so, the cost of oil might be reduced more than one-third, and a fair margin be left, to swell the revenue of the country.

If it be urged that to do so would be breaking faith with those who have invested money in refining oil, and would discourage the investment of foreign capital in Canadian industries, be it remembered that the money now invested in refining oil in Canada was invested not to develop the resources of the country, but to strangle development. Consequently, it has no moral right to the advantageous position it now holds in the country. There is no other relief in sight than that the government go into the refining of oil, for the benefit of the people, who are so outrageously plundered by the Standard Oil Company. ROBERT MURRAY. Earlton, N.S., Dec. 5, 1900.

A PROFITABLE SACRIFICE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness'.)

Sir,—In an article in the 'Weekly Witness' of Nov. 27 taken from the New York 'Sun,' the question is asked 'What is Canada's reward for the preference of thirty-three and a third percent which she has given to the imports of the United Kingdom?' and at the close of the article the writer speaks of this 'patriotic sacrifice of Canada.'

Sir Richard Cartwright said in a speech not long since: 'The benefit to us from our reducing these duties was really three times as much as the direct effect of it. First, the British goods we imported were cheapened by the amount of the reduction of the tariff; secondly, the Canadian made goods of the same classes had been reduced the same to compete with the British, and thirdly, the American goods of these classes had been reduced in price by the same amount. So the reduction of our protective tariff on some British goods has been of great money value to us, but a protectionist thinks it a "patriotic sacrifice."'

HAROLD BURGESS. Burgoyne, Ont., Dec., 1900.

A HURON COUNTY GOLDEN WEDDING.

The event of the season in Usborne township took place a few days ago at the residence of Mr. Robert Cann, which was taken possession of by a large and pleasant party. They met to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. Cann's golden wedding, and also the christening of three of the grandchildren of these families:—Mr. Charles Cann, Mrs. V. M. Miller and Mrs. B. Williams. The party gathered at four p.m., and after the christening ceremonies had been performed by the Rev. Mr. Waddell, dinner was served. About fifty visitors sat down. The table was beautifully decorated with flowers, flags, ribbons, etc. In the centre was the unmistakable emblem of marriage, several stories high, decorated with flowers and wreaths, over which a smiling Cupid rested, and the latter received not a few glances from the young granddaughters. The table also contained luxuries which might tempt the appetite of kings, showing that this part of our fertile country, at least, flows with milk and honey.

Fifty years ago Mr. and Mrs. Cann came into the unbroken forest on their honeymoon, and settled where they now reside. At that time the insolent growl of the wolf might be heard around the door of the little log cabin, but now one glance at Mr. Cann's possessions reveals beyond a doubt that that unwelcome visitor no longer causes uneasiness. With the exception of one, deceased, all the children of Mr. and Mrs. Cann were present, with their families: Messrs. Thomas, Charles and John Cann, Mrs. G. Kerslake and Mrs. Ben. Williams, of Usborne, and Mrs. V. M. Miller, of Berwick. Among the guests present were: The Rev. W. J. Waddell and the Rev. W. A. Walden, Mr. Archibald Bishop, ex-M.P.P., Mrs. Bishop and Miss Victoria, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Passmore, and John, Mr. E. Williams, Mr. R. Coultis, Mrs. Ann Harris, Miss Celia Ferguson, of Exeter, and Mr. W. C. Gay, of Buffalo, N.Y. Noticeable among the presents to Mr. and Mrs. Cann were two handsome and costly parlor chairs, the gift of the family, a sugar and cream set from their son Thomas and family, a sugar and cream set from a nephew and niece, W. H. and Lizzie Cann and Mrs. J. Colwill, of Darlington, a handsome cake basket from Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, a very fine illuminated card of greeting from a nephew, W. C. Gay, wife and daughter, and a great many other tokens of respect from visitors and friends. The evening was spent in music, song and chat. Before the departure of the guests Mr. Cann, through his son John, thanked all present for the hearty manner in which he and Mrs. Cann had been treated. On behalf of the party Mr. A. Bishop replied in his usual witty and whole-hearted manner, and he intimated that there may be a similar event at his place in a very few years. Mr. Cann has been a regular subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness' for over forty-five years.

FIRST ADVENT LECTURE.

THE GRECIAN.

(By the late Frederick W. Robertson, of Brighton.)

I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, the just shall live by faith.—Rom. 1, 14-17.

The season of Advent commemorates three facts. 1. That the Lord has come. 2. That He is perpetually coming. 3. That He will yet come in greater glory than has yet appeared. And these are the three Advents: The first in the flesh, which is past; the second in the spirit; the third, his judgment advent.

The first occupies our attention in these lectures.

We live surrounded by Christian institutions; breathe an atmosphere saturated by Christianity. It is exceedingly difficult even to imagine another state of things. In the enjoyment of domestic purity, it is difficult to conceive the debasing effects of polygamy; in the midst of political liberty, to conceive the blighting power of slavery; in scientific progress, to imagine mental stagnation; in religious liberty and free goodness, to fancy the reign of superstition.

Yet to realize the blessings of health we must sit by the sick-bed; to feel what light is we must descend into the mine and see the emaciated forms which dwindle away in darkness; to know what the blessing of sunshine is, go down into the valleys where stunted vegetation and dim vapors tell of a scene on which the sun scarcely shines two hours in the day. And to know what we have from Christianity, it is well to cast the eyes sometimes over the darkness from which the Advent of Christ redeemed us.

There are four departments of human nature spoken of in these verses on which the light shined. The apostle felt that the Gospel was the power of God unto salvation to the Greeks, the Romans, the Barbarians and the Jews. In the present lecture we consider Christianity presented to the Grecian character, and superseding the Grecian religion.

Four characteristics marked Grecian life and Grecian religion: Restlessness, worldliness, the worship of the beautiful, the worship of the human.

I. Restlessness. Polytheism divided the contemplation over many objects; and as the outward objects were manifold, so was there a want of unity in the inward life. The Grecian mind was distracted by variety. He was to obtain wisdom from one Deity; eloquence from that Mercurius for whom Paul was taken; purity from Diana, for whom Ephesus was zealous; protection for his family or country from the respective tutelary deities; success by a prayer to Fortuna.

Hence dissipation of mind—that fickleness for which the Greeks were famous—and the restless love of novelty which made Athens a place of literary and social gossip—some new thing. All stability of character rests on the contemplation of changeless unity.

So in modern science, which is eminently Christian, having exchanged the bold theorizing of ancient times for the patient humble willingness to be taught by the facts of nature, and performing its wonders by exact imitation of them—on the Christian principle—the Son of man can do nothing of Himself but what He seeth the Father do.

And all the results of science have been to simplify and trace back the manifold to unity. Ancient science was only a number of insulated facts and discordant laws; modern science has gradually ranged these under fewer and ever fewer laws. It is ever tending towards unity of law.

For example, gravitation. The planet's motion, and the motion of the atom of water that dashes tumultuously, and as it seems lawlessly, down the foam of the cataract; the floating of the cork, the sinking of the stone, the rise of the balloon, and the curved flight of the arrow, are all brought under one single law, diverse and opposite as they seem.

Hence science is calm and dignified, proposing uniform fact. The philosopher's very look tells of repose, resting, as he does, on a few changeless principles.

So also in religion. Christianity proclaimed 'One God and one Mediator between God and Man, the man Christ Jesus.' Observe the effect in the case of two apostles. St. Paul's view of the Gospel contemplated it as an eternal divine purpose. His Gospel, the salvation of the Gentiles, was the eternal purpose which had been hidden from ages and generations. His own personal election was part of an eternal counsel. All the children of God had been predestinated before the creation 'unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself.' Now see the effect on character. First, on veracity.—2 Cor. i, 18, etc. He contemplated the changeless 'yea' of God; His own yea became fixed as God's—changeless, and calmly unalterable.

Again in orthodoxy.—'Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day and forever.' 'Be not carried about by divers and strange doctrines.' Truth is one, error manifold—many opinions, yet there can be but one faith. See how calm and full of rest all this spirit is.

Now consider St. John. His view of the Gospel recognized it rather as the manifestation of love than the carrying out of the unity of an everlasting purpose. If you view the world as the Greek did, all is so various that you must either refer it to various deities, or to different modes of the same Deity. To-day you are happy—God is pleased; to-morrow miserable—God is angry. But St. John referred these all to unity of character.—'God is Love.' Pain and pleasure, the sigh and smile, the sunshine and the storm, nay, hell itself, to him were but the results of eternal love. Hence came deep calm—the repose which we are toiling all our lives to find, and which the Greek never found.

II. Worldliness. There are men and nations to whom this world seems given as their province, as if they had no aspiration above it. If ever there was a nation who understood the science of living, it was the Grecian. They had organized social and domestic life; and

existence with comforts; knew how to extract from everything its greatest measure of enjoyment. This world was their home; this visible world was the object of their worship. Not like the Orientals, who called all materialism had, and whose highest object was to escape from it, to be unclothed, not clothed upon, as St. Paul phrases it. The Greeks looked upon this world in its fallen state, and pronounced it all 'very good.'

The results were threefold.

1. Disappointment. Lying on the infinite bosom of nature, the Greek was yet unsatisfied. And there is an insatiable desire above all external forms and objects in man—all men—which they can never satisfy. Hence his craving, too, like others, was from time to time, 'Who will show us any good?' This dissatisfaction is exhibited in the parable of the prodigal, who is but a symbol of erring humanity. Away from his father's home, the famine came, and he fed on husks. Famine and husks are the world's unsatisfactoriness. A husk is a thing that seems full—is really hollow—which stays the appetite for a time, but will not support the life. And such is this world—leaving a hollowness at heart, staying our craving but for a time. 'He that drinketh of this water shall thirst again.' And the worldly man is trying to satiate his immortal hunger upon husks.

2. Degradation. Religion aims at an ideal of life above this actual one—to found a divine polity—a kingdom of God—a church of the best. And the life of worldliness pronounced this world to be all. This is to be adorned and beautified. Life as it is. Had you asked the Greek his highest wish, he would have replied, 'This world, if it could only last—I ask no more.' Immortal youth—and this bright existence. This is to feed on husks, but husks which the swine did eat. No degradation to the swine, for it is their nature; but degradation to man to rest in the outward, visible, and present, for the bosom of God is his home. The Greek, therefore, might be, in his own language, 'a reasoning animal,' but not one of the children of heaven.

3. Disbelief in immortality. The more the Greek attached himself to this world, the more the world unseen became a dim world of shades. The earlier traditions of the deep-thinking Orientals, which his forefathers brought from Asia, died slowly away, and any one who reminded him of them was received as one would now be who were to speak of purgatory. The cultivated Athenians were for the most part skeptics in the time of Christ. Accordingly, when Paul preached at Athens the resurrection of the dead, they 'mocked.'

This bright world was all. Its revels, its dances, its theatrical exhibitions, its races, its baths, and academic groves, where literary leisure luxuriated, these were blessedness, and the Greek hell was death. Their poets speak pathetically of the misery of the wretch from all that is dear and bright. The dreadfulness of death is one of the most remarkable things that meet us in those ancient writings.

And these men were startled by seeing a new sect rise up to whom death was nothing—who almost courted it. They heard an apostle say at Miletus, 'None of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy.' For the cross of Christ had crucified in their hearts the Grecian's world. To them life was honor, integrity, truth; that is the soul; to this all other was to be sacrificed. This was the proper self, which could only die by sin, by denying its own existence. The rise of the higher life had made this life nothing, and delivered those who, through fear of death, were all their lifetime subject unto bondage.

Appeal to the worldly-minded. Melancholy spectacle! Men and women shutting out the idea of death, the courtesies of society concealing from them the mention of their age by all false appliances of dress, etc., etc., and staying the appearance of the hand of time. You must die. The day will come, and the coffin. Life in God alone robs that thought of dreadfulness; when the resurrection being begun within, you can look upon the decay of the outward man and feel, I am not dying.

III. The worship of the beautiful. The Greek saw this world almost only on its side of beauty. His name for it was Cosmos, divine order or regularity. He looked at actions in the same way. One and the same adjective expressed the noble and the beautiful. If he wanted to express a perfect man, he called him a musical or harmonious man.

What was the consequence? Religion degenerated into the arts. All the immortal powers of man were thrown upon the production of a work of the imagination. The artist who had achieved a beautiful statue was almost worshipped; the poet who had produced a noble poem was the prophet of the nation; the man who gave the richest strains of melody was half divine. This was their inspiration. The arts became religion, and religion ended in the arts.

Hence, necessarily, sensuality became religious, because all feelings produced by these arts, chiefly the voluptuous ones, were authorized by religion. There is a peculiar danger in refinement of sensuous enjoyments. Coarse pleasures disgust, and pass for what they are; but who does not know that the real danger and triumph of voluptuousness are when it approaches the soul veiled under the drapery of elegance? They fancied themselves above the gross multitude; but their sensuality, disguised even from themselves, was sensuality still—ay, and at times even, in certain festivals, broke out into gross and unmistakable licentiousness.

And hence the greatest of the Greeks, in his imaginary republic, banished from that perfect state all the strains which were soft and enfeebling—all the poems that represented any deeds of deities unworthy of the Divine—all the statues which could suggest one single feeling of impurity. Himself a worshipper of the purest beautiful, it was yet given to his all but inspired heart to detect the lurking danger, before which Greece was destined to fall—the approach of sensuality through the worship of the graceful and the refined.

There is this danger now. Men are awakened from coarse rude life to the desire of something deeper; and the god or spirit of this world can subtly turn that aside into channels which shall reflectively enfeeble and ruin the soul. Refinement—melting imagery—dim religious

light; all the witchery of form and color—music—architecture; all these, even colored with the hues of religion, producing feelings either religious or quasi-religious, may yet do the world's work. For all attempts to impress the heart through the senses, 'to make perfect through the flesh,' is fraught with that danger beneath which Greece sunk. There is a self-deception in those feelings—the thrill, the sense of mystery, and the luxury of contemplation, and the impressions on the senses; all these lie very close to voluptuousness—enfeeblement of heart—yea, even impurity.

This, too, is the ruinous effect of an education of accomplishments. The education of the feelings in undue proportion, destroy the masculine tone of mind. An education chiefly romantic or poetical, not balanced by hard, practical life, is simply the ruin of the soul.

If any one ever felt the beauty of this world, it was He. The beauty of the lily nesting in the grass—He felt it all; but the beauty which He exhibited in life was the stern loveliness of moral action. The King in His beauty had no form or comeliness; it was the beauty of obedience, of noble deeds, of unconquerable fidelity, of unserving truth, of Divine self-devotion. The Cross! the Cross! We must have something of iron and hardness in our characters. The Cross tells us that is the true beautiful which is Divine: an inward, not an outward beauty, which rejects and turns sternly away from the meretricious forms of the outward world, which have a corrupting or debilitating tendency.

IV. The worship of humanity. The Greek had strong human feelings and sympathies. He projected his own self on nature; humanized it; gave a human feeling to clouds, forests, rivers, seas.

In this he was a step above other idolatries. The Hindoo, for instance, worshipped monstrous emblems of physical power. Might—gigantic masses—hundred-handed deities, scarcely human, you find in Hindostan. In Egypt, again, life was the thing sacred. Hence all that had life was in a way divine—the sacred bird, crocodile, bull, cat, snake. All that produced and all that ended life. Hence death, too, was sacred. The Egyptian lived in contemplation of death. His coffin was made in his lifetime; his ancestors embalmed; the sacred animal preserved in myriad heaps through generations in mummy pits. The sovereign's tomb was built to last for, not centuries, but thousands of years.

The Greek was above this. It was not merely power, but human power; not merely beauty, but human beauty; not merely life, but human life, which was the object of his profound veneration. His effort therefore was, in his conception of his god, to realize a beautiful human being. And not the animal beauty of the human only, but the intelligence which informs and shines

through beauty. All his life he was moulding into shape visions of earth—a glorious human being. Light under the conditions of humanity; the 'sun in human limbs arrayed,' was the central object of Grecian worship.

Much in this had a germ of truth—more was false. This principle, which is true, was evidently stated: The Divine, under the limitations of humanity, is the only worship of which man is capable. Demonstrably, for man can not conceive that which is not his own mind. He may worship what is below himself, or that which is in himself resembling God; but attributes of which from his nature he has no conception, he clearly cannot adore.

The question, therefore, is, What he shall reckon divine, and in alliance with God? If power, then he worships as the Hindoo; if life, then as the Egyptian; if physical and intellectual beauty, then as the Greek.

Observe, they wanted some living image of God containing something more truly divine to supplant their own. For still, in spite of their versatile and multifarious conceptions, the illimitable Unknown remained, to which an altar stood in Athens. They wanted humanity in its glory—they asked for a Son of Man.

Christ is Deity under the limitations of humanity. But there is presented in Christ for worship, not power, nor beauty, nor physical life, but the moral image of God's perfections. Through the heart, and mind, and character of Jesus it was that the Divinity streamed. Divine character, that was given in Christ to worship.

Another error. The Greek worshipped all that was in man. Every feeling had its beauty and its divine origin. Hence thieving had its patron deity, and treachery, and cunning; and lust had its temple erected for abominable worship. All that was human had its sanction in the example of some god.

Christ corrects this. Not all that is human is divine. There is a part of our nature kindred with God: the strengthening of that, by mixture with God's spirit, is our true and proper humanity—regeneration of soul. There is another part whereby we are related to the brutes: our animal propensities, our lower inclinations, our corrupted will. And whoever lives in that, and strengthens that, sings not to the level of the brutes, but below them, to the level of the demons; for he uses an immortal spirit to degrade himself; and the immortal joined with evil, as the life to the body, is demoniacal.

In conclusion, remark, in all this system one thing was wanting—the sense of sin. The Greek worshipped the beautiful, adored the human, deified the world; of course this worship found no place for sin. The Greek would not have spoken to you of sin; he would have told you of departure from a right line; want of moral harmony; discord within; he would have said that the music of your soul was out of tune.

Christ came to convince the world of sin. And after him began to brood upon the hearts of Christendom that deep cloud that rests upon the conscience which has been called into vitality of action and susceptibility.

For this Greece had no remedy. The universe has no remedy but one. There is no prescription for the sickness of the heart, but that which is written in the Redeemer's blood.

THE CATHOLIC CONGRESS AT BOURGES.

Perhaps the most striking result of the recent great Catholic Congress at Bourges is the confessions of failure of Continental Catholicism which it elicited from some of the most distinguished of its clergy. The following, for instance, is an extract from an address by Mgr. Ireland, the well-known American ecclesiastic. Says he:

'I recall the days of my youth in France when the faith was living, when the churches were filled morning and evening, and when the processions of the Holy Sacrament were followed in triumph by the population of the towns and of the country. To-day I traverse France from Calais to Marseilles, as I do Italy, which in all respects it resembles, as also I do other European countries, and what do I see? Churches almost empty, churches where there is only a handful of people kneeling before the Holy Sacrament. I read the newspapers and they teach me that we are in a life and death struggle, and that if things continue in this train we are, humanly speaking, vanquished.'

A similar testimony, dealing specially with French Catholicism, was that of the Abbé Pastorel, who, in a sermon to the Congress, said:

'Men are drawing away from Christianity. Amongst the masses it is indifference. With great numbers of them the whole life contains room for not more than three or four religious observances. In the middle and upper classes the men also, with some miserable exceptions, are escaping us. In the intellectual circles we find no nearer approach to religion than a vague idealism. One is tempted to repeat with some slight modification the famous saying, "France no longer counts among the Catholic nations."'

In a similar strain spoke the Bishop of Angers, who lamented that with such an enormous apparatus of work, with some fifty thousand priests ministering daily at the French altars, the results were so miserably meagre.—'Christian World.'

WELSH FUSILIERS' TOAST.

The Welsh Fusiliers have a strange army toast, which may be spoken of in this connection. It forms part of the ceremony of the grand banquet given annually on St. David's day. After dinner the drum-major, accompanied by the goat, the regiment's mascot, bedecked with ribbons and rosettes of red and blue, marches round the table carrying a plate of leeks. Every officer or guest who has never eaten leeks before is required to do so on this occasion, standing with one foot on his chair, the other on the table, while the drummer beats a roll behind his chairman. This toast to St. David is considered as transforming the novitiate into a true Welshman.

[For the 'Witness'] CHRISTMAS.

Softly o'er the hilltops broke the light of day,
Then crept it down the valley, where an ancient city lay,
Just outside its limits stood a cattle shed,
Where lay a tiny baby, with a manger for his bed.

How tenderly the mother watched his sleeping face,
And sighed to think her babe was born in such a lonely place.
Oh! Mary, it is Christmas; rejoice and be thou glad,
The Saviour of mankind is born; why, then, should you be sad?

O woman, could you only know what joy He brings to earth,
Thousands of weary, tired men shall triumph in His birth.
Hearts that are breaking down with care,
And ready just to fall,
Eyes that are growing dim with tears,
He'll save and comfort all.

In future years thousands of souls, both in this world and heaven,
Shall praise God for that Christmas morn when Jesus Christ was given.

Nineteen centuries since then have swiftly passed away,
Since that dark morn in Bethlehem, that first glad Christmas day,
And Christmas comes again to us, with joy and song and mirth.
Oh! let us not forget to-day God's Christmas gift to earth.

HATTIE HALL STRANG,
4 East 40th street, Flatbush, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Two Canadian Productions

Cannot be Beaten in the World.

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS FOR PALE PEOPLE

H. D. McKerbin, 2nd Regiment; J. P. Pepper, 2nd Regt.
 D Company, Ottawa and Kingston—S. H. Engleason, 43rd Regiment; W. J. Gilmore, R.C.R.I.; G. G. Hulme, 15th Regiment; W. Johnston, R.C.R.I.; E. Auger, G.G.F.G.; A. Botterell, R.C.R.I.; J. Hennessy, R.C.R.I.; W. W. Mills, 15th Regiment; A. E. Peters, R.C.R.I.; W. A. Smith, 43rd Regiment; W. Dessel, nil; R. Elliott, G.G.F.G.; W. H. Hooper, 43rd Regiment; T. H. Hulme, G.G.F.G.; J. D. Mackay, 40th Regiment; D. Turnbull, 43rd Regiment; E. P. Austin, 15th Regiment.
 F Company—J. A. McDonald, R.C.A.; L. E. Lafleur, R.C.A.; W. Dixon, R.C.A.; W. Eite, R.C.R.I.; R. Good, R.C.R.I.; E. Hubley, R.C.A.; M. Ivers, R.C.A.; E. Laverdure, R.C.A.; J. Macness, R.C.R.I.; G. H. McColom, R.C.R.I.; A. Scully, R.C.A.; E. Lemus, 65th Regiment; D. Stevens, 65th Regiment; S. Stevens, 65th Regiment; A. Evans, 8th Regiment; S. Anderson, 8th Regiment; E. B. Rattray, 8th Regiment; H. V. Arden, 8th Regiment; R. Horne, Charlottetown Engineers; H. McDonald, 78th Regiment.
 E Company, Montreal—J. Allan, R.C.R.I.; C. Campbell, 1st Regiment Fusiliers; R. C. Clarke, 2nd R.C.A.; F. Erskine, 5th Royal Scots; R. Graham, R.C.R.I.; W. A. H. Murdoch, 2nd R.C.A.; J. McGoldrick, 5th Royal Scots; J. Phillips, 5th Royal Scots; J. Platt, R.C.R.I.; W. Stenling, 5th Royal Scots; W. Wilkin, 5th Royal Scots; J. Butler, Highland Cadets; W. G. Brown, 3rd Regiment; A. W. Drum, 8th Royal Rifles; H. B. Holloway, 3rd Victoria Rifles; H. Mudge, 3rd Victoria Rifles; G. G. Scott, 8th Royal Rifles; H. J. Horan, 3rd Victoria Rifles; A. S. McCormick, 3rd Victoria Rifles.
 Regimental Staff—G. Galloway, R.C.R.I.; E. Heading, R.C.D.
 G Company, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island—C. Charlton, R.C.R.I.; A. Sheldon, R.C.R.I.; J. Russell, R.C.A.; J. Burnside, 3rd R.C.A.; L. Stenton, 5th Royal Scots; P. S. Stevenson, 71st Regiment; R. Ward, 73rd Regiment; J. F. Wandless, 71st Regiment; P. Fairweather, 62nd Regiment; J. Howe, 72nd Regiment; J. Jones, 71st Regiment; J. Tennant, 71st Regiment; H. Phillips, 62nd Regiment; J. M. Robertson, 71st Regiment; T. M. Wright, 71st Regt.; W. M. Harris, 82nd Regiment; R. W. Cameron, Charlottetown Engineers; W. E. Coombs, Charlottetown Engineers Company; D. R. Kennedy, Charlottetown Engineers Company; C. A. Arlucci, 4th Regiment C.A.
 H Company, Nova Scotia—B. Baugh, R.C.A.; H. Watson, R.C.A.; J. Halliday, R.C.A.; J. Kennedy, R.C.A.; M. Lewis, R.C.A.; A. McLean, R.C.A.; C. W. Lawton, 63rd Regiment; C. H. Kumas, 63rd Regiment; G. Dare, Montreal; A. H. Watson, Belfast; H. C. Scott, Athol, N.S.; C. W. Welch, Brodersburg, London, England; M. McDonald, 82nd Regiment; T. Mills, Halifax Bearer Company; M. S. Webber, 65th Regiment.

had so often thought of entering upon, and which, previous to his joining the army he felt that he had not the strength to undertake. His purpose now is to set to work immediately and study for the ministry. He says that he cannot remain idle, even though he is sure of a pension of at least \$500 per year, and probably more.
 While in England an X-ray examination of his remaining eye was made, but it was discovered that nothing could be done for it. Several pieces of lead were found in his head, believed to be from the explosive bullet that carried away his right eye.

A CANADIAN HERO.
Was Specially Photographed by Her Majesty's Order.

London, Dec. 1.—Yesterday the Canadian soldiers who came home from the Boer war in the 'Hawarden Castle' went down to Windsor Castle in a special train to be presented to the Queen. They had a most cordial reception from the citizens of Windsor and were presented to Her Majesty. The Queen was accompanied in her carriage by Princess Henry of Battenberg and Princess Alice and looked at the men very closely through her spectacles as they marched past.

One of the first points to attract Her Majesty's notice was one of the men who was struggling along beside his comrades on crutches. The Queen at once sent an equestrian for him, and directed that he should be brought up to her. The trooper was Corporal Beverley R. Armstrong, of the Canadian Mounted



CORP. BEVERLEY R. ARMSTRONG.

Rifles, who is a son of Lieut.-Col. Armstrong, of St. John, N.B. He enlisted as a private in the Canadian Mounted Rifles, and was wounded in the foot by shrapnel while serving under General Hutton near Middleburg, and had six weeks afterwards to have his limb amputated at Johannesburg.

When the trooper was called to her, Her Majesty, with her usual gracious courtesy, directed that a chair should be fetched for the wounded man, but Armstrong bravely replied that he preferred to stand like his comrades.

After the officers had been presented, Armstrong was formally presented to the Queen.

"I am so sorry," said Her Majesty to him, "that you have lost your leg. I hope you are getting strong."

The corporal answered that he was doing well and was proud of the honor of seeing Her Majesty.

The Queen then directed that he should be photographed, as she wanted to have his photograph with her, and this was done.

So closed as pathetic an incident as the war has produced in England, and one that by her gracious courtesy and never-failing tact at once endeared the Queen to the hearts of all colonial present.

COL. OTTER'S MEN.
GOVERNOR JONES SUGGESTED THAT THE MEN BE FURNISHED WITH BEER.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 12.—A meeting of citizens was held yesterday, presided over by Mayor Hamilton, to decide on the form of reception to be tendered Col. Otter and the remainder of the first Canadian contingent, who are expected to arrive at Halifax on Wednesday or Thursday of next week. The mayor was requested to inform the city council that the citizens desired that the men be entertained at lunch in the armories at their expense, and that included in the bill of fare be a pint of beer instead of lemonade, served on the last occasion. This was on the suggestion of Governor Jones, who said the beer would do them no harm, and might do them good. The men will be met at the dockyard and escorted by the band of the 3rd Royal Canadians from the SS. 'Lake Champlain' to the armories. Before the lunch there will be addresses by the governor, Mayor Hamilton, General O'Grady-Haly, and others. The men will be paid off at the armories. Their stay here will be as short as possible. If the steamer arrives in the morning they will leave the same day.

INTERESTING SKETCH OF SOME RECENT EXPERIENCES.

Driver James Henry Browning, jr., of E Battery, Royal Canadian Field Artillery (late of the Montreal Field Battery) writing from Fourteen Streams, South Africa, to his father, on Nov. 1, says: We have just completed another long march, this time through the Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal, restoring order and punishing the rebels by burning down all houses, and confiscating cattle of those actually perpetrators of the enormities you have doubtless read about, such as the ripping

up of railways, firing on trains, joining commandos and sniping at us, and so forth, after laying down their arms, and taking the oath of allegiance. We proceeded as far as Christiansburg, where the column got a new supply of rations, and from Christiansburg to this place, relieving the left section, which was doing garrison duty. We had to come here as all our horses were worn out, and the left section continued the route assigned us.

We are glad to have a rest by a clear running stream, as it is summer here, and owing to the great scarcity of water, especially in the Transvaal, the sufferings of the poor horses were terrible. One time it was nearly two days, in scorching weather, before we could get water for the poor, uncomplaining, hard-working, and affectionate animals, and while they were getting water, I myself thought I never could stop drinking. Didn't I enjoy it! It was one of the most delicious experiences of my life. We shall all better understand those references in the holy scriptures to the lack and value of water and shade, such as, 'A thirsty land where no water is,' and 'the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.'

We are now doing garrison duty and guarding stores, and two railway bridges—one steel—that was blown up by the Boers, and the other a timber bridge, commenced and finished by the Royal Engineers in ten days across the Vaal, so as to get troops and stores into the Transvaal. All the time these poor fellows (all skilled mechanics) were executing the work the Boers were sniping at them. The Boer is a 'stalker.' Some call him a 'sneak of an enemy.' He will not face you or show himself, if he can help it. When he ceases to be protected by good cover he will 'cut and run.' He is not liked by our fellows because he is not fond of the outward application of water, and smells bad. The Arabs are said to take a sand bath, like the hens, when they cannot get water, but he does not even do this, judging by the smell. But in the great majority of cases he is a born hunter of the antelope, the spring-bok, the lion, and other wild animals, all fleet-footed, keen of scent, both gentle, and ferocious, in their nature, and all his successes in the field are gained by stealth and keen eyesight. Nowadays we can equal them at their own game. 'Practice makes perfect.' At the commencement of the war an ordinary African (black or white) could see a British soldier coming towards him two miles before the man approaching could see him—even if exposed. Now our city and town-bred men's eyes (used only to short distances in offices and workshops) have become so educated, strengthened, and focussed that they can see much longer distances than at the beginning of the war. Hence the value of the South African, Australian and western Canadian men, as scouts and riflemen; although they were seriously handicapped by the Boers in making enquiries, as the Boer can speak Kafir, Dutch and English. All is now changing. Peace is at hand, and at Christmas the 'Song of the Angels' will be better understood and appreciated by the people of South Africa than ever it was before.

Though doing garrison duty, we are not lazy. We 'stand to arms' every day from 4 a.m. to 6 a.m., are cleaning outfits, and grooming and exercising horses during the rest of the morning, which is good fun to the well-fed and watered horses after their late very trying march. In the afternoon, we take a rest until four o'clock, it being too warm to go out, and then attend to our usual evening duties. The rainy season has commenced, but when Old Sol does show his nose he makes it pretty hot for us, more so than is comfortable. We have good, pure water here. Strong liquor does not suit the boys—in this country at any rate. Those who drink spirits never know what it is to feel well, and it is almost a sure forerunner of enteric fever—so that Lord Roberts has 'rhyme for his reason.' We expect to leave for England some time around Christmas, but certainly not until Lord Kitchener feels disposed to dispense with our services to the Empire. It is said in the English papers that five thousand of all arms and tongues, and colonies are to visit England and be inspected by Her Majesty, and feast the eyes of the people of Southampton and London at the close of hostilities. E Battery confidently hopes to be there. 'God save the Queen.'

JAMES HENRY BROWNING.

P.S.—I am glad to learn that General Sir Charles Warren is to have charge of the troops in Canada. I saw him at the fights at Douglas and Faber's Farm, where Colonel Spence, of Edinburgh, Scotland, and Corporal Latimer, of Sherbrooke (Canada) were killed. Although the shots fell about him like hail, he was as fearless as on parade, and acted with great knowledge and precision. He is also kind and good to his men.—J.H.B.

GERMAN-CANADIAN LOYALTY.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 11.—Corporal Gray, A Field Battery, who as a member of C Field Battery, had his leg broken while in South Africa, being invalided to Netley Hospital, has returned home. Gray is of German descent and while in Netley was visited by the Queen, who, knowing him to be German by his cast of countenance, carried on a lengthy conversation with him in that language and presented him with a bouquet of flowers. When one of the Queen's suite remarked that apparently all Germans were not pro-Boers Gray replied that in Canada there were a hundred thousand Germans who were loyal to Great Britain and her queen, which statement greatly pleased the aged sovereign.

LONDON IS LIVELY.

NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA DOES NOT AFFECT CHRISTMAS GAIETIES.

London, Dec. 15.—The dreary prospect of interminable war in South Africa and increased taxation at home is no deterrent to Christmas gaiety. The shows and markets are brighter than ever, gay

through fill the streets, business is at top notch and theatres are crowded. Thousands of people are preparing to invade London to welcome Lord Roberts home. The number of spectators of 'Bobs' march to St. Paul's accompanied by the Prince of Wales on Jan. 3, is likely to break all records. The officials are already besieged for tickets for the thanksgiving service and window owners are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the line of march.

BOERS FROM CEYLON.
ONE OF THE OLIVIER'S ALLOWED TO RETURN TO HIS FARM.

Durban, Dec. 9.—Lord Roberts has permitted George Olivier to return on parole from Ceylon. He was captured by the Queenstown Volunteers in the same fight in which his brother and his father, General Olivier, were made prisoners. He has just arrived here on his way to the Orange River Colony. He expresses himself as highly satisfied with the treatment of the Boer prisoners by the British in Ceylon. Lieut. Dutoit, of the Pretoria police, who was suspected of complicity in the plot against Lord Roberts, has also been permitted to return here from Ceylon.

HEALY'S LITTLE JOKE.

Dublin, Dec. 13.—The members of the Irish parliamentary party to-day unanimously re-elected Mr. John Redmond chairman for the present and coming session. Mr. Redmond was warmly applauded. Messrs. Esmonde, Donelan, Patrick O'Brien and Burke were appointed whips.

LIMERICK HONORS KRUGER.

Limerick, Dec. 14.—The corporation has decided by a vote of 22 to 2 to confer the freedom of the city on Mr. Kruger.

THE BEHAVIOR OF BRITISH SOLDIERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
 (To the Editor of the 'Times'.)

Sir,—In the 'Daily Express,' yesterday, it was stated that a letter from a Boer clergyman had been published in Brussels ascribing disgraceful outrages to the soldiers in South Africa.

Similar charges have from time to time been circulated by English pro-Boer organs.

I have as yet seen, however, only one sufficiently definite to be capable of disproof—namely, one relative to which a question was asked in the House of Commons by Mr. P. O'Brien on June 15 and quoted in detail in a publication entitled 'War against war' of July 7, 1900.

This has been investigated by the White Cross League with the result given in enclosed letters, which I trust you will think of sufficient importance to publish, as showing what value may be attached to vague and irresponsible charges of the sort, when the only definite one capable of refutation is so entirely without foundation in fact.

Yours faithfully,
 CASIMIR A. BOURNE,
 Lieut.-Colonel, Sec.
 White Cross League, 7 Dean's-yard,
 Westminster Abbey, S.W., Nov. 17.
 Bishop's-house, Maritzburg, Sept. 19, 1900.

My Dear Sir,—I have written to the incumbent of Dundee, in this diocese, and I am glad to be able to send you this reply, which I think you will regard as entirely satisfactory in clearing away the vile charges which were made against our men. You may rely upon Mr. Bailey as a man of good sense.

Believe me, yours very truly,
 A. H. NATAL.

Dundee Vicarage, Natal, Sept. 18, 1900.
 My Dear Lord Bishop,—There is not a word of truth about the statement that four women of the Besters family were outraged by British soldiers. I felt it was false as soon as I read it, for this district is not so extensive that any such thing could happen without my knowledge. However, to satisfy myself I interviewed, not Bestor himself, but his father-in-law, Jacobus Maritz. Maritz, who is one of the leading Dutch farmers in these parts, said, when I showed him the extract, 'Well, Mr. Bailey, you have come to the right man, as mine—his daughter is Mrs. Bester—is the only Bester family in these parts, and you can say from me that it is a pack of lies.' He also went on to tell me that the Transvaal Boers when they came to Dundee spread a similar report in regard to another family in order to rouse and incense the Natal Dutch and get them to join. He said that I could give his name when contradicting the statement. His full name is Jacobus Johannes Stephenus Maritz. With regard to the other story, it is on a par with the Bester one. No names are given in this case, the only person specified—one of the outragers—being a soldier 'in Highland uniform.' As you know, there have never been during the war any Highlanders stationed at Dundee. Thousands of British soldiers have been through and about Dundee, but I never heard of a single case of outrage, or anything approaching to it. Their behavior, to my mind, and I have often remarked it, has been excellent.

Believe me, yours faithfully and sincerely,
 GERARD C. BAILEY.

MAGNIFICENT DONATIONS.

London, Dec. 11.—The late Mr. Robert Arthington, an eccentric gentleman of Leeds, who lived in a miserly manner in order to be able to devote his wealth to foreign missions, left to the London Missionary Society over \$1,250,000.

Lord Mount-Stephen (formerly president of the Canadian Pacific Railway) has donated \$25,000 to the Provost of Aberdeen for the purpose of clearing the Aberdeen Infirmary of debt.

CHINA NEWS.

The Powers Agreed Upon a Basis of Peace Negotiations.

AN EXPEDITION FOR LOOT.
How it Succeeded in a Fighting Search Near Peking.

The only items concerning China reported in Thursday afternoon's telegrams last week were that the powers were awaiting the final agreement of the British minister with the joint programme, after which they would go on and negotiate with Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching. Count Waldersee handed to General Gaselee \$63,000 as the British share of the Paotingfu loot. The general handed the cash over to the British consul-general for the relief of Chinese who may need help during the winter.

China news via London on Wednesday was full of pacific significance. The powers have agreed, and the matter now is relegated to the machinery of diplomatic negotiation of terms. A Washington despatch to the New York 'World' quotes Herr von Holleben, the German ambassador, as having stated that 'Germany stands for open ports and the free access to the Oriental trade,' but that if private treaties are made with individual states other questions of detail may obtrude. The Shanghai correspondent of the 'Times' writing on Monday, Dec. 10, states that serious negotiations for peace have commenced and suggests that the powers should retain their troops in China until tangible evidence is given that China intends to fill her engagements honorably. It is urged that Prince Tuan's son should be displaced from the succession to the throne. This, it is asserted, can legally be done.

The only item in Thursday's news from China of more than ordinary interest was that there had been a recrudescence of anti-foreign feeling. Placards had been posted throughout the city urging the people and members of the secrecy societies to rise during the month of January and exterminate the foreigners. Though crowds collected around the placards there was no disturbance. Colonel Bullock, with a hundred men, had been ordered to go twenty miles north-west of Peking in search of a quantity of treasure said to have been buried by Chinese officials in their flight. Canton reports show that the reformer Yeung Sung Po, had been horribly tortured in the vain effort to draw a confession from him. Though strung up by the toes and by the thumbs he would say nothing.

China news of Friday was welcomed as the most satisfactory of the week. Count von Waldersee had stated that peace negotiations were seriously under way. It was stated by the Shanghai correspondent of the 'Standard' that the Empress Dowager had agreed to accept as conditions the early return to Peking of the Emperor Kwang Su, the payment of \$40,000,000, the right of each legation to a guard of 2,000 men, and the appointment to each province of the empire of a foreign adviser. Li Hung Chang had been ordered to take the Imperial seal from the forbidden palace and use it in the negotiations. It is shown in published replies to the Anglo-German suggestion of China's autonomy under certain conditions that Russia expressly adheres to the restrictions placed upon trade in ports already under her jurisdiction, and affects to regard the Anglo-German note as affecting ports already open and free remaining so hereafter. Japan, after having made inquiry as to the position she would be in as signatory power with the other states, and having found that it would not alter her status, gave adherence to the Anglo-German agreement at once, accepting its principles. The gruesome announcement is made that twenty Boxers are to be decapitated in a few days at Canton for having in the Haiping district placarded rewards for the heads of foreigners. A French gunboat has been sent to see that the sentences are executed.

BULLOCK BACK IN PEKIN.

HAD AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE, BUT BROUGHT BACK NO TREASURE.

Peking, Dec. 16.—As cabled to the Associated Press from Peking, under date of Dec. 12, a few days previous to that the British troops were notified of the existence of a large amount of treasure twenty miles north-west of Peking, and Col. Bullock, with a hundred men, left Peking on Wednesday last to investigate the truth of the report that a large amount of gold and valuables had been buried at a certain point by persons connected with the Chinese Court in the latter's flight from the Chinese capital. The following day (Thursday) Col. Bullock reported the discovery of the body of the man who gave the British information regarding the hidden treasure. He had been decapitated.

Col. Bullock has returned here. He reports having had an exciting experience. His detachment was fired upon eight miles from Peking. He could not discover the assailants, as they used smokeless powder and modern guns. He camped for the night at a place called Kaoliying, eighteen miles from here, meeting with slight opposition, but he was informed he would be attacked the

next day by Boxers from Dehhaling, and sent for reinforcements. Fifty men under Lieut. McPherson, of the 26th Boer Regiment, were sent to his assistance. Immediately after their arrival, Bullock attacked the town, which had to be entered by the use of scaling ladders. In the attack McPherson distinguished himself. He led the scaling party, which reached the town, jumped down into the place and emptied his revolver, killing five men. He then drew his sword and defended himself until his men arrived in force and saved him from death.

Col. Bullock speaks highly of the lieutenant's action. He says he believes he did a deed which merits the Victoria Cross in his jump to what was apparently certain death in order to let his men, who were coming up the ladder, arrive. Fortunately the Chinese had only a few carbines and were bad shots, and none of the British troops were wounded during the fighting. Forty Boxers were killed, a number wounded and many brought to Peking.

Owing to the killing of the informer no treasure was obtained.

Bullock says the people of Peking do not realize the contempt in which they are held in the country districts. He adds that one Chinaman said, while dying: 'You can kill me, but you cannot kill the Boxer movement, which will exist until every devil in China is killed.'

The French report the approach on the Chinese Imperial City of ten thousand men, Paotingfu, their garrison, fifteen miles west, being attacked by the advance guard. They have appealed to Li Hung Chang, and demand that he prevent the march of those troops owing to the peace negotiations.

DUNKIN ACT DEFENCE.
RICHMOND COUNTY TEMPERANCE WORKERS MEET AT RICHMOND.

Melbourne, Que., Dec. 13.—An important county conference of the temperance workers of Richmond county, called by the Dunkin Act Defence Association, was held in the Foster Temperance Hall, Richmond, on Tuesday, Dec. 11. The morning session opened at 10.30, and was presided over by the Rev. Dr. Kellock, of Richmond. Among those present were Mr. Marcus Crombie of Kingsbury, warden of the county; the Rev. J. Sutherland, Kingsbury; the Rev. A. W. Main, Danville; Mrs. Mary E. Sanderson, provincial president of the W.C.T.U.; the Rev. W. Smith, Richmond; the Rev. Dr. Stevenson, Danville; Messrs. Addison, of Brompton; Knapp, Windsor Mills; the Rev. C. A. Tanner, Windsor Mills; R. G. Dunbar, Melboro; Mrs. Ewing, county president, W.C.T.U.; Mrs. Cross, Melbourne; Mr. W. Morrison, Mr. A. McKay, Mr. J. Bartlett, Mr. A. Armstrong, of Melbourne; Mr. John A. Nicholls and other active temperance workers.

After the opening exercises and a brief address from the chairman, the Rev. Dr. Kellock, the convention listened to a report from Mr. John A. Nicholls, giving an account of work done in the county. Committees have been appointed in every polling division, public meetings held, and literature freely distributed. The delegates present also reported as to the condition of their sections. There was a strong determination to maintain the Dunkin Act.

The afternoon session opened at two o'clock, with devotional exercises, by the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, of Danville. After the reports from delegates were concluded the matter of law enforcement was taken up and considered. It was decided to secure the appointment of a county prosecutor, and a deputation, consisting of the Rev. W. Smith, of Richmond, and Mr. W. Morrison, of Melbourne, was appointed to wait upon the county council and ask that body to take action in that direction.

POLAR EXPEDITION
MR. BALDWIN PREPARING FOR A JOURNEY NORTH.

London, Dec. 10.—Mr. Evelyn Baldwin, of the United States weather bureau, who is preparing an expedition in search of the North Pole, has arrived here to consult with scientists and inspect ships. He will go to the Continent at the end of the week. Mr. Baldwin informed a representative of the Associated Press that he had definitely decided to adopt the Franz Josef Land route, the Greenland route being well covered by Peary and Sverdrup, and that he hoped to get away next summer. The famous Russian ice-crusher 'Ermark,' which is to attempt to reach the North Pole in 1901, under the command of Vice-Admiral Makaroff, of the Imperial Russian navy, is now being fitted out at Newcastle for the expedition, and Captain Bernier, the Canadian explorer, is busy in London fitting out the 'Scottish King.' He will shortly appear before the Royal Geographical Society and outline his plans.

MANITOBA LIQUOR LAW.

Winnipeg, Dec. 13.—The argument before the full court here as to the constitutionality of the liquor act was concluded yesterday afternoon, it having occupied seven full days' sittings of the court. At the conclusion, Chief Justice Killam announced that judgment would not be delivered until the next sitting of term of the court, which will be next February. The act is supposed to come into force on June 30 next year, though this will scarcely be done, should either the Provincial Government or liquor manufacturers and dealers enter an appeal against the findings of the full bench here.

ONTARIO.

The Rev. Alfred Gandier will be inducted as pastor of Cooke's Church, Toronto, on Jan. 3.

The new electric block system on the Michigan Central Railway between Welland and Niagara Falls, which was recently installed, has been put in operation. The signals, which are several in number, are from 500 feet to a mile apart, and cost about \$35,000.

The feeling of London, Ont., school teachers on the tobacco question is made very clear by the fact that 154 of their number have petitioned the school board to give some forceful pronouncement on the subject as a warning to parents and pupils, and also to urge the authorities to enforce the Ontario tobacco act.

Berlin ratepayers are agitating for municipal ownership of the electric light plant. The town recently acquired the waterworks system.

The Rev. A. B. Winchester, superintendent of Presbyterian Chinese missions in British Columbia, has accepted the call to Knox Church, Toronto. He will probably be inducted early in the new year.

The young men of Guelph have collected \$2,000 towards paying off the debt on the General Hospital.

The Toronto City Council has decided to submit to the electors in January for their endorsement or rejection the proposal that the city buy out the plant of the Consumers' Gas Company, paying therefor the maximum amount the company can obtain under the present charter—ten percent on the capital—which is \$1,750,000.

Mr. A. H. Watson, of Sombra, cultivated thirty acres last year for sugar beets for the Marine sugar factory, with good results, and has stated that he is willing to give forty acres next season to be cultivated for the Wallaceburg sugar beet factory. Every farmer that is solicited gives a guarantee that a portion of their farm will be used for the purpose of growing sugar beets.—Wallaceburg News.

Chatham citizens are going to ask the government to bonus a sugar beet factory in the Maple City.

PELEE ISLAND AMBITIOUS.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—Pelee Island, the famous grape-growing island, lying out in Lake Erie, the vineyards of which are among the most famous in America, is going to try to enlarge its borders by reclaiming the large area of swamp land included in its surface. An application has been made to the Ontario government, under the drainage act of last session, for assistance in the work, which will make Pelee Island a little Holland in Lake Erie.

TRADE FINDS NEW CHANNELS

Smith's Falls, Ont., Dec. 13.—The great poultry trade of eastern Ontario, which formerly centred in this town, has undergone a great change. The fair to-day was only a fraction of its former self. The feature of the day was the absence of American buyers, who formerly attended in considerable numbers to supply the American market. This result of the McKinley tariff of five cents per pound duty has long been foreseen. Canadians have looked for and found other markets. Large quantities of choice poultry have been shipped to England and British Columbia during the last few weeks. Prices to-day were 8c to 11c for turkeys; 7c to 8c for ducks; 5c to 7c for geese and chickens.

COLOR LINE ABOLISHED.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—The Public School Board has abolished the color line in the appointment of teachers. Miss L. Plummer, a gifted graduate of the Normal School, who had been employed as an occasional teacher, was a candidate for a vacancy on the regular staff. The management committee gave another applicant the preference, as Miss Plummer is of African descent. When the recommendation was before the trustees Mr. J. M. Godfrey made a strong plea, urging that on her merits as a teacher Miss Plummer was entitled to the position, and that instead of the color line being raised against her, it would be in the public interest that it should be counted in her favor. The management committee report was, on a vote, amended, and Miss Plummer appointed.

NEARLY A MILLION.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 12.—The Rev. Dr. Potts, secretary of the Methodist million-dollar twentieth century thanksgiving fund, announces that the task of raising the fund has almost been completed. His reports indicate that the subscriptions now aggregate about nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Over seven hundred thousand dollars will be devoted to relieving churches of debt. The Metropolitan Church congregation here has subscribed over \$57,000, the amount needed to clear that edifice of debt. Senator Cox and Mr. J. W. Flavelle will give an amount equal to the sum raised up to Dec. 31 by the congregation of the Centennial Church towards the extinction of that church debt. The Rev. Dr. Potts suggests that final collections for the thanksgiving fund be made at the watchnight services, which would aggregate a considerable sum to help to crown with completeness this great connexional effort.

TYPHOID IN ONTARIO.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—There is more typhoid fever in the province than at any period in the history of the Provincial Health Office. So far the returns for the month of November show a hundred and twenty-five deaths. And no returns have been received from fully a hundred municipalities in the province. When these are in, if the rate keeps up, there will have been a hundred and fifty deaths during the month.

In the month of October there were a hundred and seventeen cases, and this was the largest previous to that time.

The majority of the deaths are reported from places where there is no up-to-date water supply, and where residents have to use well water.

CHILD FATALLY SCALDED.

Smithfield, Ont., Dec. 11.—The infant daughter of Boyle Killam, an Etobicoke farmer, fell into a pail of hot water yesterday and was so badly scalded that she soon afterwards succumbed.

COREMAKERS' STRIKE OVER.

Oshawa, Ont., Dec. 13.—The strike of core-makers in the Ontario Malleable Iron Works, of this town, which has been in progress during the past week, was brought to an end yesterday through the intervention of the Dominion government, under the conciliation act. The men, about fifty in number, left work because some of their number, on refusing to help in the shifting and dumping process, were given their discharge. The men stated this work was dangerous to their health, as they ran a risk of contracting serious colds on resuming the work of core-making, after being overheated. They also complained of draughts and low temperature in the shop. Mr. King, the deputy minister of labor, arrived in Oshawa on Tuesday, and during the afternoon and evening was in constant communication with the company and the men. The company prepared to take immediate steps to improve the condition of the room in which the core-makers worked, by placing in it new heating apparatus, arranging for storm doors, etc., and also agreed to call upon the core-makers to help in shifting and dumping only in exceptional cases, and the men expressed their willingness to return to work.

DEATH AT A WEDDING.

Brougham, Ont., Dec. 13.—A very sad event took place yesterday at the residence of Mr. J. C. Jones, one of the respected residents of Balsam, near here, on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter. While the wedding guests were still present, Mrs. Jones, mother of the bride, took ill. A doctor was at once summoned, but Mrs. Jones died in the presence of the wedding guests. The physician pronounced the cause heart failure.

IGNOMINIOUS WITHDRAWAL OF A FORGED LICENSE.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—The activity and vigilance of the pastor and members of Crawford Street Methodist Church in opposing the application for a transfer of a back street liquor license to a permanent site near their church, has been a complete success. As announced in the 'Witness,' those opposing the transfer charged that the application contained the names of a dead, absentee and of unqualified persons, a number of these names being forgeries. The liquor lawyer, completely disconcerted by the exposure of the fraudulent character of the document, asked for a few days' time in which to prepare a reply. Having no justification to offer, he begged and obtained permission to withdraw the application. A movement has been started to have those who are responsible for the forgeries prosecuted.

G. T. R. TRAINMEN KILLED.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—Frederick Richardson, of East Toronto, a Grand Trunk engineer, was killed this afternoon by striking his head against the support of an overhead bridge on the line two miles east of Scarborough. The train was going pretty fast, when Richardson, an experienced man, fifteen years in the service, stuck his head out of the cab window to look ahead. Just then a bridge was passed, and Richardson's fireman, seeing that he had been struck, pulled him into the cab in an unconscious condition and brought the train to East Toronto. Richardson's skull was fractured and he died in the ambulance just as the General Hospital was reached. An inquest has been ordered.

WEST YORK PROTEST.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—The steps being taken to protest the election of the Hon. N. Clarke Wallace, of West York, sovereign grand master of the Orange order, have been discontinued.

RETIRING FROM PUBLIC DUTY.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 14.—Four valuable members of the Board of Education in this city will not seek re-election. They are Messrs. Robert Mick, J. G. Elliott, Major Gallaway and Dr. Herold. All have served from eight to ten years, three of them having filled the office of chairman of the board. During their terms many and important improvements in school work have been made.

SEA HERRING IN LAKE ONTARIO.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—Fishermen from the Island have reported to the fishery commissioner, Mr. Bastedo, that a species of sea herring have made their appearance in Lake Ontario. Samples will be taken to the department for inspection. Sea herring have not hitherto been reported in Lake Ontario, but Mr. Bastedo thinks it quite possible that a colony of them have come up the St. Lawrence and settled in the lakes. The deepening of the canals is considered to be primarily the cause of this new development in Ontario's resources.

With regard to the scheme of placing a number of landlocked salmon from Quebec and black bass in the waters of the Muskoka lakes, which the department intended to do this fall, Mr. Bastedo says that owing to the lateness of the season the scheme will have to be deferred till next year, as the fish are not available now.

FIRST MAYOR OF TORONTO.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—A three-quarter length life size portrait of Mr. Wm. Lyon Mackenzie, first Mayor of Toronto, and leader of the 1837 rebellion, was hung at the new City Hall this morning. It was ordered by the City Council in May at a cost of five hundred dollars. Mr. J. W. L. Foster, is the artist. It is placed at the entrance to the council chamber, next to the portrait of ex-Mayor Howland, recently presented by his father, Sir W. P. Howland.

SERMONS FOR WORKINGMEN.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 14.—A conference of workingmen, called by the Rev. J. L. Gilmour, was held in the lecture room of the James Street Baptist Church last evening. Mr. Gilmour presided.

The questions discussed were, Is there anything wrong with the gospel from the workingman's standpoint, and has the Church any message for the workingmen? 2. Are the churches reaching the workingmen? 3. Why do the churches not reach the workingmen? 4. How can the churches best reach the workingmen? There was a general discussion of these questions. It was the opinion that the Gospel was all right and that the Church had a message for the workingmen. It was stated that the churches were not reaching the workingmen because the sermons were not suitable, not being for the workingmen. The remedy proposed was to make the sermons more simple and practical. It was also thought that more of the workingmen would attend church if the hours of labor were reduced.

SPREAD OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—A public-spirited citizen of Morpeth, Elgin county, has written to Mr. Glocking, secretary of the Labor Bureau, drawing attention to the ravages of the 'white plague.' He believes that farmers and cattle owners very frequently contract tuberculosis by milking cows or cleaning out stables before breakfast, or on an empty stomach. He asks for investigation by the provincial authorities.

NO PHOTOGRAPHING PERMITTED.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—The all-conquering camera ran against a snag at Osgoode Hall this morning. In a suit between the London and Canadian Loan and Agency Company and one Bartkes, the defendant asked for the right to photograph certain portions of the company's books instead of making certified copies, the photo process being the cheaper. The Master in Chambers refused permission, and Chancellor Boyd dismissed the appeal, saying he did not know why all these novelties should be introduced into Canadian legal practice.

MAIMED FOR LIFE.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 13.—An accident occurred yesterday morning on the Grand Trunk Railway when by two men were maimed for life. Walter Childs and Lewis Cook, both residents of this city, were run down by an express train on the bridge which spans the Moira river, and the former had his left arm severed near the shoulder, and Cook's left leg was taken off near the knee. His right

leg was severely crushed and he may lose it. The men had been working all night, and were proceeding home when the accident happened. They were caught on the bridge and did not hear the express.

DOES NOT AFFECT CANADIANS.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—At the headquarters of the Canadian Order of Chosen Friends it is stated that the collapse of the United States Order of Chosen Friends will in no way affect the Canadian Order of Chosen Friends, which is in a sound financial condition. The Canadian order had its origin as a branch of the American institution, but thirteen years ago it severed from the parent organization. A law suit arose over the action of the Canadian members, which was won by them, and since that time the two bodies have been separate and distinct.

AGED GRANDMOTHER WAS PRES-ENT.

Milton, Ont., Dec. 15.—Among the relatives of Trooper J. W. Borden, just returned from South Africa, who were present at the reception tendered to him in this village, was his grandmother, who is in her 105th year. The old lady showed as keen an interest in the proceedings and as hearty an appreciation of her grandson's achievements as the youngest member present.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—The ceremony of handing over Upper Canada College to the care of the Board of Governors took place yesterday morning at the Education Department in the presence of a number of members of the new board. The Hon. Richard Harcourt made a brief address, reviewing the history of the college for over seventy years, and referring to the great men who had received the grounding of their education within its walls. Mr. W. H. Beatty was elected pro tem chairman of the governors.

PARLIAMENT DISMISSED.

WILL NOT REASSEMBLE UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS.

London, Dec. 15.—Parliament was dismissed to-day until the middle of February, with the reading of the shortest of the Queen's speeches. It was as follows: My Lords and Gentlemen: I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the expenses incurred by the operations of my armies in South Africa and China.

The proceedings to-day in the House of Commons were a repetition in miniature of the debates of the brief session. The ministers were heckled, the war denounced, and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain was further attacked. But the war funds were finally voted, after the Secretary of State for War, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, had given an assurance that the government during recess would cordially co-operate with General Kitchener in an endeavor to end the war.

NICARAGUAN CANAL. United States Senate Adopts Anti-Neutrality Amendment.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 13.—In accordance with previous agreement, the Senate in executive session took a vote at three o'clock to-day on the amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty authorizing the United States to defend its interests in the canal. The Senate did not close its doors until two o'clock, and there was then left only one hour's time for discussion of the provisions of the amendment. The vote was taken by yeas and nays, 65 yeas being cast in favor of the amendment and 17 against. The negative votes were as follows: Baird, Beveridge, Frye, Foster, Hansbrough, Lindsay, Mason, McCumber, McEnery, McBride, Morgan, Money, Stewart, Tillman, Wellington, Wolcott and Gallinger.

The committee amendment no sooner had been adopted than various senators took the floor to suggest further amendments. The amendment which probably attracted most attention was offered by Senator Elkins, and is as follows: 'Nothing in this treaty shall be construed to prevent the United States from acquiring sufficient security and sovereignty, or to prevent it from building, operating, maintaining, controlling and defending the said canal (referring to the proposed Nicaragua canal), or for any other purpose that the United States may deem for its best interests.'

Previous to taking the vote on the committee amendment, Senator Elkins occupied the greater portion of the Senate's time with a speech advocating radical alteration of the treaty. He announced himself as favorable to the committee amendment, but said that, to his mind, that amendment did not go far enough to meet the wishes of the people. He believed, he said, that if the canal

was to be constructed by the government of the United States, the people would demand complete and absolute control over the canal itself, and also the right to exercise their own judgment, as a nation, not only in acquiring property in connection with the canal, but, if need be, in securing sovereignty over it. He contended that to pursue this course involved no violation of international rights and in defence of this position said the United States had made an offensive and defensive treaty with France in 1793, and soon afterwards had repudiated that obligation. He also cited other precedents and authorities, some of them being from English sources, in support of this position. He argued, in short, that changed conditions warrant a change in conduct and in positions.

The amendment referred to in the above despatch as being adopted by a majority of 48 votes, practically stipulates that the proposed Nicaragua canal will be an Isthmian war channel for United States defence, and not a neutral waterway open to the commerce of the world at all times. The Hay-Pauncefote treaty is expressly intended to ensure the latter, a commercial waterway, open to the world like the Suez canal, under every condition of international relations. The Davis amendment now engrafted upon the new treaty provides that the five articles in it, which establish the neutralization of the canal, shall not apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defence of the United States and the maintenance of public order.

WHAT LONDON'S PRESS SAYS.

London, Dec. 14. The 'Daily Chronicle' publishes a short note, in which it says: 'The news is very serious, indeed. It means, in a word, that the jingo and Anglophobes of the United States Senate have triumphed, and we are back again where we were at the time of the Venezuelan imbroglio and President Cleveland's insolent and provocative speech. The better feeling manifested during the Spanish-American war has been shaken by pro-Ber ser sympathies, and it is now swamped by self-interest. The Americans intend to fortify the canal in spite of the treaty engagement to the contrary. We cannot possibly stand by and allow the Clayton-Bulwer treaty to be thus imperiously set aside. The good relations between the two countries must of necessity be gravely menaced. This is the outcome of Mr. McKinley's reelection. Worse could hardly have happened if Mr. Bryan had been returned.'

London, Dec. 14.—There is a noticeable absence of comment in the afternoon papers to-day on the action taken by the United States Senate regarding the Nicaraguan canal. The 'St. James's

Gazette' takes the occasion to lecture the 'jingo Senate,' which, it says, has again roughly rebuffed the President and affronted the generosity of Great Britain. The paper further declares that action of the Senate in 'ordaining that one party shall keep its advantages, but that the other shall not be safeguarded, is imprudent, and if it persists in its ignorantly selfish course Great Britain must fall back on her rights under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, whereby she is entitled to refuse permission to the United States to build the canal.'

The 'Pall Mall Gazette' says: 'British consent to the amendment is impossible. Everything for nothing is not a working principle.'

BRITISH ATTITUDE.

London, Dec. 14.—In the House of Commons to-day the attempt of Mr. Henry Norman, Liberal, to draw out the government on the subject of the Nicaragua canal failed, Lord Cranborne, Parliamentary Secretary for the Foreign Office, contenting himself with replying to the effect that no communication has passed between Great Britain and the other European governments with the view of eliciting whether they agreed to regard as neutral a canal occupied and fortified by the United States. No useful purpose, Lord Cranborne added, could be served at the present moment by replying to the other paragraphs of the question of Mr. Norman. These asked if Nicaragua accepted the United States Senate's committee's view that the relationship of the United States and Nicaragua was analogous to that of Turkey and Egypt at the time of the construction of the Suez canal, namely, the relationship of a suzerain and vassal, and if the United States associated itself with the protocol signed at the London conference of March 13, 1871, to the effect that no power could liberate itself from the engagements of a treaty without the assent of the contracting parties.

FURTHER AMENDMENTS.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Senate committee on foreign relations to-day held a special meeting and decided to recommend further amendments of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The committee adopted an amendment suggested by Senator Foraker, which declares that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty supersedes the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and which also strikes out of the Hay-Pauncefote agreement article 3, which permits the submission of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty to other powers, and invites their acceptance of it.

THE DAVIS AMENDMENT.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Unless amended beyond any degree proposed in the Senate by the responsible leaders, and resolved into such form as to make it an absolute discourteous matter to be communicated, the pending Hay-Pauncefote treaty will be submitted to the British Government by the President. The communication will be purely pro forma for the administration has not the slightest idea that the convention will be accepted by the British Government. If this belief is well founded, then the document will go into the limbo of treaties failed of ratification, its position comparing in some degree with the Olney-Pauncefote arbitration treaty.

Any expectation that the action of the Senate yesterday upon the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty would result in the immediate retirement of Secretary Hay from the Cabinet, is negated by the fact that the secretary has not resigned, and according to his own statement will not leave the Cabinet at present.

When the Senate went into executive session Senator Lodge reported the amendments agreed upon in committee. There were two of them. The first of these inserts the words 'which is hereby superseded' after the words 'Clayton-Bulwer treaty' in the first paragraph of article 2 of the treaty, making that paragraph read as follows: 'The high contracting parties, desiring to preserve and maintain the general principle of neutralization established in article VIII. of the Clayton-Bulwer convention, which is hereby superseded, adopt as the basis of such neutralization the following rules, substantially as embodied in the convention between Great Britain and certain other powers signed at Constantinople, for the free navigation of the Suez maritime canal.'

The second of the amendments strikes out article 338, treaty reading as follows: 'The high contracting parties immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications of this convention will bring it to the notice of the other powers inviting them to adhere to it.'

It was stated that the committee had been unanimous in its action with the exception of Senator Money, who opposed any action except the absolute and unconditional abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

That result is accomplished by the amendment reported to-day, but the Mississippi senator would have this done through other means than the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

After the report was made Senator Culberson, of Texas, took the floor, and he was followed by Senator Spooner. Mr. Spooner reported the treaty.

FRANCE WILL NOT INTERFERE.

Paris, Dec. 14.—The French Government will not offer objection to any action of the United States Congress regarding the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. They prefer that the Nicaragua canal should be neutral, but they appreciate the United States' strategic reasons for fortifying the canal, and France's interests are too small to induce the government to interfere in any way in the matter.

'Witness' readers will confer a great favor on the publishers by taking an opportunity of telling their friends about the 'Witness.'

THE LATE MR. RYMAL. PICTURESQUE CHARACTER REMOVED FROM CANADIAN LIFE.

Hamilton, Dec. 17.—The remains of Mr. Joseph Rymal, who died at his residence in Barton township on Saturday morning, were interred in the cemetery on the Rymal farm to-day.

Away back in the closing years of the last century, through the immigration of a sturdy New Jersey farmer and his family to Canada, the name of Rymal entered into the history of Wentworth, and maintained a prominent place there throughout the present century. The settler from New Jersey was Joseph Rymal's grandfather. The pioneer settler on a farm in Barton township, and as his boys grew to manhood they also took up farms. One son, Jacoby, settled near the homestead, and soon evinced a keen interest in the political problems of the day. He was elected to represent Wentworth in the old Upper Canada Assembly, and was a warm champion of William Lyon Mackenzie during the troubles that led up to the rebellion of '37. It was Jacoby Rymal who loaned Mackenzie the horse upon which the leader of the rebellion eluded his pursuers and made his escape out of the country. Jacoby Rymal was the father of Joseph Rymal, who was born in 1821, about a mile from the present homestead. At an early age he had an intimate acquaintance with hard work—of the farm life of that time. He could secure only a country school education, but luckily developed early strong inclinations for reading, and this, combined with a good memory and ready speech, soon made him a tower of strength on the political platform. It was in 1857 that he first became a candidate for political honors, and at the general elections in that year he was elected to represent Wentworth in the Canadian Assembly. For a quarter of a century 'Joe' Rymal remained in parliament as the representative of his county. There were many keen contests during all those years, but the end of every election found Mr. Rymal at the head of the poll.



THE LATE JOSEPH RYMAL. From an old photograph.

In parliament he was a warm favorite on both sides of the House, and while speaking but rarely during a session, when he had anything to say he told it with exceptional force and clearness. His speeches were at all times filled with hard common sense and garnished with a homely humor that was irresistible. When roused to the defence of a principle he was a mighty fighter. He opposed some of the blanks of the platform of Confederation, and his fearlessness and integrity in this earned for him from the Hon. George Brown the sobriquet 'Honest' Joe Rymal. His health compelled him to decline re-nomination for parliament in 1882.

The late Mr. Rymal was one of the keenest critics the Conservative party had among the rural members, but despite this, the late Sir John A. Macdonald and other Conservative leaders entertained very warm feelings for him. Deceased was a life-long adherent of the Methodist Church, and was a man of pronounced views in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic. He was for years a director of the Victoria Mutual Insurance Company of this city.

In 1846 Mr. Rymal married Lydia Ann Terryberry, and four years ago they were quite a gathering of relatives at the old homestead in celebration of the golden wedding anniversary. Besides a widow, six daughters and one son survive him. Mrs. R. G. Oimstead and Mrs. J. H. Gage, of this city; Mrs. Jacob Young, of Ryekman's Corners; Mrs. George Binkley and Mrs. Peter Worby, of Barton, and Mrs. D. Sykes, of Grimsby, are the daughters, and his only son, Mr. C. E. Rymal, lives on the old farm, the same that the grandfather of deceased settled on when he first came to Canada.

PARLIAMENT SUMMONED.

WILL MEET ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF FEBRUARY.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—It was definitely decided at yesterday's cabinet council to summon parliament for the despatch of business on Wednesday, Feb. 6. A fortnight ago instructions were issued by the government to the various departments to hurry up the preparation of the annual reports and to the Printing Bureau to lose no time in getting them out. The ministry will proceed without delay to the drawing up in its estimates which will constitute the principal business for the approaching session.

LORD O'HAGAN DEAD.

London, Dec. 14.—Lord O'Hagan died. He was born in 1878.

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SCENES FROM NOVELS OLD AND NEW.

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The 'Wide World' is a Paper 'Witness' readers will enjoy.

MONTREAL NEWS.

Mayor Prefontaine has written to Colonel Hughes, chief of police, asking him to withdraw his resignation.

The Rev. Charles P. Abbott, of Bosobel and North Ely, Que., has been appointed to the vacant mission of Rougemont.

R. A. Muir, a cattleman, while leading a bull out of the Grand Trunk stockyards, on Sunday, was attacked and severely injured by the animal. He will be in the General Hospital for some days.

Mr. John R. Barlow, who has been assistant to Mr. St. George, city surveyor, now fills the place made vacant by Mr. St. George's resignation. Mr. Barlow has been in the department for over twenty years.

The Montreal Board of Trade council on Wednesday determined to memorialize the government of Great Britain to seek to have Canadian grain and other products admitted under the minimum tariff granted by Germany to the most favored nations.

Leonidas Gareau, the man who was caught in Mr. P. Brown's house at St. Rose and tied to the bed in which he had hidden in order to rob the house, was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary when he came before Judge Desrosiers on Thursday morning.

Mr. C. S. Hoare, local manager of the Imperial Bank of Canada, at Winnipeg, has been appointed local manager of the Merchants Bank of Halifax at Montreal, to take effect on Jan. 2 next. Mr. A. E. Brock has been appointed assistant manager.

Mr. T. L. Paton was elected president of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association on Saturday evening; Mr. James Robertson, vice-president; Mr. J. S. N. Dougal, treasurer; directors, Messrs. R. Booth, jr., G. Tassé, A. W. Ramsay, W. J. Egan and A. R. Colvin.

The body of Mr. Joseph Prevost, carter, was discovered last week frozen in the ice on the Lachine canal, near the Canada Sugar Refinery, whither it is believed he was blown by the storm which was so severe some three weeks since. Mr. Prevost disappeared on the night of the storm.

Lieut.-Col. Mattice, while going home one evening last week, stepped upon the rear fender of a car without noticing it. The car moved then and threw the colonel heavily to the ground, and he was confined to bed as a consequence on the following day. His hurt, it is thought, is not serious.

Mr. Wilbur C. Thurston, only son of

Mr. John E. Thurston, formerly of Montreal, a member of the American Presbyterian Church choir, and a nephew of Mr. E. H. Thurston, shoe manufacturer, Craig street, died in Nome of pneumonia. He had lived in Grafton, Mass., for several years past, and was well known by many in Montreal.

The committee of the North American Fish and Game Protective Association on Friday made a recommendation to Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick that the bounty on wolves should be placed at fifteen dollars a head. They have become pests in the destruction of game. Prohibition of the export of trout other than caught by tourists was also advocated.

Mr. Inman, of Duluth, was before the Montreal Board of Trade on Wednesday afternoon to show plans of a winter navigation boat that will break ice enough for its own navigation in frozen waters. The merchants listened to his remarks, which were well received, and one gentleman who had built an ice-crushing boat forty years ago at Kingston, Mr. G. M. Kinghorn, said his boat had given them then a week earlier navigation in spring and a week later in the fall of the year in crossing the river, which for their freight was a great matter. If there were need for the new ice-crushing steamer it would be valuable at such a point.

The Rev. Dr. Schaeffer, of New York, addressed over two hundred teachers and others interested in the Sunday-schools at the Presbyterian Sabbath-school convention on Tuesday afternoon. Dr. Schaeffer said that in the class room there should be no interruptions while the teaching was in progress, the teachers should know the geography, and should also know what the persons they spoke about had done, so that they would be able to give the boys or girls an idea of what the persons did, where they did it, and why. The convention was a great success in numbers and desire to learn proper methods of teaching.

A case of hunting privilege was decided by Judge Teller on Friday, with reference to rights of the Seminary of St. Sulpice to hunt in the seigniory of Two Mountains. The Hon. Mr. Forget and others, having leased the privileges, the public considered they were entitled also to hunt on the preserve. The judge ruled against the plea for the public, represented by Mr. Joseph de Repentigny, of St. Ann's.

Mr. J. R. Adams, brother-in-law of Ald. Ekers, and who was appointed in place of the late Mr. Muir, as city assessor, some months since, died on Friday morning, after a short illness, having been taken with a chill just a week previous to his death. The chill de-

veloped into pneumonia, and all that medical skill could do was done, but in vain. Mr. Adams was 53 years old, had been in the stationery business for many years, and was very much liked by his many friends.

A conference was held on Wednesday between a number of leading doctors and hospital committee men with a view to plans for a civic contagious diseases hospital. After some expression of opinion, diverse as to hospital management and control, the conference agreed to leave the whole matter in the hands of a committee comprising Senator Drummond, Sir William Hingston, Dr. Armstrong, Dr. Perrigo, Dr. Adams, Mr. Richard White, Mr. B. Tansey, Mr. H. Stikeman, Mr. C. P. Hebert, Dr. Mignault, Dr. Lachapelle, Mr. R. B. Angus and Dr. Laflaur.

The death is announced at Cowansville, Que., of Mr. R. E. Kye, formerly of Montreal, and a resident for the last twenty-five years of Cornwall, Ont. The deceased gentleman went to Cowansville on a visit to his second daughter, Mrs. A. Johnston, about three months ago. A few days afterwards he sustained a slight bruise on the leg, which failed to heal. A subsequent cold brought on blood-poisoning, of which he died on Monday last. The late Mr. Kye, who was 68 years old at the time of his death, was born in the Old Country, and came to Montreal at an early age. For some thirty-five years he followed in this city first the trade of printer, and afterwards the grocery business. He was a brother of Mr. S. C. Kye, printer, and of the Misses Kye, well known educationists.

An awful statement was made before the Society for the Protection of Women and Children on Thursday. It came about in connection with mention of a woman about to take action against the Grey Nunnery. The woman had taken her child out of the institution, and found it covered with a loathsome skin disease from head to foot. It had been communicated from the child to the rest of her children and to herself. This pointed to terrible conditions of want of sanitation. Mr. Marshall, the society's officer, had gone to some persons interested in the nunnery, and had been told that conditions complained of were difficult to amend. Sir William Hingston was quoted as having said that 90 percent of the children taken to the institution died, and that, considering the state in which they reached the institution, it was not wonderful. In one case three infants tied together by the ankle had been thrown into the place like so much poultry. This had continued to be the state of affairs for twenty-five years or longer.

COLD STORAGE CASE.
 McGILLIS SENTENCED TO PENITENTIARY FOR THREE YEARS.

Alex. McCullough, one of the accused in the Cold Storage case, was admitted to bail on Tuesday afternoon, himself in \$10,000, and sureties of \$10,000. On Thursday McGillis, who was found guilty, was sent to the penitentiary for three years. Meantime Chisholm, the other individual charged with conspiracy in the case, is at large, having escaped to the United States. The peculiar nature of the offence, the manner in which nearly a quarter of a million dollars were squandered in some form, and concerning which no trace is left, has made a deep impression on the commercial world.

BEDFORD TEACHERS.
 A FREE CRITICISM OF MCGILL NORMAL SCHOOL.

Knowlton, Dec. 12.—The third annual meeting of the District of Bedford Protestant Teachers' Association was held in the Knowlton Academy on Saturday. There was a good attendance of teachers and citizens, and the papers and discussions excited more than usual interest. Although the subject was not on the programme, the efficiency of the McGill Normal School was criticized. It was described as the focus of educational movements, and whatever excuses might be pleaded for imperfect curricula and defective classification of salaries, there is no reasonable justification for having a school for training teachers behind Ontario and American institutions of a similar character. Yet one gentleman pronounced the Normal School in Montreal fifty years behind the times. Another suggested that to hint at any defect in that school was to call down the lightning of Jove upon his presumptuous head. A third could not see how radical changes could be enacted so long as two of its professors were members of the Protestant Committee, acting in the twofold capacity of governors and governed. This was but an incident in the discussion of the very able papers, but it was a significant incident. The subject of a paper covering this question was proposed for the next meeting and more may be heard of it.

A very important as well as interesting paper was read on 'Manual Training,' by Mr. Bennett, who is in charge of the Macdonald School in Knowlton and Wa-

terlo Academies. Mr. Bennett treated the subject from a purely educational point of view. He pointed out how the dignity of manual labor is recognized by its inclusion in the school course. Taught in the same building during the same hours, and often by the same teacher, it instils a love for labor, and a taste for it, as the work done is done for itself, and is its own reward. Its utility is seen in the development of the hand, making it more dexterous, and more obedient to the will. It develops the sense of touch and trains the eye. In ordinary school work the eye gets more strained than trained. But Mr. Bennett laid particular emphasis upon the moral value of manual training. As it approaches more closely ordinary life than any book subject, so it fosters more directly those moral qualities and habits that are of the greatest value in life. 'One of the most important of these,' he said, 'is decision. He who uses the knife, hammer or saw cannot be vacillating or fearful or be successful. If he be fearful of failing he had better not begin, for he has already failed. Again self-reliance is admirably fostered by handiwork. Whatever is done is the result of the pupil's own labor. The experience is personal and can be applied to future difficulty. An appreciation of the difficulty ahead, a knowledge of the past conquest, and reliance on self and it is done. And the re-valuation of manual work is that there is no vagueness about these things. There is a tangible difficulty and a tangible result. It is definitely right or definitely wrong. It is apparent to all. It is not because a book or a person says so. Then the result is immediate. It is not postponed for years for the good or bad work to become apparent. In speech or writing, the language may be perfect, but the facts wrong. In manual work its rightness or wrongness, its accuracy or inaccuracy, constitutes its perfection or otherwise. In a similar way it trains in habits of order and forethought, in the arrangement of the work; industry and perseverance in its accomplishment, all calculated not by precept but by practice, and not just subject to the teacher's estimate, but the result gives the measure of praise. The attention and observation are kept constantly active. Seeing how it is to be done and watching the work while doing it, the mind and attention cannot wander when work with tools is being done, without the result being painfully apparent. Finally, manual training is not doing as opposed to learning, but learning by doing; and well assimilated experience is as valuable as well assimilated facts. This training has a valuable bearing on general intelligence, it being proven that children can do their other work better in a shorter time by devoting a portion of each week to manual training.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Mr. Charles McBarney, B.A., principal of Granby Academy, president; Mr. Levi Moore, B.A., principal of the Knowlton Academy, vice-president; Miss

Frances Buck, of Cowansville, secretary-treasurer; executive committee: Inspector Taylor, Mr. Leet, Mr. Elliott, Miss Cunningham and Miss Barber. The next meeting will be held in Clareville on the second Saturday in February.

ENGLISH FOOTBALL LEAGUES.
 The following tables show the standing of the leading English football teams up to Dec. 1:—

The League—Division 1.

Club	Plyd	Wn	Lost	Drn	Pts
Notts Forest	14	9	1	4	22
Newcastle United	14	7	1	6	20
Aston Villa	14	7	5	5	19
Bury	14	7	4	3	17
Sunderland	14	6	3	5	17
Liverpool	14	6	3	5	17
Manchester City	14	7	5	2	16
Middlesbrough	14	7	5	2	16
Notts County	14	7	8	2	16
Derby County	14	7	7	1	15
Everton	14	6	4	3	15
Wolverhampton Wan.	14	4	4	6	14
Sheffield United	14	6	6	2	14
Sheffield Wednesday	14	4	4	6	13
West Bromwich Albion	14	7	7	6	12
Blackburn Rovers	14	5	7	5	11
Stoke	14	3	10	3	9
Preston North End	14	2	11	3	7

The League—Division 2.

Club	Plyd	Wn	Lost	Drn	Pts
Grimsby Town	14	8	2	4	20
Small Heath	14	6	9	7	19
Burnley	14	8	4	2	18
Blackpool	14	7	4	3	17
Woolwich Arsenal	14	7	4	3	17
Blackpool	14	5	1	6	16
Leicester Fosse	14	5	4	6	16
New Brighton Tower	14	6	5	3	15
Walsall	14	5	4	4	14
Glossop	14	5	4	2	13
Middlesbrough	14	5	6	3	13
Burton Swifts	14	3	7	1	7
Barnsley	14	3	7	1	7
Chesterfield	14	1	7	4	6

The Barnsley vs. Burnley match at Barnsley was stopped unfinished owing to fog, and is not included in the above table.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.
 In the following list an asterisk denotes the club upon whose ground the match was played:—

The League—Division 1.

*Preston North End	1	Notts Forest	2
*Sheffield Wednes.	2	*Liverpool	2
Day	2	*Manchester City	1
*Sheffield United	2	Manchester City	1
*Aston Villa	7	Everton	0
*Sunderland	2	West Bromwich	0
*Derby County	4	Albion	0
*Wolverhampton W	1	Bury	0
*Bolton Wanderers	1	Stoke	0
*Notts County	2	Blackburn Rovers	1

The League—Division 2.

*Grimsby Town	4	Lincoln City	0
Small Heath	1	*Newton Heath	0
*Burnley	3	Woolwich Arsenal	0
*New Brighton	5	Walsall	1
*Leicester Fosse	3	Burton Swifts	1
*Middlesbrough	3	Blackpool	1
*Glossop	6	Stockport County	0
*Burslem Port Vale	2	Barnsley	0
*Chesterfield	2	Gainsbrough Trinity	0

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SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

Dec. 30, 1900.

REVIEW.

BY JOHN R. WHITNEY.

Golden Text.—Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.—Psa. lxxv., 11.

In this course of lessons our attention concerning Jesus of Nazareth has been directed to

THREE MIRACLES OF HEALING.

A man with the dropsy.

The ten lepers.

Blind Bartimeus.

THREE INTERVIEWS WITH INDIVIDUALS.

A Pharisee on the Sabbath day.

The rich young ruler.

Zaccheus, the Publican.

SIX PARABLES.

The great supper.

The lost sheep and coin.

The prodigal son.

The unjust steward.

The rich man and Lazarus.

The pounds.

I.—The Miracles. The first of these was a case of 'dropsy.' The healing occurred on the Sabbath day, in the house of a Pharisee who had invited Jesus to 'eat bread' with him.

The disease in itself was not contagious, or excessively painful, or such as separated the sufferer from religious and social privileges. But it made him exceedingly uncomfortable, anxious and expectant of evil. His days were full of trouble, with death staring him in the face. When the man who was thus afflicted came to Jesus on his

noticed that our Lord did not depict either the characteristics of the believer nor those of the kingdom of heaven, as he did in some other parables which we have considered. But in these he has set before us great spiritual relationships which belong to all men, and illustrated them by the common relations which all men bear to each other, and to the circumstances in which they are placed. They tell us, but not in the order in which we have studied them, of the obligations resting upon all men, of their responsibilities, of God's grace toward them, of their condition by nature and how he meets it, and of their eternal destiny.

Thus in the parable of 'The pounds,' we saw that every man, woman and child in every age and in every condition, is entrusted with something which is to be used for the glory of God and the good of men. In this respect all stand on one common footing, for 'he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things' (Acts xvii., 25), and the 'nobleman' gave to each of his servants, a pound which was 'to occupy' until he came. Every man is at perfect liberty to use this trust as he pleases. He may 'trade' with it or hide it in the earth, but he must answer for it. 'For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in the body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.' (II. Cor. v., 10.)

The great mass of men, however, have but a very slight apprehension of this obligation, or of their responsibility for it. Whilst seeing clearly in their dealings with one another the necessity of rendering 'to Caesar the things that are Caesar's,' they see no necessity whatever of rendering 'to God the things that are God's.' When he is concerned, like 'the unjust steward,' they deliberately belittle their obligations to him—they bring them within limits which they think they can easily reach themselves. Their course is approved by all about them, and so they presume to satisfy God by simply satisfying men.

But God does not leave men to themselves. He comes to them in infinite grace with the invitations of the Gospel, and his invitations are always to a 'great supper.' He says to all: 'Come, for all things are now ready.' Having no valid reason why they should not accept this invitation, as they have with one consent belittled their obligations to their Lord, so now they 'all with one consent' begin 'to make excuse' (Luke xiv., 17, 18) for not coming, or they make 'light' of the invitation itself. These 'excuses' they 'make out of the very things which he has entrusted to their care as his stewards. But those who persist in making them will not be permitted 'to taste' of his supper.

The grace of God, however, does not end with simply inviting men to come to him. He seeks them, as the shepherd sought his sheep, and as the woman sought her coin. In fact, the invitation itself is based on all that is involved in this seeking, for by it all things are made ready. It includes the whole work of Redemption, in which Jesus Christ 'came to seek, and to save, that which was lost.' (Luke xix., 10.)

But the salvation of the sinner demands more than an atonement by the life and death of Jesus. There must also be an awakening, and a renewing, in the man himself by the Holy Ghost. This was brought before us very clearly in the way by which the woman found her coin. Although she swept her room carefully and faithfully with her broom, yet she could not find it, until it received the light of her candle, and then reflected it back to her.

So with the sinner. Like 'the younger son,' he must come to himself. It may be necessary for God's 'broom' to sweep him, as it did this prodigal, but it is not until he is enlightened by the Spirit to see his lost condition that he is willing to return. When, however, he can, and will, say truly, 'I have sinned, that is repentance. And when he adds, 'I will arise, and go to my Father,' that is faith. So, repenting, and believing, he is received graciously, clothed with the best robe, and sits down at 'the great supper' as a beloved son.

But 'the elder son'—who had no real love for his father—who, to commend himself to his favor, depended upon fulfilling his own little ideas of what was due to him—who had no faith in him—and, because he said 'neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment,' had no repentance—this man 'would not go in' to that supper. There are very many like him.

Then in the striking parable of 'The rich man and Lazarus,' our Lord lifted the veil that hides the life which is after death, from the life which is before it, and by this uplifting, we have a glimpse into the destiny of men. That destiny for all eternity was determined in time. During his earthly life 'the rich man' was 'clothed in purple, and fared sumptuously every day,' and he was so satisfied with these 'good things' that he neither sought nor desired anything better, although fully instructed by 'Moses and the prophets.' When he passed into the other life, all this came to an end. Then he was for all eternity a poor, suffering beggar, craving a drop of water to quench his thirst, but utterly unable to obtain it. In his lifetime he might have drunk of 'the water of life' freely and fully, but when invited to do so, he made excuses and turned away. Now there was no water for him.

The beggar, Lazarus, however, who lay at 'the rich man's' gate when he lived on the earth, although poor among men was 'rich toward God.' He, too, had heard 'Moses and the prophets.' With an humble heart he had confessed his transgressions against the law of Moses, and with a strong faith he had laid his

the promises of the prophets. So, even in his 'sorrows,' he had found peace. When he died he was carried by the angels to rest forever in 'Abraham's bosom.' Such are some of the great and blessed truths brought before us in the lessons of the last three months. In them 'God, who at sundry times and in divers manners, spake by the prophets, hath spoken unto us by his son.' (Heb. i., 1, 2.) As he said on the Mount of Transfiguration to the apostles, so he says now to us, 'Hear ye him.' (Matt. xvii., 5.)

WEEK IN ONTARIO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Toronto, Dec. 15.—Again the week has been marked by a gathering of political leaders, and the assemblage was not without its surprises. That the Sifton banquet should have proved a great success from the spectacular standpoint was an automatic certainty, having the wealth of a Jaffray and a Cox to draw upon, and a Napoleonic chiefguest. Toronto citizens doing lavish honor to what Mr. Foster so recently here derided as an 'aggregation,' was an edifying picture for those politicians who have made such Herculean efforts against what they term French domination. It was gratifying to friends of national unity to hear or read the loyal and patriotic sentiments of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Tarte. It also was an earnest of those French-Canadian leaders' sincerity in pledging themselves to take advantage of every opportunity by public addresses in the province to dispel the illusion that French Canada is lacking in the vital essential of good citizenship—patriotic loyalty. The surprise of the banquet was the pre-eminent brilliance of the speech by the Ontario premier. Sir Wilfrid, with accustomed grace and charm, acknowledged the heartiness of his reception, and paid due honor to the chief guest. His federal colleagues acquitted themselves with credit. Mr. Sifton made out a strong case for his administration of the Department of the Interior. But it was the Hon. Mr. Ross who made the speech which will become historic. It was the more surprising, as, according to a certain section of the press, the forebodings of impending doom should have quenched ambition, and banished hope. That his speech had the swing of victory the event in Welland county attests. The provincial premier's speech and the success of Mr. Gross in Welland add strength to the growing popular expectation that the provincial elections will not be delayed longer than the coming spring.

An event, even when less worthy and important personages are in question, usually accompanied by pomp and ceremony, was observed silently by the 'Witness' correspondent and two or three other spectators at the new civic buildings one morning this week. It was the placing on the walls of the City Hall the portraits of the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie and of the late Mr. W. H. Howland. Probably of the thousands to whom the name of Mackenzie is a familiar household word as the leader of the rebellion against the family compact, but a small minority think of him as the first mayor of Toronto. It is within the mark to say that his championship of the principles of self-government was not the reason why the mayor and aldermen of this city, in May last, authorized Mr. J. W. L. Forster to paint his portrait, and appropriated \$500 to defray its cost. Naturally, as mayoralty possibilities themselves, they favored the principle of the painted portrait of every mayor being placed with prominence in the corridors of the palatial edifice. The Mackenzie painting is at the post of honor, being immediately at the right of the entrance to the council chamber. Next to it is placed the portrait of ex-Mayor Howland, the record of whose noble life makes the name, even in the present municipal contest, one to conjure with.

The Toronto City Council has taken a long stride towards the further municipalization of public franchises at its two meetings this week. The city, possessing a civic waterworks, was robbed of its street railway franchise by the corruption of aldermen, some of whom are in consequence still fugitives from justice. It has now adopted the principle of the public ownership of the gas works, and has added to the special committees on such matters one to report on the installation of an electric light plant. Previous to the debate on the gas question the sentiment of the City Council was much divided. The press, too, was inclined to treat it as somewhat of a civic fad. In the discussion the facts were clearly elicited that by numerous devices of bookkeeping and a dispersal in lavish investments, the Gas Company directorate has succeeded in diverting at least four hundred thousand dollars of surplus profits from the fund for the reduction of the price of gas. In the establishment and choice of the name of the company, the 'Consumers' Gas Company,' much was said about its function, after the payment of a ten percent dividend, being to supply gas at cost. This, it was contended, would be brought about by the surplus profits being devoted to that purpose. So convincing was the presentation of the facts and figures by the mover, Ald. Spence, that on a vote being reached there was only one adverse. The tone of the press was also completely changed. One paper which last week termed a discussion of the project 'folly,' since the council took action, strongly commends the decision to ask the electorate at large to endorse the steps towards its consummation. The question of the price to be offered is now seriously discussed. It is estimated that it will be in the neighborhood of four million dollars. The lowest amount named is \$1,655,000.

VETERINARY. (Conducted by D. McEwen, F.R.C.V.S.) (For Other Questions and Answers See Page 15.) PROBABLY TUBERCULOSIS. An old subscriber has a thoroughbred Guernsey bull which in the spring had a large lump under his right ear. This broke and discharged a thick, yellow matter. There is another smaller lump, the size of a hen's egg, on the right jaw. He asks if it is not lumpy jaw. Ans.—Your bull is probably tuberculous. I would advise you to have him tested, as well as your entire herd. You can have this done free by applying to the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa.

J.M.C., Roblin, asks advice about a non-breeding sow. Keeps her in close proximity to young male pig. Ans.—Shake a little red pepper occasionally in her food.

NASAL DISCHARGE. S. McP.—I have a mare, about fourteen years old, which seemed to have taken cold about two years ago, in the spring. It seemed like the distemper at first. I did not do anything for it. The following fall her nose ran a yellowish discharge. She seemed well in other ways. I took her to a veterinary. He thought it a cataract, and gave her medicine. She was worked, got wet, and seemed to run down, and the discharge was worse by spells. Then I got a man to look at her who is good with horses. He said the cataract had turned to nasal gleet. That was last spring. He gave medicine, and some liquid to steam her head with, and she seemed quite well till this fall, when her left nostril again started to run. There was swelling over her left eye at first, but it does not seem to swell now. I have got more medicine and give it twice a day. I also take 1/4 quart water, with a handful of hops in it, and about a tablespoon carbolic acid, and let her inhale the steam every day. The discharge is a good deal better. The man says he cannot cure her. She eats well and is in very good flesh and had good spirits before I started giving her this medicine. Can you tell me what is the matter with the mare, and is it good to steam her head so much? Ans.—This is not a case in which we can advise treatment. The cause must first be discovered. Such symptoms may arise from many different causes. We would advise you to send her to a skillful veterinary surgeon, who will examine her with a view to discover the real nature of the trouble. If it is due to a diseased tooth he will extract it; if nasal gleet, he will trephine the head; if it happens to be glanders, he will advise you to shoot her.

AN INVENTION PROBABLY LOST. John G. Carter, the inventor of a process of making a substitute for rubber from cotton seed oil, died recently at Savannah, Georgia. The process was known only to Mr. Carter, and unless it is found that he left instructions and directions for the continuance of the work, it is probable that the secret died with him. This is a valuable illustration of the wisdom of patenting all inventions of any commercial value, and not leaving the matter a secret.

Very valuable inventions have been lost to the world, owing to a mistaken belief that our patent laws do not give adequate protection. Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal and Washington, will cheerfully supply readers with any desired information on the subject of patents, and will send to any address, upon the receipt of 10c, the 'Inventors' Help,' a 128-page book, containing practical information for inventors.

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COMMERCIAL

WITNESS OFFICE, Dec. 17, 1900.

LOCAL STOCKS.

A STRONG MARKET, WITH FURTHER ADVANCES.

The special features at the morning session of the local stock exchange were the further advances in Gas, Toronto Street and Twin City, and the substantial advance in the bidding for Payne mine, which, however, did not tempt sellers. The general market was quite strong and the prospect much more cheerful than was expected at the close of the year. The total of sales in the general list amounted to nearly 4,000 shares, of which 1,463 were Gas, 235 Toronto Street, 525 Duluth Common, 325 Twin City, and 200 C.P.R. Gas sold up to 30 3/4 and closed at 28 3/4, 203 being the highest on Saturday and 20 1/2 the close. Twin City closed 1 1/4 point higher than Saturday, at 70. Of the mines 4,000 shares of Virtue sold at 31. Duluth sold up to 6. The earnings of M.S.R. on Saturday were \$5,323.00, an increase of \$71.59 compared with corresponding date last year. Yesterday, Dec. 16, the earnings amounted to \$3,844.30, an increase of \$49.29 compared with corresponding date last year. The earnings of Twin City for the first week in December amounted to \$51,832, compared with \$48,541 for corresponding week last year, an increase of \$3,290, or 10.63 percent. The earnings for the year, up to the end of the first week in December, amounted to \$2,613,666 compared with \$2,294,501 for the corresponding period last year, an increase of \$319,164, or 13.51 percent.

Gen. Paco—200 at 87 1/2. Montreal Gas—250 at 20 1/4, 88 at 20, 50 at 20 1/2, 25 at 20 3/4, 500 at 20 3/4, 125 at 20 1/2, 200 at 20 1/2, 50 at 20 1/2, 75 at 20 1/2, 100 at 20 1/2. Twin City—125 at 69, 25 at 69 1/2, 25 at 69 1/2, 150 at 70. Royal Elec.—100 at 207. Toronto Ry. x-d—100 at 107 1/2, 25 at 107 1/2, 75 at 107 1/2, 150 at 107 1/2, 50 at 108, 25 at 108 1/2, 25 at 108 1/2, 100 at 108 1/2. M.S.R.—3 at 272, 50 at 272. Com. Cable—50 at 170 1/4, 4 at 170, 25 at 170. Rich. & Ont.—75 at 10 1/4. Virtue Co.—4,000 at 31. Duluth Com.—100 at 5 1/4, 25 at 6, 400 at 6. Dom. Cotton—75 at 89. Bank of Montreal—1 at 256. Hochelaga Bank—64 at 129.

AFTERNOON SALES. Can. Pacific—25 at 87 1/2, 5 at 88, 100 at 87 1/2, 2 at 88 1/2, 25 at 87 1/2, 100 at 87 1/2, 25 at 170 1/4, 25 at 170, 170. Toronto Ry.—50 at 108 1/2, 25 at 108, 50 at 108 1/2, 150 at 109 1/2, 50 at 109, 100 at 109 1/2, 1,450 at 109, 100 at 109 1/2, 50 at 109 1/2. War Eagle—1,500 at 104. Twin City—125 at 69 1/2, 50 at 69 1/2, 450 at 70, 100 at 70 1/2, 25 at 70 1/2, 150 at 70. Royal Electric—25 at 207. Payne—500 at 82 1/2. M.S.R.—60 at 274 1/2, 250 at 274 1/2. New M.S.R.—50 at 264 1/2. Dul. Com.—150 at 61. Montreal Gas—60 at 20 1/4, 15 at 20, 400 at 20 1/2, 25 at 20 1/2, 50 at 20 1/2, 25 at 20 1/2, 25 at 20 1/2. Do. Cotton—2 at 90. L. Pulp Co.—100 at 114. Reported for the 'Witness by G. R. Marlin, Banker and Broker, 1721 Notre Dame st.

Table with columns: Buyers, Sellers, Counter, and various stock symbols like New York Funds, Sterling, etc.

LONDON CLOSINGS.

London, Dec. 17, 4 p.m.—Consols. for money, 97 1/2; do. for the account, 97 1/2; Atchinson, 4 1/2; C.P.R., 90 1/4; St. Paul, 187 1/4; Illinois Central, 130 1/4; Louisville, 83 1/2; U.P., 104 1/2; N.Y.C., 147 1/4; Erie, 20 1/2; P.N.A., 7 1/4; Reading, 13 1/4; Erie, first pfd., 6 1/4; Northern Pacific pfd., 8 1/4; G.T.R., 6 1/2; Anaconda, 9 1/2; Rand Mines, 2 1/2; bar silver, steady, 25 1/2 per ounce; mutton, 2 1/2 to 3 percent. The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 3 1/2 to 4 percent. Do. do., three months' bills, 4 percent.

MONTREAL STOCK REPORT.

Table listing various stocks such as Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal Street Railway, etc., with their respective prices and changes.

WALL STREET OPENING.

New York, Dec. 17.—Wall Street.—The stock market opened very animated and buoyant and notable gains were scored all through the list. The international stocks were prominent in response to the earlier advances in London. The Pacifics, the South-Westerns and the Coalters were conspicuous and showed gains ranging from 1 to 1 1/2. The local traction stocks were equally strong. The individual transactions were very large, the first blocks changing hands running up as high as four thousand to five thousand shares in various cases.

Montreal Wholesale Markets.

GRAIN.—The market is quiet, with oats moving slowly around 30c to 25 1/2c ex-store. We quote: Peas, 60c to 60 1/2c; west freight; barley, 40c to 40 1/2c east freight; rye, 47 1/2c to 48c; buckwheat, 45 1/2c to 50c east freight. Receipts this morning were 2,400 bushels of oats, and 17,500 bushels of wheat. Liverpool cables are: Spring wheat, 6s 3 1/2d; red winter, 5s 11 1/2d; No. 1 Cal., 6s 2 1/2d; corn, 4s 2d new, 4s 2d old; peas, 5s 7 1/2d. FLOUR.—The market is moderately active on home account, and values are unchanged. We quote as follows: Manitoba patents, \$4.25; strong bakers, \$3.90 to \$4.00; straight rollers, \$3.20 to \$3.40; in bags, \$1.60 to \$1.70; winter patents, \$3.65 to \$3.85. Receipts this morning were 200 bbls. ROLLED OATS.—Demand for rolled oats is of a peddling character and values are steady. We quote \$3.50 to \$3.25 per barrel, and \$1.55 to \$1.60 per bag. FED.—The market is active and firm. We quote as follows: Manitoba bran, \$16 in 50 lb. shorts; 5 1/2 Ontario bran, \$13 to \$16; shorts, \$17 to \$18 per ton. HAY.—Trade is fairly active and prices are firm. We quote as follows: No. 1, \$10 to \$11; No. 2, \$9 to \$9.50; clover, \$8 to \$8.50 per ton in car lots on track. PROVISIONS.—Trade continues fairly active and values steady. Dressed hogs rule very firm. Dressed hogs are quoted at \$7.25 to \$7.75; bacon, 12c to 14c; hams, 11c to 14c; heavy Canadian short cut mess pork, \$13 to \$18.50 per barrel; pure Canadian lard, 10 1/2c to 11 1/2c per lb. Liverpool advices quote lard at 38s 3d; bacon from 44s 6d to 46s 6d; pork, 72s; tallow, 25s 3d to 27s. Receipts to-day were 204 dressed hogs, 10 hams and bacon. EGGS.—A fair jobbing business is passing and prices are firm. Strictly new laid are quoted at 24c; Montreal limed, 15c to 16c; western limed, 14c to 15c. Receipts to-day were nil. CHEESE.—The market is quiet at slightly lower range of values. We quote, nominally, finest Western Sept. 10c to 11 1/2c; Oct., 10 1/2c to 10 3/4c; finest late Eastern, 10 1/2c to 10 3/4c; undergrades, 10c to 10 1/2c. Liverpool cable quotes 5 1/2d for white and 5 1/4d for colored. Receipts to-day were nil. BUTTER.—Demand continues to exceed supply of finest goods, and prices are consequently strong. Prices are as follows: Choice creamery, 21 1/2c to 22c; seconds, 21c to 21 1/2c; dairy, 18c to 19c. MAPLE PRODUCTS.—The market continues quiet and steady. We quote: Syrup at 70c to 75c per large tin, and 50c to 60c per small tin, and 6 1/2c to 7c per lb. in wood; sugar, 9c to 10c. HONEY.—Business is fair and prices are steady. We quote the following prices today: White clover comb, 13c to 14 1/2c; white extracted, 8 1/2c to 10c; buckwheat, in comb, 10c to 12c; and extracted 7c to 8c. BEANS.—The demand is fairly active, and prices are firm. We quote \$1.40 to \$1.45 for primes. POULTRY.—Good stock is arriving and a very good trade has been passing. We quote as follows: Turkeys at 8c to 9c; chickens at 6c to 7c; fowls at 5c to 6c; and geese at 5 1/2c to 6 1/2c, and ducks at 8c to 9c per lb. PARTRIDGE.—Demand good at 80c for firsts and 60c for seconds, per brace. DRESSED MEATS.—The market is steady under fair demand and light supplies. We quote: Choice hams, 12c to 14c; corned beef, 4c to 6c; lamb, 6c to 8c; mutton, 4 1/2c to 5c, and veal, 5c to 8c per lb.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

The following table shows the range of prices in Chicago to-day and the closing quotations compared with those of Saturday, as reported by Bartlett, Frazer & Co.: Yesterday's To-day's Close. Open. High. Low. Close. Wheat—Jan 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2; May 73 1/4 73 73 1/4 72 1/2 72 1/2. Corn—Jan 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4; May 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4. Oats—Jan 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2; May 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2. Pork—Jan 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2; May 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2. Lard—Jan 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2; May 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2. Short ribs—Jan 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2; May 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2. Reported by A. W. Morris, Mining Broker, Canada Life Building, Montreal.

MORNING BOARD.

Can. G.F.—2,000 at 7 1/2. Mont.—London—2,500 at 5 1/2. Payne—1,000 at 79.

AFTERNOON SALES.

Payne—1,500 at 82. Oregon—1,000 at 16 1/2. Virtue—1,000 at 31.

TORONTO MINING EXCHANGE.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—Sales: Fairview—500 at 2 1/2. Van Andar—1,000 at 1-3. White Bear—3,500 at 4 1-8, 5,500 at 4, 2,000 at 4, 1,000 at 4 1-8. W.D., Rambler Cariboo—3,000 at 28.

Mining Notes.

REPORT OF ONTARIO BUREAU—NEW SECRETARY APPOINTED—GRAND FORKS, B.C., WANTS A MINING BUREAU. Toronto, Dec. 12.—The report of the Provincial Bureau of Mines, issued to-day, shows that gold mining has been making rather slow headway during the half-year beginning in June. Only eight working mines reported, several having been idle owing to enlargement of machinery and other causes. The product from 22,177 tons of ore crushed was 9,983 ounces, valued at \$156,269 gold and \$111 silver.

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MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

The following table shows the stocks of grain in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned: Dec. 15, 1900. Dec. 8, 1900. Dec. 1, 1900. Dec. 15, 1900. Dec. 8, 1900. Dec. 1, 1900. Wheat 89,401 82,182 36,400 Corn 20,581 23,742 30,563 Peas 34,798 34,295 46,484 Barley 57,303 61,555 210,045 Rye 66,357 69,951 69,685 Bk wheat 9,035 8,965 23,256 Flour 14,438 14,572 Meal 413 201 213

LIVE STOCK MARKET, DEC. 13.

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FARMERS' MARKET PRICES, Dec. 14.

Drawing heavy loads for long distances over badly drifted roads when it is below zero is anything but pleasant, yet a considerable number of the farmers living from ten to twenty-five miles from the city, brought loads of oats, beefsteaks, and pork carcasses to the Bonsecours market this morning, also the basket brigade,

who come to the city by rail, brought enormous quantities of dead poultry, geese being offered in larger numbers than probably was the case for a good many years past. Turkeys were also very plentiful, but the demand seemed unusually brisk, which helped to keep the prices up to ten and eleven cents per lb. for single birds, but the butchers bought large lots at 9c per lb.; geese brought from 6c to 7c per lb.; chickens and ducks, 9c to 11c do. There is still a dearth of fresh laid eggs, and 60c is readily paid for them, but the prospects are that 60c per dozen will be charged for them next week. Older eggs bring from 50c to 30c the dozen. The weather was much too cold for expressing garden truck, which required to be wrapped up in quilts, and trade here was rather dull at about former rates. The cold snap keeps the fruit market, within doors, but the near advent of Christmas is encouraging. Oats sold at 70c to 75c the bag; buckwheat, 45c do.; potatoes, 40c to 50c do.; carrots, 70c to 80c the barrel; beets, 80c to \$1 do.; parsnips, \$1 to \$1.25 do.; onions, \$1.50 to \$1.75 do.; cabbages, 50c do.; celery, 10c to 25c per dozen for common, and 50c for golden celery; dressed hogs, 7 1/2c to 7 3/4c per lb.; beef hindquarters, 5c to 6c do.; forequarters, 3 1/2c to 4 1/2c do.; tub butter, 20c to 22c per lb.; print butter, 22c to 24c do.; frozen cream, 5c the cup; apples, \$2.25 to \$2.25 per barrel; but choice France bring \$4.50 the barrel; Jamaica oranges, \$4.50 to \$5 the barrel; California navel oranges, \$3.60 the box; lemons, 32c to \$3 do. Hay, \$7 to \$9 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, \$3 to \$5 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

The following table shows the range of prices in Chicago to-day and the closing quotations compared with those of Saturday, as reported by Bartlett, Frazer & Co.: Yesterday's To-day's Close. Open. High. Low. Close. Wheat—Jan 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2 70 1/2; May 73 1/4 73 73 1/4 72 1/2 72 1/2. Corn—Jan 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4; May 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4 25 1/4. Oats—Jan 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2 21 1/2; May 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2 23 1/2. Pork—Jan 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2; May 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2 12 1/2. Lard—Jan 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2; May 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2. Short ribs—Jan 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2; May 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2 6 1/2.

Mining Exchange.

Can. G.F.—2,000 at 7 1/2. Mont.—London—2,500 at 5 1/2. Payne—1,000 at 79.

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departments of trade are much more encouraging than a week ago. Travellers are sending in some good sized orders for spring goods. The firmness of prices for the latter is an encouraging feature of the market, and has proved a stimulus in placing orders. Collections are fair, but they are expected to improve much after the holidays. The demand for money is firm, and the rates at the banks are firm. An increased demand for winter goods as a result of the cold weather, is the feature of trade at Hamilton this week. There have been more buyers in the market, and the have taken considerable lots of goods for the present season, including large quantities of holiday lines, the trade in which they expect to be active this year. Values continue firm for nearly all classes of goods. Collections are fair for this season. Business conditions at Winnipeg are improving on the approach of the holiday trade, and considerable activity has lately been shown in the jobbing and wholesale trade. Retail sales so far this month have been fair, and the result of the December business are expected to be very satisfactory. The sorting demand has improved with the cold weather and snow, and dry goods sales have lately been better. The holiday trade at the large Coast cities is occupying the attention of the wholesale houses. Large shipments of seasonal lines for this trade, in the way of toys, fancy dry goods, fancy groceries, etc., have lately been received, and the displays in the retail stores are very attractive, judging by the increased sales. Among the price changes lately noted are advances in oats and potatoes and a decline in the price of flour. The improved weather has imparted the greater activity to trade at London. The freeing up of the country roads has enabled the farmers to visit the market and make purchases, and more country produce has been offering. Values of staple goods are firm. The prospects for business for the balance of the month are good. Business at Ottawa has become quite active. The demand for sorting parcels of heavy winter goods has increased with the continued cold weather, and the holiday trade is now quite brisk. Prices of all lines of goods are firmly maintained. Payments are fair. The outlook for trade for the rest of the month is promising. At Quebec, colder weather and more snow have caused a stir in retail circles. The wholesale trade report a demand for the heavy winter goods. With continued seasonable weather, a good holiday trade is generally looked for. Country remittances are fair. After a silence of six weeks the shoe manufacturers opened their factories on Monday last, and several report having orders ahead for a few months.

MANITOBA CROP.

YIELD OF WHEAT SLIGHTLY EXCEEDED THIRTEEN MILLION BUSHELS. Winnipeg, Dec. 14.—The crop area and total yield of grain and roots of Manitoba for 1900 were as follows, according to the official returns: Under crop, T'l yield acre, bushels. Wheat 1,906,315 13,025,263 Oats 572,590 8,814,292 Barley 175,255 2,515,196 Flax 29,457 164,313 Other grains 11,625 34,399 Potatoes 16,828 2,085,218 Roots 7,482 1,452,780

Total crop, including rye, peas and corn 2,614,134 24,533,471

Considering the weather conditions which prevailed during the year, the wheat yield—8.9 bushels an acre—is considered remarkable.

WORLD GOLD PRODUCTIONS.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE HAS A BIG LEAD.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The production of gold in the world, and also in the United States, for the year 1899, as compiled by the Director of the Mint, is shown in the following tables: World's Production of Gold for Calendar year, 1899. Countries. Ounces. Value. North America—United States 3,437,210 \$71,053,400 Mexico 411,187 8,500,000 Canada and Newfoundland 1,031,561 21,324,200 Africa 3,542,361 73,227,100 Australasia 9,527,181 79,321,900 Europe—Russia 1,072,333 22,167,100 Austria-Hungary 94,037 1,943,900 Germany 3,589 74,200 Norway 4,414 70,950 Sweden 8,027 165,900 Spain 227 4,700 Portugal 227 4,700 Greece 687 14,200 Turkey 643 13,300 Serbia 2,844 58,900 France 2,844 58,900 Great Britain 2,844 58,900 South America—Argentina 6,661 137,700 Bolivia 2,311 68,500 Chile 43,229 892,600 Colombia 87,535 1,809,500 Ecuador 2,317 47,900 Brazil 103,985 2,149,500 Venezuela 52,904 1,082,500 Guiana (British) 2,945,500 Guiana (Dutch) 28,423 587,600 Guiana (French) 81,691 1,688,700 Peru 20,380 628,000 Uruguay 1,964 34,400 Central America 28,263 584,200 Asia—Japan 38,253 790,900 China 289,662 5,744,400 Korea 70,759 1,459,000 India (British) 412,032 8,517,500 East Indies 20,262 425,100 East Indies (Dutch) 5,689 117,600 Total 14,831,628 \$296,534,000 Total, 1898 13,944,263 287,433,000 Increase \$19,100,000

PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE FOR 1899.

Table showing gold production in the British Empire for 1899, including Canada and Newfoundland, Australasia, Great Britain, British Guiana, and British India.

AFRICA.

The production of the British colonies in Africa are not included in the above table, as the production of Africa as a whole only is given by the U. S. Mint director. The production of the Transvaal alone for the past nine months of 1899 is by other authorities placed at \$313,510 ounces.

WHEAT YIELD OF N.E.W.

Sydney, N.E.W., Dec. 15.—An official estimate places the wheat crop of New South Wales for this season at 17,000,000 bushels, an excess of 4,500,000 bushels over the crop of 1903. The Sydney 'Morning Herald' estimates that 8,000,000 bushels are available for export.

MONTREAL TRADE.

Dun's Bulletin, of Saturday, Dec. 15, says of Montreal trade:—Good snow reports are reported throughout the Montreal district and this, with the late cold weather, is proving distinctly beneficial to trade in the interior, and to the freer circulation of money. City retail business in dry goods, furs, clothing and general holiday goods is much better than a week ago, and collections afford little cause for complaint. The week's failures are nine in number, the only important case being the insolvency of a contractor owing some \$67,000. As regards wholesale trade the remarks of last week will fairly apply. The grocery movement is satisfactory, some houses reporting better orders than anticipated after closing of navigation. Sugars are steady at the advance of last week, and in other lines values are generally firm, but some easing off in the prices of dried fruit is looked for after New Years. Metals, paints, oils, etc., rule quiet, with little change to be noted in quotations. The recent decline in Scotch warrants has not affected local prices of iron. The demand for a general advance of about ten cents a gallon, has been discussed and agreed to among the grinders. The moderately improved demand for leather is fairly sustained, and stocks are reported on the low side, some Western sole leather tanners state that 1900 will close their books for the year with some years past Raw furs are coming in very freely, country collectors apparently holding back consignments on account of the lower prices than last year, but there is an apparent expectation in some quarters that the approaching London sales will develop even lower values.

Notice of Births, Marriages and Deaths must invariably be endorsed with the name and address of the sender...

Annual subscribers may have announcements of births, marriages and deaths without extended obituary or news...

BIRTHS.

BECK - At 169 Beaudry street, on Dec. 1, 1900, the wife of J. H. Beck, of a daughter.

DIED.

ADAMS - In this city, on Dec. 14, 1900, at 64 Durocher street, James Robert Adams, second son of the late Jas. D. Adams...

MARRIED.

ARNOLD - GINGRICH - At Thorold, Ontario, on Dec. 5, 1900, at St. John's Church, by the Rev. F. C. Piper, May Arnold, daughter of James Arnold, Esq., to A. E. Gingrich, of Toronto.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ITCHING HUMOURS. Rash, and irritations instantly relieved and speedily cured by hot baths with CUTICURA...

COLONIAL HOUSE . . . Montreal. STERLING SILVER ARTICLES In Great Variety.

MILLER'S CANADIAN FARMERS' ALMANAC for 1901. This Reliable Almanac, published now for fifty-eight years is ready.

CUTLER'S CARBOLATE OF IODINE POCKET INHALER. A guaranteed cure for Catarrh, Consumption and Hay Fever.

ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT'. A SIMPLE REMEDY FOR PREVENTING AND CURING BY NATURAL MEANS.

MATHEWSON - BRYCE - On Dec. 4, 1900, at the residence of the father of the bride, E. L. Moffat, Esq., Weston, Ont., by the Rev. John McAlpine, Elizabeth Bryce, to John Anderson Mathewson, of Toronto.

McLENNAN - BAIRD - On Dec. 12, 1900, at St. George's Church, Montreal, by the Very Rev. Dean Carmichael, Donald McLennan to Minnie Louise, daughter of Mr. Chas. J. Baird.

PARKER - CROMBIE - On Dec. 11, 1900, at Holy Trinity Church, Toronto, by the Rev. John Pearson, M.A., Edward Will-gress Parker, of Montreal, to Fanny Margaret, daughter of the late Edward Crombie.

PETTIGRUE - HODGES - At Sherbrooke, by the Rev. J. R. MacLeod, of Three Rivers, on Dec. 10, 1900, George Edward Pettigru and Florence Hodges, both of the city of Sherbrooke.

PITCHER - WATSON - At Morewood, on Dec. 6, 1900, by the Rev. J. M. Kellock, M.A., J. W. Pitcher, of Chesterville, to Mary Watson, of Morewood.

PRESBY - GIBB - On Dec. 12, 1900, at Sherbrooke, Que., by the Rev. F. G. Lett, George Frederick Presby, to Helena L. Gibb, both of Sherbrooke.

REED - MINTOSH - On Dec. 12, 1900, at the residence of the bride's grandmother, No. 30 Beaconsfield avenue, Toronto, Lucia, eldest daughter of the late Charles McIntosh to Edwin T. Reed, of St. Catharines.

TATE - WARD - On Dec. 3, 1900, at St. Luke's Church, Red Deer, Alta., by the Rev. J. Hincliffe, Fred G. Tate, of Lacomb, Alta., (formerly of Birmingham, Eng.), to Augusta Hope, second daughter of B. F. Ward, Esq., Orillia, Ont.

ARMSTRONG - At his late residence, 70 Gloucester street, Toronto, Thos. Armstrong, late of the firm of Stover & Armstrong, and lately of Armstrong & Wyndon, merchant tailors, King street west.

BOOMER - At Quebec, on Dec. 8, 1900, Muriel F. M. Boomer, aged 11 years and 4 months, youngest daughter of Augustus Boomer, city accountant.

BUCKLEY - At Detroit, Michigan, Mary Buckley, beloved wife of the late William Buckley, and mother of William J., Geo. R. and Mary T. Buckley.

CAMPBELL - At his late residence, Park avenue, Beaver Dam, Wis., on Dec. 2, 1900, James Campbell, formerly of Nelson, Halton County, Ont., Canada.

CAVEN - In Columbus, Ohio, on Dec. 7, 1900, suddenly, D. L. Caven, Dominion Immigration Agent, formerly of Toronto.

DOWNNEY - Suddenly, on Dec. 10, 1900, at her residence, 15 Broadbalt street, Toronto, Eleanor Lucy, widow of the late John Downey, Esq., barrister.

EDWARDS - At the residence of his father, J. C. Edwards, 345 Theodore street, Ottawa, on Dec. 10, 1900, H. Boyd Edwards, in the twenty-fourth year of his age.

EVERETT - At 475 McLaren street, Ottawa, on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 8, 1900, Georgina Adelaide, wife of George F. Everett, and eldest daughter of the late Captain George S. Fletcher, of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

FORWARD - At 299 Markham street, Toronto, on Dec. 10, 1900, Sarah Sophia Herlihy, dearly beloved wife of O. H. Forward, St. John's, Nfld., papers please copy.

GILBERT - At her late residence, No. 220 Sention street, Toronto, on Dec. 9, 1900, Hannah, widow of the late John Gilbert, and dearly beloved mother of George, John, Albert and Samuel Gilbert, aged 72 years.

HELPS - At Vancouver, B.C., on Dec. 8, 1900, Harry Helps, formerly of Lancaster, Ont., aged 33 years.

JACKSON - At the Western Hospital, Toronto, on Dec. 14, 1900, Edith, beloved wife of J. A. Jackson, Esq., B.A., General Secretary of the Sabbath School Association of Ontario, aged 39 years.

JOHNSTON - At her late residence, 239 Palmerston ave., Toronto, on Dec. 8, 1900, after a lingering illness, Susan, beloved wife of Pollis Johnston, in her 60th year.

JONES - On Dec. 8, 1900, of pleuro-pneumonia, at the residence of Dr. Trout, Scarborough, Ont., Miss H. Agnes Jones, aged 48 years.

KAMBERY - At 72 Parthenais street, on Dec. 12, 1900, Agnes McDonald, wife of James Kambery, aged 49 years.

LEWIS - On Dec. 11, 1900, at 52 Holton street, Ottawa, Kathleen Ismenagh Lewis, aged 8 years and 11 months, only daughter of F. P. Lewis, Government Printing Bureau.

MARSHALL - At Leeds, Megantic, Que., on Dec. 10, 1900, of acute bronchitis, Edna R. Jiggins, beloved wife of R. S. Marshall, Esq., merchant, and sister of Mrs. I. M. Thompson, of Leeds.

MAUGHAN - At 81 Wellies street, Toronto, on Dec. 13, 1900, Nicholas Maughan, late assessment commissioner of the city of Toronto, in his 81st year.

McALLISTER - At Moncton, N.B., on Dec. 4, 1900, at his home, 20 Botsford street, James McAllister, aged 81 years.

McCREADIE - In this city, on Dec. 10, 1900, David R. McCreadie, aged 79, a native of Glasgow, Scotland.

McLEAN - At Huntingdon, on Nov. 28, 1900, Janet McNaughton, a native of Perthshire, Scotland, and relict of the late Alex. McLean, of Hinchinbrook, in the 78th year of her age.

MILLER - In this city, on Dec. 16, 1900, at 153 1/2 Mansfield street, Robert Miller, in his 67th year.

M'QUARRIE - At the manse, Queen Hill, Ont., on Dec. 7, Annie Ferguson, wife of the Rev. M. McQuarrie, pastor of the North Bruce Presbyterian Church.

PHELAN - In this city, on Dec. 14, 1900, John Phelan, horse dentist, aged 65 years.

COLONIAL HOUSE . . . Montreal. STERLING SILVER ARTICLES In Great Variety. SALTS STERLING SILVER . . . \$1 50. BUTTON HOOK - Extra heavy and well made . . . 35c and 45c.

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Wanted. TEACHERS AND STUDENTS - WANTED, in every school district throughout Canada, to get up clubs for the 'Daily Witness', 'Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger'.

THE S. CARSLY CO., LIMITED. Notre Dame Street. Montreal's Greatest Store. St. James Street. DECEMBER, 1900.

TOY ORDERS FOR WINTER. For the convenience of customers at a distance we will take special care in selecting Toys for our Mail Order Department.

Send us a Dollar or Two. Or Three or Four Dollars. Or Four or Five Dollars. Or any amount you please.

Give the ages of the children. State whether boys or girls. Also the number of men and women.

WRITE FOR WINTER CATALOGUE. THE S. CARSLY CO., LIMITED. 1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street, 184 to 194 St. James Street, Montreal.

Books, &c. 'MARIA MONK' NOW IN STOCK. During the last three months I mailed nearly 200 copies of 'Maria Monk, the Escaped Nun's Awful Disclosures of Convent Life to 'Witness' readers.

SEVEN MASTERPIECES OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN (English translations) Literature for \$1.00 postpaid: 'Farrar's Life of Christ', 'Robinson Crusoe', 'Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress', and 'Tom Brown's School Days'.

10 POPULAR BOOKS FOR \$1.00. Postpaid: 'Maria Monk', 'Mysteries of a Convent', 'Ten Nights in a Bar-room', 'Foxe's Book of Martyrs', 'Songs of the Empire', 'In His Steps', or 'What Would Jesus Do?'

\$12.50 FOR \$1.00. IN JOB LOTS, of Bankruptcy stock, periodicals, and stationery, theology, religion, science, medicine, fiction, pictures, etc., and 150 envelopes and 100 sheets of notepaper.

SIX POPULAR NO POKERY BOOKS, for \$1.00 postpaid: 'Wandering Jew', by Eugene Sue (no exposure of Jesuit intrigue), 'Jesuit Morals', a discussion between Professor Scrogger (Presbyterian) and Father Jones (Jesuit), 25c; Secret Instructions of the Jesuits, in Latin and English, 25c; 'Talleyrand's Famous Letter to the Pope', 25c; 'Age of Reason', 25c; 'Life of King William of Orange', 25c.

THE GREAT AND FAMOUS MODERN Liberal Classics, 'Darwin's Descent of Man', cloth \$1.00; 'Darwin's Origin of Species', cloth \$1.00. It was the publication of these two books that first started the much discussed 'Evolution Theory'.

FOR SALE, GOOD FARM, 200 ACRES, 70 cleared, balance good hardwood bush, frame barn, 22 x 70; frame stable, 20 x 30; house almost new, 10 rooms, 2 1/2 baths; farm well watered and fenced, with young orchard, half mile from school and 4 miles from Haliburton terminus of railway; price \$4,000, cash, balance to suit purchaser; no interest. For further particulars apply to J. A. LUCAS, Haliburton.

FOR SALE, FINE 90 ACRE-CLEARED Farm in Norfolk County, Ont. Railway station, post office, good school, cheese factory, 4000 cash, balance to suit purchaser; no interest. For further particulars apply to J. A. LUCAS, Haliburton.

FOR SALE, FARM OF 142 ACRES, Improved; good buildings; County of Oxford, very desirable. Apply to F. VICKER, Princeton, Ont.

THOROUGHBRED BERKSHIRES FOR Sale; young pigs, and stock old. Apply DAVID ADAM, West Loos.

FOR SALE, AYRSHIRE COW COMING IN New Year; also young stock, both sexes. Address JOHN CLOW, Harrowsmith, 27.

FOR SALE, HOLSTEIN BULL CALVE 7 months, dam, celebrated 'Daisy Teak', No. 6345; sire 'Columbus Theodor', No. 1905; also Pure 1900 Plymouth Barred Rock Cockerels. J. T. HARCOURT, St. Ann's, Ont.

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