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THE NEWS IN LONDON

Outlook in Russia For Improved Relations With Britain.

(New York 'Times.')

London, Dec. 17.—It is gradually leaking out in diplomatic circles that negotiations of some kind are proceeding between Great Britain and Russia with a view of discovering whether the present unmistakable drift toward a rupture cannot be stopped. Count Muravieff has recently lost much influence with the Czar. Indeed, one of his subordinates is now practically the Russian Foreign Minister. But he made certain representations to the British ambassador in St. Petersburg which resulted in a kind of unofficial mission for the Grand Duke Serge, who, with the Grand Duchess, is visiting the Queen at Windsor. The next step was a visit of Baron de Staal, the Russian ambassador here, to Lord Salisbury at Hatfield. Next comes the remarkable speech of M. Tatischeff, the Russian Financial Councillor, at a meeting of the Anglo-Caucasian Oil Company, here, in which he gave a strongly-worded invitation to English capital to come to Russia, assuring a hearty welcome, and adding an eloquent plea for a neutral political understanding. All this has been supported by representations from the German Emperor and inspired utterances in the German press, Germany desiring to extend her present understanding with England, but being held back by fear of affronting Russia, whose vast army on her frontier is the only thing she fears.

RUSSIA AND THE CZAR'S SCHEME.

To-morrow in a great number of churches and chapels a special service will be held in support of the Czar's peace schome. My information is that the Anglo-Russian understanding is not making such progress as was to be hoped, despite every desire on the part of the British Government. The difficulty is a simple one. Russia has already secured everything in the Far East that she wishes for years, and now desires to set the seal of accomplished fact upon it, and this without agreeing to allow England similarly to consolidate her own position in China.

It becomes, however, more and more evident that Russia must by hook or by crook insure herself against external complications. Her treasury is drained dry by demands for the army, the navy, and the trans-Siberian railway. She is spending money like water at Port Arthur. She has discovered that the Siberian railway will disappoint the hopes of commercial development, and is unfitted at present for military purposes on a large scale. She must have 120,000,000 rubles in order to provide the army with quick-firing artillery before she can fight on land. Macedonia is seething, and an explosion may come at any time, when she would have to move an army. Famine is devastating whole territories. Leprosy is spreading, and has five thousand victims, many recruits being rejected for this disease. An external loan is absolutely essential to her and hitherto she has failed to raise it on favorable terms in Berlin, in Paris, or in London. Therefore, though nobody questions the loftiness of the Czar'e personal convictions, his advisers' love of peace is making a virtue of necessity. So far as England is concerned, however, Russia can lay the foundation of peace when she will.

POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

The Liberal party has now neither a commander in chief nor a leader in the House of Commons. There was a narrow escape from an open split when one speaker denounced imperialism in general and Lord Rosebery in particular. An uproar ensued, and the speaker was finally shouted down.

Liberal members of parliament will choose as leader in the Commons an unfortunate man, who will have Sir William Vernon Harcourt, the ablest, oldest and wittiest parliamentarian, sitting beside him as a free and independent member. It is a prospect which might deter the most ambitious of politicians.

Meantime, the Irish are delighted because they calculate that the worse the position of the Liberal party becomes, the greater will be its temptation to make terms about Ireland. And the Tories are jubilant despite Lord Salisbury's sarcastic remarks over the disadvantage of a weak opposition.

UNVACCINATED ENGLAND.

In a year or two England will be an unvaccinated country. This startling fact is becoming evident by the extraordinary rush of parents applying in all towns to the magistrates for certificates of exemption under the government's recent act permitting conscientious objection. For example, in Oldham alone since the act come into force forty-three thousand certificates have been granted, the magistrates holding all-night sittings to cope with the demands. Sir Richard Thorne, a medical officer of the Local Government Board, declares that already one-third of the children to be born in England will escape vaccination, and adds:



I am coming, gentle reader, with the season's hearty cheer,
And I wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Glad New Year.

'The country is being prepared for a widespread epidemic of smallpox, such as has been unknown to the present generation.'

As I recently cabled, Rider Haggard has written a novel denouncing this legislation.

TRANS-AFRICAN HIGHWAY.

CAPE TO CAIRO ROUTE ALMOST AN ESTABLISHED FACT NOW.

London, Dec. 19.—News has come from Zanzibar from Major McDonald, who is the head of a British exploring party in East Africa. The party started in 1897. His reports give Great Britain further cause for congratulation in her plan to civilize Africa, and build a British highway from Cairo to Cape Town. Major McDonald states that he established posts from the Uganda region, just south of Lake Nyanza, to the North-east of Lake Rudolf, and is now going down the River Sobat to Fashoda.

This establishes claims to enormous territories in Eastern Africa.

As soon as the expedition sent out by the Hon. Cecil Rhodes to establish stations and telegraphic service from Cape Town to the middle lake region, has accomplished its work, it will be an easy link in Major McDonald's chain of posts northward, and British plans for a trans-African highway will be consummated.

PROVINCIAL BY-ELECTIONS.

In the by-elections held yesterday for members of the Provincial Legislature of Quebec, Dr. Cotton, Liberal, was elected over Dr. Comeau, Conservative, by 49 in Missisquoi county. In Levis Mr. Langelier, Independent Liberal, was elected by about 150 over Mr. Gelley, Conservative, and Mr. Boutin Bourassa. In Vercheres Mr. Blanchard, Liberal, was elected by 237 over Mr. Archambault, Conservative. In Beauharnois Mr. Plante, Conservative, is said to have won over Mr. Mercier, Liberal, by 55 majority. This is regarded as a gain for the Conservatives.

EVACUATION OF FASHODA.

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 19.—Major Marchand and his party evacuated Fashoda during the morning of Dec. 11, when the French flag was lowered and the British and Egyptian flags were hoisted. The French detachments started for the Sobat river.

THE NEW CANADIAN LINE.

THEIR FIRST STEAMSHIP AT NEW CARLISLE.

The new steamship, or, rather, the old 'Galicia,' with the new name of 'Gaspesia,' arrived off Paspebiac at 9.15 on Sunday morning, and steamed on to Carlisle, only a few miles distant, where her passengers and crew were landed. As previously announced, the steamer left Milford Haven on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 7, amid a scene of great good will from the chief people of that Welsh port.

The speeches made on that occasion include those of Sir Robert Head, chairman of the new Canadian Steamship Company; Mr. C. N. Armstrong, managing director; Mr. C. E. Newbon, chairman of the Milford Dock Company, and a host of other well-wishers.

The voyage was uneventful, except for strong westerly winds and rough weather, which, along with thick weather, caused a delay of twelve hours on one occasion. To all this, doubtless, the long voyage of nearly twelve days is due. The task the company has before them is to make the distance betwixt London and Montreal in six days. If they succeed in achieving it the result will gratify as well as surprise Canadians generally.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

In the St. Canut murder trial yesterday counsel for the defence asked for medical experts to enquire into the mental condition of Sam Parslow.

Grippe has appeared in New York in a mild form that threatened to become epidemic.

Lord Minto arrived last evening in Montreal and was entertained at Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal's residence, where a large number of ladies and gentlemen met the viceregal party.

A New York despatch says that an attempt to place ten million dollars of thirty-year Russian railway bonds guaranteed by Russia had not succeeded.

The Hon. G. W. Ross has received a complaint against Mormons of Sauble Falls that they are unduly interfering in public school affairs.

The Canadians on the joint commission at Washington gave a banquet to the United States members, last night, in Washington. Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke hopefully of reciprocity.

The Paris correspondent of the 'Daily Chronicle,' in to-day's despatch attaches grave importance to the recent sojourn of Prince Victor Napoleon in 'Paris,' and connects his next visit with the threatened crisis in the army.

LORD NAPIER DEAD.

London, Dec. 19.—News was received here to-day of the death at Florence, Italy, of Francis Napier, ninth Baron Napier and Ettrick, the former Ambassador, who was minister to the United States from Great Britain in 1857. He was born in 1819 and entered the diplomatic service in 1840.

[For the 'Witness.'

CHRISTMAS.

BY ADALENA WESTNEY.

In her robes of bridal white,
Icy jewels flashing bright,
Earth is shining calm and fair
For the time of holy song.
Happy time when children throng
To His temple singing there

(Carol of children.)

Happy Christmas, come away
Happy Christmas, holy day,
Come adore the Saviour born
On this holy, happy morn,
With rejoicing angels sing,
'Glory to our God and King.'

Pity for the empty places,
Pity for the pallid faces;
O the hungry, O the weary,
Crouching in their hovels dreary.
See the wind so bitter cold
Fluttering their garments old.

Come, ye, rich, who never labor,
I will introduce your neighbor
Sacred by Christ's 'inasmuch'
Sick, in prison, all are such.
O give comfort with your touch
Lead them, feed them passing by,
For an Angel from the sky
May be passing with them, too,
Tho' unseen, unknown by you;
And this Christmas is His day
And the poor are His alway.

(Carol of children.)

Happy Christmas, holy day,
Come, adore Him sing and pray
In His temple joyfully,
With rejoicing angels sing,
'Glory to our God and King'
For our Saviour dear was born
On this holy, happy morn.

The Rectory, Ailandale.

BRITISH POLITICS.

Choice of Sir William Harcourt's Successor Proving Difficult.

New York, Dec. 18.—Mr. Ford in his cabled letter to the 'Tribune' to-day comments at length on the retirement of Sir William Vernon Harcourt from the leadership of the Liberal party in the House of Commons. Mr. Ford says, in part: 'King Caucus stands for measures, not men. The National Liberal Federation has wisely refrained from premature meddling with the question of leadership, and has left the members of the party in the House of Commons free to choose their own captain. Dr. Spence Watson, with the cheerful optimism of Mark Tapley, directed the conference with beaming face and strong hand, and Sir Wilfred Lawson, the chief party humorist, kept the delegates in high good humor. Sir William Vernon Harcourt was warmly thanked, but his resignation was accepted as final. The delegates resolutely declined to go into caucus for a leader, and imposed upon the Liberal members of the House of Commons the obligation of working out their own salvation.

'Mr. Asquith's address was delivered with great difficulty, since a section of the audience was hostile, but he succeeded in minimizing the lines of cleavage within the party on questions of foreign policy. The day's work was characterized by soberness, tact and good judgment. Liberalism is without a leader, but it is not demoralized.

'The choice of Sir William's successor will be reached by the process of exclusion. Mr. Morley is the ablest man, but, as Sir William Vernon Harcourt's lieutenant, he cannot hope to succeed where his captain has failed. Mr. Asquith ranks next in force of character, but he is positively identified with Lord Rosebery's fortunes, and lacks flexibility and tact. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman is also one of Lord Rosebery's adherents, but he has the serenity of temper required for leadership, is personally popular and has been thirty years in the House. Seniority in service is his strongest claim, and his promotion would excite no jealousy, but he is rich and indolent, and shirks hard work. Mr. Fowler is a good debater, but is a natural trimmer, lacks power of decision and seldom knows his own mind. Mr. Bryce is not a political manager, but a scholar in politics. Mr. Herbert Gladstone has his father's name, but the Liberal fortunes cannot be directed by a dead hand. Sir Edward Grey springs from a race of statesmen, is a hard worker, has resources of tact and energy requisite for leadership but is too young to command veterans.

'Personal ambition will have nothing to do with the selection of a Liberal leader in the House of Commons as nobody will venture to aspire to the honor of directing the forces of the Opposition when Harcourt and Morley are free lances on the same bench. The Liberal members will choose a man for dangerous service, and will not be at liberty to decline the position. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey are the most probable candidates for the succession in the order named.

'The Birmingham conference has offered a striking proof that London Liberalism has underrated the strength of old-time traditions of foreign policy prevailing in the provinces. The undertone of the discussion in that body of representative Liberals was hostile to the new imperialism of Palmerstonism of Rosebery and Asquith. The old ideals of retrenchment, pacific diplomacy and soberness in the conduct of foreign affairs are still cherished in Manchester and the provinces. Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Morley stand for policies associated with Gladstone, and provincial liberalism is not prepared to break away from them. The London view has been that Irish home rule and Manchester ideals of diplomacy were buried in Westminster Abbey with Gladstone, and that the party could hope to regain power only by discarding both and meeting Mr. Chamberlain on his own ground. The Radical socialism and anti-imperialism of the Birmingham conference have warned the Hotspurs that they must make haste slowly, or they will be in danger of splitting up their distracted party. From this point of view this week's crisis may be a blessing in disguise. Provincial liberalism has thrown a wet blanket upon fractional intrigue and zeal for new policies, foreign and domestic. Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Morley will be unhampered and will speak for a stronger minority in the Liberal party, which still believes in Gladstone's principles, and is not willing to be rushed wildly into imperialism and jingoism. Lord Rosebery and Mr. Asquith, now representing the majority of the Liberal party, will be more conciliatory and discreet when they are exposed to destructive criticism from Harcourt and Morley, one the best parliamentarian and the other the greatest intellect of the Liberal side.

'It was easy for Lord Salisbury to raise a laugh last night by describing the country's enemies as all fighting with one another, and to follow up the gibe with the platitude that nothing was better for a strong government than a strong opposition, but it is hardly open to question that there will be a larger scope for critical functions in consequence of Sir William Harcourt's action this week. Responsibility without power of enforcing personal authority crippled Rosebery and Harcourt in turn. Lord Rosebery increased his political resources by resigning the leadership; Sir William will also have greater force and authority when hereafter he takes up foreign questions as an independent Liberal. Honest criticism is requisite, for the government is planning for next session a job assortment of small measures, and is depending upon the bustling activity of the dockyards and the spirited policy in foreign affairs for the retention of public confidence.'

London, Dec. 18.—The Irish members of Parliament affect to be highly pleased at the disorganization of the Liberal party. The 'Freeman's Journal' hits home rule when it says: 'The Liberal wise men have been lecturing the Irishmen for a year past on the subject of dissension, which they gave as justification for their postponement of home rule. But they completely ignored the beam in their own eye.'

The 'Freeman's Journal' then declares that the disruption of the Liberals enormously enhances the power of the Irish party, 'as it prevents such a triumph of the hostile element in the Liberal party as to render them independent of Irish power.'

CZAR'S PEACE PLAN.

ARCHDEACON OF LONDON PRESIDES AT A MEETING CALLED TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION.

London, Dec. 19.—The Venerable William MacDonald Sinclair, Archdeacon of London and Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, presided at a public conference at St. James's Hall yesterday, convened by the heads of the various religious denominations in favor of an international demonstration on behalf of the Czar's disarmament proposals. A telegram expressing sympathy with the effort was received from Lord Rosebery. Among the letters read by the chairman from prominent people was one sent by Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, who wrote advocating 'an Anglo-Russian understanding of which the Czar's rescript ought to be the foundation.'

A resolution in accordance with the objects of the conveners of the conference was adopted unanimously.

Meetings were held in thirty-three towns in England on Saturday to urge the adoption of the Czar's plans for universal peace.

MR. STEAD AND THE CZAR.

London, Dec. 19.—At the great public conference held yesterday (Sunday) afternoon in St. James's Hall favoring an international ratification of the Czar's peace proposals Mr. William T. Stead said that though he could not give the exact words of the Czar in a recent interview, the substance of what His Majesty said was as follows:—

'I look out over the world; I study our civilization, and I do not find it very good. I see nations all engaged in seizing, or trying to seize, all the territory not yet occupied by European powers. I look at the results. They do not seem to me to be good. For the native races what does imperial expansion mean? Too often opium, alcohol, and all manner of foul diseases, a great gulf between the governed and those who rule, and crushing taxation upon the natives for the blessings of this civilization.

'And for the nations who seize, what does it mean? A continual increase of suspicion, jealousy and rivalry; the heaping up of fleets and armies in order to take part in a scramble with the world, with the result that the army and navy are swallowing up more and more millions that should be used for the welfare of the people and the advancement of the world.

'On top are a few very rich and comfortable. Down below, with an ever-increasing pressure of taxes for armaments, is the great mass of poor people whose position is not very good. There is an ever-increasing multitude of those below with their brooding discontent, ripening into socialism and developing into all kinds of anarchy.

'No, I do not find our civilization good. Why do we make it so? We have at the present moment arrived at this stage that we have put all our very best manhood in the army. So much is this the case that we cannot mobilize the whole of our troops in European countries without dislocating the whole fabric of the social community.

'War has become so expensive that no state can stand the strain of protracted war without having to look bankruptcy in the face, and we are so perfecting our modern weapons of destruction that no army can go into the field without losing so large a proportion of its officers that when the war is over, even if that army be victorious, the war will have inflicted irreparable loss on the country. What with disconnection caused by mobilizing, what with empty exchequers, what with decimated ranks of leading and governing men, I see nothing before any nation but a terrible heritage of revolutionary anarchy.'

CHRISTMAS AT THE COLONEL'S.

('Pen and Pencil.')

Colonel Cephas M'Naughton claimed for himself the distinction of being the pioneer of Paradise Gulch. His claim was well founded, since he had built the first cabin, and was the first man to take up his permanent abode within the barren, gloomy limits of the desolate ravine. He also asserted that he was the first white man who had ever gone from one end to the other of the gulch, which may or may not have been true.

For eight or ten years had 'Colonel Mack' lived alone in a little log cabin far up the slope of a rugged mountain six miles from the mouth of the gulch.

But he was no longer alone in the ravine. Miners, luckier than himself, had found gold and silver veins on both sides of him, and there was or had been a lively mining camp of several thousand inhabitants at the mouth of the gulch; a line of stage-coaches rattled heavily up and down its dreary length over a rocky toll road; and from the low door of his cabin Colonel Mack, as he was called, could see blue lines and columns of smoke rising from the cabins and camp-fires near his own hitherto secluded retreat.

For six years he had lived alone in undisputed possession of the entire gulch, and had an unreasonable feeling that it was all his own domain, and must remain so. He did not, therefore, look with favor on those who had encroached upon his ground. He regarded them as usurpers, and did not respond very cordially to their friendly overtures, although he was never surly nor inhospitable, and was too honest a man to do anything mean or underhanded.

But he was glad when rumors came to him that some of the richest mines down at Camp Paradise were 'petering out,' as the miners expressed it, and he did not feel sorry when he knew that the prospectors near him were not successful in their search for silver and gold.

One by one he saw their camp-fires go out, the little cabins deserted, the little tents folded up, and the disheartened miners going wearily out of the gulch no richer than when they came into it.

Camp Paradise, the thriving town at the mouth of the gulch, was almost deserted in one short summer, and when early October snow came it had less than a hundred inhabitants. The mines suddenly ceased to be productive, and all who were able to do so sought more promising fields.

Colonel Mack was standing in his cabin door one morning early in October. He was a man long past his youth, his matted hair and grizzled beard were streaked with gray; he was bent and wrinkled and uncouth.

From where he stood he could look down into the narrow gulch, where, close to the mountain wall, ran the road over which those who had followed him into the gulch had come.

As he looked, there came around a curve in the narrow road, a small, rickety old waggon with a ragged canvas cover. It was drawn by a decrepit old horse who dragged wearily along. By the side of the waggon there walked a little girl of twelve or thirteen years dressed in old and faded garments.

'More of 'em clearin' out,' said the colonel, grimly. 'They'd better never come. I doubt if that old critter holds out long enough to carry whoever's in that waggon very fer.'

Even as he spoke the feeble 'old critter' came to a halt, started feebly forward again, and fell to the ground.

The little girl patted the fallen animal gently on the head, and seemed trying to coax and pull him to his feet.

'Wonder where the men folks air that they don't help that little gal git the old beast up,' said the colonel.

He saw the little girl put her sleeve to her eyes.

'Cryin',' said the colonel, briefly, and his sympathies aroused, he started quickly down the mountain side. A few moments later he stood by the side of the girl, who was crying bitterly. A thin, white face appeared at the open front of the waggon, and a man asked in a weak voice:

'What's the matter, Janie?'

Colonel Mack had already said, 'In trouble, little one?'

'The horse,' said the girl, 'he's sick, I'm 'fraid.'

'Let me see,' said the colonel. He bent over the fallen animal, lifted its head, and dropped it heavily to the ground.

'Why,' he said, 'the critter's dead.' Janie's tears flowed afresh at these words. The thin face of the sick man appeared again, and he said moodily:

'Jest my luck.' Then he added in a tone of dejected resignation, 'Well, well, I reckon I'll soon be where neither good nor bad luck makes any diff'rence. I guess the old hoss 'n' me 's both 'bout done for—say, mister?'

Colonel Mack stepped to the front of the waggon, and looked in. There was nothing in the waggon but an old straw tick on which the sick man had been lying, a blanket or two, a few cooking utensils, black with smoke, and one or two small, greasy pine boxes.

'Well, my friend, what's the matter with you?' asked the colonel, brusquely, but not unkindly. 'Out of luck, hey?'

'Ain't never been in luck,' replied the man.

'Got any friends in the gulch?'

'Ain't got any anywhere,' replied the man, moodily. 'I'm too pore even to have friends. Oh, well, I—'

'You want to brace up, man,' said the colonel, cheerily. 'I've seen folks come out all right when they was worse off than you are. That your little gal?'

'Yes, she is,' said the man. 'I've got her, anyhow; she's a good little girl, too, Janie is. I wish she wouldn't cry so.'

'See here,' said the colonel abruptly. 'I'm pretty bad off myself, but I've got a good, comfortable cabin up here and plenty to eat in it, and I'll just get you up there some way, and do the best I kin by you till things brighten up. What do you say?'

'Things'll never brighten for me,' replied the man, 'I only wish they would for Janie. That's all I ask now.'

Colonel Mack was very strong, and the sick man was so frail and wasted that he lay lightly in the colonel's arms, and was carried by easy stages up to the little cabin. Janie followed with tear-dimmed eyes.

The cabin was a comfortable building, although it had but one room. Its owner was an orderly man, tidier than most men are when left to 'keep house' after their own devices. He had his few tin and earthenware dishes washed very clean, and neatly arranged on shelves in a corner of the room. There were paper curtains to both of the little windows of the cabin; pictures from illustrated papers and labels from fruit and vegetable cans nearly covered the hewn log walls; on the rough floor were skins from animals that the colonel had killed. There were two bunks in corners of the room.

'It ain't the first time I've took folks in when they was in trouble,' said the colonel. 'I never shut my door in nobody's face, and I fixed that extry bunk up long ago so's to have it handy when I had comp'ny. You'll find it comfortable.'

He laid the sick man down gently on the robes and blankets of the bunk.

'It is very comfortable,' said the sufferer, gratefully, as he lay back, while the tears came from between his closed eyelids. He caught the colonel's hand as he spoke, and pressed it with all his feeble strength.

'You're a good man,' he said; 'yes, sir, you're a gentleman, you are, a gentleman and a—a—Christian. I used to read the bible some when I was young, and I remember there's a piece in it 'bout a man called a good Samaritan. I don't mind just now how the story went, but it come to me when you was tugging me in my rags and helplessness up the mountain. You'd ought to read the piece, for you're like that man.'

He went to sleep a moment later, and slept all day. The little girl sat on a stool by his side holding one of his thin white hands. The colonel did not talk to her, but left her alone with her father most of the day, for he knew that the end was near.

That night he died. The colonel summoned some of the men from Paradise Gulch, who helped to give the poor man decent burial, and Janie returned with him to his cabin.

December had come, and Paradise Gulch was almost deserted. The few who were left must stay where they were for months to come. The snow was now so deep that the coaches had long since stopped running, and all communication with the outside world had been cut off.

The snow lay smooth and white and deep throughout the entire length of the gulch; it covered the frozen streams and the rocky slopes of the mountains; from base to summit they were white.

The colonel's cabin was half-buried under the great drifts. He knew that it would be so, and was prepared for even deeper drifts and colder days. The rear of the cabin was built squarely against the face of the mountain, and a door led into a great cave in the mountain itself. In this cave Colonel Mack had a large quantity of resinous pine knots and limbs and trunks of trees stored away for winter use. He had here also canned goods, flour, meal, venison, bacon, sugar, enough to last him for many months to come.

'Let her blow,' said the Colonel, one evening when the wind was roaring and wailing up and down the long, dark canyon, and the fine, hard snow was dashing against the little windows of the snug cabin. He piled the pine knots high in the fireplace, and stretched himself at full length on the skins before the flames. 'Let her blow,' he said again; 'we're all right, aren't we, Janie?'

For Janie was still with the Colonel. After her father's death she told her story briefly to the Colonel. There was little to tell.

'We came from Iowa three years ago,' she said, 'and we've lived around in a good many places since then. Pa's been mining all the time, but he never seemed to find nothing. Ma kept boarders in some of the places, and we got on somehow or other. I don't know how. Ma died down in Camp Paradise last summer, and pa give right up then. He'd been sick a good while.'

'And haven't you got no folks anywheres that you'd like to go to?' asked the colonel.

'No, not one,' replied Janie, with a sorrowful shake of her head. 'Pa and ma never seemed to have folks like some have, they never had nothin'.'

The Colonel said nothing more at that time, but he seemed to be thinking very earnestly as he watched the little girl going quietly about from place to place, giving little touches here and there—doing things that the Colonel, with all his orderly ways, had not thought of doing.

The Colonel went down to Camp Paradise one day soon after.

'I'll look 'round a bit,' he said to himself, 'and see if I can find some good woman that'll take the little gal and do what's right by her. She's the makin' of a smart, neat woman in her. I only wish that — but, stuff, what's the use of my wishin' I could keep her myself? It'd be a sin to keep the youngster up here on the top of Old Baldy mountain. I'm no fit company for her. She'd ought to have a woman's care and trainin'.'

He stayed all day in the almost deserted camp. There were not a dozen women left in the place. Most of these had more children of their own than they could care for, and all were poor. He walked slowly up the trail toward his cabin in the gathering gloom of night. Before he reached it he saw the cheerful gleams of light coming through the white-curtained windows.

The door stood partly open, and he saw the little table set close to the great fire-place. The cloth was laid, the tin dishes shone, the savory odor of frying venison was wafted toward him, and, for the first time Janie was singing loudly and cheerily. The colonel had been in a state of great perplexity all the way home, but now he was perplexed no longer. Walking into the little cabin he asked abruptly:

'Well, little one, are you satisfied with things 'round here?'

'Why, yes, of course,' said Janie wonderingly.

'Don't you want to go away?'

'Go away? Where? There's no place to go to, unless it's one of them poor-houses papa used to talk about 'fore he died.'

'Well, you're not going to one of them; that's dead sure,' said the colonel. 'If you want to stay here with me, all you've got to do is to say so.'

'I do,' said Janie, briefly.

'That settles it,' replied the colonel, decisively. 'I've always said I'd never take in a pardner, but I've gone and done it after all.'

This singular partnership resulted satisfactorily for both parties. Humble as it was, the colonel's cabin was a cheerier and more comfortable home than Janie had known for a long time; and it had never seemed so pleasant to the colonel as since Janie had come to live with him. He began calling her his 'little gal' soon after she came to the cabin, and now he never addressed her by any other name.

'Lonesome, little gal?' he asked one night in December, as Janie sat on a pine knot by the fireplace, her elbows on her knees and her chin in her hands. She had sat so for a long time, gazing earnestly into the flames with a very sober look on her young face.

'Lonesome?' she repeated. 'No, I was only thinking.'

'What about?' asked the colonel.

'Christmas,' said Janie.

It was perhaps the first time the word had ever been spoken in the colonel's cabin. That may have been the reason why he gave a little start, and said in such a tone of surprise:

'Christmas! Let me see—comes the twenty-fifth of this month, don't it? I've lost track of such things. Cracky!'

When surprised the colonel always said 'Cracky!' After saying it he, too, sat silent, looking into the flames as they roared and snapped up the great black chimney. Then he said:

'This ain't much of a place for a little gal like you to spend Christmas in, is it?'

'Last year we stayed in the waggon down in the San Juan Valley,' said Janie, 'and,' she added, 'we like to froze.'

'And that old chap they used to call Sandy Claws, or some sich name; he didn't find you, did he?'

'No,' said Janie, 'he hasn't found me since we left Iowa.'

'Do you reckon he'll find you way up here on old Baldy?'

'I—I—no, I'm afraid he won't,' Janie replied, shaking her head after some reflection.

'Bet you he will,' the colonel said, with marked decision.

'He'll never get 'way here.'

'Won't, hey? See if he don't.'

'No, I don't 'spose he will.'

'If he don't my name ain't Ceph M'Naughton.'

After Janie went to bed the colonel sat for a long time in deep thought. It was two days before Christmas.

'The little gal's got to have a Christmas of some kind,' said the colonel.

The next morning he said to Janie, 'Think you'd be afraid to stay alone all night here?'

'No—I—I—no, I wouldn't,' she replied, hesitatingly. 'What would hurt me?'

'Sure enough,' said the colonel. 'What would? I want to go over to Leadville on a little business. It will take me all day to go, and all of to-morrow to get back home. If I see old man Sandy Claws on the way, I'll bring him back with me.'

He started immediately after breakfast. The day was cloudy and cold; little flurries of snow now and then filled the air.

'The colder it is the better,' said the colonel. 'It will make it all the easier going over the snow with my snow-shoes if it's frozen hard.'

He brought his snow-shoes from the cave in the rear of the cabin, examined all the straps and strings carefully, and took from a corner a long, stout staff or pole.

With a great-coat and cap and gloves of fur, and his long, shaggy beard, he looked something like Santa Claus himself, as he started forth with a stout canvas bag hanging from straps over his shoulders. He always carried this bag when he went below for supplies.

It was after dark when the colonel reached Leadville. He went directly to dry-goods and other stores. He bought bright-colored dress patterns, ribbons, embroidery, books, picture-cards, candy, nuts and oranges. In a fancy-goods store he bought a little work-basket filled up completely, and then he went into a toy-store and bought a wonderful doll.

'She's somewhat big, and pretty much of a woman for a doll,' he said, 'but I s'pect she'll like it just the same.'

The canvas bag was stuffed full with useful and pretty things, so that the colonel looked more than ever like a veritable Santa Claus when he started home the next morning.

The trails over which he went were in many cases steep and rough, and he could not go as fast nor as easily as he had come. It was snowing and almost dark when he left Camp Paradise behind him, and started on his lonely way up the gloomy gulch toward his cabin. The wind was rising.

'But there'll be a roaring fire for me, and a hot supper, and a little gal a-singing for me when I get home,' he said, cheerily, as he pressed on facing the storm.

He was in a little grove of low pines, within ten minutes' walk of his own home. It had suddenly stopped snowing, and the bright light from his cabin window shone out across the snow. As he looked a lamp was set in the window, the door opened, and Janie stood looking out.

'She's looking for me,' said the colonel, 'I'm mighty glad the little gal's safe. I felt a little mite skeered lest something had happened to——'

He did not finish the sentence. Something unexpected and undesired had happened to the colonel. He had disappeared from the snow-covered face of the earth, and was lying bruised and bleeding in the bottom of a deserted shaft twenty feet deep.

He had left the regular trail, and started through the grove of pines to shorten the distance by a few yards. The shaft was one he had himself dug the previous summer, and had neglected to cover when he gave up work in it, after becoming convinced that he would not find mineral in that spot. The snow falling almost every day, had gradually closed over the mouth of the shaft as smoothly as on the solid ground.

It was a long time before the Colonel recovered consciousness. Then he said, 'Serves me right for leaving that death-trap uncovered. I intended covering it long ago. Here I am, caught in my own trap. Whew!' He made a wry face as he attempted to stand.

'Left arm's broke,' he said, 'and if one or two ribs ain't in the same fix I'm mistaken. Hope the little gal's doll ain't hurt. But mebbe she'll never see it now. The snow will mighty soon cover the hole I made to get in here and then it'll be "good-bye, old Mack!"'

It was nine o'clock when he said this, and at that moment Janie came to the door for the twentieth time to look out. When ten o'clock came she looked out again, tearful and anxious. Then she put on her hood and shawl.

'I believe I'll go to the curve of the mountain,' she said. 'I'll light the lantern, and go and hang it on a branch of the pinetree at the curve. He'll see it, maybe. I'm scared for him out in that.'

She shivered as she spoke, and looked fearfully ahead into the darkness.

'I'd hate awfully to go down into the gulch at night. He must be brave to do it. I wouldn't for——'

She stopped suddenly. She was near the edge of the little grove of pines. She thought she heard someone cry out.

'Hello-o.!'

As she stood with the lantern in her hand listening the cry came again. She thought it sounded like 'Janie' this time.

'Here I am!' she shouted. 'Where are you?'

She could understand but two words of the reply. They were, 'the grove.'

She started in among the pines, and had gone but a few yards when a voice cried out:

'Stop!' she listened eagerly. 'The—old—shaft—under—the—big—pine,' cried the voice, speaking each word slowly and distinctly. 'I'm in it. Don't come too near.'

The 'big pine' was a tree much larger than any other in the little group. Janie held her lantern high above her head, and saw the massive trunk of the pine a few feet ahead of her. She stepped forward, and saw the open mouth of the shaft. She could hear plainly now when the Colonel said:—

'Is that you, little one?'

'Yes,' she replied.

'Well, you'd better run back to the cabin, and stay there until morning. Then you can, maybe,—well, I don't know as you can do anything then, but let me down something to eat. If my arm wa'n't broke I could mebbe get up on a rope. Anyhow, you run back now, and we'll see, we'll see in the morn—'

He had fainted from pain, Janie called again and again, but no reply came.

'He can't stay there until morning,' she cried. 'He'll freeze or die. What shall I do, what can I do?'

She called again, sobbing and crying.

'I know what I'll do,' she said at last. 'I'll go down to Camp Paradise. I'll get there some way. It's only six miles.' She said the words slowly, realizing as she did so what it meant to tramp so great a distance in that wild country on such a night as this. But all fear had left her.

'He's got to get out of there,' she said, simply, 'and he can't without help.'

She ran back to the cabin. The Colonel had made her a pair of snow-shoes, and she had gone sliding down the mountain side many times with him. She took the lantern in her hand, and with a prayer for safety and guidance started forth.

She did not know nor care how many times she stumbled and fell. She did not know when the rocks tore her clothes or bruised her as she fell. The low branches of the pines struck her in the face, and she stumbled against their trunks in the darkness. She did not know that she was off the trail, although she had lost her way before she had gone half a mile.

Once she rolled and slid down a long slope, struck against the rocks and lay stunned and bleeding. She was down in the gulch now wandering around helplessly. She had already called until she was hoarse.

She had lost one of her snow-shoes, and one alone was of little use to her. At first she had been more careful of her lantern than of herself, but when she slid down into the gulch she had lost even that companion of her weary tramp. Ten minutes later she stumbled over a rock, and did not rise again.

Two miners, going home from a frolic down in Camp Paradise, stumbled over Janie soon after she had fallen. One of them held his lantern close to her face and said:

'I know her, Jim; she's the girl that lives with Colonel Mack. You saw her the day we went up to help bury her father. I hope we ain't got to bury her.'

'She aint' dead,' said Jim, taking his ear from her breast. 'Her heart's beating all right. Let's get her on to the cabin. What in creation can she be doing down here two miles from home at this time of night?'

An hour later Janie, lying between the warm blankets of Jim Benton's berth, told her story in a weak and trembling voice. At noon the next day Janie was back in Colonel Mack's cabin. He was lying on one of the bunks. A doctor from Camp Paradise had set the broken arm, and had gone away with the men who had come with him. The colonel said he felt 'almost as good as new.'

When they were alone he told Janie to look under his bunk and pull out the canvas bag she would find there.

'I told you old Sandy Claws would come,' he said.

'Yes,' said Janie, as soon as she could find words to say anything, 'but I am so sorry he broke his arm getting here.'

Since that Christmas day, now seven years ago, Colonel Mack has had what the miners call 'great luck.' He has found and still owns a rich silver mine in the gulch, and his 'little gal,' as he still calls Janie, is at school in a western city. The colonel spends a great deal of his time at the little cabin on Baldy Mountain, and Janie 'camps out' there for a few weeks every summer, and her presence gives the eccentric old colonel infinite delight. When she is ready to occupy it he intends building a handsome house in a beautiful city.

'And then,' he says, 'I'll say good-bye to old Baldy Mountain and Paradise Gulch, and go and live with my little gal and other white folks.'

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

TEDDY'S CHRISTMAS EVE.

('The Westminster.')

All day long the snow had been falling softly in large beautiful flakes; now it lay so deep that all sounds were hushed. Even the tinkle of the sleigh bells seemed softer than usual.

It was Christmas Eve. Teddy stood at the window of his home in the city, as night came on, and gazed quietly out at the people and the sleighs hurrying by. His mamma was out and his sisters were in their room, and when Teddy had knocked and asked if he might come in, they had called out, as if frightened, 'Oh, no, Teddy, you can't come in; go away like a good boy.' He had come away, but I am sorry to say not like a good boy, for he had given the door a bang with his foot, which some people would have called a kick.

He wished as he stood at the window that he were old enough to go to the rink like his brother Bob. This had been such a long day for him. Everyone else in that house thought it a very short day. He had tried to build a snow man at the front of the house, but had to stop very often to watch the parcels going into the houses, and to wonder what was in them; so the snow man grew very slowly, and there he stood, headless and armless, just where Teddy could see him. How queer he looked in the half moonlight.

Just then a little man with a red jolly face, and a sleigh full of parcels, flew by, and Teddy fairly jumped as he thought of Santa Claus once more. Was that he? But no, for mamma had said he would not come till midnight, and it was not yet six o'clock. Where could Santa Claus be now, he wondered. Had he left his home at the North Pole? Could he travel as fast as the train? Perhaps he was just gathering up his parcels making ready to start. How could he bring all in one sleigh, and if Santa brought all the presents to every one, why were so many buying from the stores so many things. It must be that the kind people were buying for those whom Santa might forget.

Mamma just then appeared, her arms full of parcels, and Teddy bounded down stairs and was soon busy dusting beautiful light snow off his mamma's cloak, and handling the wonderful packages.

Soon bed-time came, and mamma read softly to him the story of 'Xmas Eve so long ago, when the angels came to the shepherds, as they watched their sheep on the cold hillside, and sang that sweet song, 'Glory be to God in the highest; peace on earth; good will toward men!'

Teddy thought of that 'Xmas baby whose cradle was a stall, and was just dropping off to sleep, with visions of a beautiful bright star shining over a large inn, when he heard a swift noise. He was soon wide awake and listening. Surely he heard steps, soft and quick. Could it be Santa Claus? They said he came down the chimney; then he must come through their sitting-room. Perhaps he had come. He would just steal softly down and see.

He found the sitting-room quite empty, and almost dark. A few coals in the grate gave a little light. Yes, he was certain Santa would come here first, so he curled himself up on the sofa, pulled the rug over him, and, opening his eyes very wide and fixing them on the grate, he prepared to watch. He had lain quite a long time, and the light from the coals had grown less and less, and faded away, when suddenly between him and the grate stood the dear little old man, of his dreams. Yes!—it was surely he, with his rosy cheeks, his long whiskers and snow-white hair, his little fat legs, and—yes—there was the great pack on his back. Teddy held his breath and listened, and opened his eyes and looked. His eyes must have shone very brightly, for the queer little man saw them, and came over and stood by the sofa, laughing, and looking down so kindly at Teddy, he said:

Holloa, Teddy! Are you there? Watching for me? Ha! ha! ha! ha! And you found out where I came in! Ho! ho! ho! ho! Well, you are a smart boy, and I like smart boys. You lie quite still, and when I come back I will give you some fun,' and putting his finger on the side of his little nose, he bounced out of the room.

Teddy could hear him as he bumped up and down the stairs, and thought he would certainly waken every one in the house with his chuckling and laughing. By-and-bye he heard him go into his little room and give a very loud chuckle. Teddy wished very much he could see what he had left there for him, but, being an obedient boy, he lay quite still.

In a few moments Santa was standing beside him once more, laughing and rubbing his little fat hands together. The next minute he found himself in the pack on Santa's back among all the toys, and he and Santa were just coming out of the chimney—on the roof. There stood the cutest little sleigh and two reindeer, waiting for their driver. Into the sleigh jumped Santa with his pack, and away they flew, like 'down from the thistle.'

Soon they stopped before a very large stone building, and although, as Teddy knew, it was not past midnight, lights shone from every window. Santa sprang from the sleigh and ran up the large stone steps, murmuring:

'Great nuisance! Can't get down these furnace chimneys. Must wait and get in here.'

Just then the door opened to allow a poor woman with a sick baby to enter, and as Santa saw her sad, white face big tears rolled down his rosy cheeks, and he chuckled no more. He slipped in close behind the poor woman and followed her up a long, wide stair. A nurse with pretty white apron and cap came forward and took the little baby from the weary mother.

Teddy now found himself in a large room filled with little iron cots in which were sweet little children all so white and sad.

Santa stopped beside one little cot in which lay moaning a dear little lad. One thin little white hard lay out on the spread, and with tears running down his cheeks Santa took from his pack a little horse and cart, and put it close to the little hand. Teddy started when he saw it, for he knew it at once. That was his old horse and cart which yesterday he gave his mamma to be given to the children in the hospital. He felt so ashamed of himself as he remembered how he had disliked to give it away, and how he had only done so because it had lost one wheel and was little use to him. How he wished now that he had given instead that beautiful fireman's waggon, with the bell which rang just like the really fire waggon. But Santa had passed over to another cot, where lay a little girl, her fair curls scattered all over the pillow. How white and full of pain she seemed. She was not sleeping, but she did not notice Santa as he laid on the table, by her cot, a pretty scrap-book, which Teddy had seen his sisters making.

After passing through all the wards,

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leaving flowers here, fruit there, and books with another, Santa slipped out again, and jumped into his sleigh. But there was no chuckling now, only deep, heavy sighs, as he turned and gave one last look at the city hospital.

Teddy had scarcely time to wonder where they were going before they were under the shadow of heavy gates, strongly barred. Teddy never knew just how they got in, but he felt quite frightened as they climbed the narrow, iron stairway and walked along the narrow corridor. He saw heavily barred doors, and then suddenly found that they were inside a very small room. No furniture was here, but a narrow bed on which lay a big, wild looking man, fast asleep. Teddy was so afraid that he almost wished Santa had left him safe at home in his own little bed. But as Santa Claus stooped over the man and whispered in his ear kind and gentle words a tear rolled down his coarse cheek and he smiled such a sweet smile as he murmured, 'Mother, my mother,' that Teddy forgot to be frightened and began to love him. Santa quietly laid by him, as he slept, a warm pair of mits and a pair of stockings, and Teddy had time to read only the message on the slip of paper pinned on them, 'With mother's love,' and to notice that Santa left also a book which Teddy was sure he had seen his own mother put into a parcel the day before. Then they went hurrying through the other cells leaving in each some message of love from dear ones far away.

Again they were out in the sleigh, dashing back to the city. How the little reindeer flew, for morning was near, and Santa's work was not yet finished.

Now they coursed up an avenue of pine trees, standing so stately and still, dressed all in ermine. They stopped at the steps of a house so large and grand that Teddy thought it must be Queen Victoria's palace. In they slipped. All was still. A tiny electric light in the hall gave Santa light enough to see his way. There was no fear here of falling footsteps, for Santa's moccasins sank in the soft velvet carpet and made no sound. Heavy curtains hung at the doorways, and handsome ornaments peeped from every corner.

The bedrooms were all very fine, and Teddy felt almost frightened at all the fine things he saw. His eyes were not large enough to see all that was to be seen in this magnificent home. And oh! what treasures Santa took from his pack; rocking-horses, fret-saws, watches, bracelets, rings, china—and Teddy thought this was, indeed, a very happy home. Just as he had finished his thought, Santa gave a sigh so deep that it shook poor Teddy in the pack, and hurt his sides. They stood at the door of a little room, into which they now entered—and in the whitest of white beds lay the whitest of white little girls. She was half sitting, pillowed up, but sleeping softly. On a sofa by her side lay a nurse, fast asleep. As Santa Claus softly wheeled in a beautiful invalid's chair, he sobbed as he said: 'Poor girlie, you can never walk again'—and hurried from the house.

They now came to a poor old house, so tumbled down that Teddy thought no one could possibly live in it. But Santa Claus knew better, and, pushing open the rickety door, went in. There were no carpets in this house, and very little furniture. The cupboard doors were open, and showed only empty shelves. No fire was in the old and broken stove, and the snow lay on the window-sills inside the room.

There were several children asleep in poor beds with very little covering, and by the cold stove sat the mother, her head buried in her hands. No Christmas joy was here. Santa Claus looked quite through his pack, giving poor Teddy many a thump as he tossed the things over, but no one had remembered any one in this poor house. Poor Santa sat down on a broken chair and sobbed as if his little heart would break. Then Teddy crept up to the edge of the pack, and, putting his hands on Santa's broad shoulders, he whispered in his ear, between his own sobs:

'Oh! come home quick Santa, and tell my mother and she will give you something for them.'

Santa dashed away his tears and hurried out to his team, and away they flew to Teddy's home. As they entered the door Teddy leaped from the pack and bounded upstairs calling 'Mother, mother!' and in a moment mother was by his side.

Yes, there she was, in her soft night wrapper, bending over him, and there was he all in a heap on the sofa, while the coals in the grate were still alive; what did it all mean? Then he remembered that poor, sad home once more, and, sobbing, said:

'Oh, mamma! won't you send some things to them, they are so cold and hungry?'

And his mamma understood it all, and, folding her arms about him, said:

'Yes, Teddy, dear, we have already sent wood and coal, and something for them to eat, and some warm clothes for the little one.'

'But,' said Teddy, 'where is Santa Claus? Has he gone with those things to them?'

And as his mamma laid him down in his own little bed, and tucked him, he forgot all about Santa Claus, and was soon once again in dreamland. But after a while, a long, loud noise awoke him, and, looking about, he found his brother Bob standing by his bedside, blowing a trumpet and beating a drum, which he felt sure were his.

As soon as Teddy remembered that this was Christmas morning he jumped out of bed, and was busy looking over his treasures. No wonder Santa had chuckled loudly as he left this room, for well he knew a boy's heart. A trumpet and drum, and Robinson Crusoe lay on the table, while the stocking hung at the head of the bed was quite full. Out of it Teddy pulled a pair of warm over-stockings, a pair of gloves, an orange, a ball, nuts and raisins, and down in the toe he found his heart's desire—a jack-knife.

Every one knows how pleased Teddy was and how he capered off to show his good things and to see. Among the things which Santa had left papa and mamma were a stud-box for papa and a hair-pin box for mamma, which Teddy had bought with the coppers he had saved that year.

As they all listened again to the story of God's great Christmas gift to the world so many years ago, and joined in the Christmas song, 'Hark, the herald angels sing,' memories of the places he had visited with Santa Claus the night before floated through Teddy's little mind. He saw again the little sufferers in their white cots; the rough prisoner in his cell, the beautiful girl in her snowy bed, and the poor widow and her hungry children, and was so glad that some one had thought of them. When his mother appeared soon after with large baskets well filled, and said:

'I would like to send this to Jones, the shoemaker's, family. I am afraid no one will think of them.'

Teddy was the first to spring up from among his treasures, saying:

'Let me take them, mother, and may I put some of my toys in?'

When the merry day was done, and mother once more tucked her tired out little boy in, he whispered:

'Mother, wasn't God good to give us Christmas. It just is a time when everybody loves everybody. Is that because Jesus came to us that night?'

Then just as he was falling asleep, he said:

'But mother, did Santa Claus really come and take me with him, or was it all a dream, and is Santa Claus only other people who love us?'

And his mother only answered, 'All who love us.'

LITERARY REVIEW.

STORY-BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

A typical Canadian story is 'The Forest of Bourg-Marie,' by S. Frances Harrison. Here we have the picture of a lonely French-Canadian village in which the most remarkable figure is an old man who lives a quiet trapper's life. The people know that he has a right to the title of 'seigneur,' but they do not know anything of his riches. He lives in a hut, but in the ancient manor-house he keeps rich bear skins, old armor and silver dishes. His grandson, Magloire, of whom he had hoped to make a great man and a fit heir to restore the glory of the ancient line, runs away at fourteen, and after nine years comes back to dazzle the simple habitants with his dressy American clothes, his watch, his fluent English and his atheistic sentiments. The disappointed old man sees the cheap vulgarity of it all, and decides to make a better youth his heir. The manor-house becomes the scene of a hurried and stealthy quest for wealth, when Magloire hears a whisper of its resources. A hidden trap-door causes a mysterious disappearance. The characters of the village are depicted with a good deal of care. (E. N. Morang.)

Two other books by Canadian writers have come in too late for extensive notice, but must be mentioned this week as the season is advanced: 'Aneroestes the Gaul,' by Edgar Maurice Smith (Grafton & Sons), is a realistic story of the second Punic war, and the savage allies of Rome and Carthage. The fashion of war in those barbarous days is vividly presented. The plot turns partly on the discovery of the sex of a captive. 'Hypnotized?' is the name of a book by Julian Durham. It asks whether there is such a thing as 'unconscious hypnotism' and tells of a girl who evidently followed the hypnotic suggestions of a well-meaning man without his will or knowledge. Her coming to his rooms in a cataleptic condition forms a sensational incident, but the whole situation is treated with propriety. This book is interesting in itself, and gives the impression that the author is capable of something better still.

'Afterwards,' by Ian MacLaren (Revell Co., Toronto), is a collection of short stories, for the most part not Scotch, though the Dominie and others do turn up for a farewell word. This volume has not the charm of the earlier books, whose range was limited to the Drumtochty folk. It lacks the simple objective interest of the 'Bonnie Briar Bush' idylls and has too much of the personal element, a pervading presence of the 'minister let loose from school,' with his tendency to joke on serious subjects. However, some of these tales have true pathos and doubtless they will be widely read.

'John Splendid,' by Neil Munro, (Copp Clark Co.), is 'the tale of a poor gentleman and the little wars of Lorn.' There is plenty of Highland fighting in this story of old days in Scotland, and some types of Highland character are brought out very strongly. To the hero, McIver, his chief, a far less reliable man himself, says:—'You and your kind are the weak, strong men of our Highland race. The soft tongue and the dour heart; the good man at most things but at your word!'

'The Red Axe,' by S. R. Crockett, (Copp, Clark & Co.), tells of a young man whose father was hereditary executioner in a small principality. As he is a handsome and gallant youth, the favor of fair ladies is as often the theme of the narrative as bloody and heroic adventure.

The Copp-Clark Company show enterprise in bringing out some of G. A. Henty's books for boys in a Canadian copyright edition. 'The Young Franc-Tireurs,' the earliest of the series, was written shortly after the close of the Franco-German war. The author had not at that time any plan of writing historical stories, but the tale was suggested by true incidents which had come to his knowledge. 'The Young Buglers' gives an account of the 'Peninsular War,' so thorough and accompanied by so many maps that the subject could be 'got up for examination' out of this book, though it is an entertaining story.

RAPHAEL TUCK'S GIFT BOOKS AND CHRISTMAS CARDS.

'Father Tuck's Annual' is a beautiful gift-book for children, with many illustrations to the lively little stories and several full-page colored plates in excellent style. 'Baby's Book' is a novelty which young parents will appreciate. With original and selected poems on babyhood, gay pages of baby pictures are interspersed and spaces are left for the date of the first outing, the first tooth, etc., the names of the baby's first visitors and other data, so that a little record of a baby's first year may be made very easily and kept in a convenient form. The heavy paper and good art work, both in color and black-and-white make this a handsome gift-book. 'Wedding Bells' is a similar book designed to hold memoranda of a wedding. The Christmas cards from Raphael Tuck's this year show a fair variety of designs. Some having a religious tone are tastefully executed in neutral colors and would make a suitable remembrance for a friend in trouble or bereavement. Booklet calendars on parchment paper are printed in two colors, with space for brief memoranda. Handsome calendars to hang on the wall, presenting all the months at one view, are 'The Maypole' and 'Flowery Ways.' Among the more expensive wall calendars with leaves that turn over are a large and beautiful calendar with selections from Miss Havergal's religious poems and 'My Times Are in Thy Hands,' which contains eight fine landscape designs with scripture quotations.

RUDYARD KIPLING'S NAME.

Kipling got his queer first name for sentimental reasons. His father, when designer of decorations for a pottery firm, at Burslem, England, attended a picnic near the village of Rudyard, not far from the pottery works. There he met and fell in love with Mary D. McDonald, the daughter of a clergyman, whom he shortly married. Their first-born arrived while the couple were in Bombay, whither Kipling had gone to direct the art schools of the Madras presidency. In memory of the place where they first met, the parents decided to call their boy Rudyard Kipling.

[For the 'Witness.'

THE CLOUDED VALE.

I wandered 'mid the darkness of the days,
And strove for light 'mid windings of the ways;
It came not; but beside my steps were seen
Low-bending souls, sin-burdened and unclean,
That groped, still downward, earthward, seeking still
For wealth and light, their hands and hearts to fill.
They found it not; but stretched their empty hands
In piteous pleading to the surging bands
That hurried past; but ever 'twas in vain.
I bent to catch, if it might be a strain
With aught but sadness in its undertone.
But naught I heard beyond the murmured moan
Of aye unresting waters, and the plash
Of falling rain-drops, and the sullen splash
Of sea-engulfed corpses. In the Past
I sought for light, but tho' majestic, vast,
Its halls arose, yet dark was all their might
Of massed grandeur, to my anxious sight.
Heart-saddened, stricken, to the Future then
I turned despairing, but beyond the ken
Of all my subtlest searchings lay its shore;
And from that land what spectres floated o'er
Across the soundless wave, were dark and cold,
Each bearing on its face of corpse-like mould
Heart-sickening bodings of a great unknown,
Dark-yawning in that silent land and lone.

But while I pondered, and the deepening shades
Stole closer round my life, as down the glades
Of ever sadder sadness passed my track.
'Neath heavier hangings from th' o'erarching wrack,
Farther and ever farther from the day,
Where deeper shades and darker waters lay;
As sadder grew the tones that reached my ear
Of Want, and Woe, and Hopelessness, and Fear.
Of Youth, impulsive Youth, in barriers bound,
By art and faithless Fashion fenced around,
Of Life, strong Life, in stronger agonies.
'Neath cruel locks—a tyrant held the keys,
A tyrant, tho' of smooth and smiling face,
All cruel was his heart, and cold, and base—
A horrid, fiend-like shape, whose name was Gold—
As neared that deepest shade my awful track,
Which never mortal reached and turned back,
Then yet another sound my curious gaze
Drew earthward, 'mid the driving dark and haze;
Oh, awful thought! a laugh in that dread place;
I turned to see the speaking of the face—
It froze my blood that direful sight to view,
There, captive led among Hell's own dark crew,
A maid I saw, of form all but divine,
Sweet girlhood's innocence undimmed did shine
In eye and form; and all unknowing still
The name of Wrong, went with them at their will,
As joyous as when woodland flowers among,
She woke the echoes of the trees in song.

It was as if a rough, steel-barbed spear,
An awful shape of horror, love and fear,
Had torn my deepest heart, and bleeding left
The ragged cavern of the wound it cleft.
To earth on every side I'd looked for aid,
And but to be heart-sickened and dismayed;
But when I saw her borne all innocent,
To deeper shades and darker deeps, I sent
Not earthward, but to Heaven a swift-voiced prayer,
And turned my eyes at last, despairing there.

Oh, Joy! far o'er the dark a shining Star
Gleamed forth and down through all the sin and war;
And as I strained my eyes in hope again
Upon its blessed beams, I saw that when
They shone upon the dark-faced fiends, who bore
The maid away, swift as a flash she tore
Their hands aside, and, following the Light,
Forever turned from sin, and shame, and night;
And I, who followed with her that dark way,
Turned with her, too, toward the land of Day.

WILLIAM R. WOOD.

Riverbank, Ont.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

'WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD'

Hoxban, I.T., Oct. 21, 1897.

DR. RADWAY & CO., New York:

Gentlemen,—I send enclosed M. O. for which you will please send me one dozen Radway's Ready Relief and one dozen Radway's Pills. Your Ready Relief is considered hereabouts to be worth its weight in gold. This is why I am induced to handle it. I have handled —— Oil for some time, but I consider the R. R. R. far superior to this, as it gives better satisfaction.

J. M. ALEXANDER.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

Radway's Ready Relief cures the worst pains in from one to twenty minutes. For Headache (whether sick or nervous), Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Lumbago, pains and weakness in the back, spine or kidneys, pains around the liver, pleurisy, swelling of the joints and pains of all kinds, the application of Radway's Ready Relief will afford immediate ease, and its continued use for a few days effect a permanent cure. Sold by druggists.

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BE SURE TO GET RADWAY'S.



"Too sweet for anything," Is the Baby after a Bath with

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IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE STAMP.

The above is a fac-simile of the new Imperial penny postage stamp which will be issued for the first time on Christmas Day. The stamp is designed with a view of making the extent and solidarity of the British Empire familiar to all those who use it.

The stamp is the same size as those of the Jubilee issue. In the reproduction the portions of the Empire printed in red on the stamp are black, the background of the stamp being dark. The date, 'Xmas, 1898,' will always remain on the stamp as a matter of record of the date of issue. The Imperial postage stamp will be one of the regular postal issues.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

SOME LEGAL ADVICE.

'A few days since,' relates a solicitor, 'as I was sitting with my friend D—— in his office, a man came in and said: "Mr. W——, the livery-stable keeper tricked me shamefully yesterday, and I want to be even with him."

'"State your case," said D——.

'"I asked him how much he'd charge me for a horse to go to Richmond. He said half a sovereign. I took the horse, and, when I came back, he said he wanted another half-sovereign for coming back, and made me pay it."

'D—— gave his client some legal advice, which he immediately acted upon, as follows: He went to the livery-stable keeper, and said: "How much will you charge for a horse to go to Windsor?"

'The man replied: "A sovereign."

'Client accordingly went to Windsor, coming back by rail, and went to the livery-stable keeper, saying:—

'"Here is your money," paying him a sovereign.

'"Where is my horse?" said W——.

'"He's at Windsor," answered the client. "I hired him only to go to Windsor."'

A BUSINESS MAN.

Young Lady (to her father)—'Harry proposed last night, papa?'

Papa—'What did you say?'

Young Lady—'I asked him to give me a little time, and he said he would give me the usual thirty days, or five percent off for cash. Then he stopped and apologized. I really don't know what to think of him.'

Papa—'That young man is full of business. You cannot say "Yes" too quickly.'

THE OBSTACLE.

She—'Don't you think a football player should make a good golf player?'

He—'The only trouble I see is that the ball might get lost in his hair.'

A French confectioner, proud of his English, and wishing to let his patrons know that their wants would be attended to at once, without any delay, put out the notice, 'Short weights here.'

A tutor who tooted the flute,
Tried to teach two young tooters to toot;
Said the two to the tutor,
'Is it harder to toot or
To tutor two tooters to toot?'

—'Life.'

ONLY FEEDING THEM.

A well-known Dundee angler, who had been fishing the whole day and got nothing but nibbles was accosted by one of the keepers who said:—

'Are you aware this water is private, and that you are not allowed to take fish from it?'

'Pardon me,' replied the angler, 'I'm not takin' your fish—I'm feedin' them!'

ONLY A CRACK.

Little Dot—'Mamma, I was playing with your best tea-set while you were away, an' when you bring it out for company you'll be shocked, 'cause you'll think one of the cups has a hair in it, but it isn't a hair.'

Mamma—'What is it?'

Little Dot—'It's only a crack.'

'What would our wives say if they only knew where we are to-night?' remarked the captain of a vessel beating about in a thick fog. 'I would care what they said,' replied the mate, 'if we only knew where we were ourselves.'—Chicago 'News.'

'Young man,' said the investigating philanthropist, 'you are an interesting puzzle to me. You are too proud to beg, too honest to steal, and too lazy to work. How in the world do you manage?' 'I get trusted.'—Detroit 'Free Press.'

'Has your baby cut any teeth yet?' 'I should say so. It's cut at least one tooth every night during the last six months.'—Cleveland 'Leader.'

Little Marie—'I know what 18k. in a 'gagement ring means.' Algernon—'What?' Little Marie—'The kisses it takes to get engaged.'—'Jewellers' Weekly.'

COULDN'T SLEEP.

First Loafer—'I believe I've got insomnier.'

Second Loafer—'Can't yer sleep at night?'

First Loafer—'Yes, but I can't sleep in the daytime, too, like I uster.'

MIXED MOTIVES.

Mrs. Chatterton—'Helen is getting up a club to study "Faust" this winter.' Chatterton—'Is she so intellectual?' Mrs. Chatterton—'No, but she wants to show off that she can pronounce "Goethe."'—'Puck.'

Children Cry for CASTORIA. Children Cry for CASTORIA. Children Cry for CASTORIA.

SHORT OF SPACE.

'Is your flat crowded?' 'Crowded? We can't yawn without opening a window.'—Chicago 'Record.'

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

The Boys' Page.

OLD CAPTAIN DAVE.

A Canadian Backwoods Story Of 1813.

BY WALTER J. A. WRAITH.

(Winner of a silver watch.)

CHAPTER II.—(Continued.)

Daisy closed her eyes and began, while all was still around, save for the crackling of the fire. White Wolf's eyes were riveted upon her. She commenced gently at their departure for the river. She became gay, sober, serious, anxious, as they went deeper and deeper into the forest. She almost faltered as they left the river. When she came to the finding of the Indian, to the first sounds of the wolves, to their wild race home through the night, her soul seemed to flood through the thrilling words she spoke. Remembrance went back over that wild and lonely road and drew a flashing picture for the eyes of those around. They could not move. A mysterious spell was over all. The spectral shadows of the firelight flitted over her face. Her arm clutched Jack's neck. No one noticed it, and her flood of marvellous eloquence grew denser and denser, rolled on and on, paused and died away like a voice in a dream. The Indian's pipe had dropped from his mouth. The story was done.

'My darling,' cried her mother, folding her in her arms, 'heaven bless you!'

Her father caught her up in his arms as a feather. The spell was broken. There was a tear on his rough cheek. Fred made a dash and kissed her; he wasn't ashamed. Jack sobbed.

'Why, what have I done, that you're all acting like this?' cried Daisy.

'Done!' echoed Fred; 'you've pulled Jack's neck crooked, and loosened all the hair on my head. It'll be a year before it's tight again. Say, you don't mean to say our ride was quite that bad, do you. If it was I'll never go near the river again.'

'I told just what it was like,' she answered. 'I didn't—'

'Wolf wants you,' interrupted Fred.

The Indian had picked up the pipe. He stretched out his hand.

'Will white girl come here?' he said.

Daisy went to him. He grasped her hand.

'Good white girl,' he said, 'White Wolf no forget um,' and he went on smoking, while Daisy resumed her seat beside Jack.

'Where is Wolf wounded?' asked Jack to Fred, and the Indian's eyes were upon him.

'In the shoulder. A rifle ball has gone right through it, too close to his breast to be nice.'

'Who shot him?'

'He says a white man shot him. That's all he'll say. There's some mystery about it.'

'Who shot you, Wolf?' asked Jack.

'White man,' said the Indian, and became silent again.

'It's strange,' muttered Jack.

'It is strange,' said Daisy. 'We dressed his wound to-night, and after he had eaten a big supper he said the white man had shot him one sun since. All that time he had been alone in the woods, with nothing to eat. I suppose he tried to walk to some of his people, but became weak and crawled to die amongst the pines where Fred came upon him. I'm glad we found him.'

'White girl very good,' said the Indian.

'There's some mystery about this that should be cleared up,' remarked John. 'We don't have murderers running around in our woods unless they be American spies.'

'Merican spies,' repeated the Indian, and smoked on.

'They started at his words.

'Was it an American spy who shot you?' asked John.

'White man;' said the Indian.

John shook his head as much as to say, 'No use; he won't tell.'

'But doesn't it hurt him to lie like that?' asked Jack.

'He says not,' replied Daisy; 'he asked to be put that way.'

'No hurt, lie like dis,' said the Indian, 'close to fire; fire nice.'

'It's queer,' muttered Jack.

The wind whistled outside. Footsteps faintly sounded near the door. Boxer dashed from under the table, sniffed long and eagerly, and growled. Such conduct was strange and unusual. But the Indian's conduct was stranger. On the first sound of the steps he elevated his head; his pipe dropped. The steps came to the door. His eyes flashed, his muscles stiffened and trembled; a black shadow spread over his peaceful face. A knock sounded upon the door. With a lightning glance his eyes encircled the room. They fell upon a ladder in one corner. The ladder led to the garret. With the bound of a deer, but as noiseless as a cat, he sprang to this and disappeared above. It was done in a second. The others were too much stupefied to answer the knock. It came again—louder. Their senses returned. John Hamilton sprang to the door.

'Down Boxer!' he exclaimed, and as Boxer went under the table, he opened the door. A breath of wind swept in.

'Good night,' said a strange voice outside.

'Good night,' returned John, peering out, 'Will you step in, friend?'

He stepped in—the friend—a poor old man, bent with age; whose hair and whiskers were long and shaggy; whose face was rough, but not wrinkled; whose eyes were cold and keen; whose cap was ragged; whose long gray coat was tattered and torn; whose trembling hand held a heavy walking-stick.

He gazed for a moment upon each of those around the fire. His eyes rested long upon Daisy. They seemed to pierce her through.

'Good night,' he said presently.

'Good night,' returned Fred, speaking for the others.

The stranger turned to John.

'It's a wild night out,' he said. 'The wolves are howling. You have a noble fire here. Ah, you have a fine-looking dog, too.'

These words bore reference to Boxer, who had crawled from under the table and was sniffing suspiciously around him.

'Yes,' said John, 'the fire is pretty good. Will you have a seat by it, for you seem cold.'

'Ah, thank you. I will. There's nothing like a cheerful—that dog must be a bloodhound from the way he sniffs around a poor old man. Guess he don't like me, eh!' and the old man chuckled.

'Down Boxer,' said John, sternly, and much against his will, Boxer retired under the table again.

'I don't think he would harm anybody unless it be a bad sort of character, and then I wouldn't answer for him,' remarked John.

'I never was frightened of dogs, though some of them tries to scare me,' remarked the stranger.

He became silent as he took his seat beside John by the fire, and warmed his aged hands. He did not unbutton his coat. His eyes wandered round and round; now falling upon Fred now upon Jack; and again upon Daisy—the three sat together upon one bench. Once Daisy's eyes met his squarely. She involuntarily shuddered. Presently she arose and moved to another bench on the dark side of the room, where her mother followed her. The boys stuck to their post.

The stranger's eyes now rested upon Jack. Pointing to him he turned to John and said,

'That ain't your boy, is he?'

'No,' said John, 'he is my nearest neighbor's son.'

'Ah, ha! I thought so,' and the old man chuckled again. 'Don't look like you. Fine-looking boy, though. He's in love with your pretty daughter, ain't he?'

'Sir,' replied John, somewhat sternly, 'I would prefer that you would not speak of that,' and Jack hung his head.

The stranger looked earnestly into John's face.

'Pardon me,' he said, 'if I have offended you. I meant no harm. But as I saw your pretty daughter sitting beside this boy I thought of the good old time when I was young and in love. Yes I was young once, and in love. Young folks will be young folks. It is good for young folks to love. No love is so pure and sweet as the love of youth. But it cannot come to me again. The good old times are gone. Pardon me, pardon me, if I have offended you.'

There was a lonely note of sadness in his speech. His mellow voice was irresistible. John offered a hurried apology for his words, and in the shadow of the room Daisy shuddered and clung to her mother's arm.

The mysterious being arose, turned his back to the fire, and sat down again. Fred whispered to Jack. The two rose and carried their bench back into the corner, where they could whisper and watch the stranger without showing themselves too plainly. The stranger's back was now towards them; his face towards Daisy; his eyes once more upon her.

'Jack,' whispered Fred, 'there's some mystery about all this that I'd like to understand.'

'I believe it'; answered Jack, 'there's some more about that man than we know of. It's my opinion he isn't what he appears to be.'

'What would you suppose made Wolf act like that? I wish I could go up and see what he's doing.'

'Can't you?'

'Would the old boy suspect anything?'

'Not a bit of it. Go up quite unconcerned.'

And Fred quietly arose and lit the candle and made his way up to the garret. Daisy started as she saw him climbing the ladder. In an instant she was calm again.

Fred's steps sounded over the upper floor. Then they ceased. He came down the ladder again in a few moments as unconcernedly as he went up. Daisy looked keenly at his face. She could detect no suspicious look about it and felt slightly relieved. He blew the candle out, cast one meaning glance at her and resumed his seat beside Jack. The stranger's eye was upon him until he sat down.

After a few moments, during which John poked the fire and threw in more wood, he whispered to Jack:

'It's very mysterious.'

'What did Wolf say?' asked Jack, anxiously, 'what's he doing?'

'He's lying on a blanket just at the top of the ladder, listening to the stranger speaking. His face is awful—black as tar. He told me not to let the man know he was in the house and if the old boy stayed all night he said Daisy and me were to sleep down here. That's all he would say, but that almost scared me. I must let father know some way.'

Jack was speechless. His eyes were upon Daisy; his fist clenched.

'Stranger,' said John, 'you seem to be a mysterious man; would you object to telling me your name?'

'No;' was the answer, 'my name is "Old Captain Dave;" I have no other; I used to have one, but it was long ago, and I have forgotten it.'

'Then you have been a soldier or sailor,' said John.

'A soldier, sir, 'answered the other, and his voice was husky. 'I was a soldier in days gone by, fighting for old England, my native land. I served her long and well. But I was but a poor captain; my services were forgotten. She would not remember them, and at last a poor, broken soldier, I left her shores forever. I came here to Canada and wandered around many years, picking up my living by crumbs. This present war broke out; I tried to join hands with Canada's sons as a true Englishman. But I was old and unserviceable, I was laughed away. Now I wander the forests, waiting for death to give me rest. O cruel fate! why wilt thou have it so! O ungrateful England, land of my birth! why wilt thou leave thy faithful children so?' and the old man groaned.

'He's sadder than when he came in,' muttered Fred. 'Gracious, look at Daisy!' these words to Jack.

The marvellous man's eyes were fastened upon Daisy while his melancholy burst of eloquence poured forth. Daisy was trembling visibly, and her mother drew her closer.

'The old jackass,' muttered Fred, who was least affected. But his words were broken off by the stranger remarking to John:

'Your daughter is nervous; she seems scared of me. Never mind, lassie,' he continued to Daisy, 'Old Captain Dave won't hurt you.'

And he bowed his head and seemed lost in thought. John looked anxiously at his wife and daughter. At length the other spake again in soliloquy:

'O cruel fate! to leave my aged head unprotected! The chilling blasts of winter sweep over it; it sleeps on the snow when the wolves howl in the forest. I have no home but the forest pines; no food but the forest fruits; no hope but of death. O dear old England, where are thou now? O ungrateful land! where is my home? I long for a home. May heaven bless this cabin's light that I saw when travelling hungry, weary and footsore over the wintry road to-night. It was the light of a home; an exile has no home.'

His quiet eloquence was wonderful. They heard him spell-bound while he was speaking. Then John sprang up; there was a tear in his eye:

'Welcome,' he shouted, 'Captain, this is your home to-night. Mary, get the captain some supper.'

'No, no, thank you,' interrupted the captain, 'I do not need supper. If you have a mug of milk handy I would take it and be thankful.'

Mrs. Hamilton rose to get the milk; the captain spoke:

'Friend, do you know if any Canadian troops are stationed near here?'

'There is a detachment at Pineville, twenty miles away. They have been there some time; but if the army is called to the front they may move at any moment. That's all that I know of.'

'Hurrah for Canada!' cried the old captain. 'Yes, thank you,'—to Mary—'it's delicious milk; thank you,' and he drank it at a draught.

Fred nudged Jack.

'He's a very thirsty, patriotic old chap.'

'Very,' said Jack, 'I wish he would unbutton that big coat.'

So the evening wore on without the mystery surrounding the stranger becoming clearer.

'Good-night,' said Jack at the door, starting for home.

'Good-night,' answered the others and the captain.

Fred and Daisy stepped outside to bid Jack good-night again. They listened for a few moments to the distant howling of the wolves, and talked of the mysterious man inside.

'Are you not afraid to go home in the dark, Jack?' asked Daisy presently.

'No,' said Jack, 'home's only a quarter of a mile away.'

'But listen to the wolves; they might chase you,' she said.

'They're far away,' said Jack. 'I won't be long going home. I'd be more scared of a wolf close by than of them.'

'What do you mean?' asked Fred, 'the old fellow?'—

'Good-night,' said Jack, strangely, and started off.

'Good-night,' they answered in a breath, much surprised at Jack's conduct.

'Fred,' said Daisy, 'I'm frightened. Jack and that old man scare me.'

(To be continued.)



School Punishments.

THE VARIOUS OPINIONS IN THE CUMBERLAND SCHOOL.

(To the Editor of the Boy's Page.)

Sir,—The pupils of our school again desire to crave your indulgence. This time they have been considering the subject 'School punishments,'—which was discussed in an article in the 'Witness' some weeks ago. I have endeavored to pick out their best ideas and below present them:

'Children are punished in school for neglected lessons and misdemeanor. There are two sides to every question; and each case that requires punishment should be first thoroughly investigated, because sometimes one pupil is punished for another's misdeeds. When a teacher is called upon to punish he should study the pupil's nature and then use the punishment that he thinks will do the pupil the most good.'

'A teacher should let the children see that he loves them, and is trying to do them good; and if he gets their confidence he will have very little trouble.'

KEEPING PUPILS IN AFTER FOUR AND AT RECESS.

'When pupils do not know their lessons, they should be kept in after four until they know them. But pupils should not be kept in at recess.'

J. J.

'Some enjoy staying after four, especially if they have any work to do at home.' A. S.

'Keeping in at recess works well with junior pupils, for there are very few children who care to miss the fun at recess.' C. S.

TALKING IN SCHOOL.

'Talking in school should be punished in this way; make the pupil go about to all the boys and girls and tell them what he said. This so shames him that he won't talk.'

C. D.

'There is one form of punishment, used by one of my teachers, which I always cordially detested. This was the penalty for talking during school hours. We were enjoying a whispered conversation, when like a thunderbolt would come the order: "Girl, remain in after four."'

L. M.

WRITING HISTORY.

'One of the teachers we had punished us by making us write out about forty pages of history for home-work.'

J. D.

'I do not think this (writing history), was a good kind of punishment, as it took all our time and kept us from our lessons.' M. H.

'Sometimes the "talkers" adopted the plan of writing out their history (which was generally the Quebec and Constitutional Acts) beforehand; and when the teacher called on them for the exercise, handed it in and kept on talking.'

C. S.

SCOLDING.

'Scolding boys and girls is a very good plan, for there is nothing a child hates so much as a scolding.' E. M.

STANDING IN THE CORNER.

'Another way of punishing a pupil is to make him stand in the corner with his face to the wall for twenty minutes. I think that is a hard way of punishing.'

J. D.

'I think it is right to make pupils stand up in the corner, but not to stand on peas.' A. D.

BOXING PUPIL'S EARS.

'Some teachers box children's ears, but this is not a good method as it affects the organs of hearing.' E. M.

EXPELLING.

'Being expelled from school is a punishment boys like, for they enjoy a holiday now and then.' C. D.

'If a pupil becomes unbearable send him home until he is ready to apologize before the school for his bad conduct.'

J. D.

THRASHING.

'I think it does not do a pupil any good to thrash him for everything he does. But he needs it sometimes.'

C. D.

'A strap should be used on the hands but not on the head.'

A. D.

'Whipping a child for doing wrong is not a good plan, for after receiving a whipping or two he becomes hardened and tries to see how bad he can be.'

E. M.

'I think that beating should be the last mode of punishment.' C. S.

KINDNESS.

'Treating a disobedient pupil kindly is sometimes more of a punishment than a sound strapping.'

J. J.

'Sit down quietly and talk to the pupil in a soft tone. Show him the bright side of the picture instead of the dark. Cause him to realize that he is doing wrong. Let love rule and all will work together harmoniously.' C. S.

Above I have given the greater part of the pupil's compositions, which they wrote discussing this subject. I also enclose two letters by two of the junior pupils.

The use of the masculine pronouns to represent teachers and pupils does not presuppose that girls are never delinquent nor that male teachers alone have cause to punish.

'CUMBERLAND.'

ONE CAN GET USED EVEN TO THE STRAP.

Sir,—Punishments are not good things for children, and I think a little kindness would do just as much good as a whipping or any other punishment.

The most common way of punishing is with the strap, which is dreaded by some pupils; but I think it is all right, for I am so used to it that I don't mind it very much.

Another way is a slap on the ear, as hands were made before straps, and seem to fit so well on the side of the face, that they are often used.

A third way is to be expelled from school. That is not a good way, as we miss a lot of school, and in that way it does more harm than good. It is all right to be expelled for half a day, or so, as long as one wouldn't have to apologise to get back. As then we have a nice little half-day, spare.

A fourth way is to jerk a fellow out of his seat and around the room, and then set him down again. And mostly every day write out twenty or forty pages from our 'Reader.'

As I never had any experience with the cane I cannot write on that. I could write something on strapping, though, as I know every nick that is in it. It fits so nicely on my hands, for many a time did I feel it.

CHARLIE M'CALLUM.
Cumberland.

A WORD FOR 'KEEPING IN.'

Sir,—There are many different ways of punishing a child, such as whipping him, standing him in the corner, and keeping him in after four, etc.

I think that a teacher should study a pupil's nature before punishing him. For the same kind of punishment does not do every child. Some children if shown kindness would be worse punished than if whipped, because they would feel ashamed of their wrong-doing. On the other hand, perhaps, a whipping would be the better way, because it would be remembered better.

If the pupils come to school with their lessons unprepared, keeping them in after four, I think, is a good plan, especially if there is any outside amusement to be had. Then they would, perhaps, not forget to prepare their lessons at home another time.

A teacher should not let his temper get the better of him, but should wait until he is calm before punishing. If there is to be real order in the school it will not be brought about by loud and boisterous commands. Gentleness will speak the word of firmness, and firmness will be clothed in true gentleness.

ALICE DUNNING.
Cumberland.

A TIMELY POINTER.

'I'll give you a pointer, Mollie,'
Said Tommie the other day.
'If you want certain things at Christmas,
You'd better try my way.

'It's easy and very simple,
And always works, for I
Have tried it many and many a time
At Christmases gone by.

'Write Santa Claus a letter,
In your very bestest hand,
And give him a list of the things you want—
Don't matter at all how grand.

'And then, when the letter is written,
Just take it to dear old dad,
And ask if he thinks the spelling
And writing is awful bad.

'I once wrote a note to Santy
And sent it off right away,
And not a thing that I asked for
Was sent on Christmas day.

'But the letter I showed to Daddy,
To see if 'twas written right,
Brought everything I wanted
The following Christmas night.

'I don't know just how he knows it,
But Pa knows a thing or two
'Bout how old Santy should be addressed
By kids like me and you.'

—'Harper's Bazaar.'

PRESSURE OF THE OCEAN.

There are spots in the ocean where the water is five miles deep. If it is true that the pressure of the water on any body in the water is one pound to the square inch for every two feet of the depth anything at the bottom of one of the 'five-mile-holes' would have a pressure about it of 13,200 feet to every square inch. There is nothing of human manufacture that would resist such a pressure.

That it exists there is no doubt. It is known that the pressure of a well-corked glass bottle at the depth of three hundred feet is so great that the water will force its way through the pores of the glass. It is also said that pieces of wood have been weighted and sunk in the sea to such a depth that the tissues have become so condensed that the wood has lost its buoyancy and would never float again. It could not be even made to burn when dry.



SOMERLEYTON MAZE.

At Somerleyton, in England, there is a very good garden maze of the bewildering type. It is made of English yew, and the hedge is over six feet high, and is without a single break. It was planted about forty-five years ago. The centre is a grass mound raised to the level of the hedge top, and surmounted by a pagoda. At the corners are laurels fifteen or sixteen feet high, kept trimmed with the knife, and on each side of the hedge there runs throughout a small strip of grass.

Here is the plan. See if you can get in.

THE RAILWAY PUZZLE.

Arthur Valens, Brandon, Man., sent a correct solution to the railway puzzle in the 'Witness' of Nov. 29.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

How 308 People

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A 48-page illustrated pamphlet, will be mailed free to any girl sending her address to

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WINDOW GARDEN TALKS.

This department is conducted by Mrs. Annie L. Jack, Chateauguay Basin, Que., to whom all questions should be sent. All questions answered through the 'Witness.'

AT THE WINDOW.

The snow-birds are hopping about outside of the window, eating weed seeds, and tall grasses that reach above the snow, and now and then flocking to the honeysuckle tree opposite in search of seed berries. What pretty creatures they are! slate-colored coats and white vests; they are the Quakers, as the English sparrow is the Ishmael among birds. Quiet and twittering, they search for food, avoiding the quarrelsome, meddling sparrows that are the enemy of the useful birds, driving them from their nest homes in summer, and tormenting them as long as they stay in the same place. It proves what a change environment makes even in a bird, for in England the sparrow is known to be an insect-eater, but in this country it devours the buds of trees and vines and eats grain as its staple food. The snowbirds are at home among the poultry, and will feed with them, without sign of fear, though they may well be afraid, for they are snared by the small boy and pounced upon by the cat. The landscape is changed; trees stand gaunt and bare in bold relief against the blue grey sky, all but the conifers, and they show up their dark, rich green against the whiteness of the snow. Truly 'every dog has his day,' and it is theirs to be admired now, for, though they appear sad and sombre, standing among the light, graceful foliage of summer, they are a pleasant charm in the winter landscape, and valuable as a protection from wintry winds. The conifers seem like friends in adversity.

You are like the fir tree, dear, said I,
And the loving glances questioned why;
When the elms and maples are leafless seen,
They brighten December with living green,
All the year round you have seemed to me,
Constant and true like an evergreen tree.

Beautiful is the hemlock; its soft, delicate foliage has a grace of its own, and indeed for use as well as beauty these trees are valued. The tall pines are monarch of the sea as well as the land. From the spruce the canoes are cut; healing balsams are furnished by the fir trees, and we have the red cedar in our lead pencils, while several of this class become useful in our tanneries. So beauty goes hand in hand with utility.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CYCLAMEN AND JERUSALEM CHERRY

I have to thank 'K' for a pleasant letter of appreciation, which is always encouraging and helpful.

The cyclamen requires a more even temperature than is generally given to window plants unless under very favorable circumstances. After flowering they should be gradually ripened off, but never allowed to become dry. They should be kept all summer in a little frame and well-shaded, re-potting by the end of October without loosening the earth from the bulbs. In this way they ought to be in blossom for Christmas. There is a very unpoetical name for this plant—'Boar bread,' as the wild animals of that name feed on the bulbs in the woods of Sicily. Its name, 'Cyclamen Persicum,' tells that it is a native of Persia. The name is from the Greek 'kuklos,' a circle, because if you notice after the flower has withered, if left on the stem till seed pods appear, the stem curls around till the seed pod is drawn into the ground, and the stalk forms a circle. The foliage is very fine on some plants, with rich markings, and plants when in cultivation should not have much water; they will not endure the indiscriminate soaking that many plants can bear without injury, and after flowering should have less. Different as it seems, it really belongs to the primrose family. Your questions happen to relate to the two plants most to be seen just now in the florists' shops. Although I cannot give any definite reason for it, I always have considered this plant as especialy clean, like a good housekeeper in a fresh print gown. Yet it is subject to the red spider and green fly; the latter attacks the young buds and causes deformity. It seems a pity, but they must then be dusted with tobacco. The trouble with the plants mentioned in this letter is that, being subjected to extra heat from the radiatior, they have, perhaps only once, been allowed to become dry, but enough to shrivel the rootlets and stop growth. They require a light, loamy soil with a little sand and leaf mould. Never allow stable fertilizer near the bulb. They are easily raised from seed, and year old plants are most satisfactory. They bloom in from twelve to eighteen months from seed, and it is interestinf to watch their development. As your plant window has so much extra heat, why not try setting the pots in a pan of wet sand or moss? This would keep the roots from drying up.

The Jerusalem cherry has suffered from the same fate. Keep it cool and moist. It is a Solanum, of the same family as the potato, and at this season of the year its dark myrtle-green foliage and scarlet fruit make it a desirable plant for Christmas decoration. If kept in a warm place let the pot be inside a fancy jar, or pot, and if moss is not procurable, put wet paper between the pots, and the leaves and berries will remain fresher than if set anywhere in the heat, without a thought as to conditions until the leaves begin to shrivel and the fruit to fall off.

A GIFT.

'Two children' write that they wish to give a plant to mamma and ask advice in the selection. Ans.—If I happened to be the mamma, I should not care what the plant was, only the thought that it had expressed the love and self-sacrifice of the little givers. But in the matter of choice something fragrant is always preferable. A pot of hyacinths — the white Romans are sweet and pretty. There are sweet-scented narcissus, and sometimes a pot of violets can be bought. Mignonette is seldom ready at this time of the year. If a gay color is preferred, then a red cyclamen, or Chinese primrose with crinkled edges to the leaves, and flowers. These are within the limit of the finances confided to me, and would, I am sure, be a pleasure both to give and to receive.

WASHING PLANTS.

'A Doubting Amateur,' thinks it would take too much time to wash all the leaves of the plants in four windows and asks if there is not an easier method? Ans.—There is a vapor atomizer that is said to work well in the plant window, giving out a fine spray like dew without a chance of wetting woodwork or floor. I intend to experiment with one and will give the results to the readers. The rubber bottle gives a good spray, and keeps down red spider if used regularly. It has the disadvantage of being easily put out of order, as all rubber goods are, and requires such constant filling when there are many plants, as to become wearisome. The atomizer is said to be successful in spraying for insecticides.

PHOSPHORIC ACID.

The question is asked, 'Is phosphoric acid good for plants,' and in reply it may be said that it is the very best food that can be given to them. Some people use ammonia, but it has the property of taking a great deal out of the soil, although making rapid growth of foliage. If bloom is wanted, phosphoric acid in the form of raw bone, is the best fertilizer. Plants need a little stimulant after they start into strong growth—and it is as well to give them what is best suited to their needs, Pure raw bone generally contains four and one-half percent of ammonia and twenty-four percent of phosphoric acid.

THE CINERARIA.

I looked at my only cineraria yesterday, and found it flat upon the top of the soil, with its root almost bare. It had been watered carelessly, and the earth washed away, then left to become over-dry, and I blessed the indiscriminate gardener, for these plants will not endure neglect, and the conditions necessary to success with them would be fatal to many plants. They require a low temperature, and moist atmosphere and little sunshine. The air that suits my other plants gives the leaves a rusty appearance, and their soft watery growth renders them unable to endure the evaporation necessary to other flowers of different constitution. Yet I always hanker after them for their intense color and markings; while in many shades of blue we have few flowers to equal them, going from the lightest to the darkest. Having a fine assortment two years ago, raised from seed, it was found to be an improvement to put a layer of moss in the saucer under the pot, to keep the roots moist, and in this way plants were in fine bloom in January. But the aphis do great injury to the leaves unless attended to faithfully, and the foliage spoils easily, if tobacco-water is applied rendering the flowers of little value, for healthy foliage is one of the great charms of plant life, and without it the flowers are shorn of their beauty.

GAS-PROOF PLANTS.

'A city reader' asks what plants will best endure the dust and gas of a city house where a palm does not flourish. Ans.—The very best plant for this purpose is the Aspidistra Lurida—sometimes green, and in other plants variegated to a pale cream stripe. The leaves live for years and steadily increase in number, forming large crowns to fill a good-sized pot, and can be easily divided. They grow without extra fertilizing or care. Then there is Lanseveria Zealemica, a plant especially adapted for this purpose, as it stands draught, and gas, and can easily be kept clear of dust with a damp cloth. The leaves grow to three or four feet and are striped crosswise. It is of singular beauty and makes an accommodating table plant. The rubber plant (Ficus) is a good addition to a room collection, and the graceful Australian silk oak has been thoroughly tested, and proved satisfactory. The Arum and Scarborough lilies have good foliage all the winter and the latter is very attractive when it sends up clusters of scarlet lily-like blossoms. If one can remember to keep the pot in an outside basin of water there is a good deal of interest in them.

It seems to take its revenge for a short supply of water by the withering of its umbrella-like fronds, but forgives when given a supply, and gratefully sends up new green shoots.

TWO PRETTY WINDOW SILLS.

A friend has a window in the dining-room with a sill about a foot wide, and between the curtains a pretty and simple floral arrangement, easy to keep in order and yet not excluding the light. A box was made to fit the sill, and filled, before frost, with the well-known sedum, commonly called stone crop, that was in a dense mat in the garden. It has long mossy threads of green and yellow starry flowers, and most gardens have it for a border or in a hanging-basket. But its use here was unique and pretty, and being hardy it did not require extra heat or attention.

The other window was in a very dry atmosphere, and the owner thought that a large pot of buttercup oxalis and one of the white of the same, would do well in her window. So the bulbs were bought and only took about five weeks from planting to be full of green leaves, while just now the flowers are opening. The only drawback is that they close when very cloudy, and early in the afternoon. The bulbs are in large flat pans, and between them is a handsome dwarf heliotrope that enjoys the heat and water that the oxalis requires. It is full of dark, rich, purple bloom, being grown in the pot all summer.

It is worth while seeing a well-grown plant of dwarf purple heliotrope, and as the three flat pots, or pans, as they are called, were all of one size and just filled the window the effect was good. This flower, generally a favorite, is not so often cultivated as it might be. It requires rich soil, plenty of moisture and heat. The owner of this window is not a special flower lover, but believes in having a few plants, and taking care of them. No withered leaves, or discolored foliage is to be found, and the attributes the good growth of the heliotrope to the regular watching, and summer care, without removal.

WINDOW PLANTS FOR SUN AND SHADE.

'Inquirer' could learn by a little close experimenting what plants like a sunny position, and otherwise. For sunshine take roses, poinsettas, heliotropes, petunias, geraniums, carnations, nasturtiums, coleus, cacti and a host of others. Such plants as callas, primroses of all sorts, begonias, fuchsias, ivies and wall-flowers will do well in partial shade, but the flowers are always inferior, every color coming out better in sunlight.

[For the 'Witness.'

THE SEA HORSES.

I.

Out in the trackless waste of gray,
Where the dread ocean-sprite hath sway,
With uncut fetlock and untrimm'd mane
The white sea-horses paw the plain:
Anon, as their fierce lord shrieks his wrath,
They dart away on their fateful path;
Galloping in from the mist and gloom
To the pipe o' the blast and the thunder boom,
Until in the frenzied shock of war
They launch themselves on the trembling bar:
Up again, with a ramp and roar,
Charging down on the fenceless shore,
In headlong fury and savage glee—
The fierce white horses of the sea!

II.

Bred i' the night 'tween wind and wave,
A stern dam's glory, a proud sire's slave,
And spurn'd by both from the parent breast
The white-hair'd courser knows no rest.
With crest of terror and heart of stone
Death's dreaded herald—he plunges on;
Woe to the wight would stem his wrath!
Woe to the barque would cross his path!
For nothing in earth, or air, or sea,
Is void of ruth as the sea-steeds be:
Whose is the hand would dare caress
These waifs of the ocean wilderness?
And hammer of mortal ne'er hath shod
The fleet-foot steeds from the stalls of God!

III.

Hark! 'tis the tempest's mustering drum,
The mad sea-legions shoreward come;
Flee, for your lives, ye things of clay,
Or be swept, like the spume from their lips, away!
Monarch, whose warships sail'd at morn;
The dusk will find them wreck'd and torn;
Their flag, thy proud hand nail'd to the mast,
Must strike to its tireless foes at last.
And weep, fond mother, whose fair-hair'd pride
Is clutch'd e'en now in the whelming tide;
His last wild prayer and shriek of fear
This night will pierce thine anguish'd ear;
And ravening thro' thy dreams will be
The fierce white horses of the sea!

ROBT. REID.

Atlantic City, 1898.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Delicate children! What a source of anxiety they are! The parents wish them hearty and strong, but they keep thin and pale.

To all these delicate children Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites comes with the best of news.

It brings rich blood, strong bones, healthy nerves, and sound digestion. It is growth and prosperity to them.

No matter how delicate the child, it is readily taken.

50c and $1.00; all druggists. 638

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

Hints to the Ambitious

The boy or girl seeking opportunities to achieve honorable success in life will find much that is suggestive, inspiring and helpful in the articles by successful men and women written for the 1899 volume of

The Youth's Companion



JAMES BRYCE.

THE following five contributions to the new volume serve to indicate the character and value of The Companion from week to week. They are but a handful out of more than 200 articles and stories by the most distinguished of living writers to appear in the 52 issues of 1899.

Hints on Reading, Rt. Hon. James Bryce, M. P. — Art Students in New York, G. W. Breck.
The Boy with a Voice, David Bispham. — Editor and Contributors, James Payn.
Opportunities for Young Explorers, Sir Clements Markham.

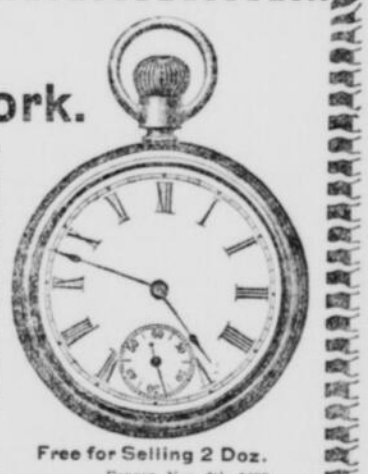
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The Youth's Companion, Boston, Mass.

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WE give these beautiful **Watches** and this splendid **Air Rifle** for selling our **LEVER COLLAR BUTTONS** at 10 cents each. You may obtain the Boy's Watch by selling 2 doz., the Air Rifle for 2½ doz., and the Lady's Watch for 3 doz. **NO MONEY REQUIRED.** Merely send your name and address, and we forward the buttons, postpaid, together with a large list of other valuable prizes, which may be secured in the same way. You will find these Buttons a quick and easy seller, as the testimonials of those who have already sold for us will show. They are the latest patent lever model, with heavy rolled gold tops and enamelled backs. You sell these buttons at 10 cents each, return us the money and we send you the **Watch** or **Rifle FREE OF ALL CHARGES.** The **Boy's Watch** is of American make, handsome, durable and reliable. The **Lady's Watch** is a genuine Swiss, as dainty in appearance as it is accurate and durable. The **Air Rifle** is the Al "Daisy," the best ever made, neat, strong and accurate. Read what our agents say of the prizes they have secured. These premiums would make splendid **Christmas or birthday presents.** Write at once, and be the first to sell our buttons in your neighborhood. When writing mention this paper.



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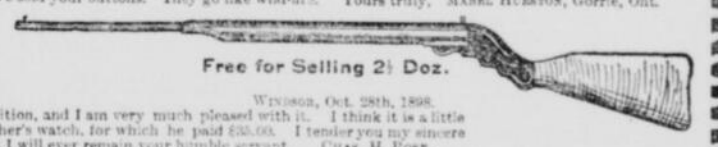
LEVER BUTTON Co., Adelaide St. E., Toronto, Ont.

Free for Selling 2 Doz.

DEAR SIRS,—I received my buttons Saturday afternoon about 5 o'clock, and at 8 o'clock that night they were all sold. They just went like hot cakes. FOREST, Nov. 6th, 1898. JOHN W. STEWART, Forest, Ont.

DEAR SIRS,—I have sold your buttons. They go like wild-fire. Yours truly, GORRIE, Nov. 12th, 1898. MABEL HURSTON, Gorrie, Ont.

DEAR SIRS,—I received my watch yesterday. It is a little beauty, and it is much nicer than I expected. Please accept my thanks, CORNWALL, Nov. 12th, 1898. LIZZIE MCDONALD.



Free for Selling 2½ Doz.

DEAR SIR,—I received my watch in good condition, and I am very much pleased with it. I think it is a little beauty, and it keeps just as good time as my brother's watch, for which he paid $35.00. I tender you my sincere thanks for your promptness and truthfulness, and I will ever remain your humble servant, WINDSOR, Oct. 28th, 1898. CHAS. H. ROSE.

DEAR SIRS,—I received my watch and chain Saturday night. It is twice as good as people said I could get. Many thanks for your kindness and also for your honest way of doing business. I never could have got a prettier watch easier in my life. Yours truly, PORT ELGIN, Oct. 21st, 1898. VENNIE MCLEAN.

DEAR SIRS,—I have received my watch and I find it well worth the trouble I took for it. I have tried it by some of the best American movements, and it keeps perfect time. I am very well satisfied with it. I have had dealings with several other companies and I have never been so well paid for so little work. It is better than all the premiums together I have had from them. STE. PIE, Quebec, Oct. 29, 1898. ORIGENIE FONTAINE.

PIPER AND PLAGUE.

AN INCIDENT OF THE GREAT LONDON BLACK DEATH.

The following incident of the great plague of London is taken from an old chap-book: 'During the plague, carts were sent around the city each night, the drivers of which rang a bell, an intimation for every house to bring out its dead. The bodies were then thrown promiscuously into the cart, conveyed to the suburbs, and buried. A piper had his constant stand at the bottom of Holborn, near St. Andrew's Church. He became well known about the neighborhood. A certain gentleman, who never failed in his generosity to the piper, was surprised on passing one day, as usual, to miss him from his accustomed place. Upon enquiry he found that the poor man had been taken ill in consequence of a very singular accident. On the joyful occasion of the arrival of one of his countrymen from the Highlands, the piper had, in fact, made too free with the contents of the keg. These so overpowered his faculties that he stretched himself out upon the steps of the church and fell fast asleep. He was found in this situation when the dead cart went its rounds, and the carter, supposing that the man was dead, made no scruple to put his fork under the piper's belt and hoisted him into the vehicle, that our Scottish musician should share the usual brief ceremonies of interment. The piper's faithful dog protested against the seizure of his master, jumped into the cart after him, to the no small annoyance of the men, whom he would not suffer to come near the body. He further took upon himself the office of chief mourner by setting up the most lamentable howling as they passed along. The streets and roads by which they had to go being very rough, the jolting of the cart, added to the howling of the dog, had soon the effect of waking our drunken musician from his trance. It was dark, and the piper when he first recovered himself could form no idea either of his numerous companions or of his conductors. Instinctively, however, he felt for his pipes, and, playing up a merry Scotch tune, terrified in no small measure the carters, who fancied they had got a legion of ghosts in their conveyance. A little time, however, put all to rights. Lights were procured, and it turned out that the noisy corpse was the well-known living piper, who was joyfully released from his awful and perilous situation. The poor man fell badly ill after his unpleasant excursion, and was received during his malady by his former benefactor, who, to perpetuate the remembrance of so wonderful an escape, resolved as soon as his patient recovered to employ a sculptor to execute him in stone. The statue represents a begpiper in a sitting posture, playing on his pipes.'

THEATRE HAT PROBLEM.

A trade paper has solved the problem of the matinee hat. It is described as a thing of beauty and a joy to the wearer. This wonderful contrivance is a very handsome fantaisie, lightly, but securely, fixed on the left front, in the most approved and chic method. When the wearer reaches her seat in the theatre she has merely to raise her hand, remove the aigrette, which by a clever and simple tube contrivance she can use as a fan during the performance, and at the close slip the feathers into the hat as before. She has simply to carry the fan to and from the theatre in her hat. Simplicity is combined with utility, both in the highest perfection.



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For selling 24 packages of Violet Perfume at 10c. each. No money required. Send us your name and we will put you in the way of earning a Watch or a Pair of Skates. Sell the Perfume among your friends, remit us the money and we will send you either premium by express paid. Don't delay. Agents wanted all over Canada. All goods guaranteed.



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HOME DEPARTMENT

WHY THE MINISTER GOT NO MORE SLIPPERS.

Gifts For the Girls — Christmas Cookery.

AN ENVELOPE FULL OF POSTAGE STAMPS—FOR LITTLE RECITERS — FLOWERS IN THE HOME.

GIVING THE GIRLS A HINT.

The Rev. Ambrose St. John paced his luxurious study thoughtfully.

The time of year was four weeks before Christmas, and the Rev. Ambrose St. John, being only twenty-eight and decidedly handsome, was compelled to think. His meditations ran in this direction:

'The first year I had five pairs of slippers, four dressing gowns, four handkerchief boxes, eight dozen handkerchiefs,and nine neckties. Last Christmas I received ten pairs of slippers, eight dressing gowns, six handkerchief boxes, ten dozen handkerchiefs, and fifteen neckties. Of these I have worn out two pairs of slippers, given away surreptitiously four pairs, partly worn out one dressing gown, given away two handkerchief boxes, and lost about four dozen handkerchiefs. The neckties are undiminished in number. Nine and fifteen, that's twenty-four, beside all I had before I began to preach. Five and ten make fifteen pairs of slippers; two pairs worn out, and four given away, make nine pairs left. Four and six are ten—ten handkerchief boxes on hand. Eight plus four equals twelve dressing gowns. Then I have handkerchiefs enough to last ten years. Judging from the past I may safely look forward to receiving at Christmas time fifteen to twenty pairs of slippers, eight to ten dressing gowns, neckties'—here the Rev. Ambrose St. John threw himself into an arm chair and groaned.

The fire burned low in the grate. His dog rose, stretched himself, pushed his nose under the minister's hand,and whined softly. The clock ticked off the seconds, and then struck the half-hour, and then the hour. Still the clergyman stirred not, but gradually the straight lines in his forehead vanished, and instead came little upturned ones on each side of his mouth. Tiny wrinkles appeared about his eyes, and finally an unmistakable giggle issued from his lips.

'I'll try it, anyhow,' he cried aloud. 'It may do good, and surely nothing can be worse than to have a dozen more pairs of slippers presented to me, with handkerchiefs, neckties, and dressing gowns galore.'

'I can't understand Ambrose's determination to have an afternoon tea, and a fortnight before Christmas, too,' murmured the mother of the young minister, as she finished addressing the last of four hundred invitations. 'Who ever heard of a rector giving a tea?'

And laying down her pen, the old lady sighed the indulgent,patient sigh which devoted mothers save up to bestow upon unaccountable pet whims of much-indulged sons.

'Katie,' said the Rev. Ambrose to the rosy-cheeked maid who stood at the head of the stairs to show the guests into Mrs. St. John's room, that they might lay aside their wraps—'Katie, mother will be very busy receiving in the parlor, and it can't make any difference which room they are shown in to, so be sure to send them into my room. It's all ready. I'll be downstairs. And, Katie, here's a dollar for yourself. You needn't say anything about it to Mrs. St. John.'

The maid looked bewildered, but she was not half so much so as the first bevy of ladies who entered the minister's room. The chamber was charmingly furnished; a casual glance disclosed nothing out of the ordinary, but the Rev. Ambrose St. John well knew that casual glances would not be employed at this opportunity of inspecting the apartments of a popular bachelor clergyman.

'Oh, mamma,' Rose Lemont cried, 'do look over there!' and she pointed to a corner of the room, while Kate Dibert paused in the act of removing her hat pin to exclaim, 'Oh, Mrs. Wilkins, do see that clothes 'tree!'

Miss Richardson, who had just entered, stood transfixed before the cheffonier. 'Kate, do come here! Here are seven, eight, nine pairs of slippers, as sure as fate, all in a row!'

'Oh, Lucy, I can't come till I get through counting these neckties. The top of this big cheffonier is full of them. There! I've lost count. I think it was twenty-eight, but I'm not sure. I'll have to begin over again.'

In the meantime Miss Richardson had been joined by a group of girls who had just arrived, and they inspected the dressing table.

'There are eight—no, nine—handkerchief cases, and they are all full,' she cried,gazing wild-eyed at them. 'Oh, Mrs. Brown, do come here and look at this array of handkerchiefs! You never saw such a pile in your life!'

'I can't,' Mrs. Brown replied. 'I'm simply fascinated with this clothes-tree. There are eight dressing gowns on it, and now I'm going to count those laid in piles underneath. What on earth any man can want with so many gowns, I can't see.'

Kate turned her eyes from the neckties. 'It's just possible,' she replied, 'that no one man does want so many. Don't you see they've everyone a card attached, "Wishing you a merry Christmas" ?'

Dear old Mrs. St. John waiting in the parlor could not understand why it took the ladies so long to come down stairs, nor why every one entered the room with such a smile on her face.

'Really, they are the most cordial people I ever saw,' she remarked to her son, during a pause in receiving, 'but do you notice how we catch whispers of "dressing gowns," "slippers," and "handkerchiefs" ? I do hope they are not planning to give you more. You received so many at your last parish.'

'I wouldn't worry about that, mother, dear,' replied the young minister. 'I shouldn't wonder if they saw I didn't need them.'—'Harper's Bazar.'

GIFTS FOR GIRLS.

(By Ellen Conway.)

John and I used to have a world of trouble deciding what to give the children for Christmas. They always seemed to have about everything they wanted, or, at least, about everything we thought they ought to want. We are not rich people either—only 'in comfortable circumstances.' But at Christmas time one realizes how many comforts 'comfortable circumstances' involve. We grew grave as we counted them over. More than our share, they seemed. Our washerwoman's children would be so grateful for mittens,and yet we could hardly venture to give our own kid gloves. But so it was. The 'necessaries' of life—food, clothing, shelter, a chance to go to school—these our children had as a matter of course. And as for the superfluities—jewellery, bric-a-brac, perfumery and what-not—John and I have always had an old-fashioned prejudice against spending much on them. What were we going to do?

The year's business as so poor it as all quite simple. Mamma had to keep her girls quite shabby through the fall, and by Christmas time they were glad enough to get, one a new coat and the others hats. But business looked up again and the allowances went back to the old figure, and the next year the problem was as perplexing as ever. But it was the next year that we solved it. At least we discovered a guiding principle. It is the principle of permanent utility.

There was Antoinette's trunk, for instance. Probably it would never have occurred to Antoinette that she needed a trunk. She always borrowed one of mine when she went away. But now that she has her own she really enjoys packing away her summer clothes in winter, and her winter clothes in summer, and feeling that she knows herself exactly where they are. Candidly, if you ask me, I do not think she was so much pleased with the trunk at first as she would have been with something more frivolous. But it was a very pretty one, and had her initials on the end, which gratified her, and I am sure she would tell you now that it was one of the very best presents she ever had. There is no harm in giving children things now and then that they have to 'grow to.' It develops them. We have provided Antoinette since with a travelling bag, too. A small school bag she had before, of course. Some time I want her to own a travelling shawl. They last for years and do not go badly out of style. She needs a bath-robe, too, and a summer dressing sacque, and if she doesn't contrive them pretty soon out of her allowance I think I shall threaten her with them for her birthday.

Miriam we are fitting out with furnishings for her room. One year we gave her a pretty wash set, an apple blossom pattern, and another a wood-basket. Kitty has embroidered a set of scarfs for her bureau and washstand, and Antoinette has erected a great and glorious shoe bag on her closet door. Last birthday I gave her a set of hemstitched sheets and pillow-cases—the only ones we have in the house, by the way. She does not keep them in steady use, but puts them on when she wants to be especially fine for company. Next I think I shall choose a fancy spread, or a sateen puff for the foot of the bed. I should like each of the girls to have a really handsome pair of blankets and a dozen fine towels with embroidered initials. In the line of the old-fashioned dowry, these last are, but I don't like them any the less for that. Few women go through life without some time feeling the impulse to gather household possessions about them and have 'a home of their own,' even if it must be solitary and in a boarding house. I always particularly enjoy giving my girls a bit of silver—an orange spoon, or a paper knife or a bon-bon dish—and I always have the initials and date put on. Those add so much to the interest in after years.

Kitty had her banjo lessons for her Christmas present one year, and her china painting another. Her papa thought perhaps we ought to call those parts of her 'education,' and it certainly was a debatable question. But I persuaded John to give himself—and his pocket-book—the benefit of the doubt for once.

Pictures we often give the girls, and books. We always try to choose something really good, something that they will enjoy ten years from now as much as now. They really have the beginning of an excellent little library between them. I aspire to a bookcase for them some day, and perhaps a desk and a rattan couch—they could accumulate the cushions themselves. And a new rug for the room where they do their studying, and perhaps new draperies.—'Congregationalist.'

SPECIAL DISHES FOR CHRISTMAS.

To make a delicious oyster soup, observe the following directions: Have two nice agate or porcelain lined saucepans, one for milk, and the other for the juice of the oysters. As this is a dinner for eight people, you must have good sized saucepans. Put in one three pints of milk, with a heaping tablespoonful of butter, a level teaspoonful of salt and two blades of mace. Stand over a slow fire. In the other saucepan put the liquor from the two quarts of oysters, leaving the oysters in the colander through which the liquor has been drained until ready for use.

Stand this over the hot part of the range, and as soon as the scum rises skim every fleck of it off with a silver or agate spoon—iron or other metal should not be used in cooking. After skimming stand the saucepan back where it does not boil; as soon as the milk begins to boil pour the oyster liquor into it, stirring gently to prevent curdling. Have ready two heaping tablespoonfuls of flour, well mixed with cold milk; thicken the soup with this, stirring fast to break the lumps. If it is a bit lumpy, strain through a fine colander into the empty stew pan. Put back on the range, and when it begins to boil drop the oysters in, and let them cook until the edges curl. Put some fine chopped parsley and a pinch of powdered cloves in the bottom of the tureen. Pour the soup in, sprinkle a little black pepper, and it is ready to serve.

A twelve pound turkey requires three hours' good roasting. To make the stuffing put in a chopping bowl half of an onion, a sprig of parsley and a good sized stalk of celery; chop all these very fine, then take a loaf of stale bread, which has had the crust removed, and been soaked in cold water until soft; put it in with the chopped herbs; flavor well with sweet marjoram, salt and pepper, and after mixing all well together, put it in the turkey. Sew up the aperture, and just before placing in the oven, salt and pepper the turkey well outside. Oysters added to the bread crumb stuffing makes an oyster stuffing.

Chestnut stuffing is delicious, but is more expensive than the bread crumbs, and requires a good deal of care and pains to prepare properly. For a good sized turkey take three quarts of the large chestnuts, or French marrons, as they are called; peel them and cook them in a steamer until tender enough to stick a fork through; then put them in a bowl and mash them as you would potatoes. Season well with butter, salt and pepper, a bit of onion and chopped parsley; soften with cream and stuff the turkey.

Chicken pie is made as follows:—Cut a large, tender chicken in smaller pieces than for fricasseeing; put in a stewpan with half an onion, season with salt, cover with water, and let it cook until tender; line a deep baking dish with a biscuit crust; put in the pieces of chicken, add some pieces of butter and sprinkle with pepper; thicken the gravy in the stewpan, having enough to cover the chicken in pie; cover with a biscuit crust; bake in a quick oven till crust is a delicate brown. This pie may be served hot or cold, but is better hot, and is delicious.—American Paper.

Mince Meat—Take one pound of tender beef, either baked or boiled, and chop it very fine. Chop, also, one pound of fresh suet, one pound of apples, one pound of raisins (Valencias, stoned), one pound of currants,two ounces of candied lemon peel, two ounces of orange peel, a little of the rind of a fresh lemon, chopped fine, a quarter of a pound of moist sugar, a dessertspoonful of salt, and half an ounce of sweet spice. Mix the whole well together and it will be ready for use.—'Cassell's Dictionary of Cookery.'

The following cake recipes are from 'Harper's Bazar':—

Nut Fruit Cake—Cream two cups of sugar and one of butter; add six well beaten eggs, four cups of flour, one of cold water, one of hickory nuts, one-half pound of raisins, seeded,finely chopped and dredged with flour; one teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in hot water, two of cream of tartar, and one grated nutmeg.

Boiled Icing.—One cup of granulated sugar, two tablesponfuls of water; boil together till it threads from the spoon, stirring often; beat the white of one egg; put it into a deep dish, and when the sugar is boiling, turn the whole on the egg, and beat rapidly together until thick enough to spread on the cake.

Roll Sponge Cake—Beat together one cup of sugar and three eggs; add one cup of flour, half a teaspoonful of soda, and one teaspoonful of cream of tartar; bake the mixture, in a square jelly cake tin, cover with jelly, and while hot roll it up.

The following is a recipe for Christmas plum pudding:—Take one pound of beef suet chopped fine, one pound of sugar, one pound each of muscatel and sultana raisins, one pound of dried currants, two ounces each of candied orange and lemon peel, the grated rind of one fresh lemon, two ounces each of bitter and Jordan almonds, cut in pieces, two grated nutmegs, a teaspoonful each of ginger and mace, a teaspoonful of salt, a pound of stale bread,and three-quarters of a pound of flour, mix well in a large bowl. Beat nine eggs and add to the pudding. Wet a pudding bag in boiling water, dredge it with flour, turn the pudding in, tie securely and put into a kettle of water to boil for six or seven hours. When done, lift out of the kettle, let drain, and turn out on a large dish.

A baked plum pudding recommended as quite digestible, and so very suitable for a family of children is made as follows.—Six butter crackers, rolled fine and soaked in three pints of milk; a quarter of a cup of butter, creamed with one cup of sugar, a half teaspoonful of salt, and one teaspoonful of mixed spice, together with six well beaten eggs. This is all stirred into the milk, and a pound of the best stoned raisins added; put in a deep pudding dish, well greased wih cold butter, and bake for three hours in a moderate oven; stir several times during the first hour to keep the raisins from settling.

It is important that the sauce for plum pudding should be served very hot. It is very nice made thin and flavored with lemon and spice.

GRACEFUL GIFTS AND A GRACIOUS GIVING.

(By Nellie Haws, in 'Christian Work.')

The most simple of gifts, in a graceful manner presented, become to the recipient many fold more valuable than their intrinsic worth, representing, as they do, the thoughtfulness and love of the donor. Oftimes it happens that one little knows the far-reaching influences of the gift that may have seemed simple to them in the giving, and like bread thrown upon the waters, is returned, if not to them, to others at least, a thousand fold. One cannot measure or understand the breadth of God's blessing upon gifts thus bestowed.

'At the ushering in of the Yule tide of '95 there came to the home of one little homekeeper a strangely light weight yet bulky appearing envelope giving no trace of from whom or where. Upon opening and disclosing the contents of the letter—supposedly—there dropped therefrom, into the pleased and surprised little woman's lap, a seemingly inexhaustible supply of two-cent postage stamps. Carefully they were counted over, revealing the fact that two entire dollars had thus been expended. 'And to think! This makes it possible for me to write an entire one hundred letters to my shut-in friends.' And for very joy did the tears unbidden start.

For years our little friend had lived the life of a helpless invalid, and through her helplessness had come to her the knowledge of the world's great number of suffering, helpless ones, throughout its length and breadth. Regaining partially her health and strength, she had not with it forgotten those whom she knew to have never recovered. She longed intensely to write the helpful, cheerful letters they loved and looked for so eagerly, and she longed to reach even farther from home than she had been able to do in the years when herself bed-fast. But postage stamps, though but two cents apiece, count more rapidly into the dollars than any one would imagine who writes but seldom, and through the necessity of economy consequent upon a small income from the husband's labor, and heavy expenses in nurse, surgeon's and physician's bills, even postage must be taken into account. To be 'just before generous' was the law of her heart and understanding, and only through donations from her most prosperous acquaintances, of stationery and postage, was she enabled to carry on her beloved shut-in work. Think, then, of the vastness of the harvest garnered from the sowing of that one seed of thoughtfulness and generosity. Not only was the heart of the recipient of this unique manner of gift made glad, but one hundred times besides were hours and days made pleasurable as well as endurable, through the coming of those white winged missives that are so inexpressibly dear to the hearts of our shut-in sufferers. Such gifts, in the giving, must be surely accompanied by a shower of blessings from the Saviour, whose day of birth is thus celebrated and remembered.

The load of coal and the sack of coal to the widow and the fatherless, from the hand that is able to bestow it, should be a never forgotten part of the Christ-like acts of Christmas giving. Yet so comparatively few remember, in the substantial way they should. It is, too, a pleasant work of the summer for a housewife of means, and with the time to devote to such things, to be making from scraps of pieces of both old and new, comforts for the beds of some of her less fortunate acquaintances. A few pounds of cotton and a few hours of time, and her summer's work is soon converted into the substantial, the comfortable and the most acceptable of gifts to many a family where poverty predominates.

The dainty gifts of friends to friends, where the comforts of life are supplied, is quite another thing. By skilful fingers they are woven from the beautiful art accessories, and to the tunes of gleesome, happy hearts, while the world wags on in its never ceasing round of sadness and gaiety, heartaches and gladness.

One housekeeper who loves the pretty and the useful and convenient things for her home that every true housekeeper loves, but whose pen is attuned to the prosaic lines of wage-earning, and to the thoughts of 'herewith must we be fed,' finds in the home folks, who have been blessed with more of the world's goods than herself, the 'friends indeed.' Pillow slips all made hemstitched and lace trimmed, are sent her, with seamless hemstitched sheets to match them. Table linens are added to the sideboard drawers, and handworked covers for the sideboard itself. Knitted mittens of silk and of wool, and the pretty 'going-to-bed' slippers are supplied. And the many loving stitches that are taken for her in the busy life of care and responsibility that surrounds her, smooths out the rugged pathway for her feet, and makes her feel the blessedness of the Christ life, the Christian spirit of dear ones, and the beauties and the glories of a risen Christ, and a God of love and mercy.

CHRISTMAS RECITATIONS.

We gave last week some pieces suitable for children to recite at Christmas entertainments. They were all, however, of a secular character, and as some parents or teachers may prefer a religious selection, we add some of that type to-day. It is difficult to get poetry on sacred subjects, which can properly be recited by children in public. For such a use the poem should be neither too stately nor too childish, and it should not be too personal or moving in sentiment.

The first recitation we give is a medley of verses from four different hymns, the first by T. T. Lynch, the others old and well known favorites. For a very little child any one or two of these verses would be a long enough recitation, but for an older child capable of reciting nicely, the four together would make a very effective piece, the last two verses being spoken with special emphasis, as if quoting the angel's song.

A thousand years have come and gone,
And near a thousand more,
Since happier light from heaven shone,
Than ever shone before;
And in the hearts of old and young,
A joy most joyful stirred,
That sent such news from tongue to tongue
As ears had never heard.

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old;
Of angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold.
'Peace on the earth, good will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King.'
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

'Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun,
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.

'O, little town of Bethlehem!
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,
The silent stars go by;
Yet in the dark streets shineth
The everlasting light,
The hopes and fears of all the years,
Are met in thee to-night.'

GUIDED BY A STAR.

From the eastern mountains,
Pressing on they come,
Wise men in their wisdom,
To His humble home.
Stirred by deep devotion,
Hasting from afar,
Ever journeying onward,
Guided by a star.

Thou who in a manger,
Once hast lowly lain,
Who dost now in glory,
O'er all kingdoms reign,
Gather in the heathen,
Who in lands afar
Ne'er have seen the brightness,
Of Thy guiding star.

Onward through the darkness,
Of the lonely night,
Shining still before them,
With Thy kindly light,
Guide them, Jew and Gentile,
Homeward from afar,
Young and old together,
By Thy guiding star.

—G. Thring.

Our Correspondents

'A Constant Reader' can get 'Janet's Bairns' by Miss Robertson from W. Foster Brown, Montreal, for $1.25.

Several friends have written asking us to republish certain pieces of poetry, but for one reason or another we must usually refuse to do this.

We give a good deal of space to Christmas cooking this week, as next Saturday will be rather too late for the home provider to decide on her bill of fare. The recipe for boiled plum pudding is one which has been in the 'Witness' before. It will be a rather large and very rich pudding, but we have no doubt 'A Young Housekeeper' will make it up 'regardless' One of our letters to-day is about flowers, and brings the reminder that a pot of flowers in bloom is one of the prettiest of gifts for mother or child.

THE CRITIC.

LEMON MARMALADE AT LAST.

Dear Editor Home.—You gave a good recipe for marmalade on Dec. 3, one dozen oranges and four lemons. I have used it for years. Lemon made just the same except one pound of sugar for each lemon. Hoping this will be of service, I remain.

A LOVER OF THE 'WITNESS.'

ANSWERED IN ANOTHER COLUMN.

Editor Home—Will you give me a recipe, regardless of expense, for a Christmas plum pudding, a fruit cake, and mincemeat, and oblige, yours truly,

YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER.

Ancaster.

TEACH POETRY.

Editor Home Department.—I was glad to see 'L.C.M.'s' letter requesting suitable recitations for children's entertainments. It is a pity that unsuitable pieces are so often said by little children for the public to laugh at. If mothers would teach the little ones, who are fond of jingles, every pretty little poem of a suitable character they come across during the year, the pieces said at entertainments would probably be of a higher character than they generally are now, and quite as interesting.

EMMA.

CHILDREN AND FLOWERS.

Dear Editor Home—It is not little thing if in after years the sons and daughters of our Canadian homes can look back upon a home rendered cheery and beautiful by its wealth of green anad bright blossoms. One may better afford to forget the fancy work and knick-knacks that adorn tables and walls, than mother's favorite flower, or the tiny spray she used to pin in father's button hole, or the slips and flowers she used to give so freely to flower loving friends and to eager school children. It is in early years that the ennobling love of flowers should be implanted.

Perhaps some of these busy, tired mothers have never thought that the culture of flowers will in any way influence the after life of their children,but it often forms the stepping stone to a real and intelligent study of nature, and will always help to turn the thoughts of children to good. I have failed to find a hard man or woman that loved and cultivated flowers. Much of the care of house plants should be given into the hands of the boys and girls of the family. Teach them to care for each plant properly. It affords a safe, healthful and pleasant employment for them, and one of the greatest secrets of training children is to keep them busy in the best way.

Give the children house plants to care for in the winter, and a bit of ground to cultivate in the spring; give them seeds to plant, and teach them how to plant them, but let them do the work.

Let us make more farmers out of our boys and farmers' wives out of our girls. The children will grow up far more contented and happy, and our country will be much better if more of our young people stay at home.

There is a tendency throughout the country for the young people to leave home and get some trade; the outcome of all this is, the trades of our country are overdone.

MRS. J. W. F.

GIFTS FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS AND OTHERS.

If your friend, either girl or man, is an amateur photographer or a collector of photographs, nothing will be more appreciated than a receptacle to hold the treasures. So for this friend you may make a box as large as an album, but much deeper than the album's thickness. Make the foundation of heavy cardboard. Cut six pieces for the box, top, bottom, and four sides, and another six like them for the lining. Cover the outside with chamois, suede leather, art silk, or plush, as suits your fancy and your convenience, and the inside with plain lining satin or sateen. Before covering the inside lay on the cardboard a sheet of wadding sprinkled with orris and violet, a perfume that is now considered in the best taste. Overseam the lining and outside together with silk matching the latter. Then join the pieces in box shape, fastening the top like a lid, with three loops sewed to the cover and the box at the back. The joining seams may be covered with silk cord, and the cover fastened down, with a ribbon loop over a button.

Photograph frames in white or colored linen, embroidered in a simple design, or of art silk, make welcome gifts, especially if enclosed in the frame is the picture of the sender. The newest of these frames are in white linen, worked in blue in the Delft designs.

A travelling case is made of brown linen and bound with apple green ribbon. When it is open, it shows several pockets of the linen, cross stitched into place with green floss; and on each pocket is embroidered in outline stitch its use. When the contents are in place, it is rolled up and tied around with a ribbon to match the binding. It will fit nicely into the travelling bag, and keeps everything for the toilet compact and nice. The pocket for the sponge or wash cloth is to be lined with oil silk—'C. E. World.'

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

The Church Missionary Society has received permission from the Egyptian Government for three of its representatives to proceed at once to Fashoda.

Prebendary Webb-Peploe has publicly announced that, if the St. Paul's processional cross is carried before him, when he preaches in the Cathedral, he intends to denounce it in the pulpit.

The father of Dr. Hans Meyer, the African explorer, on learning that his son was liberated from captivity, announced his purpose to devote $250,000 as a thank-offering to charitable objects. He intends to build workingmen's houses in a suburb of Leipsig.

A large hall has been secured by the Salvation Army in Manilla, the capital of the Philippines. A large number of English-speaking people have already been brought to Christ. The City Board of Stockholm has handed over to the management of the Army a public bath, which has cost the town 30,000 kroner for fitting.

Corporal Priest and three comrades of the Grenadier Guards, lately home from the Soudan, took part in a service held in a Mission Hall, Willesden-green, in connection with the Rev. R. E. Welsh's church. In the course of his address the corporal told of a remarkable prayer-meeting he and about forty others held in the desert on the Sunday evening before the battle of Omdurman. The camp seems to have been given over to 'sing-songs,' gambling and card-playing.

At last it is announced that the English railway companies have granted facilities for attendance at large religious gatherings by a reduction of fares. The remarkable thing is that for years re-

duced fares have been allowed to patrons of Sunday excursions, races, and other sporting meetings; but to attendants at the great annual gatherings of religious societies and communities all concessions were refused.

The American Baptist Publication Society now operates five chapel cars. Each car is constructed especially for the purpose of holding meetings, with an auditorium capable of seating a hundred persons, a pulpit, organ and library, and also apartments for living rooms. A man and his wife are put in charge of each car, and the car is sent out for missionary work. The car is sidetracked at some small settlement, and kept there until there are a number of conversions.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, as president of the National Temperance League, has issued (dated from Lambeth Palace) a preliminary invitation to the various national and international temperance organizations throughout the world for a' World's Temperance Congress,' to be held in London during the year 1900. The first and only congress of its kind was held in London in 1846, chiefly attended by American and British delegates.

Mr. Andrew Usher, the distiller, who died lately, and who presented the Corporation of Edinburgh with a hundred thousand pounds to erect a music hall, bought the estate of St. Abb's a number of years ago, with the village and surrounding lands. He built a pier for fishermen, also a new church, and installed electric light into the village, but he prohibited any licensed public house on his property. This was rather an unusual step for a great distiller.—'Westminster Gazette.'

Bishop Henry M. Turner, of the African M. E. Church, has come out with a public communication in which he declares that 'the negro as a race has no manhood future in the United States,' and advocates a wholesale emigration to Africa as the only hope, and says the negro must appeal to the national Congress for $100,000,000 to carry out this general expatriation of the race. Bishop Turner is a recognized leader among his people, and his words indicate a very discouraged view of the future of the American negro.

The Prince of Wales, says the 'Christian Herald,' is still undergoing a course of massage for the stiffness in his knee. When at Sandringham every member of the Prince's family and every servant attends family prayers, which take place before breakfast. The service is short; the Princess of Wales plays the hymn, and one of her children reads the lesson. The Duchess of York sent five charming little petticoats in crocheted work, made by herself, to the sale of work at the Regent Street Polytechnic, London, on behalf of the 'Barefoot Mission' of the Ragged School Union.

Dr. Shedd writes:—'Prices have again gone up to famine rates in Oroomiah, Persia. Wheat costs three times what it did a year ago, and four times the usual price, and it is almost impossible to get any. From the Tigris valley, between Diarbekir and Mosul, one of the great wheat-growing plains of the world, most pitiful accounts come. They tell us of wheat more than five times the usual price, of deserted villages and even of girls sold into captivity.' Dr. Shedd appeals for help so that they may be able to feed the hungry. The Rev. F. G. Coan will be in Bohtan and Mosul during the winter, so that he can distribute the relief there.

Everybody knows that the Archbishop of Canterbury is one of the most hard-working and active of men, although he is nearing the four-score. In the Christmas number of the 'Windsor Magazine,' a number of famous living veterans have stated their views on the subject of longevity. The Archbishop writes to this effect: 'I do not find the burden of life heavy. I have observed no particular rule about food, etc., except not to eat or drink what I found disagree with me. I have little doubt that total abstinence from intoxicating liquors conduces to longevity. I know nothing for or against the use of tobacco, except that it is an annoyance to those who do not smoke. I cannot tell what has led to my having lived to nearly seventy-seven.'—'Westminster Gazette.'

The Rev. T. Payson Hammond, the noted evangelist, who recently closed a most successful series of meetings at Hastings, Neb., has just commenced a similar work in Kearney. In the closing meeting in Hastings probably eighteen hundred people heard him on Sunday night. The First Presbyterian Church, the largest church in the city, was packed to its limit. Hundreds were turned away, not able to gain admittance. When the invitation was given to decide for Christ seventy-five crowded him instantly. Those who decided to lead a Christian life numbered hundreds. The meetings at Kearney are held in the First Presbyterian Church, and give every promise of being eminently successful.

Canon Wilberforce, preaching in Chichester Cathedral, said he unflinchingly declared that the licensed liquor traffic in our great cities was the peculiar fosterer of that particular class of social outcasts to which the poor victims of the Whitechapel murders belonged. Multitudes would be drawn out of the mire, would be disentangled from the network of evil round their feet, would be started in the paths of honor and virtue, but for the frenzying temptation of the gin-shop and the public-house. And no rescue work, no attempts to raise from the dust the daughters of our country's shame, would avail so long as the common sale of intoxicating liquor was permitted and encouraged by the state, and sanctioned or allowed to go unrebuked by the Church.

GOSPEL IN PUERTO RICO.

(By the Rev. William H. Sloan, in 'Chicago Standard.')

When we landed in Puerto Rico on Oct. 27, we expected to find the country more or less open to the gospel, as the American flag was flying over the entire island, but we were not prepared to be received with the enthusiasm and eagerness that have astonished and delighted us during our tour of this new American possession. If General Miles was received with open arms, no less so have been the ambassadors of the great King, who have followed the victorious flag. We are constantly puzzling ourselves with the question, What is it that has produced this state of affairs, and made these people flock so eagerly to the place of preaching, and listen with so absorbed attention to the first announcement of a salvation made free and complete through the expiatory death of Christ? The only reply we can find is, that it is of God. He has permitted tyranny and oppression and poverty, in order that a people might be made willing to receive the truth.

Certain it is that Rome is practically a cipher in Puerto Rico. I doubt if ever she had a firm grip on these people, for I find no evidence of it anywhere. A few processions during the year, in which the picture of the Virgin was paraded, a careless observance of a few of the feasts, a listless intoning of the masses, and you have the Romanism of Puerto Rico. The people care little for it. They laugh at their priests, sneer at the convents, ridicule the monks, and absent themselves from the churches, of which, by the way, there are not a great many.

We cannot detail step by step the results of our few weeks' labor in Puerto Rico, a work to which we were led by the Spirit of God, and whose burden we alone have had to bear, with the aid of him who is the missionary's best friend. While boards and societies have been discussing means, men and methods, a Baptist missionary, at his own charges, has gone over the island from south to north, from east to west, and back again through the centre; himself, tracts and bed mounted on a government mule, and has preached the gospel to thousands who never before heard of the bible, but whose hearts yearned for the message it brings.

A few incidents in our work may be of interest, and these gathered up at random. The first sermon (of course we refer to Spanish missionary work, and not to English preaching) was delivered in Ponce on Oct. 29. We stood on a log. We had about two hundred people gathered around us, about two hundred horses, and perhaps a thousand mules. A few American soldiers were present who said they would keep the promiscuous audience in order, but it was not necessary. God richly blessed that service, and souls were converted.

At one sugar hacienda where we stopped, the operatives crowded to hear the word, and brought their friends from near and far. Within the shadow of the great chimney we told of the love of God to a perishing world, and the power of the Spirit was there to heal broken hearts. Then they asked us for bibles and tracts, and implored us to send a missionary and establish a school for their children.

In one town where we stopped to rest a few hours, our religious mission became known, and a delegation of women came to us and besought us to open a school in the place. A large number of men mounted on their horses, accompanied us for an hour when we left the place, and we discoursed to them as we rode along. Then they gathered about us in a circle, removed their hats, while we offered a prayer to God for Puerto Rico.

In one city (at Arecibo) we had to call in the aid of the police to save our tracts from being taken from us by the eager populace. We wanted to keep some of them for use in Mayaguez. Many priests have asked us for bibles. In one school, the instructor stopped the recitations on the part of the classes, and himself read aloud to the school one of the tracts I had given him.

In Rio Piedras, in the suburbs of San Juan, the capital, a woman was converted who will, I believe, under God, become a missionary to her people. She possesses great energy and native ability, but can neither read nor write. She was for several years a member of the ladies' committee in Cuba that raised funds with which to help carry on the war of independence. Her activity brought about her expulsion from the island, and the confiscation of the little property held by herself and husband. She is about forty years of age, of fine presence, very popular in social circles, an intense hater of the Spaniards and a born reformer. She will be heard from when the Baptists take hold of the work in Puerto Rico, if, indeed, they ever get at it. God has given her a new heart and new desires, and at this writing she is distributing Spanish tracts among the people of San Juan. May God abundantly bless the labors of 'Dona Juana.'

In Aguadilla and Mayaguez the priests had something to say about us in their pulpits, which had the effect of bringing us larger audiences in the groves where we preached. At this writing we have the names of over a hundred persons who profess to have found the Saviour, and who desire to be baptized. We have not yet administered the ordinance to any. In one place (Hatillo) the entire audience, some two hundred or three hundred persons, manifested a desire to be baptized.

We are astounded at this state of things. It would seem that Puerto Rico in its entirety would go over to the Lord, notwithstanding Archbishop Ireland's assertion that missionaries could do nothing here. To neglect this wonderful opportunity, would be criminal negligence. The door is wide open. Who will be the first to enter?

San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov. 21, 1898.

DR. HEPWORTH ON MISSIONS IN TURKEY.

Dr. Hepworth, in the volume, 'Through Armenia on Horseback,' which recounts interestingly and informingly his observations while in Armenia, as special correspondent of the New York 'Herald,' sent to ascertain the truth regarding the Armenian massacres, pays repeated tributes to the valuable work of the American missionaries. He went to Turkey prejudiced against them, thinking them meddlers and, in no small sense, responsible for the troubles that came upon the Armenian people. What he saw and heard, from Turkish sources as well as from others, completely altered his opinions in this respect, as he himself says. He writes (page 291 ff), 'There is only one genuinely uplifting and educational influence in all Turkey. I refer, of course, to the missionaries.' He calls the missionaries 'the Sir Knights of modern times. Their weapons are no longer swords, but ideas. They are to be found in all quarters of the globe, and they are always surrounded by ambushed perils. Sometimes they go single-handed to meet an overwhelming opposition, and then again in small groups, a sort of forlorn hope, ready to start for heaven by way of China or Central Africa, deeming life of no value, regarding only their duty, and never thinking of consequences. They are the representatives of a high civilization and of the best religious thought of the age.' A little later Dr. Hepworth disclaims any intention of simply eulogizing the missionaries, asserting that all of this is 'an understatement of the plain facts.' He declares that the missionaries are doing more for Turkey than all of the European powers combined, while yet working modestly.—'Intelligencer.'

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON.

Jan. 1, 1899.

CHDIST THE TRUE LIGHT.—John i., 1-14.

BY JOHN R. WHITNEY.

Golden Text.—In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.—John 1: 4.

For the next six months we will have brought before us 'The Gospel according to St. John.'. John was the son of Zebedee and Salome, and was probably born in Capernaum. His mother is supposed to have been a sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus, to whom he, therefore, bore the human relationship of a cousin, and was probably of about the same age. His father was a fisherman, engaged in business for himself, and employing 'hired servants' (Mark i., 20), besides having the assistance of his sons. With them was associated Simon Peter as a partner in the same business. (Luke v., 10.) From these considerations and from the facts that Salome was one of the women of Galilee who ministered to our Lord of their substance (Luke viii., 3; xxiii., 55; Mark xvi., 1), and that John had a house which he could call 'his own' (John xix., 27), and that he 'was known unto the High Priest' (John xviii., 16), it is inferred that the family was in easy circumstances, if not wealthy, and of good social standing. The household was also, evidently, a household of devout Jews, in which the law of God was taught and revered, and whose members were 'waiting for the consolation of Israel.' (Luke ii., 25.)

As John grew up in such a household, it is evident that both he and his brother developed a spirit of impetuous, fiery zeal which could not brook restraint, and which our Lord characterized by the expressive title of 'Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder' (Mark iii., 17); or more literally, 'Sons of rage, soon angry.' They never lost this character. Indications of it were seen even after they had sat for more than two years at Jesus's feet. (Luke ix., 54; Mark ix., 38.) But it became sanctified, and made them splendid men for the work to which they were chosen.

Such was the condition of the man who wrote this Gospel, and such was his character. Every step, in the case of John is recorded for our learning.

First he stands before us a 'Boanerges.'

Then he became a disciple of John the Baptist, and when he heard him speak of Jesus, he went after him, 'and abode with Him that day.' (John i., 37-39.)

Then, when he was called, he was ready to become one of Jesus's disciples. (Matt. iv., 21.)

Then he became one of the chosen twelve. (Matt. x., 2.)

Then he was one of the favored three. (Matt. xvii., 1; xxvi., 37.)

Then he was one of the selected two. (Luke xxii., 8.)

Then he was the beloved one, who 'was leaning on Jesus's bosom.' (John xiii., 23.)

Then he was the only one, of all the disciples, at the Cross. (John xix., 26.)

Then he was the first of them all to be at the open sepulchre. (John xx., 4.)

Then he was the special one to whom 'The Revelation' was given. (Rev. i., 1.)

Then, whilst Peter—the next most favored of all the disciples—is the man who says, 'Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee' (John xxi., 15), John is the man who—rising to a higher plane than that—always speaks of himself simply as the one 'whom Jesus loved.' (John xiii., 23; xxi., 7, 20.)

With such an experience, it is not strange that he writes in his Epistle, 'Herein is love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins;' and therefore, 'We love Him, because He first loved us.' (I. John iv., 10, 19.)

It was to this man that the peculiar duty was entrusted, some fifty years after he saw his Lord taken up into Heaven, to write of Him in this Gospel, not simply as a man among men, but as 'Jesus Christ, the Son of God,' that believing this great fact we 'might have life through His name.' (John xx., 31.)

Whilst Matthew traces the genealogy of Jesus back to Abraham, and Luke back to Adam, John goes still further back, beyond all human parentage, even to 'the beginning,' before ever man or the earth or the worlds were made. The mind can follow Matthew and Luke, but it cannot follow John. 'In the beginning,' is too far off, and the exaltation, of 'The Word,' who was in the beginning, is too high for human intellect to grasp. When he wrote this Gospel, he had walked day by day for three years with a man who was despised and rejected by most of His countrymen. But he had seen Him heal the sick and raise the dead. He had seen Him in the glory of 'the Transfiguration,' and in the agony of Gethsemane. He had seen Him die upon the Cross; alive from the dead; and ascending into Heaven. And as he walked with this man, listening to His voice and leaning upon His bosom, he had heard Him speak such wonderful words as had sunk into his very soul and changed his whole being. They had revealed God to him with the assurance that He loved him, the sinner. The Word spoken and He who spoke the Word, were al lone. He could not separate them.

Concerning this 'Word' he sets forth three particulars.

1. He is 'in the beginning.' He is eternal. This is very clearly brought into view in Prov. viii., 22-30. 2. He has is 'with God.' He is a person. He has a separate and distinct personality. 3. He 'was God.' He is his equal. Although distinct and separate in his personality, yet he is neither inferior, nor superior, to God, but he is one with him. 'Being the form of God he thought it not robbery to be equal with God.' (Phil. ii., 6.)

He is next described as the Creator—'all things were made by him.' This is the uniform testimony of Scripture. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God.' (Heb. xi., 3.) By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth (Psa. xxxiii., 6); not simply by the utterance or 'command,' of the triune God, but by the personal Word himself. For 'God created all things by Jesus Christ.' (Eph. iii., 9.) 'All things were created by him for him. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.' (Cor. i., 16-17.)

But more than this is true of this Divine Word. He is not only the Creator but he is also himself, 'the Life.' As the Creator, he is the source of all life, but as the Redeemer, he is the substance of it. This is true in Both a physical and spiritual sense, but far more true spiritually than it is physically.

This, however, is not all. This glorious Word is not only the Creator, and 'the Life,' but he is 'the Light.' It is only through him that anyone can find or walk in the way of life. Out of him all is darkness.

The announcement of this great fact is, however, at once met with the announcement of another equally great fact. 'The Light' shines into darkness, but the darkness is not affected by it, it comprehends it not. To dispel the darkness, there must be the willing, personal, reception of 'The Light.'

Now, the inspired writer in his description of the Word, pauses to tell us how the obstruction is to be removed. The infinite grace of God has provided that men shall be brought to the knowledge of 'the Light' through the instrumentality of other men. So 'there was a man sent from God whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.' So every successor of John has been sent to bear witness.

But John cannot stop to say much about the witness. He is too full of the 'Light,' and turns at once to speak again of him. 'The Light, 'the Life,' 'the Word,' 'the God,' he says, takes on himself a form in which he can come into the world which he has made and live the very life which he gives and sustains. 'The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;' and 'as many as received him, to them gave he power, or the right (margin) to become the sons of God.'

Through sin they have forfeited that 'right.' But when the sin-darkened soul in penitence and faith receives him, God can be just and yet justify the ungodly. The 'right' is restored through the life and death of Jesus Christ, the Word of God. 'His blood cleanseth us from all sin,' therefore, 'if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' (I. John i., 7-9.) Not only 'faithful' but 'just,' for the law of God has been satisfied by the Son of God—the Word which was 'in the beginning with God.'

HOME READINGS.

M. John i., 1-14.—Christ the true Light.
T. John i., 15-24.—John's Witness.
W. John i., 25-34.—The Son of God.
T. I. John i.—Life and Light.
F. I. John v., 9-13.—Life by Christ.
S. John viii., 12-19.—Light of the World.
S. John xii., 35-46.—Receive the Light.

C. E. DEPARTMENT.

Topic—Jan. 1st, 1899.

THE ANGEL PRESENCE FOR THE NEW YEAR.

(Exodus xxiii., 20-25.)

'Lo, I am with you all the days.' (Matt. xxviii., 20. Margin R.V.)

'My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.' (Ex. xxxiii., 14.)

'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.' (Ps. xxxii., 8.)

'I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace.' (Jer. xxix., 11.)

A happy New Year! Over and over, year after year, we wish our friends happiness in the good old formula, but in most cases it is a vague indefinite sort of wish. What is happiness? Ideas on this point differ. Job said, 'Happy is the man whom God correcteth.' Solomon tells us that the man who finds wisdom is happy, also 'he that hath mercy on the poor,' and 'he that keepeth the law.' But the Apostle Peter gives us another key to happiness, 'If ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye,' and 'if ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye.'

The same word in the Greek, which is here translated 'happy' is in many other passages translated 'blessed.' 'Happy are the poor in spirit' sounds rather unfamiliar, but reading the beatitudes with the substitution of 'happy' for 'blessed' will give us perhaps a new view of the meaning of the word. Is this the happiness we wish for our friends, or is it that gay light-hearted freedom from care that is usually implied by the word? If it is real happiness we desire for them how should we help them obtain it? We must first try to understand and practice it ourselves.

Real happiness comes from knowing God. How shall we know him? By seeking him with our whole hearts; by spending much time in his presence, by appropriating to ourselves his word. Let us make this new year, the year of our Lord 1899, a year with the bible. Let us be more anxious to hear what he has to say to us, than to make long prayers to him. We can pray as we go about our work, but we must have a quiet time to prepare for work and prayer. It is of the first importance to find out God's thought for our lives and for each day. He has promised to guide us with his eye, but unless we keep looking to him we can not see his guiding nor realize his presence. It is said that George Muller, that great man of prayer, used to walk up and down with his bible in his hand drinking in God's wondrous promises, and then the man of faith would kneel down and in the simplicity of love just claim those promises, and they were fulfilled to him. Simple loving faith was all that Muller possessed, but through him God wrought marvellous works. 'The Father seeketh such to worship him.' The secret of Muller's success was the early morning communion with God. Of this he says—

'It often astonishes me now that I did not sooner see this point. And yet now, since God has taught me, it is as plain to me as anything, that the first thing the child of God has to do, morning by morning, is to obtain food for his inner man. As the outward man is not fit to work for any length of time except it take food, and as this is one of the first things we do in the morning, so it should be with the inner man. Not prayer, but the word of God; and here again, not the simple reading of the word, so that it only passes through our minds just as water runs through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering over it and applying it to our hearts.'

PLANS FOR THE JUNIORS.

(From 'The Christian Endeavor Herald.')

MISSIONARY PASTEBOARD.

A Michigan Junior superintendent uses little cards, 2 x 4 inches in size, for the gathering of missionary facts and anecdotes. These cards may be cut from the scraps of a printing-office, and will cost very little. A separate color is used for each missionary country. So arranged, the facts and anecdotes may easily be handed out to the children, and then returned, to be used several years afterward with a new set of children.

REPORTING.

Juniors love to report how well they have kept their pledge, so in our society we have a roll-call at every meeting. Each Junior responds with a memorized Scripture verse, reports whether he has read the bible and prayed every day, then steps up and drops in the basket on the table the one cent that he has promised to give each week to missions. On Dec. 5 one of our Juniors had been present at and taken part in every meeting for three years, and had read her bible and prayed every day. L. C.

Newton, Kan.

A SUGGESTION SHEET.

That active district superintendent, Mr. E. L. Bickford, of California, sends out to the Junior workers of this district a 'suggestion sheet,' which contains, among others, the following admirable hints:—

CAPPING VERSES.

This is a good kind of bible work for meetings. Let any one repeat a verse from memory; for instance: 'Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' The last word commences with 'R' who can at once give a verse beginning with 'R'? 'Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.' Then 'Y,' and so on.

OBJECT ILLUSTRATIONS.

A few from various sources. A handful of 'chaff which the wind bloweth away' (Ps. 1:4) will illustrate the fleeting estate of the wicked.——A single thread, easily broken; many times doubled, impossible to break; this may illustrate the power of habit. (Mr. Moody.)——Put a disagreeable picture in a bottle through which it may show. So bad reading—stories—in our minds will show out in our words and actions. (Mrs. Crafts.)——A balance may illustrate the moment of decision for Christ, if we place in one scale a heavy card labelled 'God's love,' or 'The love of Christ constraineth us.'—Illustrate soul and body by the case and works of a watch. Which is the real watch? Which is the real child? Need the watch stop going if the case were taken off?——A red colored dart caught on a wooden shield marked 'Faith'—the shield against temptation. (Eph. 6:16.)——An electric incandescent light globe will illustrate how Christ will shine through out lives if we keep connection with the power.

SCRIPTURE OBJECTS.

REFERENCE.	OBJECTS.	LESSON.
Jas. 3: 3, 4.	A bit; rudder of a miniature ship.	Control the tongue.
Jas. 3: 5; Prov. 26: 20.	Kindling and wood for fire.	Evils of tale-bearing.
Prov. 20: 17.	Bread and gravel (imagine biting on a bit).	After-effects of deceit.
Prov. 10: 26.	Vinegar (let one taste); smoke (made in a pan).	Laziness in God's work.
Matt. 10: 42.	Cup of water.	Little services

Search in Psalms, Proverbs, James, and the Gospels for more.

C. E. CALENDAR.

The Christian Endeavor Calendar for 1899 is a beautiful work of art. The cover is suggestive of the whole. For, from the wreath of pansies there—on which a golden C. E. rests—groups of pansies seemed to have strayed on to every succeeding page. The calendar is in the form of cards tied by pale yellow ribbon. Heads of young people and pretty crests further ornament every card. The cards not only contain mere dates, but also prayer-meeting topics. These calendars can be had at the 'Endeavor Banner' office, 750 Craig street, Montreal, costing 25 cents, or mailed, 30 cents.

C. E. HANDBOOK FOR 1899.

This official handbook for Canadian Christian Endeavorers will be on sale in the course of a few days, price 10 cents each; 80 cents per dozen; in quantities of 50 or over, 5 cents each.

All work on the book is done gratuitously and profits go to pay the expenses of Dominion Convention, 'Montreal '99.' Among the contents may be found: Officers and statistics of all the provincial unions in the Dominion, valuable data and statistics of world-wide Christian Endeavor, prayer-meeting topics and daily readings for the year, bright and suggestive notes on every prayer-meeting topic, prepared by the Rev. J. S. Conning, editor of the 'Endeavor Herald,' new hints and helpful suggestions in all departments of work, junior prayer-meeting topics and ideas, photo-engravings of prominent C. E. workers in every province, official announcements respecting Dominion Convention, 'Montreal '99.' and everything that should be found in a complete ready-reference C. E. Handbook.

MONTHLY TOPICS FOR THE QUIET HOUR FOR 1899.

General theme for the year: The fruit of the Spirit.

I suggest that during the year 1899 we consider the great subject, 'The Fruit of the Spirit,' for I know of none that the Comrades of the Quiet Hour can consider with greater profit. While no one is under obligation to follow the outline here given, the subject is divided into twelve natural divisions, the fruits of the Spirit following the order of Gal. v., 22 and 23. A few scripture references are given under each division, but only a few, for it is hoped that the Comrades will search the Scriptures for themselves, and look to God in meditation for further light on these themes.

FRANCIS E. CLARK.

January.—Fruit-Bearing—A Duty.—John xv., 16; John xv., 8; Luke iii., 8-9; Luke xiii., 6-9; Isa. v., 1-7.

February.—Fruit-Bearing—A Test.—Matt. vii., 16-20; Col. i., 5-6; Jas. iii., 12-14.

March.—Fruit-Bearing—The Conditions.—John xv., 2-7; Jas. iii., 17, 18; Heb. xii., 11; Rom. vi., 22.

April.—Love—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Matt. xxii., 37-39; Luke vi., 32-35; Rom. xiii., 8; Eph. v., 2; I John iii., 14; I. John iv., 7-21.

May.—Joy.—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Ps. xvi., 11; Isa. li., 11; Ps. lcv., 1, 2; John xv., 11; John xvi., 24.

June.—Peace—A Fruit of the Spirit.—John xiv., 27; Isa. xxvi., 3; Rom. v., 1; Eph. ii., 14.

July.—Long-Suffering—A Fruit of the Spirit.—I. Cor. xiii., 4; Prov. x., 12; I. Pet. ii., 19-24.

August.—Kindness (R.V.)—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Luke vi., 35, 36; Eph. iv., 31, 32; Prov. xxxi., 26; Col. iii., 12.

September.—Goodness—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Eph. v., 9; Ps. cxii., 5; Acts x., 38.

October.—Faithfulness (R.V.)—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Matt. xxv., 20-23; Luke xvi., 10-12; I. Cor. iv., 2; Rev. ii., 10.

November.—Meekness—A Fruit of the Spirit.—Ps. xxv., 9; Matt. v., 5; Ps. cxlix., 4; I. Pet. iii., 3, 4.

December—Temperance—A Fruit of the Spirit.—I. Cor. ix., 25; II. Pet. i., 6; Tit. ii., 1-8

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ALL IN ADVANCE.

Daily Witness	$3.00
Weekly Witness	1.00
Northern Messenger (single copy)	30
" " 10 copies and over to one address, 20c per copy.	

All the above papers sent free of postage to the Dominion, Newfoundland and United States.

For Great Britain add $1.04 for postage, on "Weekly Witness;" "Northern Messenger" add 52c; "Daily Witness" add $3.60.

ADVERTISING RATES.

WEEKLY WITNESS.—Casual advertisements 20c per line per insertion, including cuts and large type. Contract Rates—1 year, $7.50 per line; 6 months, $4.00 per line; 3 months, $2.25 per line. "Farms to Rent," "Farms for Sale," can be inserted for 1c a word per insertion from subscribers. The lowest rate for non-subscribers is two cents per word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the "Witness" Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made. In all cases the full price must accompany each order.

DAILY WITNESS.—10c per line first insertion, and 5c per line each subsequent insertion on order. CUTS OR LARGE TYPE, double rates. Contracts on favorable terms. "Employment Wanted," "Situations Vacant," etc., 10c per insertion, up to 25 words. Money must accompany order, as this quotation is reckoned on a cash basis.

Births and Deaths, 25c per insertion; Marriages, 50c. (These must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.) Inserted without charge for subscribers. All obituaries with poetry, 50c a line, agate measure. Money to accompany notices.

Contracts payable quarterly in advance.

Five is the minimum number of lines for which an advertisement is charged.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS—When remitting be particular to give the correct post-office address, and the Province or State, and either register your letter, which will cost 5c in addition to the regular postage, or procure a post-office or express money order, which protects the sender. Post-office orders can be obtained at the following rates: $2.50 and under, 3c; $2.50 to $5.00, 4c; $5.00 to $10.00, 6c. Express Money Orders are issued up to $3.00 for 2c; $3.00 to $5.00, 4c; $5.00 to $10.00, 6c. Subscribers in the United States can remit by Post-Office Order on Rouse's Point, N.Y., or American Express Company, payable at Montreal. When wishing to have your address changed from one post-office to another, it is necessary to give the old address as well as the new. If this be not done such changes cannot be made. Address all letters containing subscriptions or advertising: JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Witness, Montreal.

When stamps are sent to make up a remittance, the only denominations we accept are 1 and 3 cents.

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 us on a postal card the name and address to which he would like the paper sent.

The Witness.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1898.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!

Christmas is here once more, with its multitude of joyful anticipations for the young, with its hosts of happy memories for the old, and its 'good tidings' of great joy which shall be to all people' for both. Probably there never has been before for Canadians a year of such abundance and prosperity as this of 1898 has been. In many ways Canada as a nation has had great cause for thankfulness, and the hearts of her people are accordingly full of rejoicing. The Empire of which we form a part has escaped from the brink of a great war, and at the moment at least the prospect is one of peace. With all our hearts we ought to be able to join in the song over the birth of our Saviour, the Prince of Peace, of the multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

'GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.'

Carlism in Spain has always had the bishops and clergy as allies—absolutism always has been able to count on this alliance. The Carlist pretender received this aid and comfort in the last rising, even though Pius IX. withheld his countenance. The present Pope, if reports from Rome be true, is going to see to it that this mistake is not repeated. If it was now, as it was of old, a question simply of whether progressive or reactionary ideas should rule Spain, ecclesiasticism would no doubt be found where it always is. But it is now a question whether there shall be any Spain. A civil war would be the act of a madman who rends himself to pieces. As Rome has nothing to gain by the wiping out of a country which has always been more loyal to Rome than to herself, the position of the Vatican in distinctly opposing any Carlist movement at the present time is easily understood.

It is hard to understand the pettiness of mind and of vision of those who jubilate in headline and hulletin every rumor of non-success in the efforts that are being made to wipe out all questions of difference between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race. If it were only an effort to remove causes of bad blood between us and our great neighbor it would be a thing for every Canadian to pray for, but when we consider that with the signature of the Spanish-American treaty has come about a state of things in which the United States and Great Britain must be either the greatest friends or the greatest enemies the world ever knew, it becomes passing strange that party jealousy should govern the attitude of any Canadian towards it. With the great and growing power of Russia hovering on our fringes, a difference between the United States and Great Britain just now would be the suicide of the civilization that has been developing since the Reformation.

Prohibition as a government measure is making headway in the east. A Cairo despatch says the sale of intoxi[cating] liquors will be prohibited in the Sou[dan]. As General Kitchener ran his campaign against the Khalifa on prohibition principles with the greatest success, both as a military and sanitary measure, a continuance of the law would no doubt have equally beneficial results under a civil administration, if carried out under an equally upright authority. The law of the Prophet against the use of wine is not always strictly observed among his followers, but prohibition would not be for them alone. The rag-tag from Europe and the Levant who are sure to flow into the newly reconquered provinces will need it much more than the Soudanese proper, and it will be a grand thing for British Africa if, following the destruction of dervish tyrrany, should come peace, education, the suppression of slavery and prohibition of the liquor traffic. The extension of British power would then be justified on the highest moral grounds to the best advantage to the natives and the cause of civilization.

One of the early industries of Canada, the making of potash, has now fallen into decay, owing to the discovery of a mineral source of this material in the salt found at Strasfurth, in Germany. The potash produced from this salt is not only cheaper than the potash produced from wood ashes, but it is less variable in quality, and is therefore more valuable for use in the arts. Large amounts of potash were at one time exported to Europe, in the days when agricultural lands were cleared of their forests by fire, and before the discovery of the German mineral deposits; but this industry now has almost entirely ceased. In the United States no mineral source of potash has been found excepting in lepidolite, feldspar, orthoclase, and similar minerals, but these sources could not be worked economically. It is expected, however, that potassium chloride may eventually be found under the beds of rock salt, as is the case in Germany, and it is advised that those owning salt mines in Canada might well make experimental borings for this increasingly useful material. At Secsen, in Brunswicy, potash salts have been found under the rock salt beds at a depth of 2,190 feet, which yielded on analysis 24.14 percent of potassium chloride. The settler has now to look to his pulp-wood for the ready money he used to get from his potash. The value of wood ashes as a fertilizer is also getting to be more understood, and all the wood ashes produced should be carefully used for this purpose.

The Rockland riot case, which, after much protraction, has terminated at L'Orignal, is illustrative of a form of religious argument of which one religious denomination has almost a monopoly. An evangelistic meeting, one of the speakers in which was, or was believed to be, a converted Roman Catholic, was beleaguered by a mob of several hundred persons, who are declared by the Court to be rioters. This mob was not a chance concourse, but was gathered for a carefully planned siege, pickets having been planted to intercept the hated speaker in whatever direction he might escape. We do not see it alleged that this mob was planned or encouraged by the Roman Catholic priest, but it is of record that the priest in question so interfered on behalf of the rioters with the jury before whom they were being tried that a new trial had to be held. It might not occur to the men and boys who do the rioting, but it must surely occur to educated men who defend them and take their side, that the whole argument of persecution is against, and not for, the Church on whose behalf it is perpetrated, and that this argument becomes unanswerable when the Church becomes a sharer in such methods.

If France gets rushed into war it will be the work of an hysterical, irresponsible press, at the bidding of the now frantic and desperate anti-Dreyfusites. The Court of Cassation is redeeming France, pursuing its course with stately firmness and courage, and the result seems likely to be the rehabilitation of Captain Dreyfus and the vindication, and perhaps glorification, of the heroic Colonel Picquart. The latter, a Frenchman to the last drop of his blood, a man of great ability, successful in his career, the youngest colonel in the service, risked all his prospects and his very life by standing up against the whole army and against the very nation for justice. Little wonder if he is becoming a popular hero in France. The Court of Cassation rules France, shout the Jew-baiters bitterly, whereat level-headed Frenchmen thank God that justice reigns and take courage. There are those who say that the postponement of the court-martial of Picquart at the instance of the Court of Cassation is either the end of military domination or the beginning of a military dictatorship, they do not yet know which. The auspicious time for a coup d'etat is, however, past. Such an idea is becoming every day more unpopular. The French general staff who tried to offer Dreyfus a sacrifice for their crimes, who raised Jew-baiting riots, who planned revolution, have grown very quiet, unless we now see their hand in the fire-eating of the Paris press. Anything to smother the exposures which are pending.

Herr Bebel's criticism in the German Reichstag of acts and policy of the Emperor is a sign of the increasing boldness of the Social Democratic party, of which he is the leader. The oppressions and superciliousness of militarism and autocracy have made Germany a hotbed of socialism. At the last annual congress of German Social Democrats, held in Stuttgart, it was shown that the regular subscribers to the socialist press numbered two hundred and ninety thousand, an increase of thirty-four thousand over the year 1897. The total revenue from these publications amounted to about three and three-quarter millions of marks. Another curious fact brought out was that the total vote of the party had not increased during the year so much as it had in previous years, the explanation being that the Social Democrats had practically absorbed all the working classes in the cities, and must look to the country for further expansion. Opposition to military and naval expenditures and to costly, useless colonial enterprises is the present attitude of the party. Its principal efforts, however, are directed to the education of the masses with regard to politics and economics on the lines of the proposed co-operative commonwealth. The daring with which the socialist journalists criticise the Emperor and the government is shown by the fact that nearly all the forty odd editors now in prison for 'lèse majesté' are socialists, a fact which throws a curious light on the declaration of the Secretary of State for the Interior, in reply to Herr Bebel that the existence of the Social Democracy 'was the best proof that Germany was a country of freedom.'

As every new anomaly arises in the relations of the United States with her new dependency, British subjects realize with a humorous relish the tardy but abundant amends that time has brought for a hundred years of vilification of the mother country and her ways. The business of giving liberty to his new black babies is as confounding to Uncle Sam as such work would be to any other old gentleman who never had any children to look after. He finds that none of the principles work which he calls liberty. Liberty in the language of the United States school book has always meant freedom from foreign domination. In Uncle Sam's youth he rebelled against having to pay his share for the imperial defence by means of a customs tariff devised so as to secure all his trade to Great Britain. Yet this is exactly the way in which he has delivered Puerto Rico from Spanish monopoly. He cannot, it seems, even apply the right of free speech. The military satrap of Puerto Rico has forbade the clergy of Ponce to exercise this right. These gentlemen have simply bid their people to have no intercourse with heretics, a matter of the simplest prudence on behalf of their Church at a moment when an engulfing wave of Americanism is sweeping over the island. They have also declared the well-known principles of their Church with regard to marriage. Yet General Henry has told the Mayor that he must stop that sort of talk, or if he does not the military will. We acknowledge that it is exasperating after you have delivered a people from grinding tyranny to have their religious leaders denouncing you as not even fit to live with. The circumstances may be such as to require some departure from the rules of freedom, but then what about the tyrannies that our cousins have so long been denouncing? We should think the Irish at least would have more sense of humor about them than to count the present an auspicious time to appeal to the American people against the brutal Sassenach. The time for passing resolutions in state legislatures on that subject is gone for the present.

How a great man tosses empires about with his tongue! The figure is a funny one, we confess, but it is not more grotesque than the disproportion which there often is between words and their effects. Mr. Chamberlain attracted the German people and cemented the Anglo-Saxon entente by his Wakefield speech. Mr. Chamberlain is a man of epigrams, original and selected. He rather laid claim to that about splendid isolation. He ought to remember that Mr. Foster, of Canada, got that out just before him. Indeed, some New Brunswick journalist declared that it was not Mr. Foster's either, having appeared in his own paper before Mr. Foster ever said it. The newspaper man for his part was probably quite unconscious of having got it in one of Mr. Parker's novels. As the greatness of a saying lies largely in the greatness of the man who utters it, we must give to each of these a share in the stamping of what so rapidly became current coin. Mr. Foster's share is surely the greatest. But Mr. Chamberlain was not on the Wakefield stage like a Cheap John to vend old wares. He had a fine brace of new epigrams. He spoke of Great Britain and Germany working together as 'the greatest naval and the greatest military powers.' There is a fetching completeness in a combination like that. That expression was not new either. It would have been a platitude in a rural newspaper. Mr. Chamberlain had indeed read it in his newspaper the day before or so. Dr. Carl Peters for one had just been dwelling on the idea. Still, the Germans felt it to be great when Mr. Chamberlain said it. Then lest the Americans should lose anything of their new love for Britain or feel jealous or left out, he gave them a surpassing compliment: 'Already the United States, if regarded 'from the standpoint of potential re'sources, is the greatest of civilized 'states.' That bound another nation to him and to his country in love. The Americans had said that themselves till breath failed them, but they felt that it was not completely said till Mr. Chamberlain said it.

THE FLAG OF THE FREE.

Dr. Carl Peters's article, which we republish from the London 'Times,' which translates it from a German journal, is interesting and important for more than one reason. Dr. Peters was one of the most active agents of the German colonial party, the one who, perhaps with the exception of Weismann, did more than any one else to lay the basis of German empire in Africa. In some projects he failed. He attempted, for instance, by a military expedition from Vitu, where Germany then had set her foot, to reach and rescue Emin Pasha before Stanley reached him, and with the view of establishing Emin Pasha as governor under the German flag over Uganda and the Nile regions immediately north of Lake Victoria Nyanza. Owing in great measure to his extreme cruelties and oppression towards the natives, his expedition was a total failure, and late Dr. Peters was discredited and dismissed from the German service for his bad conduct. There was not much sorrow over his fall in England, where his savage methods were known, and also because he was a determined enemy of the British in Africa.

It is interesting, therefore, to find Dr. Peters writing to the German papers in high appreciation and praise of British sea power, of British colonial methods and of British commercial policy. He compares the British empire with the Roman empire, and to the advantage rather of the British empire, which he finds based upon a more stable, because juster, foundation. He believes that Great Britain is bound to continue what she is, the great sea power, the great commerce protector, as well as the great empire-builder outside of Europe. In this she will be joined by the United States, whose interests are along the same lines. In view of this Dr. Peters denounces the policy of German antagonism toward Great Britain, and advocates an open alliance with her. And here comes in one of the most significant of Dr. Peters's views of national development. Germany is, he says, the great land power, as Great Britain is the great sea power, and therefore their interests need not and should not clash. Dr. Peters sees, or thinks he sees, that in the not distant future Austria will be more closely connected with the German empire, and that the field for German development and colonization will be in south-eastern Europe along the valley of the Danube and in the Balkan peninsula. Destiny has therefore decreed that Germany shall throw herself across the path of Russia, in which case, of course, the understanding now existing between Russia and Germany must end.

It seems to us that Dr. Peters's view is, in this matter, the true one, and that Germans are beginning to recognize the fact that, whether they like the prospect or not, Austria will have to be taken into the empire, a policy involving a struggle with Russia for ascendency in what remains of the Ottoman empire in Europe, Asia Minor and Syria. Time must be secured, for much has yet to happen before Austria can become a part of the German empire, and time is being secured by the Emperor William's policy of friendship with the Sultan and the bolstering up and strengthening of Turkish military power in Europe, to which work German officers have devoted themselves with results which are obvious enough. Another point in connection with Dr. Peters's article is this, that Great Britain's policy of the open door throughout the empire does secure for her immunity to some degree from active antagonism in her work of colonizing. The commercial nations, which are the strong, live nations, not the decaying ones, are beginning to admit that it is to their interest that the British flag should, in preference to any other than their own flag, fly over the yellow and black nations and the tropical lands of the earth, which will afford the future great foreign markets of the industrious white races. Great Britain's free trade policy is at last making for her friends out of foes, and bringing her allies, as well as strengthening and extending her empire.

REMEMBER GORDON.

The most romantic and mistily majestic figure of the nineteenth century is Gordon. In the midst of an all trampling development of iron materialism we have in him a spiritual power of transcendent force, the man who made heroic soldiers out of as many ragged Chinamen as were given to him, and put down the greatest rebellion of the century with his walking stick and a poor smattering of pigeon English. The man who rode on a lone camel unarmed into the Soudan and took possession of vast regions unknown before, and though of a different religion, ruled millions of settled and roving Arabs with the majesty of his countenance. The man who dug up old Jerusalem, and, perhaps greatest of all in its great humility, the man who spent his spare time in being a father to street boys, has been by common consent canonized as the blameless, pure-hearted, chivalrous knight-errant of an age whose heart is for the most part encased in material things.

When the rising tide of barbarism was rolling over the Soudan, sweeping civilization before it and overwhelming the military barriers set up against it, the spirtual power of this one man seemed the only possible weapon of defence. While the world looked on with wonder, but not without faith, its hero went forth alone, save one companion, going across vast deserts to face a tempest from which all others were fleeing who could flee. That he was able to stay its course as long as he did by the mere influence of his name was hardly distinguishable from a miracle. He at last laid down his life as calmly and as unconcernedly, so far as self was concerned, as he had lived it, meeting and regarding placidly and benignantly those whom he sought to benefit, but who sought his life and took it, though not without a curious sense of reluctance. And his heroism was not in vain, did not, and has not, resulted in failure. His dust is blown about the desert sands of the Soudan, but his soul goes marching on. His nation caught flame from his spirit, and the tide of barbarism has been rolled slowly back and completely vanquished at last. Massacre and lust and cruelty and oppression, which had reigned for a time, have been blown up with lyddite and scattered in fragments by machine guns, a kind of work which Gordon never shrank from.

But still there remains the greatest part of the hero's work to be done, the building up of civilization, the promotion of the material and spirtual welfare of the Soudanese. Gordon's spirit lives, and his race has caught fire and are bent on achieving this conquest also. The beginning is the Gordon memorial Khartoum college, which General Kitchener, soldier and civilizer too, has proposed, and the success of which is assured. The United Kingdom has entered into the scheme enthusiastically. The whole empire, so closely bound together to-day, so proud of the spirit and achievements of men like Gordon, who have helped to build it, is moved by the spirit of Gordon. Canada, which has won the admiration of the United Kingdom and of the rest of the empire by its imperial spirit, will insist upon having its share in the work. The meeting held on Friday in Montreal is a beginning which will be an earnest of the success of the movement in Canada. It will be remembered that the gift of Lord Strathcona in England was a thousand pounds. If Canada can claim that it makes a lordly beginning. The list for Montreal has begun on generous terms. What is wanted here, however, is not great gifts, but many. No one should be asked to give more than his heart bids him, but every one would like to give a little to so great and so empire-building a scheme. The beginning of the subscription list appears elsewhere. The 'Witness' will see to it that any sums sent it, however small, will be acknowledged and duly added to the fund. Remember Gordon!

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND THE MILITIA.

The very pointed remarks of the Earl of Minto at the banquet given him by the Toronto Club regarding the militia department must, and should, be felt by Canadians in general, and by the members of the Canadian militia in particular, as at once a reproach and an appeal. Lord Minto's words are worth repeating and emphasizing:—

Gentlemen, there is another department of the State in which I shall always take a special interest, and that is the Militia Department. I am bound to say from what I have seen I feel sure that there is a great future for the militia force of the Dominion, judging from what I know of the Minister of Militia, and of the intentions of the general officer commanding that force. I may say that General Hutton is a very old friend of mine, and if energy and tact and knowledge of the soldier's profession can ensure success, then he is bound to succeed. But, as I am sure many of you know, the appointment of general officer commanding the militia is no sinecure. It rests with the people of Canada to support him in his command. It rests with the people of Canada to insist upon the fact that to obtain military efficiency, military machinery must be entirely unhampered by political influence.

These remarks were, we are told, greeted by the audience in Toronto, which is second only to Montreal as a military centre in the Dominion, with great applause, which we hope, being interpreted, meant that it was admitted and confessed that because of the political influence brought to bear by Canadian regimental officers in the past upon the Minister of Militia, the general commanding the militia of Canada has been at times wrongly overruled and hampered in his work, and had consequently been doomed to failure in making the militia what it should be; that, further interpreted, the 'great applause' meant that hereafter Canadians were resolved to insist upon discipline and the unquestioning obedience of the officers to the general commanding. They can only do this by bringing pressure to bear upon the Minister of Militia in favor of giving the general commanding a free hand. It is natural and fitting that His Excellency should take a peculiar interest in the militia, as Lord Minto is an enthusiastic soldier, the only soldier who has been chief magistrate of Canada since confederation, with the exception of Colonel Stanley, who, though once an officer of the Guards, who had been stationed in Montreal at the time of the Trent affair, retired from the army at the early age of twenty-six, and was appointed Governor-General at the close of a long political career. There is no department which needs thorough reform more than the militia department, and reform will not be effective unless and until the authority of the general commanding is upheld and he is given a free hand.

WEDNESDAY'S ELECTIONS.

The results of the by-elections held on Wednesday do not indicate much of a reaction of public opinion against Liberalism in any section of eastern Canada. The constituencies were scattered enough to afford a fair test, two

being in Ontario—one in the west of the province, the other in the midland region; two were in Quebec—one in the Quebec district and one in the Montreal district; and the fifth was a Maritime Province constituency. All five have elected government supporters. West Lambton, which was the home of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie for years, had been represented since it was made a constituency, in 1882, by Mr. Lister, who carried it by majorities ranging from 341 to 1,158. Dr. Johnson's majority was over seven hundred. North Simcoe was represented by the late Mr. Dalton McCarthy in every parliament since 1882, with the exception of that following the election of 1872, at the time of the Pacific scandal, when Mr. Cook, its Liberal representative of 1874, again carried it. Mr. McCarthy's nephew, running as an Independent of the same principles and policy as his uncle, was a candidate. The local Liberals put up a candidate in opposition to him, but without the support of the government, whose sympathies seem to have been with Mr. McCarthy. He has been elected by a good majority, and will probably vote with the government. Bagot, which has for thirty years been represented by Conservatives in the Dominion Parliament, was yesterday carried by the Liberals by a majority of 64 after a pretty stiff fight. Montmagny has been an uncertain constituency, having been represented turn about in the successive parliaments since confederation by Liberals and Conservatives. Mr. Choquette proved a popular man in the county, and carried it in two elections, one succeeding the other, the last by a majority of 242. Mr. Martineau, the Liberal candidate, has been elected by a sweeping majority of over five hundred. East Prince, the Prince Edward Island constituency, was only established in 1892, when it elected Mr. John Yeo, an old and prominent Liberal, by a majority of 117. Mr. Yeo accepted a senatorship, and the seat thus vacated has been carried by the Liberal candidate by a majority of over fifty. This constituency the Conservatives felt very confident of winning, and they still claim the return of the Conservative candidate. There was also a by-election to the Ontario Assembly in West Northumberland, rendered necessary by the unseating of Mr. Douglass, the Liberal member, who carried the constituency in the general elections in March last by a majority of 421. He has been returned by a majority increased to 586. The total result has been a gain of one for the Liberals.

TRADE AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The question of the threatened loss of British trade supremacy is exercising the best minds in Great Britain. The alarm is raised by the enormous expansion of the trade of Germany and the United States. Not only is their rate of increase greater than that of England, but industries which were peculiarly British have recently suffered in competition with the two countries mentioned. All along the line, in manufactures of iron and steel, in machinery, in cotton and woollen goods, in cutlery, novelties, and small goods, British commerce is being assailed. The chronic complaint of the British manufacturer being too independent to adapt himself to the peculiarities of his foreign customers is being well ventilated, and the British trade paper, 'Trade and Industry,' concludes that although the truth of this complaint has been established in some degree, the whole panacea is not to be found in its correction. The Continental nations have still the advantage in technical education. This is an old complaint, which, it was hoped, had been removed. The international exhibition in London in 1862 startled the British by revealing their inferiority in scientific, artistic and literary instruction, and they went to work with a will to set the matter right. Enormous amounts of money have been spent for this purpose nationally and locally on distinctively technical schools at South Kensington and elsewhere.

It is now questioned whether this money has been well or wisely spent from the point of view of trade. At all events, the results seem to be inferior to what they might be when comparison is made with the industrial and commercial education now given in the schools of Prussia, Saxony, Austria, Holland, Belgium and some parts of France. In the countries mentioned, what is called technical education in Great Britain is part and parcel of school life throughout its whole course, and so is instruction in commercial methods which is comparatively ignored by the British technical schools. The teaching of foreign languages is concomitant with elementary instruction of all kinds. These are the last things taught in Great Britain instead of the first. The acquirement of foreign languages and technical instruction in industrial pursuits are almost altogether disregarded in the public elementary schools. One cause for this is that the trade unionists oppose the teaching of trades in schools, and have sufficient political influence to obstruct it. The Continental youth leaves his school versed in the use of tools, instructed in commercial methods, and prepared by a knowledge of languages to aid the manufacturer and merchant of his country in expanding their trade in all markets. This leads to the conclusion that the system of technical education, industrial and commercial, requires remodelling in England. We in Canada have still more the same lesson to learn. We are, indeed, lamentably behind as compared with Great Britain. Where chances in life are more abundant young people and their parents are alike indifferent to careful training and restive about the time and earnest application it involves. Changes are coming, however, through the influx of foreign population able to do all the untrained work, which will make it worth the while of all that have advantages within their reach to use them, and worth the while of the country to put them within the reach of all.

A CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASE.

When a keen journalistic observer like Mr. Stead and a cautious diplomat like Mr. Hitchcock express enthusiastic confidence in the pacific intentions of the Czar, while Russian armies are being massed on the route to India, vast sums appropriated for naval armaments, and an openly aggressive policy pursued in China, an explanation is naturally sought for such evident contradictions. This explanation is to be found in what Mr. Herbert Thompson, a recent English traveller in Russia, has to say concerning Russian politics. 'Russia, Czar and people,' he says, 'is a slave bound hand and foot at the mercy of a corrupt, unscrupulous bureaucracy,' and he quotes Nicholas I. as saying in despair, 'Russia is governed by ten thousand stolonachalnicks' (head clerks). The same conditions exist under Nicholas II., and this bureaucracy is the actual autocracy of Russia. Successive czars sought to make this class a buttress to their power, and fed their greed, till now their strength practically overshadows every other authority in the empire. The Czar dare not attempt to reform them, for he has become in many respects of government a mere figurehead of the vast system they control. There is thus an unholy alliance between helpless absolutism and corrupt officialism with mutual distrust and cross-purposes. The Czar desires peace in order that he may have time and opportunity to regulate and control the government of his vast dominions; the bureaucracy want expansion and a warlike policy because of the opportunities such afford for plunder and aggrandizement. The Czar's peace proposals may be thus understood and appreciated, while the massing of armies and the building of battleships are explained. It should not be forgotten in this connection that there is an aristocratic russophile party in England, which is generally supposed to keep in touch with the Russian court through some of its members, and which is held to account for much that is inexplicable in British diplomacy with regard to Russia. From this party has come the impression that a conflict between the ruler and the bureaucracy is inevitable some time or other, and British sympathy is certainly on the side of the Czar.

AN OLIVE BRANCH.

Historically the government of France under Napoleon III. is regarded as theatrical in policy and corrupt in administration, but in one thing it displayed a wisdom which is lacking in the republic which succeeded it. His alliance with Great Britain bestowed inestimable advantages on France, the commerce between the two countries flourished as it has never done before or since, and the legitimate aspirations of both found ample room for expansion within the lines of mutual friendship. But the republic reversed that policy, revived the old Bourbon jealousy of Britain, and entered upon that wild career of world-grabbing which, by its extent and the methods employed for its advancement, was certain to produce the most dangerous complications. Napoleon III. had lived in England, knew its people, and wisely sought their friendship. It would be a fortunate thing for France if leading Frenchmen in the republic of to-day knew England and its people as well as he did. Their ignorance is surprising, sometimes grotesque. But, after all, it is not so much ignorance as it is wilful misunderstanding. Edward Drumont's comparison of Great Britain's attitude towards France with that of Rome towards Carthage does not walk on all fours, as Carthage was a real rival to Rome in a policy of world conquest. Carthage had probably the better right to the world, as she was, like Britain, the colonizing and commercial power, whose acquisitions were made in defence of her commerce. Rome, like France, was chiefly seeking power, and was jealous of every success of the Phoenicians, and determined that Carthage must be blotted out. This same spirit of jealousy has been the impulse of most of the foreign enterprise of France which has devoted itself chiefly to checking the expansion of British colonization. France has, however, never decreed that Great Britain must be blotted out, and Britain would be more glad than anything to let France alone, as she has abundantly proved; but what nation could stand this running all over the world planting French pickets on every line of British commerce, with a mandate to come no further, while Britain has everywhere welcomed France to an equal share in every line of commerce she has opened. M. Drumont is not a great man, but this talk of his about Britain's determination that France shall be blotted out is just the thing to appeal to a large class of Frenchmen in the nation's present despairing mood. How much better the statesmanship of the second empire in seeking the ready friendship of the only nation that can really help France to recover her balance and give her a guarantee of peace! Her leading men admit that war with Great Britain would mean terrible loss and ultimate defeat, yet the nation does not seem to be able to conquer the jealousy which has brought it face to face with so fatal a contingency. Sir Edmund Monson, speaking before the Anglo-American Young Men's Christian Association at Paris, for the second time spoke to France rather than to his English-speaking audience. He suggested as an ideal thing the coöperation of France with Great Britain and the United States in the world's civilization. This is a good offer, though a pretty vague one. It practically means that good will is better than overreaching. If Frenchmen would only act upon it, Great Britain would meet them more than half way in the matter of good will.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

It is obvious that the crisis of the French nation is reached. Our hope is that it will be passed without revolution, but if that is to come it must be soon. When the parliament opened men whispered about the danger of military domination with bated breath; now it is being fiercely discussed. The hopeful sign is that the magnates of the army staff who have hitherto been so overbearing and ferocious have ceased to swagger. Still, the best thinkers feel that the danger is great of the republic being overthrown and a military dictatorship being set up. The premier, M. Dupuy, in an apparently well-considered interview, quoted by M. de Blowitz, the veteran correspondent of the 'Times,' said:—

We have been living for twenty-eight years upon pious misunderstanding, and it is surprising that it can have lasted so long. We have placed side by side an army and a democracy. Now it is only too true that these two institutions have as their foundations contradictory principles. If you weaken the army, you imperil national independence; if you maintain its traditions and rights, civil society takes fright on behalf of liberty. It is the torment of the present generation to be thus pulled hither and thither between these two opposite ideals. We are attached to liberty, but we are bound to maintain the security of the Fatherland; it is the most sacred of duties.

What the 'traditions and rights' of the French army, referred to by M. Dupuy, which threaten civil liberty are, are easily gathered from what has been revealed by former French ministers and presidents of the course pursued by the generals who were ministers of war and at the head of the staff office. The French president once inquired of General Mercier, then Minister of War, the tenor of certain despatches received by the French War Office from the Russian War Office. He refused to communicate the contents of the despatches on the ground that the intercourse of the two war offices must be held sacred to those offices and not made known to the civil authorities. On another occasion the President inquired the reason for the mobilization on the German frontier of an unusually strong force, and the general commanding refused any explanation on the ground that the effectiveness of the army plans depended upon their secrecy. M. Poincaire, a former French minister, who belonged to the Cabinet in power at the time the Dreyfus court-martial was held, declared in the Chamber of Deputies the other day that the first the ministry heard of the arrest of that officer was from a newspaper article, some days after it took place. It seems, then, that the traditions and rights of the War Office refered to by M. Dupuy involve the management and control of the army and of the business of the War Office by the general staff, free from the interference of the civil government, including in that term the French president, the responsible Cabinet and Congress. Upon the character of that management when thus uncontrolled light has been thrown by the events of the Dreyfus and Picquart affairs, and the proceedings of the Court of Cassation.

General Zurlinden, the military governor of Paris, holds the key of the military situation, and he at first showed some inclination to resist forcibly the civil authority when he snatched Colonel Picquart from the Court of Cassation, threw him into the military prison, and appointed a court-martial to try him on some trumped up charges, in anticipation of the revision proceedings of the Court of Cassation. The postponement of this court-martial has been rendered necessary by the action of the Court of Cassation in taking possession of the documents in the case, and the release of Colonel Picquart from the military prison was regarded as certain. It has not yet taken place. If he is released it may be taken for granted that General Zurlinden's resistance to the law has collapsed.

There are two circumstances which render a coup d'etat on the part of the corrupt bureaucracy which sways the army improbable. On the one hand they have not among them all a leader who evokes any great enthusiasm among themselves, still less among the rank and file, and in the second place no one knows how the rank and file would act. It is to be remembered that at the bottom the army is the people of France, and the people of France are the army. At twenty years of age all Frenchmen not exempted by reason of physical disability now enter the army and pass three years. For twenty-six years this law has been in operation. M. Gohier, in the book which he is to be prosecuted for publishing, argues that the views and interests of the officers, and especially of the successful officers and those of the general staff, are not shared by the rank and file. Here is a quotation from M. Gohier's book which reveals the situation in the army. M. Gohier is addressing the officers:—

The army is not insulted when you are blamed. Nowadays the nation is the army. We have all served, and are liable to be called upon to serve again. In case of war we shall all be summoned. The difference between us and you is this: We have been called from our studies as lawyers, doctors, etc., from our shops, our farms, and so forth to serve in the ranks, to carry the knapsack, to sleep in the promiscuity of the barracks. All this is hard for us, and the pay is nearly nothing. You have come out of the military schools, have never had to endure any of the hardships which fall to our lot, and are incomparably better paid. Many of you have gone to the military school and have become officers simply because you desire to escape service in the ranks. You are only a little better than those who escape military service altogether by favor. It is not for you to say that you represent the army. We are the army, and you are the paid servants of the state, of which we are the voting members. It is your business to teach us the manual exercise, and for that you are salaried. You have no more right to dictate to us than the board school-master who teaches handwriting and geography. He takes charge of one part of education, and you of another, that is all; otherwise you are on a footing of equality.

If in this M. Gohier represents the political spirit of the rank and file of the army the danger of an effective rising of the army against the civil authorities cannot be great, though an ineffective revolt might of course be caused by a rash general officer, because of the habit of obedience and the effect of discipline upon the men. But a rising, to be effective, would have to command the enthusiasm of the rank and file.

PRACTICE AND PRECEPT.

The Czar wants disarmament with all the ardor of an enthusiastic young reformer, and his counsellors find it a very pleasing toy to fool him with. The Czar abhors the very idea of a partition of China or a difference with Britain, and his counsellors have assured him that Russia only seized Port Arthur in self-defence. The Czar will be more of a ruler by-and-by, but he has more to conquer at home than abroad. No doubt there have been Russian rulers of a most absolute character, but these individuals were little else than semi-savages, who governed their people in much the same fashion as a Tiberius or a Nero, a very different type of absolutism to that permitted to the mild and apparently estimable prince who now reigns at St. Petersburg. For the most part a Russian czar is himself controlled and kept within very narrow limits of autocracy by the political faction of state notables which happens for the time being to have the upper hand, and unless he is able to play off faction against faction or by military assistance overwhelm all opposition to his will, woe to the monarch who oversteps the invisible bounds which circumscribe his nominally limitless power. Of ten rulers who have sat on the throne of Russia within little more than a century, four have been assassinated, three of them by state officials, while of the other six, two were usurpers raised to the monarchy by factious regicides. While, therefore, the Czar's famous circular on disarmament was indeed earnest as far as he is concerned, it was ushered into the world through the medium of Count Muravieff, in whose honesty as a statesman it is impossible to place the least reliance, and who is at the same time all powerful in Russian governmental circles.

Acts speak louder than words, and, measured by this maxim, there is a lamentable and shameless difference between Russian precept and practice. It is unnecessary to do more than refer to the striking illustration of this fact in the feverish haste displayed in fortifying Port Arthur, regardless of cost and notwithstanding that this place is ostensibly only leased from China for a term of years. But much more serious is it that, while the attention of Europe has been centred mainly on the progress of events in the Far East, Russia is silently laying the foundation of an ice-free naval base on her north-western coast. This long-talked of naval station in the extreme north is to be connected with the railway system of the empire by a railway running from the harbor of Ecathernisk to Kimi, with a branch line to Kandalask, on the White Sea, in Russian Lapland. This new line will be 580 versts in length, and will probably be connected with the Finnish line at Joinsun, in the north of Finland, or with the St. Petersburg and Petrazavodsk Railway. Thus in a few years Russia will possess a naval station in the north which will be open all the year round, and whence her men-of-war may at will sally out into the Atlantic. The proposed large extension of the fleet is therefore easily understood.

In case of necessity Russia will be able to remove her entire Baltic fleet to the northern station, and defend the Baltic ports by means of torpedo boats and the like. It has hitherto of course been a great check upon Russia's plans that half her navy is cooped up in the Baltic every winter, and in the summer liable to be blockaded and held in check by a hostile fleet in the sound. As Cronstadt does not meet the requirements of the Russian navy in the Baltic, the port of Libau, on the Courland province coast, is now being actively converted into a first-class naval station, at enormous expense, and being practically free from ice all the year, it will undoubtedly be an important factor in the event of hostilities in the Baltic. Vast sums have already been expended on the works, and it is now intended to rebuild two huge moles, one of which is 4,900 feet in length. The harbor is also to be forthwith deepened from twenty feet to twenty-five feet, and the existing extensive fortifications are being very much enlarged and improved. These are some of the methods by which the ministers of the Czar testify their anxiety to further his desire for a disarming of the nations, and they are certainly not encouraging to those who heartily wish success to his efforts in behalf of peace.

THE MURRAY HILL WRECK.

TWO ACTIONS ENTERED, ONE AGAINST MURPHY AND THE OTHER AGAINST THE COMPANY.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 19.—Mrs. W. H. Brady has entered an action against John Murphy, the Grand Trunk telegraph operator who was on duty at Murray Hill, on Nov. 15, when her husband, W. H. Brady, was killed. She entered a charge of manslaughter, and a constable from East Northumberland served a summons here on Saturday for witnesses at the preliminary trial at Cobourg, on Tuesday. Mr. E. Gus. Porter, of Messrs. Porter & Farnham, is acting for Mrs. Brady.

Mrs. John J. Casey has entered an action for the death of her husband against the Grand Trunk Railway Company. He was a passenger on the train wrecked at Murray Hill on Nov. 15, and was on his way to Bowmanville to take charge of the engine of a freight train which had met with an accident. She claims $10,000 damages. Mr. Porter is also her solicitor.

NATIONAL SONG.

The Result of the 'Witness' Competition.

The following letter which we have just received permission to publish, gives the decision of the Canadian judges with regard to the result of the competition. The ten songs mentioned will be immediately forwarded to the Marquis of Dufferin for his final decision:—

340 Wood avenue, Dec. 7, 1898.

My dear Mr. Dougall,—The judges in the song competition have agreed upon a report. They have set aside as the ten best the songs numbered 10, 282, 291, 294, 299, 324, 531, 663, 692, 705. These are given in the order of their numbers, not in the order of their merit. The judges are unanimously of opinion that Lord Dufferin should be allowed to approach the ultimate decision with a perfectly clear mind.

Yours very truly,

J. CLARK MURRAY.

THE CASE OF DREYFUS.

The Impression Daily Growing Stronger That He Will Be Acquitted.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF MME. DREYFUS.

Paris, Dec. 17.—Mme. Dreyfus, wife of the political prisoner, is ill with pleurisy. Her condition is serious.

The 'Figaro' says that the Court of Cassation has cited Captain Lebrun Renaud to appear before that tribunal on Tuesday and testify in regard to the confession which Dreyfus is alleged to have made to him.

The Court of Cassation has authorized M. Mormard, who is acting as Dreyfus's counsel in the revision proceedings, to examine all the evidence which the Court has thus far taken in the case. This includes the testimony of ex-Minister of War Cavaignac, Generals Mercier, Billot, Zurlinden, Chanoine, Boisdeffre and Gonse, Col. Picquart and Magistrate Bertlulus.

New York, Dec. 18.—The Paris correspondent of the 'Herald,' referring to the Dreyfus agitation, says: 'As far as regards the Dreyfus affair the nation is marking time. Colonel Picquart remains in prison, the Court de Cassation is examining everybody connected in the least degree with the case. Esterhazy is in Amsterdam making spasmodic appearances and each time giving a more astounding exhibition of his entire lack of either principle or logic. One of the incidents of the week has been the letter of Prince Henri D'Orleans to Senator Rano to deny the report that he kissed Esterhazy upon the steps outside the Palais de Justice during the Zola trial. The fact is everybody seems to be trying to arrange a way of escape in the eventuality—daily growing more probable—of Dreyfus's acquittal.

'The 'Gaulois,' which one would naturally have expected to find supporting the former captain, if only on account of racial sympathy between him and Arthur Meyer, its proprietor, has really been one of Dreyfus's most violent adversaries. A leading article in it this week gives the impression of its preparing to climb down the fence, as it suggests the prosecution of M. Reinach for defamation of Colonel Henry's memory, which may provide revisionists and anti-revisionists an opportunity of investigating the whole matter in public, as no trial with closed doors is possible in a civil court.

'This looks as though the 'Gaulois' was venturing to consider the possibility of Dreyfus and Picquart's acquittal by saddling the whole affair on Henry's shoulders, thus freeing the general staff from blame. There is doubt, however, whether this is possible, as Mme. Henry, who first declared her intention to prosecute M. Reinach for his allegations that Henry was the real traitor, seems to be hesitating. She has just written to her lawyer releasing him from the duty of defending her case.

'A nice point of law has been raised as to whether the attacks directed at Col. Henry upon the evidence of his own confession can be considered as defamation of his memory and whether in this case the suit would be against Reinach. Whatever the reason, whether public or national, it appears as though the prosecution of M. Reinach would not be followed up. In such case it would be interesting to know what will become of the 34,249 francs subscribed by the sympathetic but illogical friends of Mme. Henry, through the columns of the 'Libre Parole.' Among the subscribers to this fund, which was intended to enable Col. Henry's widow to bring a suit against M. Reinach for his article in the 'Siècle,' is General Mercier, who probably has more reason to pray that Dreyfus may not be acquitted than any living being.'

Paris, Dec. 19.—The 'Soir' reports that Dreyfus will leave Cayenne on Jan. 3, and arrive in Paris at the end of January.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Annual Sales over 6,000,000 Boxes

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FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS

such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fulness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Costiveness, Blotches on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations.

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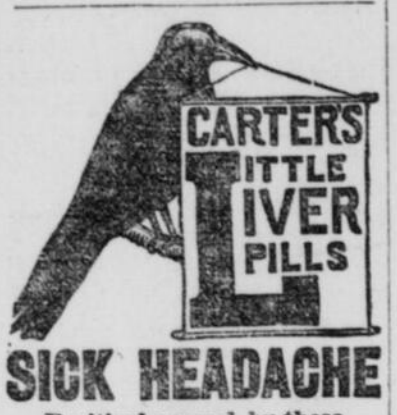
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Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

The Razor Steel, Secret Temper, Cross-Cut Saw.



We take pleasure in offering to the public a Saw manufactured of the finest quality of steel, and a temper which toughens and refines the steel, gives a keener cutting edge and holds it longer than by any process known. A saw to cut fast must hold a keen cutting edge.

This secret process of temper is known and used only by ourselves.

These Saws are elliptic ground thin back, requiring less set than any Saws now made, perfect taper from tooth to back.

Now, we ask you, when you go to buy a Saw, to ask for the Maple Leaf, Razor Steel, Secret Temper Saw, and if you are told that some other saw is as good ask your merchant to let you take them both home, and try them and keep the one you like best.

Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the 'Razor Steel' brand.

It does not pay to buy a Saw for one dollar less, and lose 25 cents per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

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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BRITAIN AND GERMANY.

The Greatest Sea-Power and the Greatest Land-Power.

A GERMAN PLEA FOR THE ALLIANCE BY DR. PETERS.

(London 'Times.')

How radical the change is that has been effected in the minds of representative Germans with regard to England and British aspirations abroad may be seen from an article in the 'Finanz-Chronik,' signed by Dr. Carl Peters, the conqueror of German East Africa and former implacable enemy of Great Britain, and beginning as follows:—

'The issue of the recent Anglo-French conflict has proved that Great Britain is still one of the great powers of Europe, and a serious factor in any calculations made by the continental military states. But it would be a grave error to believe England's position in Europe to be the essential part of her importance to the world. True, Great Britain is



DR. CARL PETERS.

one of the six Great Powers of Europe; but she is also an American, an African, an Australian, and, above all, an Asiatic Great Power. An outpost of Europe proper, the British Empire is the leading power in all the other four parts of the world, though she may have to share this leadership with the United States in America and with Russia in Asia. Britannia rules the waves; her dominion spans the five oceans of the earth, for she is the great power of our age, just as Rome was the great power within the narrower confine of the ancient world. With her twelve millions of square miles, she owns more than one quarter of the terra firma on the face of the globe, and the four hundred millions of souls under her sway form one quarter of all the human race.

'But Germany is a Continental great power in the truest sense of the word, and with all her transmarine interests her character is, in all essential points, of a thoroughly Continental nature. To this very day about forty-seven percent of her people depend upon agriculture for a living; and her military power, the basis of her political power, is represented by her land forces. The statement that Germany's future lies on the seas is correct in so far only as the sea will play the part of assisting in determining the future course of the empire. An increasing fraction of Germany's inhabitants is becoming dependent on industries and, consequently, upon transmarine commerce. But the class supplying the army and thus sustaining the present order of things is to-day, as a century ago, the agricultural population, the firmest pillar of the military monarchy of the Hohenzollerns. Besides it is by no means settled that the future development of Germany will be evolved exclusively from her transmarine relations. It is distinctly possible that future events may bring about a much closer connection between Austria and the German Empire, and that then the activity of our people would be diverted in a higher degree than ever before to the Continental task of colonizing the Danube countries, that huge work of economics and civilization. But this would involve an opposition of interests to Continental Russia, and not to England, the sovereign of the seas.

'The general position of the two nations in the world, as sketched above, does not, then, produce a natural animosity of interests as a thing of necessity. On the contrary, it is well imaginable that the greatest power at land and the strongest power at sea should hold together in politics and thus share the rule of the earth.'

Dr. Peters can discern none but economic interests in opposition, and of these he believes the first, the colonization of the surplus populace, to be immaterial, since German emigrants are welcomed in every British colony and treated just like Englishmen. As regards the second critical question, commercial competition, he believes it impossible that modern commerce should risk a war for possible commercial gain, however great, since the absolute disorganization of its complex machinery would be too expensive a price.

'Besides, the strongest power at land and the greatest power at sea could find no real points of vantage against one another. It has become usual to draw on the precedent of Rome and Carthage for an example of a war of that description, but that is perfectly wrong. In point of fact, Rome was only able to conquer Carthage by virtue of a superiority just as distinct at sea as on land. Not one engagement at sea of any importance was won by the Carthaginians over the Romans during the Punic wars. The great battles of Mylae, Ekhomos, and Panormos, are one and all Roman victories. Repeatedly Roman armies found their way to Africa over the sea, whilst Hannibal was compelled to march all round the Western Mediterranean in order to reach Italy; for Rome, and not Carthage, was mistress of the seas. A victory of a terrestrial power over a maritime power did not come into question at all in that conflict. Hence their comparison with the two modern great powers is illegitimate, and it is high time to get rid of that historical fiction once and for ever.

'Germany will never be able to fight England unless in alliance with Russia and France. But the antagonism of interests between these three Continental powers, 1,000 years old in the case of France and Germany, and in appreciable proximity between Germany and Russia on the Danube and in the 'Near East,' seems to exclude the chances of such an alliance becoming a fact. Isolated, Germany will not see even its most heroic efforts produce a fleet equal to that of Great Britain, since the latter country would always keep abreast with the progress of Germany, and would have the immense advantage of not being obliged to possess the best army in the world. For England has no terrestrial borders to protect, whereas Germany is bordered on three sides by Continental military states, and has an outlet to the sea on none but the fourth side.'

Such a suicidal competition is strongly deprecated by Peters, who points out that the huge federation towards which the British Empire is steering is essentially defensive, whilst the Roman Empire was esentially offensive.

'The British Federation, which may be expected to include the United States of North America, does not threaten the nationality of any outsiders, and is no danger to international commerce, as a Russian or French world-wide empire would be, as long as the "open door" is maintained by the English—i.e., the Englishman and foreigner are treated alike at the customs-house. So long as the English idea of "a fair chance for everybody" is maintained in every country under the Union Jack, the commercial interests of the other nations can do without a war A outrance. This is, indeed, the real root of the virtue of that system, and that system will rule the future ages, because it indicates with the greatest precision the lines on which the international commercial unity of the world, already rising at history's horizon, must take its progress—the principle of autonomous self-government and of civil liberty, the standpoint of "a fair chance for everybody," and the commercial programme of the "open door" for all merchants in the world. Were Great Britain to break down, this development of humanity towards commercial unity would also be arrested for time immeasurable. Will Germany lend a hand in stopping this progress?'

Dr. Peters denies the faculty of properly nursing colonies of her own to Germany with her officialdom, and continues:—

'The following alternative presents itself: Will Germany join the grand commercial system of Great Britain, clasping the whole world, or will it fight it and attempt to occupy its place itself?

'In the first case, Germany must enter into treaties with England which are based upon mutual advantages. The German Empire, with its army corps, has realities to offer to the Anglo-Saxon Empire like no other nation in the world. It can protect Great Britain's back when this nation has to face great Continental combination on the field of high politics. Conversely, England can keep the doors beyond the seas open to Germany's emigrants, commerce, and general enterprise.'

Dr. Peters closes with a forcible indictment of German political methods as displayed in the past. 'As England's ally Germany's political and commercial position in Central Europe is secured for centuries to come; by fighting England she might obtain the hegemony of the world. But the hegemony of the world has never been exclusively gained on battle-fields, and will ever run to nothing if not based upon great civilizing ideas. In return for the loss of their nationality, Rome offered the nations the commercial unity of the Mediterranean; England brings the commercial unity of the entire planet. What has modern Germany to offer? The Prussian Assessor followed up by the privy councillor is hardly an acceptable equivalent for the confirmation of self-government and "a fair chance for everybody." I have every reason to suspect that even the Boers of South Africa would lack in enthusiasm when realizing the change.'

The appreciation of the fundamental differences between the colonizing talents of Germany and England respectively was, in the opinion of Dr. Peters, one more of Bismarck's achievements.

Dr. Peters concludes as follows:—

'The great northern branch of the Teutonic race which occupied the British Islands, has, happily for mankind, not only received the proud spirit of conquest but also the gifts of equity and honest appreciation of "the person's worth," and upon the latter, in the last resort, is built the entire Anglo-Saxon system all over the world.'

THE CZAR INTERVIEWED.

Mr. Stead's Pretty Account of His Visits.

AS TOLD TO A FRENCH JOURNALIST.

The following is the full report of Mr. Stead's recent visit to the Czar:—'I am, as you may see, very enthusiastic about the Sovereign whom I have just met. I have had in my long career the honor of being received by a certain number of kings and emperors, but I have never met one who combines in such a degree a deeper and more accurate vision of things as they are with a higher and nobler sense of his duty and a more natural kindness.

'During the long hours in which I have been permitted to listen to him I remained under the spell of his ready, refined and earnest utterance. The conversation took place in English, in which the Czar expresses himself with the utmost correctness and without the slightest accent. When I was introduced into his study he rose to meet me with the simplicity of a simple average man, and his first words were, 'I am going to offer you a cigarette, because I cannot talk if I do not smoke.' Of course the conver-



THE CZAR NICHOLAS II.

sation turned on the relations between England and Russia. The Czar did not conceal from me that they were not what they ought to be. 'For two years,' he said, with a certain sadness in his voice, 'your papers, and especially the 'Times,' have constantly sought to embitter the differences which have occurred between the Queen's Government and mine. You know that I am a great reader and that I like to keep up with what is going on. For instance, last night I read myself to the Empress Mr. Courtney's speech, which was published in the papers of yesterday. But what grieves me is that your statesmen themselves seem to wish to follow in the steps of your journalists, and lately Mr. Chamberlain did not appear to me to be a very enthusiastic Russophil.'

'I replied that it was, nevertheless, my conviction that England would loyally support all his efforts for the convening of a disarmament conference, and I took the liberty at the same time to express to His Majesty my deep satisfaction with his noble enterprise. "There is finally," I said "some hope of a long and lasting universal peace." "A hope!" replied the Czar somewhat abruptly; "I have enough hopes; I am getting tired of hopes; I want something more tangible and practical," and with an admirable lucidity, with an ardor born of the matter in hand, he developed his ideas before me and his views of disarmament, explaining to me the nature of the solution which he thought possible in the circumstances. "There are," he said, "three points on which an entente of the various powers could be realized. First, they might bind themselves until further notice to make no increase in existing armaments; they would decide only to maintain their existing armaments, and even to perfect them, but not to increase them. Secondly, this state of things could be maintained for five years, at the end of which the powers could meet again and discuss afresh whether these restrictions should be maintained or abandoned, and they would fix the duration of the new period for which they would make a similar engagement. Thirdly, they would settle their attitude in case of menace or prospective hostilities.

'"What I would like is that they should proceed as in a duel. When two men are on the point of coming to blows, before anything else they discuss the importance of the offence and the conditions of the fight. Each man chooses his seconds, and sometimes these seconds appeal to an arbiter. Very well; it would be the same for the powers. For instance, take the Fashoda affair, now just settled. England would have taken as a second the United States, and France would have taken Russia. The United States and Russia would have heard the reasons and explanations of the two parties. The two seconds would have examined and weighed them in their prudence and justice and then given their verdict. If, by chance, they did not come to an understanding, they would have recourse to an arbiter—the Emperor Francis Joseph, for instance—and he would have given the casting vote. Perhaps the verdict would not always be accepted; perhaps, in spite of all efforts, war might ensue; but, in any case, while the seconds were discussing the affair a certain period of time would have elapsed, and the two parties in dispute, calculating the consequences of hostilities, would finally lean towards peace rather than war.'

'Such, in his own language, is the scheme of Nicholas II. He returned to it several times during our talk, for this is evidently the subject which at present he has most at heart. It is in the name of this peace of which he wishes to be the promoter that he protested in indignant terms against the idea recently imputed to him of urging France and England into a conflict. "I am aware," said he, with emotion, "that certain French and English papers have recently declared that Muravieff encouraged France to take an uncompromising stand and that we urged her not to recoil before hostilities. This is monstrous. How could I have done this three months after my circular on disarmament?"

'"I had," continued my interlocutor, "two interviews with the Emperor on two separate days at Livadia. My first visit was rather suddenly interrupted. In fact, while the Czar was talking, I beheld, through the bay window looking on the garden, the Empress walking slowly up and down among the flowers, and I knew that she was waiting, perhaps impatiently, the close of the interview, as it was the hour of luncheon. "Sire," I then ventured to say to him, "the last time I had the honor of seeing your august father, after three-quarters of an hour's conversation, ignorant as I was of the customs of the Court, and fearing to be importunate, I myself rose to leave. 'Well, well,' said he gently, 'this is the first time that I have been dismissed.' I should not like to draw down upon my head an observation even so paternal from your Majesty, but I shall respectfully ask you kindly to dismiss me, for I see that Her Majesty the Empress is awaiting you." The Emperor laughed and said, "Off with you, then, but come back the day after to-morrow, when we will have another talk." I came back and we had another long conversation, the chief points of which I shall reveal to the public later on.'

'I asked my eminent interlocutor—every one will understand my curiosity—whether during these long interviews there had ever been any mention between them on the interminable frightful affair which is holding in suspense the life of the "friendly and allied nation." "No," he said; "I several times had on the tip of my tongue the name of the man to whom you allude, but I dared not utter it. I can give you, all the same, if you wish it, an indication as to the state of opinion in regard to him in Russia. You know that a play entitled "Dreyfus" is now being played all over Germany, and that together with the ex-Captain, who is naturally supposed innocent, figure the principal personages of the drama. This play is an enormous financial success, and at the end of each act the curtain is raised five or six times in the midst of wild applause. This piece has been translated into Russian, and now for a month the Imperial management of the St. Petersburg theatres has been assailed with requests to authorize its presentation. Requests have come in from the most out-of-the-way corners, from the Caucasus and the Urals. Of course they have all been pitilessly refused, but this is all I can say; the Czar himself did not utter the name in my presence."'

OUIDA'S LETTER TO A BOY.

A short time ago little Willie Strange, son of Alderman Strange, of Eastbourne, England, was fined for having allowed a pet dog to be at large unmuzzled. The little boy produced a money-box in court and paid the fine in small coins. Ouida, having seen an account of the case in the foreign newspapers, sent the youthful defendant the following autograph letter from Italy:

My Dear Boy,—I have seen your action, as recorded in the papers, with much pleasure. Any devotion you pay to your dog will be repaid to you a thousandfold by his affection. 'Tis only men who betray those who befriend them. The muzzling craze is a brutal folly and a disgrace to England. Accept this little half napoleon for your savings box, and if ever I can be useful to you or your dog, command me. I remain yours, with much sympathy.

OUIDA.

—'Tit-Bits.'

A MAN-EATING TIGER.

A BLIND MAN'S ADVENTURE.

A blind man, unarmed, laid his hand upon a free tiger and lived, unhurt, to tell the tale; lived, nevertheless, to meet untold affliction, and to wish that he were dead. It is a most extraordinary adventure even in the thrilling annals of beast-ridden India. The tiger was a man-eater of Mysore, for which the government had offered a reward of 500 rupees. Many were his exploits. He would bound into a crowd of travellers on the high road and bear one of them away, or snatch the driver from the seat of a creaking bullock cart. He would even enter villages and break into huts with great blows of his powerful paws and drag forth his prey.

There was a poor Dher, a low-caste man, who was not allowed to live in the village, but dwelt with his wife and baby in a low hut on its outskirts. He was poor, very poor, and blind.

One night this man was waked by a strange shuffling, snuffling noise in the hut.

Upon the nameless odors of an Indian interior two new smells impressed themselves. He knew what they meant later.

The man called; no voice answered. Night was as day to his sightless eyes. He crawled about the hut with a blind man's noiseless step, feeling his way with tremulous, extended hands. He neared the corner of the hut where his wife lay, prone upon the floor, and stooped. Wrist deep his inquiring hand thrust itself into yielding fur. In a flash he knew; he had heard and smelled the tiger in his hut; had punched the great man-eater's ribs. He waited death. One startled instant the tiger waited; then bounded from the hut, quick to suspect danger in the blind man's apparently bold advance, leaving him unscathed.

The Dher was left alone. Lower he stooped, until his hands rested upon the lifeless forms of his wife and child; were dabbled in the red flood that gushed from their mangled bodies where the great brute's noiseless paw had fallen.—Colonel Trevor, in 'Wide Awake Magazine.'

THE ENGINEER'S LAST RUN.

(Philadelphia 'Saturday Evening Post.')

'At about eleven o'clock one night, five years ago, I received a message to call at a house in a poor section of the town. After some difficulty I found the place, and entered the sick room. There on a bed lay an engineer. Around him were gathered several of his companions.

'At a glance I saw that the poor man's case was hopeless. He was already wildly delirious, and at times his ravings took a serious aspect. As the clock on the mantel-piece struck twelve — the schedule time for his train to leave—he became restless.

'He arose in bed and made a motion as if pulling a lever. "Ah!" he cried "she starts as easily as ever; there goes the signal tower; now for the long bridge! Aha! how she spins; runs up the St. Joe like the wind. Twenty-two miles, one stop for water, one stop for railway crossing, and thirty minutes gone. Good time."

'Then he would become quiet as the grave for a moment. "She's got the crossing; there she goes." His watchers looked at one another—could he have power of second sight to watch the movements of the train?

'One of the men was sent to the dispatcher's office a few blocks away. The engineer called out a way-station and said, "Four minutes lost; why could she not do without water? Aha! watch her pound sand now. Isn't she a perfect beauty?"

'The man returned from the telegraph office, and quietly whispered to his companions that their comrade was following the train exactly. And the strange thing about it all was that his engine, No. 223, had not been used since the engineer was taken sick, because the foreman of the round-house had wished to gratify the whim of its sick engineer. The fact that he knew that the engine was running, and that he could so closely follow its movements, caused a feeling of awe to come over the boys, and I must confess that it seemed weird and unearthly even to me, who was accustomed to see all forms of delirium.

'Apparently the sick engineer was in a trance. The boys all crowded nearer The family was called. Then he sat erect, looking wildly about him, and cried, "Tiffin! Red light! Stop for orders!" (here he held up his hand as if reading an order.) "Train number second five, engine 223. Prepare to meet thy God!" Then he fell back dead.

'For a moment the boys sat speechless. One rushed to the dispatcher's office and cried, "Stop second five at Republic." There was a wait of breathless anxiety, then back from the wires came the answer, "Second five is stopped. What for?" By this time the story was known in the dispatcher's office, and the answer was soon received in Republic: "Had a terrible presentiment. Tell conductor to proceed cautiously to junctions." Hardly had the answer gone when Attica called to "Stop second five at Republic; first five wrecked a mile west of here. Engine off. Engineer killed!"

'And there the man who had saved scores of lives lay a corpse at home, surrounded by his sorrowing family.'

'Well,' said the girl from Boston, 'they try to explain these cases of presentiment along natural lines, but there are cases such as that which you have just related from your own experience, Doctor, which seemingly defy explanation. I read of a somewhat similar case given by John Ruskin.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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MILLIONNAIRE IN JAIL FOR LIFE.

Mixed Up in a Cemetery Scheme,

DOES BUSINESS AND HIS OWN HOUSEKEEPING IN A TEXAS PRISON.

(New York 'Herald.')

Think of the great commonwealth of Texas being held up by six feet of clay, named Thomas E. Tinsley! He defies the power of the largest state in the union to make him show his books to the Courts. It is all about a cemetery, and the amount involved is so small as to make it seem ridiculous for a millionnaire to spend his life in jail on account of it. For the point of this story is that Tinsley could be released in an hour if he would show his books. But he won't.

Tinsley is a millionnaire. He was formerly a New York business man. It is claimed that he is a miser of ability with the brain of a Philadelphia lawyer.

Years ago he heard that one could get 'twice his wish' in Texas. He looked at the map and found that a journey from Florida to Lake Erie would barely reach across Texas the longest way. And it was true. The state is larger than England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with the Isle of Man thrown in. All this magnitude, the vast stretches of prairie and upland, the undeveloped resources, the lovely climate and howling cry for capital were a dynamo magnet to Tinsley. He could not resist the attraction.

So one day, with an eye to hundred percent investments, Tinsley set sail for the flourishing city of Houston. On his arrival he heard that the municipal bonds had defaulted and could be bought at low figures.

As a flyer he bought $100,000 worth at a nominal price, and later forced a settlement, it is alleged, at par. Every time he shook the tree of his planting the golden chestnuts fell in showers into his vaults. He soon became the owner of large blocks of railway stocks and other securities which he considered gilt edged.

A CEMETERY GOLD MINE.

But nothing so completely captivated his fancy as an offer of stock in the prosperous Glenwood Cemetery. As they say in England, it was a 'going concern.' There was hardly an hour when the cemetery bell was not tolling. The best dressed doctors and the highest priced drug stores did not seem to turn the death tide to an ebb. Every day funerals clamoring for admission at the big gates made the scene like a busy afternoon in Leadville.

In the old days it had been said of Texas that it was so healthy down there that the undertakers had to shoot a man to start a graveyard. But time brought changes and revenge. French bonnets, the advent of New York restaurants and patent plumbing sent up the death rate with a bound.

So Millionnaire Tinsley felt justified in preparing for old age and leaving his family well provided for. He bought a controlling interest in the Houston cemetery. It is the largest in the state. For years it had been run on an old-fashioned, cheap basis. The annual payment of five dollars by each lot holder enabled the superintendent to keep the grounds in apple-pie order, the walks beautifully gravelled, the weeds exterminated, lovely flowers of every kind and color calculated to make the place an inviting retreat for the living as well as the dead blooming in clusters and tiers, with proper shade trees, cypress, magnolias and weeping willows, to make it the bon ton funeral resort of the great southwest.

REDUCED EXPENSES TO INCREASE DIVIDENDS.

Millionnaire Tinsley took a Russell Sage view of the situation. With a sort of Delaware and Lackawanna eye to economy, he discharged most of the laborers and installed his own personal representative as secretary and manager of the enterprise. With a keen railroading instinct he cut off the water which was used on the flowers and the lawns, and turned it loose on the stock. The price of lots was raised from fifty to two hundred percent. He allowed the driveways to become ragged with weeds and briars; the little rustic bridges were permitted to decay until hearses and carriages could no longer cross the ravines which so picturesquely diversified the landscape features of the cemetery.

This miserly, stock jobbing pinching of the goose that had been laying the golden egg incensed the stockholders. They clamored for reform and dividends. Neither appeared. Tinsley, it is alleged, claimed that the lot owners were delinquents, so he put on the screws and showed the natives that he was not there for his health.

The bustling city of Houston arose in its wrath. The meanness of the Yankee millionnaire spread through the state. When boys shouted a name similar to Tinsley dogs responded, and nothing too mean could be said against the miser.

Public indignation finally culminated in mass meetings. Resolutions were passed and petitions sent to Tinsley, protesting against his mercenary insults to the cemetery and the friends of the dead. But the Texas people received no response to their protests.

Exasperated to desperation, the lot owners, with some of the minority stockholders, then applied to Judge Sam H. Brashaer, of the Cricuit Bench, for a receivership. The judge appointed Captain William Christian receiver and ordered Tinsley to turn over to him all the books and documents of the property. Tinsley's answer was immediate departure for New York, where, it is alleged, he remained until the following year.

ALL TEXAS COULDN'T CATCH HIM.

A warrant was issued for his arrest, but he was not captured. In November, 1896, Judge Tod, successor to Judge Brashear, learning that Tinsley had finally returned, cited him to appear in court and show cause why he should not turn over the books of the corporation, or be held in contempt of court.

Again the millionnaire was stubborn, and he was fined $100 and sent to jail until he should purge himself of contempts. The grim prison, the stony countenance of the keeper, and the babel of the prisoners, who made the night hideous with their blasphemy, had no effect upon the delicately reared New York millionnaire. He took to jail life as young ducks are said to take to Cony Island surf. He was a second edition of that other millionnaire, White, who recently languished in our Brooklyn, N.Y., dungeon, and defied magistrates and courts when ordered to produce his books in the case wherein he had been appointed administrator, but he did not 'administrate' or render an accounting.

The Texas miser was equally contumacious, stubborn and mulish. As soon as he had eaten his first meal of Mexican slapjacks he sued out a writ of habeas corpus. The case was referred to the Court of Appeals, and the imprisonment sustained.

But this did not dismay the miserly millionnaire. What did he care for South-western law, while he had enough money in reach to sink a Rio Grande ferry-boat? He carried the case to the Supreme Court of the State, though again his larks did not fly, and the appeal was dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

Still he again tightened his cinch, took it up another row of holes, and applied to the Federal District Court for release on the ground that he was not a citizen of Texas, but a resident of New York.

Beaten again was the verdict. However, the millionnaire kept the lawyers busy. He appealed to the United States Supreme Court, the highest tribunal under McKinley, yet still again the case went against him.

This was in the autumn of 1897.

For once he threw his ducats around freely, giving 'tips' to the jailer and his experts, sending messenger-boys for lawyers and keeping the old jail warm for twenty-four hours a day with his law business. And this was not all. He managed to secure a writing-table and enough paraphernalia to run his affairs as completely as if he were at home beside his big office safe.

His next coup was that he was a subject of Great Britain. He said he had not been naturalized, and as a British subject he called on the British Consul, it is alleged, for justice, as his property, he averred, had been confiscated and he illegally restrained of his liberty. He failed again.

Later another claim was set up that he should be released, as his contempt was not that of an individual, but of an officer of a legally incorporated and chartered company, and that as such he (Tinsley), the individual, was simply carrying out the orders of Tinsley, the president of the Glenwood Cemetery Company.

Having now become familiar with his plan of campaign, the court officials did not faint away, and Judge Tod refused to release the millionnaire until he turned over his books, with $528 in cash, and $2,000 in notes belonging to the company.

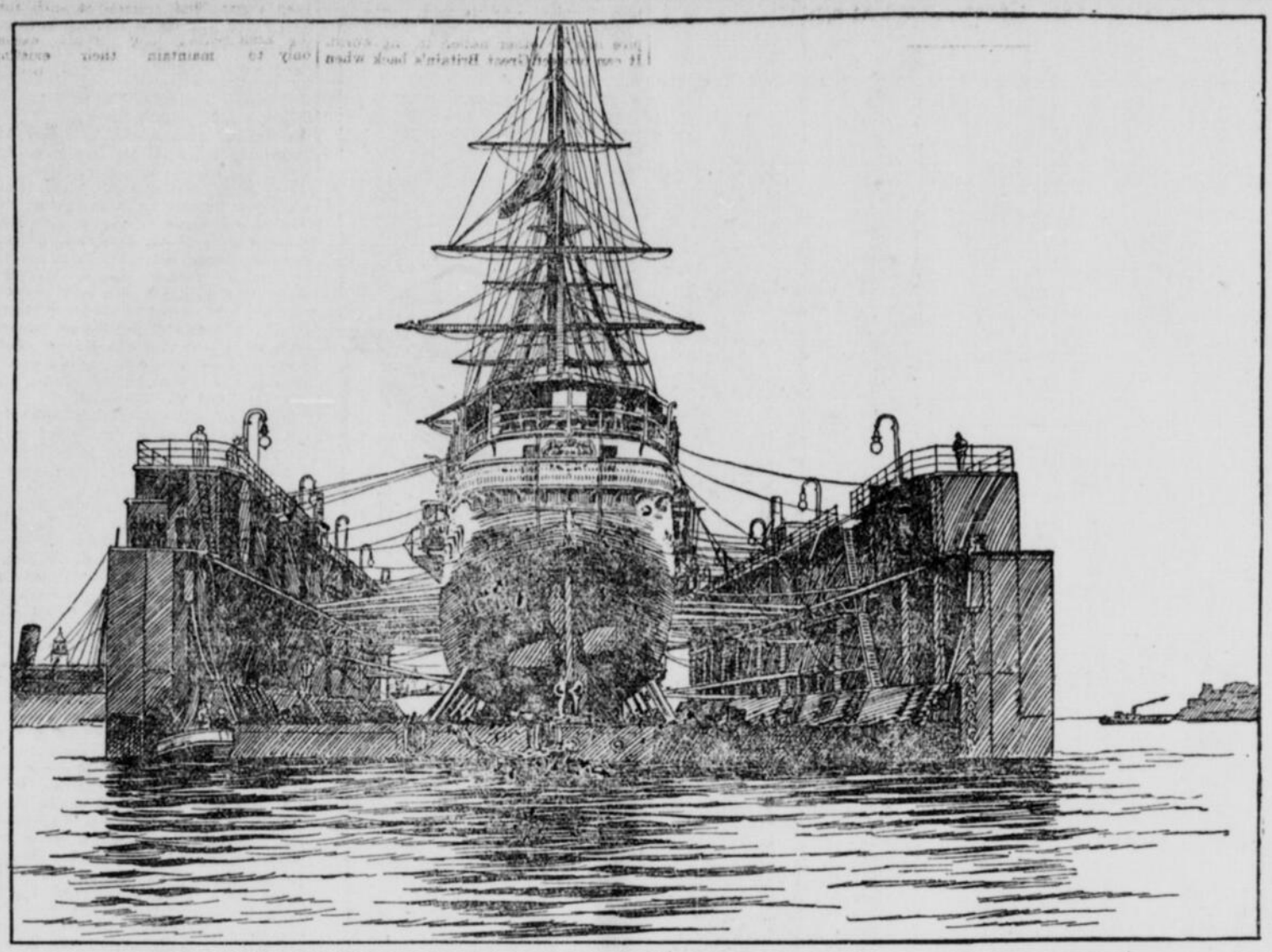
Another interesting feature of this extraordinary case is the ingenious ways in which Tinsley has harassed the officers of the law at every turn. He has saved money by going to jail—in the shape of office rent, fuel, clerk hire, insurance, gas and other incidentals. He is allowed to furnish his cell with chairs and table, and here he conducts all his business and holds intercourse with the public as if he were in a $10,000 set of business parlors on the main street, with a colored boy in gold lace to tend the door. All he lacked was his office sign above the jail entrance.

HE MAKES LIFE WORTH LIVING.

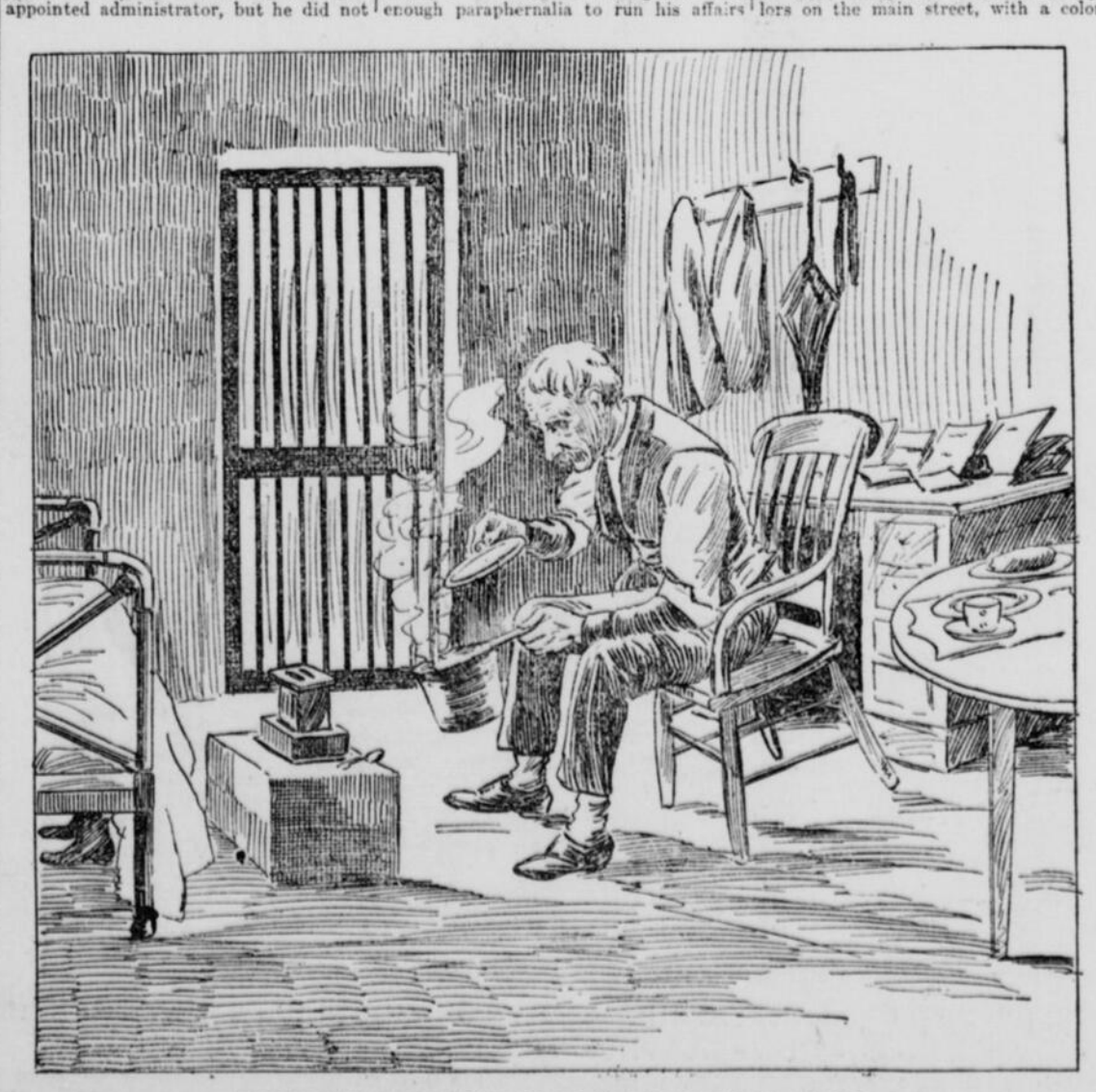
And he economizes in other ways. Instead of having his meals sent in from the Delmonico of the town, he has bought a second-hand oil stove for seventy-five cents, and thereon he scrambles eggs, bakes pancakes, cooks bacon, and makes a glorious brand of New York coffee that sets the prisoners wild. The delicious aroma of his Java and Mocha mixed leaves the common forty rod stuff with other poisons to add to the business of the cemetery, of which Tinsley thinks he is still president.

As Judge Tod's term will not expire under two years it is safe to say that the miserly millionnaire of Texas will have plenty of time for studying law and baking pancakes during his controversy with the Texas law courts.

Tinsley is described as a man of from fifty-five to fifty-eight years old, about five feet five inches in stature, with a close-cropped gray moustache, small features and bright gray eyes. The centre of his head is bald, and is surrounded by a fringe of silver hair. He is a miser, compared to whom most penurious men are prodigals. He looks cadaverous, so weazened are his drawn features.



STERN VIEW OF HAVANA FLOATING DOCK WITH THE 'ALFONSO XII.' DOCKED.



TINSLEY SCRAMBLING EGGS IN HIS CELL.

THE TRANSVAAL.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN WILL NOW ATTEND TO MR. KRUGER.

The visit of Sir Alfred Milner, the Governor of Cape Colony, to London, has, according to a cable despatch, for its object to confer with Mr. Chamberlain on matters relative to the wrongs of British subjects in the Transvaal.

The 'Pall Mall Gazette' says:—We have it on the highest authority that Sir Alfred has been called upon principally to discuss the state of affairs in the Transvaal, particularly with reference to several breaches of the convention reported by Mr. Conyngham Greene from Pretoria.'

The article which Mr. Kruger chiefly ignores is No. 14, which provides that all persons, other than natives, conforming to the laws of the South African Republic, will have full liberty to enter, travel, and reside in any part of the South African Republic, and will not be subjected to other taxation than that imposed upon citizens of the republic.

It is held by Her Majesty's advisers that this article of the convention has been broken, in spite of protests by our representatives, by the Transvaal legislation respecting Cape 'boys' and Asiatics who are British subjects. Mr. Kruger has turned the screw of oppression many times since 1896. Mr. Chamberlain's idea, however, says the 'Pall Mall Gazette,' was to allow the offences to accumulate—to give Mr. Kruger plenty of rope, and to pull him up short when the proper time came. The time has come now. The Transvaal is bankrupt; Mr. Leyds has unsuccessfully canvassed Europe for a loan; Germany has withdrawn her support; Delagoa Bay will soon be ours; the Transvaal is friendless and alone, and the Boers, realizing their helplessness and isolation, will be more ready to believe Mr. Chamberlain when he tells them his order is 'As you were.'

Sir Alfred will further discuss affairs in Rhodesia, the state of Basutoland, which he recently toured in; and the reported impending cession of Portuguese East Africa to Great Britain. Mr. Conyngham Greene, Her Majesty's agent at Pretoria, is still here, and will be called in to the conferences.

FLOATING DOCKS.

INFORMATION CONCERNING THEM AND COMPARISON WITH GRAVING DOCKS.

The question of a dry dock is now one of great interest to Montrealers, by reason of the fact that the government has forced the construction of one upon the Harbor Commissioners. The choice now lies between the building of a graving dock or a floating dock, and there seems much to be said in favor of the latter. Certainly is this the case unless the graving dock is to be built upon the most secure of foundations, and the sites from Maisonneuve to Longue Pointe are about the worst possible that could be chosen for the purpose, as the engineer's report clearly proves. If it were a case of choosing a graving dock with a rock bottom foundation, such as the commissioners possess on their own property, the conclusion might be different; but as the site is to be chosen and the dry dock built for purely political purposes, the most unsuitable sites in the harbor have been exploited. There can be no question that a floating dock would be more economical and useful than a graving dock built upon any of the east end sites. Floating docks have long since passed the experimental stage and they are among the most successful docks now in general use.

The almost tideless shores of the North American continent may be termed the nursery of the floating dock, and there are even to-day twenty-three floating docks in the port of New York and only five graving docks. Another natural feature favoring the growth of these docks in America is the extreme difficulty experienced in many ports in obtaining a good foundation for a graving dock, floating docks are quite independent of such considerations. The principle upon which a floating dock works depends upon the fact that if any quantity of water be removed from the interior of a hollow submerged vessel of any form, the upward pressure exerted by the surrounding water is exactly equal to the weight of the water that has been removed. And herein lies one of the great advantages which a floating dock possesses over a graving dock, inasmuch as the energy to be expended in lifting a ship is exactly proportional to the work to be done, plus a small constant. Thus, for a small ship, a small amount of water has to be pumped out of the dock to lift her; whereas, in a graving dock, the smaller the ship, the greater is the space in the dock unoccupied by her, and consequently the more water has to be pumped out, and it is only in the case of the largest ships which the dock can contain that the two systems approach one another in economy of working.

A pamphlet recently issued gives some interesting details of the cost of graving docks in the United States. The cost of granite and concrete docks, for instance, that at Mare Island, is given at £400,000 (about $2,300,000). All the timber docks on the other hand seem to cost on an average about £110,000 (say, $550,000). In point of size, however, it must be remembered, these docks are not large enough to deal with the battleships of the United States navy. The Brooklyn No. 3 wooden dock, which was built to accommodate such vessels, appears to have cost already £135,000 ($675,000) and is not yet in a fit state to receive them. On the other hand, the steel floating dock at Havana, as shown in the illustration herewith, would take such vessels as the 'Indiana,' or even those of a heavier type, and it only cost £119,000 ($595,000) delivered complete at Havana; that sum including the cost of towing it to Havana, a distance of 6,700 miles, with the heavy attendant insurance premiums. The floating dock at Stettin, which would also deal with these vessels, cost delivered in Stettin, including towage and insurance, £91,000 ($455,000). This Stettin floating dock, it is claimed, would also take such liners as the 'St. Louis,' and with the assistance of smaller existing pontoons, the mammoth 'Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse.' The difference between the estimated cost of a floating dock and a graving dock is also to be noted. In the former, with a fixed specification, any shipbuilder can and will give a definite quotation and will not fear being bound under heavy penalties as to completion and time of delivery. There are no eventualities or unknowns to be feared in such a construction. In a graving dock on the contrary, where it may be required to dig down into soil fifty or sixty feet, about which at best but little can be known, large sums must be reckoned upon for contingencies, such as land slips, unsuspected springs, etc., and it is a lucky graving dock which gets completed within the original estimates and the stated contract time.

Another thing that may be said in favor of floating iron docks, is, that, being built in sections, as the type of vessels change, the size and shape of such docks can be adapted thereto. The feats that are done in the way of lengthening vessels can be much more easily carried out in the case of the simpler structure of a floating dock, and is quite a different question from the enlargement of a graving dock of any sort, which, unless such enlargement be restricted solely to length, really means total reconstruction.

THE WINNING OF THE 'FORMIDABLE.'

(Edward Fraser, in 'Navy and Army Illustrated.')

Last Sunday was the one hundred and thirty-ninth anniversary of a very famous battle—of a victory that in our naval annals ranks second only to Trafalgar. And the British nation may be said to have commemorated it with special emphasis a week ago in the launch at Portsmouth of the new mighty first-class battleship 'Formidable.'

'"Twas long past noon of a wild November day
When Hawke came swooping from the West;
He heard the breakers thundering in Quiberon Bay,
But he flew the flag for battle, line abreast.
Down upon the quicksands roaring out of sight
Fiercely beat the storm-wind, darkly fell the night,
But they took the foe for pilot and the cannon's glare for light,
When Hawke came swooping from the West.'

Hawke's trophy of the victory of Nov. 20, 1759, was the flagship of the French admiral second in command, the second finest ship in the French navy of the time—the 'Formidable,' of eighty-four guns. Two French seventy-fours foundered suddenly, with every soul on board, in the heat of the battle; another seventy-four, and the French flagship, the magnificent 'Soleil Royal,' were run ashore and burned on the morrow of the battle; others were wrecked later; one prize only was brought off to grace the victor's triumph and be enrolled under her original name on the British navy list. That was the splendid three-decker from which the battleship 'Formidable,' just launched, through a continuous line of 'Formidables' of our own, directly inherits the name.

There is another side to the story also, to be mentioned in passing, that should make the 'Formidable's' name one of particular interest to the British navy and the nation at large, and to others as well. No harder fight for the honor of the French flag was ever made at sea by any French man-of-war than was made by the 'Formidable's' officers and men on that November afternoon in Quiberon Bay. It has, furthermore, ever since served to redeem for Frenchmen the only too mournful memories of 'la Journée de Monsieur Conflans.' Ever since then, continuously to the present day, the French fleet, in honor of the 'Formidable' of Quiberon Bay, has, as a point of honor, preserved the name for one among their finest battleships.

In the first week of November, 1759, a violent gale from the south-east forced Hawke's fleet, which had blockaded the French in Brest all the summer—we were then waging the Seven Years' War with France—off the coast, and back across into Torbay, where Hawke arrived on Nov. 9. The news of Hawke's whereabouts soon got to France, and orders were promptly sent to M. de Conflans to put to sea. The weather moderating, on Nov. 14 Conflans, with eighteen sail of the line and frigates, passed the Goulet. His orders were to raise the blockade of Quiberon Roads, in the north-east corner of the Bay of Biscay, destroy or drive off the British blockading squadron of fifty gun-ships and frigates there, and then escort across to the English south coast the large fleet of French transports that had been waiting their opportunity for months at Quiberon with forty regiments of soldiers on board for the invasion of England.

The same day that the Brest fleet put to sea Hawke's fleet, which had been waiting in Torbay for the gale to die down, weighed anchor. Twenty-four hours out a Channel cruiser told them that the French had left Brest. Off Ushant they learned that Quiberon Bay was the enemy's destination, whither Hawke at once directed his course, beating against a stiff south-easterly gale that lasted three days. On Nov. 19 the gale began to blow from the south-west, with threatening wild and stormy weather; Hawke, however, stood on for Quiberon under all sail that his ships could stand, with the result that between eight and nine on the morning of Nov. 20 the look-out ships of the British van came in sight of Conflans's fleet.

The French, like Hawke, had been checked by head winds from the south-east, and were, when Hawke discovered them, just nearing Belleisle. The French rear ships apparently saw the British van at the same time; just as M. Conflans had satisfied himself that the coast was clear and that he was going to make a glorious example of Commodore Duff's little British squadron off Quiberon.

The 'Formidable,' flagship of Rear-Admiral St. André de Verger, third in command of Conflans's fleet, was the first French ship to sight Hawke's pursuing fleet. In a momentary clearing up of the thick clouds to westward, the look-out in the 'Formidable' spied a strange fleet coming up astern. Promptly the alarms-signal was made to the 'Soleil Royal,' Conflans's flagship, and all eyes in the French fleet were turned on the strangers. At first the French could not believe what they saw. The strangers could not possibly be Hawke's fleet! 'They are,' said M. Conflans, 'most probably English victuallers on their way to supply those English ships off Quiberon.' And for a space he and his officers congratulated themselves on a piece of luck. Conflans ordered his fleet to form line of battle and lie to, so as most conveniently to deal with first the victuallers and then with Commodore Duff. De Verger, in the 'Formidable,' however, was not so sure of the newcomers from the west, and then another break in the storm, a few moments later, proved his suspicions well grounded. The clearing horizon disclosed that the strangers to windward were a big fleet. Conflans himself discovered this at the same time. Abandoning his half-formed line of battle, he gave the instant signal to make all sail for Quiberon Bay. His fleet was inferior to Hawke's in numbers, and he hoped to get under shelter of the rocks and shoals of Quiberon, where he trusted the English ignorance of the hidden dangers of the coast would lead Hawke to destruction.

The British fleet meanwhile was following fast, and, just at two o'clock, as the French were rounding the south-east point of Belleisle, the first shots flashed out on both sides.

As flagship in charge of the French rear, the 'Formidable' in the circumstances held by right the post of honor. She took her place as rear ship, prepared to face her fate. It soon came. The brunt of the opening battle fell entirely on the 'Formidable.' Ship after ship of the advancing British fleet, as each came up, attacked her hotly. First, the British 'Warspite' led off with two crashing broadsides in succession, delivered at close quarters. Then the 'Dorsetshire,' captained by Peter Denis—Anson's dashing old lieutenant of the 'Centurion' days—gave the big Frenchman a similar salute. The 'Formidable' returned to both the 'Warspite' and 'Dorsetshire' an equally vigorous reply, after which the two British ships passed ahead for the French centre. Then came up the English 'Resolution,' seventy-four, to deliver another equally fierce attack. The 'Resolution,' though, did not pass on. Remaining broadside to broadside, she stayed to engage the 'Formidable' as closely as the weather would allow. Next, while the 'Formidable' was fighting the 'Resolution,' Howe in the 'Magnanime,' another seventy-four, came up and ran alongside. 'Lord Howe, who attacked the "Formidable",' says Horace Walpole, 'bore down upon her with such violence that her prow forced in his lower tier of guns.' The two ships, indeed, rubbed sides so closely that the French ship's port-lids were torn away. Howe passed on in turn, and then Keppel, in the 'Torbay,' attacked the 'Formidable.' The 'Magnanime' and the 'Torbay' were the two smartest ships of the British navy of the day, and under their terrific pounding the 'Formidable' was almost silenced. Still, though, De Verger's flag flew aloft, although the gallant admiral himself had fallen, with both his first and second captains, and between two and three hundred men—half his ship's company. Keppel also now passed on ahead, and one after another came up, and joined in with the ever-persistent 'Resolution,' the 'Revenge,' the 'Montagu,' the 'Swiftsure,' the 'Defiance,' all likewise seventy-fours. Each of these gave the devoted 'Formidable' two or three broadsides as they pushed past. By now, indeed, she could only return a feeble fire. Those left of the gallant 'Formidable's' men still, however, stood to their guns with heroic endurance, until just at four o'clock the inevitable end came with the arrival of the giant three-decker 'Royal George,' Hawke's own flagship. But to stand up to the 'Royal George's' overwhelming broadside was more than honor called for. Just as the 'Royal George's' red-muzzled guns began to train on the hapless 'Formidable,' the senior French surviving officer, the first lieutenant, struck the colors. The 'Formidable' had done magnificently. Indeed, within three-quarters of an hour of her surrender the battle was over among the 'Formidable's' consorts, and Hawke's fateful victory of Quiberon Bay had been won.



THE KAISER IN THE HOLY LAND:

AN INCIDENT NOT ON THE PROGRAMME—THE EMPEROR AND AN ARAB BABY.—London 'Graphic.'

While visiting one of the many ecclesiastical institutions in Jerusalem the Emperor William took an Arab child from its veiled mother. The woman showed anxiety, and the Emperor, smiling, said, 'You need not be frightened. I know something about babies. I have had seven myself. This is a fine child and it ought to grow up strong.'

A REMARKABLE TRADITION.

Germany is the home of legend and tradition. One of the oldest traditions of the Hohenzollern is that three emperors of that House will reign in Germany in one year, and that the third will have seven sons, and will bring ruin to the nation as well as an end to the empire. It is notable that the first portion of the prediction was fulfilled when the present Emperor came to the throne. His father, the Emperor Frederick, and his grandfather, the old Emperor William, died within a year prior to his accession.

The Prince of Wales is the third member of the Royal Family who has received an injury to the knee. The Queen slipped about fifteen years ago and hurt her knee—an occurrence which has caused her to refrain from unnecessary walking ever since. The late Duke of Albany also fell and injured his knee, an accident which greatly tried his delicate health.

A MONSTER OF THE PAST.

THE DINOSAUR OF WYOMING.

Wyoming is writing a strange chapter in the world's geological history. The big sage brush commonwealth is scoring a record-breaker in fossils by unearthing the petrified bones of the most colossal animal ever taken from the earth's stratas. This stone monster was a dweller in the Jurassic age—a dinosaur, measuring nearly one hundred and thirty feet in length, and being perhaps thirty-five feet high at the hips and twenty-five feet at the shoulders, an animal so terrible in size that its petrified skeleton alone is believed to weigh more than 40,000 pounds.

Assistant Prof. W. H. Reed, of the department of geology of Wyoming State University, is its discoverer. He made the great find while prospecting for fossils ninety miles north-west of Laramie last August; and since that time the geological department of the university has been secretly at work in its restoration. So vast is the skeleton of the animal that its smallest bone yet found is more than a man can lift, and with two men in the field constantly at work it is believed that many months may be required before the monster can be placed on the campus of Laramie.

In comparison to a mammoth, this animal was in size as a horse is to a dog. In the known fossil world there is but one creature that can ever serve in an approximate comparison with it, and this would be only as a child beside it. Prof. O. C. Marsh's famous brontosaur at the Yale Museum at New Haven is its only animal criterion of measurement. This was a creature of its own kind and time — a fellow-creature in Wyoming, where for millions of years they have slept together in the same graveyard to be finally resurrected by the same ghoul of science—Prof. Reed. The skeleton at Yale was restored in 1879 by Prof. Reed, under the direction of Prof. Marsh.

This monster is believed to have been about seventy feet in length, and in life to have weighed, perhaps, 80,000 pounds; the new discovery in Wyoming eclipsing in this respect by probably 40,000 pounds. This animal was perhaps twenty-five feet in height and sixteen feet at the shoulders. Its femur alone is slightly more than six feet in length, while the femur of the animal now being resurrected is nearly or quite eight feet in length. A measurement of its lumbar vertebrae across the centrum is thirteen inches, while a corresponding vertebrae of the fossil recently discovered is over sixteen inches in similar measurement. From the bones disinterred, the dinosaur in Wyoming, in comparsion to the one at Yale, is in size, about as three is to two.

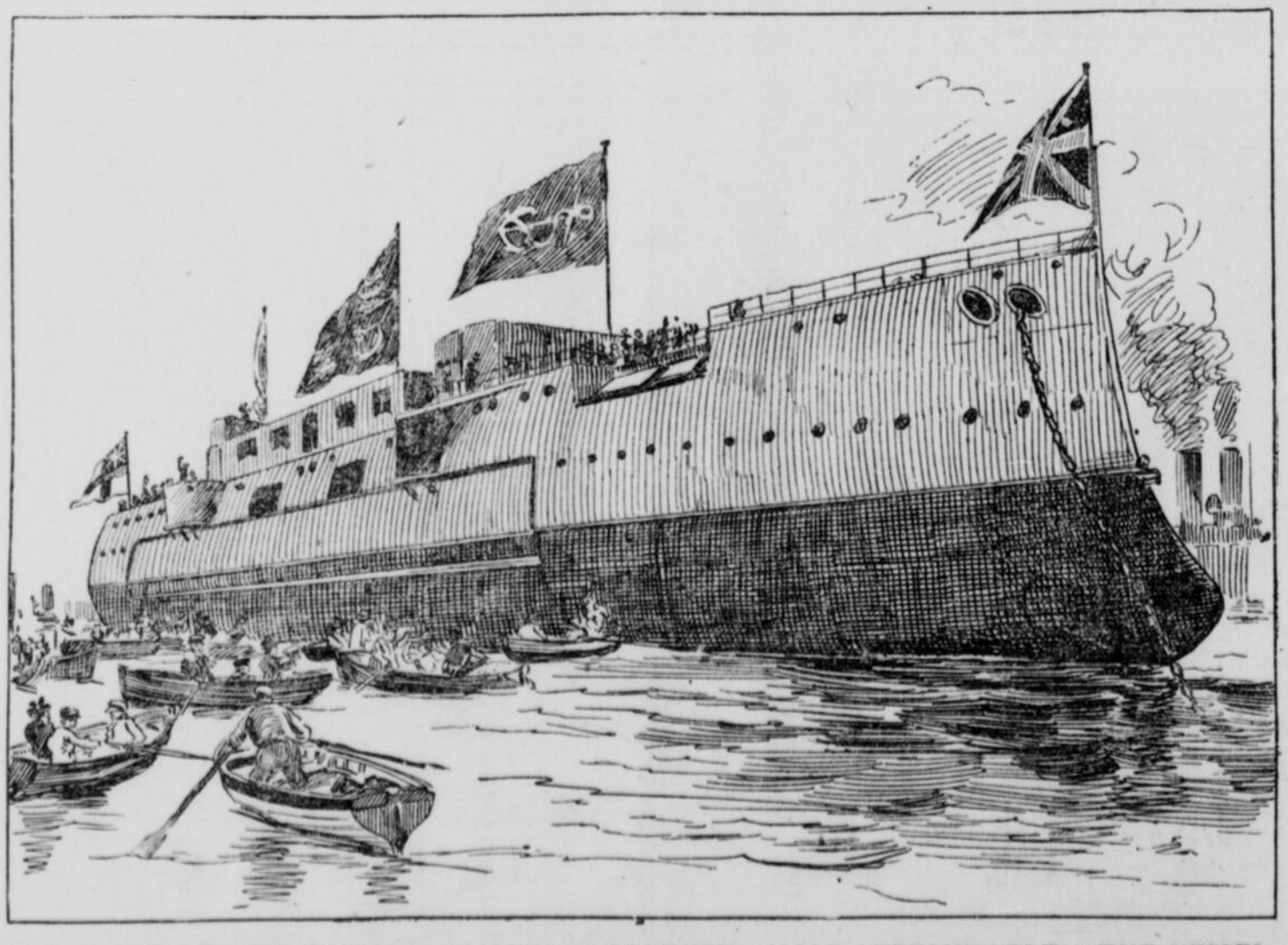
The body of the dinosaur is comparatively short, but extremely thick. Prof. Reed, in conjecturing as to the probable appearance in life of the animal that he is restoring, said:

'An accurate idea of a living dinosaur is practically out of the question. According to my opinion, I should say that the animal now being brought to light would weigh in life about sixty tons, that he had a neck thirty feet in length, and a tail perhaps sixty feet in length. His ribs are about nine feet in length and the cavity of his body, with lungs and entrails out, would make a hall thirty-four feet in length, sixteen feet in width, and arched over probably twelve feet in height. Such a space, if properly arranged, would seat at least forty people. A round steak taken from the ham of the animal would have been at least twelve feet in diameter, or more than thirty-five feet in circumference, and would have had a solid bone in the middle 12 x 14 inches, with no hollow for marrow. A set of fours in cavalry could easily have ridden abreast between his front and hind legs, provided he had not objected. Every time he put his foot down it covered more than a square yard of ground, and must have fairly shaken the earth. The smallness of the head of this animal is a peculiar thing. I should say that the head of this mighty dinosaur was probably not larger than a ten-gallon keg. He must have been a very sluggish creature, as the brain cavity would certainly not warrant the belief that his brain weighed to exceed four or five pounds. — Laramie Correspondence St. Louis 'Globe-Democrat.'

WHERE TOBACCO IS NOT GROWN.

The cultivation of tobacco in Great Britain was prohibited, says London 'Tit-Bits,' by an act of parliament passed in 1782. Tobacco had been successfully cultivated in England, but when Charles II. commenced to derive revenue from the imported leaves, so heavy tax was imposed on the home-grown article that it was hoped would stop its cultivation. The growth was, however, continued in spite of all laws to the contrary right down to the reign of George III., when it was finally stopped by an act passed in 1782. The plantations in Yorkshire were then destroyed, and the planters imprisoned and heavily fined—the large sum for those days of thirty thousand pounds being exacted as penalties. In Ireland the cultivation was not finally stopped till 1831. In April, 1886, permission to grow tobacco in England under certain stringent conditions was granted by the Inland Revenue Commissioners; but there is no chance of the general prohibition being withdrawn, as doing so would injuriously affect one of the sources of the national revenue.

One of the largest forests in the world stands on ice. It is situated between Ural and Okhotsk Sea. A well was recently dug in that region, when it was found that at a depth of 350 feet the ground was still frozen.



THE LAUNCH OF THE BIGGEST BRITISH BATTLESHIP, H.M.S. 'FORMIDABLE': THE VESSEL AS SHE APPEARED AFTER LEAVING THE WAYS.

Thousands of sightseers flocked to Portsmouth Dockyard on Thursday, Nov. 17, last to witness the launch of Great Britain's newest and largest battleship, the 'Formidable,' which, when completed, will have a displacement of 15,000 tons and a speed of eighteen knots. —'Illustrated London News.'

THE LIPPE CONFLICT.

An Interference by the Federal Council May Offend the King of Saxony.

ORIGINAL CAUSE OF TROUBLE.

(European edition of the New York 'Herald.')

The conflict between the Emperor William and the Count Regent of Lippe continues to occupy the attention of the press and public in Germany. According to the Munich 'Allgemeine Zeitung,' the publication of Count Ernst's rescript to the federal princes is the real reason why the Emperor abandoned his journey via Gibraltar and made for his dominions as fast as steam could take him. 'The complications and discords,' says that journal, 'which have been caused by the publication of the rescript will be best put an end to by the personal intervention of the Emperor.'

'It is possible,' says the Berlin 'Börsen Courier,' 'that this solution represents the views of the principal princes of the empire, and that they are hoping that an olive branch from Palestine is in the Emperor's baggage and that it will make its way to the Teutoburger Forest.'

The Saxon journal, 'Das Vaterland,' which is credited with close relations with the government of that kingdom, is strongly opposed to the question of the rights of the Lippe-Biesterfeld family being submitted to the Federal Council. It will be remembered that the King of Saxony, as the senior federal prince of the empire, already gave his verdict as



COUNT ERNST, REGENT OF LIPPE-DETMOLD.

The conflict between this sovereign and the German Emperor has led to acrimonious discussion throughout the empire. The Regent has addressed a strong rescript to the federal princes on the subject of his alleged ill-treatment.

arbiter in favor of the claims of Count Ernst of Lippe-Biesterfeld to the regency against those of Prince Adolf of Schaumburg-Lippe, the brother-in-law of the Emperor. The 'Vaterland' says :—

'If a second investigation of the rank of the house of Lippe-Biesterfeld should be undertaken by the Federal Council this would constitute not only a serious disregard for the judgment rendered by the King of Saxony (both parties having undertaken to abide by it), but would be an infringement of rights such as would administer a severe blow to the sense of justice of the German nation. One circumstance of the greatest importance we cannot pass over in silence. The punctilious care with which the Emperor William I. observed every article of the Versailles Convention created a



PRINCE ADOLF OR SCHAUMBURG-LIPPE.

Between whom and Count Ernst, now the Regent, there is a contest for the succession to the principality of Lippe-Detmold.

feeling of confidence in the disinterestedness and the impartiality of the head of the empire, which suppressed any suspicion of a resumption on the part of Prussia of the policy which the Hohenzollerns had formerly carried out at the expense of their neighbors. This confidence it was that crushed any tendency toward particularism on the part of the various principalities and permitted the sovereigns with willing devotion to make the sacrifices which the unity of the empire demanded. We cannot believe that this is now going to be changed.'

RIGHTS OF THE QUARREL.

The question of the rights of the quarrel in Lippe is discussed by the 'Berliner Tageblatt,' which says: 'In the nineteenth century the conflict between the rival houses about the princeling throne of Lippe seems like a breath of air out of the times of our forefathers. The whole half tragic, half comic contest about equality of birth would have made an excellent background to a drama of intrigue à la Schiller's "Kabale und Liebe," of the time of powdered wigs and patches, in which the aristocratic archivist Berkomeyer, with his anxiety about the blueness of the blood of the princely house, would make a splendid comic figure. If the princely houses hold so fast to the principle of equality of birth, the ultra-violet blood, by continual intermarriage, will get so spoiled that the race will end in insanity and cretinism. We have already had examples of this.

'The same wrong—namely, the refusal of rights—which was formerly done to the Biesterfeld line is now being done by that line to the Agnates of the Schaumburg line. The facts are as follows :—After a long struggle Count Ernst of Lippe-Biesterfeld got an impartial arbitration court constituted under the presidency of the King of Saxony. The decision was given in the Count's favor, whose purity of birth is now legally established. In the course of the judgment it was stated that in all the lines of the house of Lippe the marriage of its members with ladies of a lower order of nobility was not held to constitute inequality of birth of the offspring. It is notorious that the grandfather of the Count Regent married a Fräulein Modeste Von Unruh. The wife of the Regent is also of the lower nobility (Caroline Countess of Wartensleben, whose mother was Miss Habach-Bohlen, of Philadelphia). The difference between higher and lower nobility does not lie in the title but in the fact that the family possessed territorial rank in the Holy Roman Empire. The list of those possessing this rank was drawn up in 1806. From this point of view Prince Bismarck belonged to the lower nobility, and Count Ernst of Lippe-Biesterfeld to the higher.

'Prince Adolf of Schaumburg-Lippe now challenges the birth of the sons of the Count Regent on account of the lower nobility of their mother. No court gives general decisions, but only decides the actual cases submitted to it. As a consequence, the arbitration court under the King of Saxony only decided the question of the Count Regent's birth, as the birth of his sons was not then challenged. The judgment of the arbitration court cannot be made to apply indirectly to the case of the Count's family. Only the facts contained in the judgment create a formal right. If, therefore, Prince Adolf challenges the rights of the children he can claim a decision from an impartial tribunal.

HIS SON'S RIGHT.

'Unfortunately, however, there is no authorized German tribunal in disputes regarding princely thrones. An agreement for a fresh arbitration is therefore necessary. The question of his son's right to succeed him Count Ernst now proposes to settle by exercising his sovereign rights as ruler of the principality and getting the parliament of his dominions to pass a law regulating the succession to the throne. His formal right to do so is unattackable, but it is eminently undesirable, as there has been as yet no judicial decree declaring that the rights of father and sons are similar. In order to prevent disputes, it would be better to choose a new arbitration court, composed of eminent jurists who have not yet had to do with the conflict.

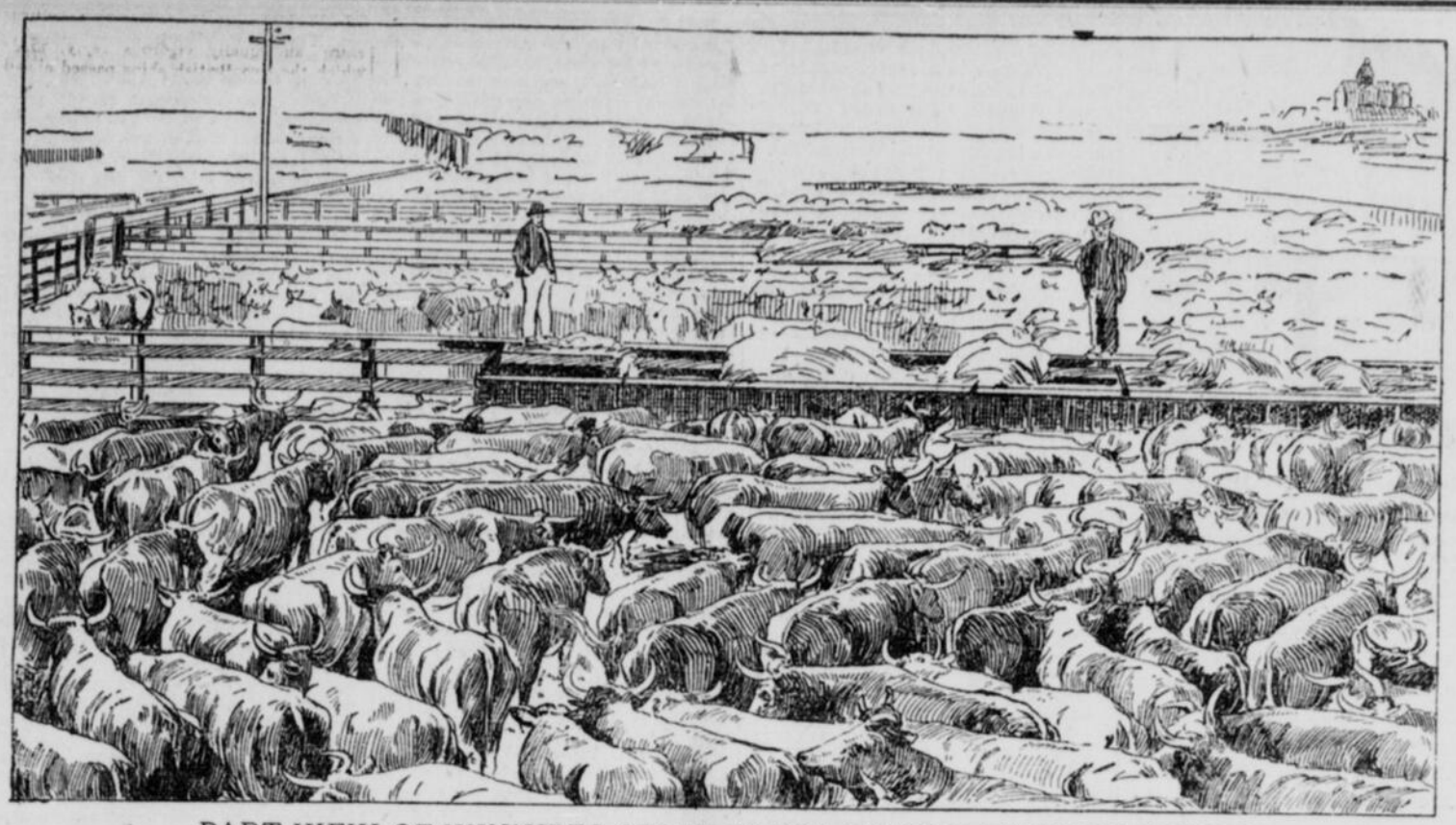
'If the Count Regent refuses to do so, then the case falls under article 77 of the constitution, which says :—

'"If a refusal of justice should occur in a federal state and the ordinary law should prove powerless, the Federal Council is empowered to receive complaint of such a refusal of justice, and to judge the case according to the law and constitution of the state in question, and to bring about the legal remedy rendered necessary by such a complaint."

'The dispute will therefore come before the Federal Council, as such a refusal of justice evidently exists, because Count Ernst maintains that the judgment of the court of arbitration has settled the rights of his sons, which Prince Adolf declines to admit. The Federal Council has thus to provide "legal remedy" for this case, which, as already said, can only be by way of arbitration.'

MAY BE SETTLED.

Berlin, Dec. 9.—The 'National Zeitung' announces that the Federal Government has agreed that the Bundesrath should recognize the right of the Diet of Lippe-Detmold to settle the succession question.



PART VIEW OF WINNIPEG STOCK YARDS DURING SHIPPING SEASON.

A great many cattle are handled in the Winnipeg stock yards during the shipping season. The total number of cattle to all markets from Manitoba and the Territories this season has been about fifty-nine thousand head, which shows a substantial increase over all previous years, excepting 1897, when about sixty thousand head were moved. Of this total of fifty-nine thousand head, some sixteen or eighteen thousand head were stocker cattle, which were shipped to the United States. The remaining forty thousand were fat cattle, such as are shown in the accompanying picture, which is taken from a photograph, and were sent to the markets of eastern Canada and Great Britain. These latter were about equally divided between domestic and range animals. Besides the exports, some twenty thousand head of stocker cattle have been moved, mostly from the prairies of Manitoba, to the ranges of the Western Territories. It will thus be seen that the North-West cattle trade is of considerable importance.

STRAFFORD'S CHARACTER.

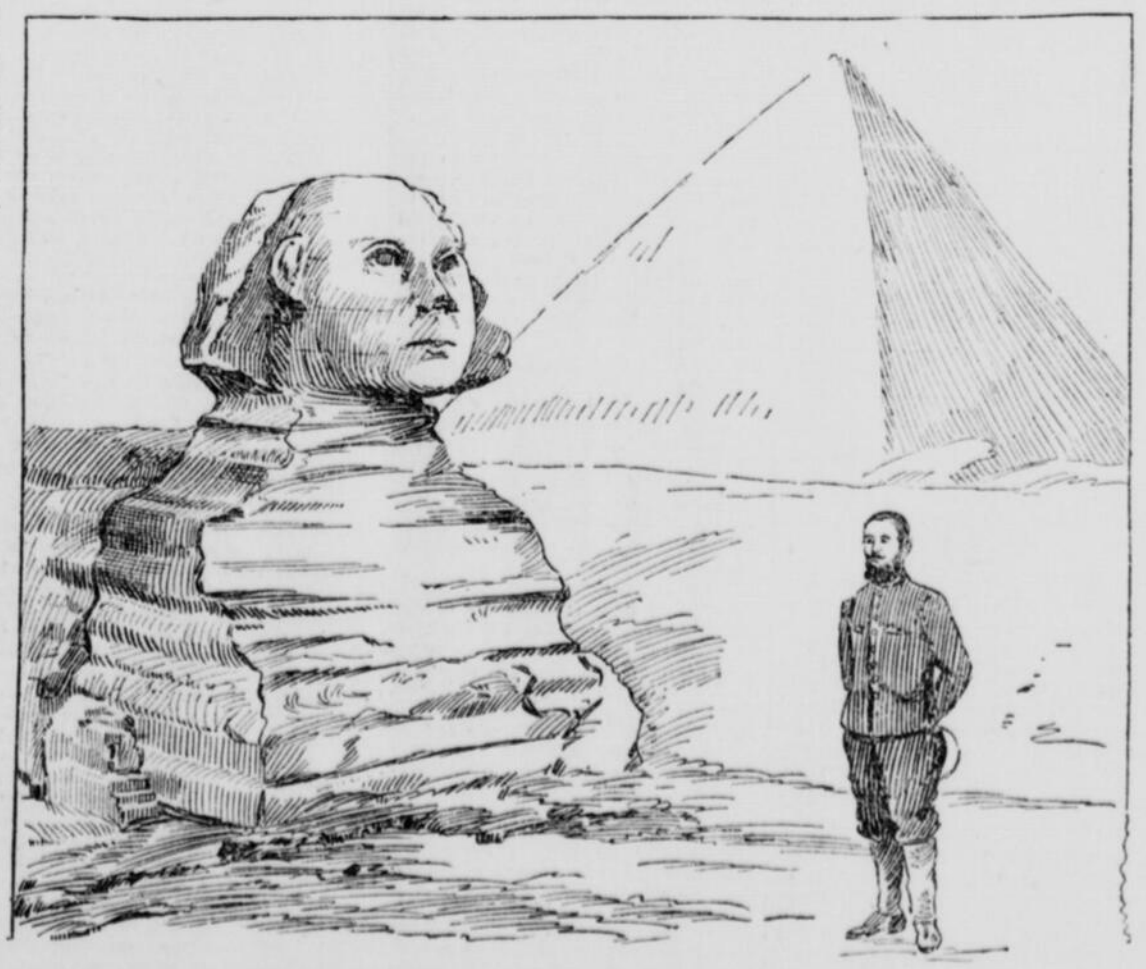
MR. GOLDWIN SMITH'S ADDRESS BEFORE BROWNING CLUB.

(Toronto 'Globe,' Dec. 3.)

The Browning Club of Toronto is about to begin the study of the drama of Strafford, and as there has been much diversity of opinion among readers of Browning regarding the historical correctness of the great characters which appear on his stage, Mr. Goldwin Smith was asked to give the members of the club the benefit of his knowledge and judgment. In introducing him last evening, the Rev. O. B. Hawes referred to the historical works of Mr. Gardiner as bearing out the conception of Strafford met with in Mr. Browning's drama.

Mr. Goldwin Smith said that the historical fiction which was usually met with no one could enjoy less than the real student of history. It was a mixture of gaslight and daylight, and altogether unsatisfactory. He pointed out that one of the great virtues of Shakespeare's historical plays was that they contained no false coloring. Anachronisms there were, as for example, the introduction of cannon into King John. Sir Walter Scott also avoided all false coloring in so far as the period he treated of was within the grasp of his imagination, as, for example, Old Mortality. In considering the character of Strafford, as presented by Browning, the speaker gave an admirably clear sketch of the period and marked the sharp differences which divided men on the great issue of that day. The conclusion of his regard of Browning's Strafford was that the character was not true to history. Browning was so far right when he portrayed him as a strong man with an ideal, but Mr. Gardiner was wrong in saying that that ideal was parliamentary government. Nothing more was required to dispose of this view than Strafford's rule in Ireland, which had been beneficial, but which was tyrannical, and where he was forming an Irish army to support the King in his attempt to establish arbitrary government.

Strafford's ideal was practically that of Lord Byron—an ideal of a great administrative monarchy acting with, but not bound by, a parliament as an advisory council. The parliamentary leaders, the speaker thought, were justified in regarding Strafford's acceptance of the presidency of the council of the North as apostacy. The romantic friendship with Pym and the relations with Lady Carlisle were regarded as purely fictitious. Browning's view of Pym's relations with the Presbyterians, as the poet called Vane and other parliamentary leaders, was not true to history. Vane, the speaker pointed out, was ar independent; the others were members of the low English Church—men who accepted the principles of Bishop Ussher. Mr. Goldwin Smith's view of Strafford was that he was a strong, able, ambitious man, who thought that he could place the monarchy on a good foundation. He would doubtless, had he succeeded—and he probably would have succeeded had it not been for Laud—have been a pure and upright ruler, but he would have extinguished English liberty. He was not a hateful man, but quite the reverse; and was a most interesting character.



THE FASHODA QUESTION: MAJOR MARCHAND AND THE SPHINX.

—London 'Graphic.'

This photograph recalls to one's mind the words spoken by Major Marchand at the banquet given to him by the French club at Cairo: 'The experience of the world teaches us that the sum of our sorrows is not greater than that of our joys. The more the black period may be prolonged, the more quickly will approach the dawn of proud aspirations at length realized; and the granite sphinx near at hand dreams on the desert sands, the sphinx which saw the passage of Bonaparte, which saw De Lesseps and his work, has not yet uttered its last word, has not murmured the supreme sentence. Fortune, which detests broad and easy paths, is perhaps at this moment on her way to bring you the succor so patiently looked for. We must never despair, and who can say that the sphinx may not be about to smile ?'

GROWTH OF TRADE.

EXPANSION OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES COMPARED WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

The British Board of Trade has issued an important paper, giving, for the purposes of comparison, the imports and exports of the chief commercial countries of the world for the years 1891, 1894 and 1897. The figures relating to the six most important of these countries are as follows, and are full of significance:—

IMPORTS.

Countries.	1891. £	1894. £	1897. £
France. . .	237,532,000	191,796,000	205,500,000
German Zollverein and German Empire . .	228,540,000	210,250,000	249,575,000
Belgium .	124,785,000	108,123,000	127,032,000
Holland .	111,260,000	120,603,000	140,329,000
United States. .	176,024,000	136,457,000	159,319,000
United Kingdom	435,441,000	408,345,000	451,929,000

EXPORTS.

Countries.	1891. £	1894. £	1897. £
France . .	189,220,000	164,984,000	192,124,000
German Zollverein and German Empire . . .	176,980,000	162,995,000	197,785,000
Belgium .	113,880,000	96,582,000	113,491,000
Holland . .	94,786,000	92,709,000	123,255,000
United States. .	184,267,000	185,863,000	218,957,000
United Kingdom	309,114,000	273,786,000	294,174,000

This report reveals some truths of a startling nature, and, as regards Great Britain, the one striking and significant fact is that the trade balance against that country is rapidly increasing. It is pleasing to note that there was an increase of twenty millions in the British exports last year compared with 1894, although there is a falling off as compared with 1891, and that Great Britain is still a good first in the race, being seventy-five millions in front of the United States and ninety-five millions before Germany is cause for gratification. But, and this is the fly in the ointment, comparing the years 1891 and 1897, the exports of Great Britain show a falling off of £15,000,000, whereas the exports of the United States increased £35,000,000; those of Germany advanced by nearly £21,000,000, while Holland shows the extraordinary increase of over £28,000,000, and the exports of Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Portugal and France also show a marked increase.

A fact of great interest revealed by the report is the great expansion in the export trade of the United States. It is an 'easy second' to Great Britain, and may congratulate itself upon having left Germany far behind. The high tariffs of the United States, however, restrict her purchases abroad and unduly decrease her imports, there being a falling off of £17,000,000 in six years. This, however, is not likely to continue even in the face of restrictive tariffs. The rapidly accumulating wealth of the United States must make itself felt in importing from foreign markets the best that the world can produce.

THE BLESSING OF EMPLOYMENT.

There is nothing that contributes more to health, substantial happiness, manliness, mental and physical enjoyment, than useful and congenial employment. It is worry over work and thinking of hardships—often imaginary—and discontent, that brings weariness and premature decay. There has been entirely too much talk about a 'heaven of rest,' when that rest is made to signify freedom from employment or wholesome toil. There should be no change, and no man should tie himself down, or permit others to tie him down, to just one round of exertion and thought, with the use of only one set of muscles and one set of powers all his life. Horace Greeley had his farm, Dana his beautiful garden on a lovely island, Franklin had his study and experiments in science and philosophy. Not one of these men but that began life as penniless as any printer or editor that ever lived. They put their whole powers into continued effort in the beginning of life, sought knowledge every day, avoided drink and gluttony, sought only such comradeship as would improve, attended upon literary and debating societies, mechanical, agricultural, sociological, and political institutes instead of dawdling in saloons; read good books and studied and discussed the questions of man's uplifting instead of attending the theatres and playhouses or telling smutty stories. Equal and greater opportunities are open to every young man in free America, but printers and newspaper people have especial reason for thankfulness, for they are brought into contact with the knowledge, the thought, and the doings of the age. If they fail to improve, the greater is their fault, because the opportunities of life are spread out before them as an open book. Success is not in heaping up wealth, but in the developing, using and making useful the best that is in man. The careful, economical husbanding of the fruits of toil, of the labor of to-day and yesterday, being themselves capital to aid in the greater accomplishments of to-morrow, is wise; but the grabbing, by means fair or foul, of the possessions of this world, for the mere pride of possession, to gratify vanity and low greed, to oppress and wrong others, ever proves a curse, and very often makes this earth a hell to the possessors and their money-cursed families.—'National Printer-Journalist.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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MAJOR-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM BUTLER.

Major-General Sir William Francis Butler, K.C.B., who sailed on Saturday, Nov. 19, last, for Capetown, where he is to take the command, has had a long career of service, beginning with the Red River expedition, where he followed Sir Garnet Wolseley in his little campaign



against the rebel forces under Louis Riel. In the Ashantee war, and again in the Egyptian campaign against Arabi Pasha, Sir William Butler served under Lord Wolseley. He had a part also in the Zulu war, and in the 'Too-Late' expedition to Khartoum for the relief of Gordon. Sir William Butler, who married Miss Elizabeth Thompson, the military painter, was in command at Alexandria from 1890 to 1893, and subsequently of a brigade at Aldershot, until his appointment to the South-Eastern District and the Constableship of Dover Castle. Sir William, whose knighthood dates from 1887, is the author of many books, including a history of the 69th Regiment, 'The Great Lone Land,' and biographies of Gordon and of Sir Charles Napier.

CANADIAN CAVIARE.

A new Canadian product of an unusual sort has been placed on the market in London, England, through the efforts of the Canadian Department of the Imperial Institute, 1,500 pounds of caviare having arrived here from a Rat Portage house as a trial shipment. It came in cold storage, and the London consignee was well satisfied both with the quality and the condition in which it reached him. It is said that in appearance the Canadian product closely resembles the best Russian, and is greatly superior to much that reaches the United Kingdom. The demand for caviare in this country is rapidly increasing, and the article brings high prices, so that the trade is doubtless worth cultivating.

BRITISH NEWS.

ENGLISH.

The Rev. Charles Garrett, addressing a band of hope demonstration in Newcastle-on-Tyne, said it was computed that there were eight hundred thousand drunkards in England, which was equal to two drunkards for every Wesleyan class-member.

A conscientious objector, to whom the chairman of the Horsham bench was explaining the virtues of glycerinated calf lymph, said he did not want his children to turn out cows or calves but boys and girls. Said another magistrate: 'I am afraid some of the objectors will turn out calves.'

A man named David Davies fell into the River Wear, head first, his feet being caught between the quay and a vessel. With his head under water for ten minutes he was suspended before the steamer could be moved. When extricated he was apparently dead, but artificial respiration was after an hour successful in restoring animation.

A movement is afoot to erect statues to Chaucer and Milton in the metropolis. There are no adequate memorials of the poets, and the year 1900 marks the five hundredth anniversary of Chaucer's death. It is suggested that the statues might be placed in that portion of the Strand which will be widened by the removal of the Holywell street buildings.

The London correspondent of the Manchester 'Courier' has it on excellent authority 'that some officers have within the last few days been trying to get hold of some of our military secrets. Woolwich Arsenal was the spot which they selected for their investigtaions. They dropped the Paris accent and tried to pass themselves off as Swiss. But their object was promptly detected.

A fatal football accident occurred at Dewsbury. During the progress of an association football match, in which the Dewsbury club and Sheffield club were opposed, Ellam, one of the Sheffield forwards, had got possession of the ball, and was dribbling up the field when an opposing player returned a kick which struck Ellam in the stomach. He fell, and though the usual remedies were applied, he expired in under five minutes' time.

As the team of the Ashford United Football Club were being driven home from Sittingbourne, where they had been playing in a county football cup competition, they came across a drover who was lying in the centre of the road in a drunken sleep. Before the horses attached to the char-a-banc in which they were seated could be drawn to a standstill the wheel ran over the man's head, completely severing it from the body. The corpse was identified as that of a man named Giles, employed by Mr. Bean, Eastwell Court, near Ashford.

The London 'Evening News' chartered a balloon, which left London with the view of crossing the Channel and getting, if possible, to Paris. When it reached Lalaning, a village near Worthington, a tear developed, and the occupants endeavored to alight. The aeronaut (Mr. Arthur Williams) accomplished this without injury, though he was dragged through a hedge; but the 'Evening News' correspondent fell a height of forty feet, and received injuries to his side and hip. He received medical treatment and was then removed to Brighton. The balloon escaped seawards.

At the last meeting of the Llangollen School Board Mr. Lewis, headmaster of the Llangollen school, wrote stating that two boys had made every possible attendance during the year, and one boy named Abel Roberts, had never missed a single attendance since 1888. He began to go to school when three years of age and had never missed a single half day, and had now passed the seventh standard. It was a performance unique in the country. The board felt that the boy's conduct was worthy of recognition, and the consideration of the form it should take was deferred.

A sad stabbing fatality recently occurred at Chapel Yard, Preston, A young butcher, named John Dawson, was cutting up meat on a trestle, when William Marshall, another young man, came behind him, and slapping him boisterously on the back, exclaimed, 'It's a cold day.' Dawson turning round suddenly, the point of his knife penetrated Marshall between the ribs, and inflicted a wound in the region of the heart, death ensuing in a very short time. Dawson ran for the doctor, and afterwards voluntarily went to the police station. The young men were friends.

A female tramp and a boy, aged seven, were found by a shepherd a few days ago in an exhausted condition on a barren part of the Birkdale Fells, Westmoreland, miles from any habitation. A horse was obtained, and with difficulty the couple were carried to Birkdale farm-house, where restoratives were applied. On recovering sufficient strength to speak, the woman explained that she had lost herself, and had wandered about for eight days without any food, taking shelter at night in sheep pens. After being kept for two days, she was strong enough to be removed to the Barnard Castle Workhouse.

A fine of forty shillings and costs was inflicted at Bristol, the other day, upon Edwin Reed for unseemly behavior in St. Simon's Church on Protestant Sunday by exclaiming, 'In the name of God I protest against this idolatry.' This was at the close of a Church of England service, at which the wafer was consecrated and elevated, and the bell rung. A churchwarden turned Reed out, and there was a disorderly scene in the porch. One worshipper there said it was not a church at which Protestant Churchmen should attend; it was a happy hunting ground for the Low Church party. Cross-summonses for assault were abandoned.

An important case under the Workmen's Compensation Act, came before the Appeal Court a few weeks ago. While unloading precussion caps from the steamer 'Manitoba,' in the Royal Albert Docks, London, on July 6, two men, Marriott and Woodham, were killed, and five others injured by an explosion. Judge French, at the Bow County Court, found the owners of the 'Manitoba' liable under the act, and awarded the widows of the two men killed £300 each, and the injured men £1 a week each for life. From this the owners appealed, on the ground that the men were not employed, in the words of the act, 'on, in, or about a dock or quay.' The appeal was dismissed.

At an inquest in Manchester, the other day, a Mr. Shires, who had been summoned to serve on the jury, asked to be relieved of the duty on Scriptural grounds. The bible, he said, told him he was not to be in the same apartment as a dead body. He had never been in a house where there had been a dead body, and he did not intend to go into one. He handed a letter from Dr. Salomon which, he said, contained proof that he was a son of Aaron. The coroner was very persistent in his objection to such a reading of the Scripture, especially of Leviticus xxi., 1, and maintained that the objection was only touching the dead, which was not required in a juryman. But he was no match for Mr. Shires in the quality of persistency, and in the end he did not require him to view the body and discharged him.

The police have captured the second youth who has been accused of the murder of the aged lady of eccentric habits, Mary Ann Aliban, at Latimer street, Birmingham, on Oct. 19. She had been dead many hours before the discovery of the tragedy, and her assailants had decamped without apparently leaving a clue. They had tied the old lady, who lived alone, down to her bed, stuffed a handkerchief into her mouth, strangled her, and rifled her boxes for money. Inquiries led to the arrest of Claude Felix Mumoy, who had been heard to threaten that 'he would do for the old lady' in order to obtain her money. While he was on remand he made communications to the police, and they have arrested George Webb, alias Twitty, at Merthyr Tydvil. He was brought to Birmingham, and formally charged before the magistrate with being concerned in the crime.

A verdict of 'Natural causes,' was returned at an inquest the other day concerning the death of Ethel Rose Wood, aged one year and five months, the child of parents residing at Barking, belonging to the Peculiar People sect. In this case no doctor had been called in, and one medical man who gave evidence declared that the child might have lived if he had been in attendance. During the enquiry the following questions were put to and answered by members of the sect: If the child had broken its leg would you have called in an elder to set it?—The Lord says that not a bone of the righteous shall be broken. Do you believe in applying poultices ? — The word of the Lord is sufficient. You may trust the Lord for yourself, but a child is not old enough to judge. It is a serious thing to keep medical aid away.—I believe the Lord looks after me and mine. 'I am afraid,' remarked the coroner, 'it is useless to argue.'

Vauxhall-bridge, which was almost as ugly as it was inconvenient—and that is saying a deal—is now being rapidly destroyed, for the first arch on the northern side of the Thames has virtually disappeared, and the rest will soon go. One incidental advantage of the process of destruction has been the building of a temporary structure which opens upon the new National Gallery of British Art, at Millbank; and it may be hoped that this very convenient bridge will ultimately be made permanent. The difficulty in the way of any visitor to London finding this building is that no line of omnibuses or tramcars runs to it, and that it is not easily accessible from anywhere in particular. Despite this it is pleasant to know that this fresh national possession, the generous gift of Sir Henry Tate, is being highly appreciated by the art-loving public, who during the past three months have visited it on an average stream of eleven hundred a day.

Jane Cakebread, who has earned an unenviable notoriety for her frequent (nearly three hundred) convictions for drunkenness, is said to be dying. For some time she has been in Lady Henry Somerset's Home for Inebriates at Duxhurst. Hard as stone, all kindly influences seemed futile to touch her heart. 'Judge then,' says M.A.P., 'how Lady Henry felt one day when she saw the face of stone soften, tremble, break into a deluge of tears. She looked for the secret of this mighty and unhoped for transformation. It lay in a letter which contained just these words: "From one who prays for Jane Cakebread; but who can only send her this." "This" was just a spray of honeysuckle ! Jane Cakebread dropped the letter and the honeysuckle. "A lady, you see, has sent Jane Cakebread a piece of honeysuckle," and the iron barriers of vice, suffering, despair, hatred, which had locked up her heart for all these years, were broken; and she wept bitterly. "She showed," comments Lady Henry, "that she had a woman's heart after all".'

There was unusual interest in a coining case tried at the Old Bailey. The illegal coins in question were made of silver of exactly the same weight and quality as the coin of the realm. They were also made in the same way—not cast, but struck from dies of all but perfect finish. The prisoner, a Swiss, had turned his house into a miniature mint, and he had two complete sets of coining apparatus. His coins stood all the ordinary tests, and it took an officer of the mint to put him to shame. His pleas were not very much to the point. One was that, as he had been led to believe, it was open to any enterprising person to make shillings of good silver. He should have taken counsel's opinion. The other, which somewhat impaired the consistency of the first, was to the effect that, after all, the coins were only intended for circulation in the Transvaal. The territory of the Republic was, in fact, their jumping off place. But this only suggested a revived raid, and it availed him naught. The lawful shilling of our fathers comes rather meanly out of the case. According to evidence its value as silver is 4 3-4d. No wonder the Common Serjeant characterized coining as a very good trade.

At the Northamptonshire Assizes, before Mr. Justice Mathew, Frank Tomlinson, alias Smith, thirty-four, a shoe-hand, was indicted for attempting to wreck trains by placing obstructions on the line near Northampton, Wellingborough, and Bedford, on Sept. 7, 8 and 9. He was found guilty of the charge relating to the attempt on the Midland Railway, near Wellingborough, on Sept. 9, and was sentenced to penal servitude for life. The evidence proved that the accused was seen in the immediate vicinity just previous to the obstructions being placed on the line. In sentencing the prisoner, His Lordship said he had been convicted, and properly convicted, of an awful crime. He had contemplated the murder of his fellow-creatures—murder under every circumstance of cruelty and barbarity. It was dreadful to think what would have happened if he had succeeded in his terrible work. Many valuable lives would have been lost, and among the survivors there would have been people maimed and mutilated in such a way as to make their lives a burden. 'You shall,' continued the judge, 'have the severest sentence I can pass upon you, for two reasons, first, it would be only a fair requital to you for your cruelty, and secondly that those who may be tempted to follow your example may know what the consequences will be. I sentence you to penal servitude for life.'

It is popularly supposed that no one ever tries to enclose a common now. A case decided in the Court of Appeal rudely dispels this pleasing fancy. A determined attempt to appropriate open land by a Welsh landowner and a commercial company working near Holyhead was the subject of the case of Roberts vs. Thomas. Within seven miles of Holyhead Station is a small but rapidly-growing seaside resort known as Rhos-Neigir. The attractions of the place are the sea and a common of nearly 1,500 acres. About half of this common was bought in 1882 at the not extravagant price of £1 an acre, and the purchaser immediately erected a house and put up fences. An action was brought by commoners, and in 1888 their rights were formally admitted by the purchaser in a judgment of the Court taken by consent, and an arrangement was made for the protection of the common from further encroachment. Nevertheless, last year a portion of the common close to the town was sold to a company for the purpose of making explosives, and the rising watering-place was threatened with ruin. Happily, commoners were again found willing to protect the public, and the Court of Appeal, supporting Mr. Justice Wright, has held without hesitation that the common rights have been established, and that the Welsh Explosives Company is to be restrained from appropriating the common.

An inquest was held a short time ago, at High Barnet, near London, on the body of Mary Baston, a little girl aged ten, who died under shocking circumstances. The deceased was one of a number of persons who took part in a Guy Fawkes's carnival and procession at New Barnet. She represented 'Winter,' and was covered with cotton wool, in imitation of snow. Whilst attempting to put out a lighted torch which had been thrown on the ground and had burned her sister's clothing, her attire caught fire and she was terribly injured. She succumbed to the injuries the following day. The deceased's sister, who also took part in the procession, said that they were both in front, in dresses representing winter. Her sister was wearing an ordinary dress, over which had been stitched a large quantity of cotton wool. The procession consisted of a large number of persons in fancy dresses, walking three abreast and carrying naked lights. A number of children also carried lights. A flake from one of the torches fell on her hat, which was covered with cotton wool, and caused it to blaze directly. The deceased bravely attempted to put this out, but the poor child was soon covered in flames. A number of people at once rushed up and rendered aid, but the deceased tore among the crowd, maddened with pain. The flames were eventually put out, and the deceased was taken to the hospital. The jury returned a verdict of 'accidental death.' They expressed the opinion that greater precautions should be taken in future at carnivals to prevent similar fatalities.

SCOTCH.

While lifting potatoes a week or two since on the farm of Liberton Mains, James Finlay found something sharp sticking out of the side of a potato. On examination he discovered the edge of a coin protruding, three-fourths of it being embedded in the potato. On being extracted it proved to be an old Edinburgh half-penny of 1790. How long it has lain in the ground cannot, of course, be known, but evidently the potato had formed and developed around it. The coin is in a good state of preservation.

Next session a scheme goes before Parliament for the utilization of the waters of several Scottish lochs for power purposes. It is sought to mechanically capture the water of Loch Ericht and convey it to the head of Loch Levin, 20 miles off, taking in the contents of several smaller lochs on the way. This it is designed to compass by means of tunnels and aqueducts. The head of the combined waters will then be broken into two great falls, giving a total of 38,000 horse power for electrical purposes. The Loch Leven scheme aims at attracting many Scottish industries by this motive power filched from nature; and if it succeeds will certainly form a notable triumph of engineering science.

The 'Christian' says:—"Temperance men have for many a year been of the opinion expressed by Sir John Hibbert, as president of the North-Western Poor-law Conference, that a country which can spend a hundred and thirty million pounds a year on alcoholic liquors ought to be able to live without any necessity for guardians or relief. The fact of our waste only needs stating. But the other side, the punishment of sober people by the imposition of rates to keep the drunkards who have wasted their substances, needs a good deal of stating and enforcing. Take the following picture of a summer Sunday in the Highlands of Scotland:—"The Dean said he was never so horrified in his life as at the condition of the beautiful Highlands, all along from Struan to Rannoch on a fine day that summer. Many men were lying on the roadside, rendered completely helpless with drink. It was not once in a way. Their regular practice was to spend the whole of their wages on whiskey. There were not tens but hundreds. He spoke to some of them, and offered to give them a service on a Sunday afternoon rather than that they should lie about drunk. Only two men turned up."'

IRISH.

An extraordinary incident took place at Kilrush recently, the workhouse ambulance and horse being seized by a sheriff's officer after it had left the institution to fetch a patient. The horse, car, and driver were taken to the pound and held until a union official with cash satisfied the decree of the local court made for the payment of a sum of £10 by the board of guardians. The union has been for some time in financial difficulties, but the strange step taken by the sheriff's officer was never contemplated.

A sensational affair is reported from Buncrana, county Donegal. It appears that the daughter of a clerk in charge of the extensive fortifications being erected on the shores of Lough Swilly had an altercation with her father, Duncan McGregor, about the atentions paid her by a young artillery corporal named French, and, losing control of himself, McGregor pulled out a revolver. The girl, quick as lightning, snatched up a rifle, and both fired almost simultaneously, only slight flesh wounds being inflicted. Both have been returned for trial.

A Nenagh correspondent reports that a desperate faction fight, which arose out of an agrarian dispute, has occurred at Mount Island, six miles from Nenagh, and in the course of the struggle Stephen Farmer had his eye gouged out. After an exciting chase over the neighboring mountains, the police succeeded in arresting seven of the combatants. They were formally charged before Mr. John Hartz in the evening and committed to Limerick jail. All are of the farming class. Butler is reported to have died of his injuries, and another man named Edward McCormick is said to be in a dying condition.

A man named MacAluse, who had been employed on some buildings in the neighborhood, went to the coast-guard station at Portraine, county Dublin, a few days since, with a flag bearing the inscription, 'Remember the races of Castlebar'—an allusion to the flight of British troops before the French at Castlebar in 1798. MacAluse hauled down the Union Jack from the flagstaff at the station and trampled it under foot. He was about to hoist his own 'banner with the strange device,' when the coast-guard came on the scene and promptly detained him, pending the arrival of the police. When being charged MacAluse refused to remove his hat, and behaved in the most insolent manner. At the petty sessions at Swords yesterday he was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment.

At last the organizing scheme, says the Cork 'Herald,' long contemplated by the governing body of the Gaelic League, is to be put in operation, and the position of 'travelling teacher and organizer for the province of Munster,' at the salary of £100 per annum and railway expenses, is offered for competition. The duties are very varied, and are set forth in the announcement as follows : 'To form Irish classes and branches of the Gaelic League, to teach suitable persons to read Irish with a view to their carrying on Irish classes, to canvass for the support of the movement the clergy, professional gentlemen, merchants, and other leading persons of each district visited, and to distribute Irish literature.' Candidates are required to possess a knowledge of the Irish language spoken and written, to have a good general education, and to be 'conversant with the aims of the Gaelic movement.'

CURING A HORSE OF KICKING.

It is said that the following expedient will cure a horse of kicking: Put the animal into a narrow stall that has both sides thickly padded. Suspend a sack filled with hay or straw so that it will strike his heels, and let the horse and sack fight it out. Be sure to have things so arranged that the horse cannot hurt himself. The sack will be victorious every time, and in the end the horse will absolutely refuse to kick the sack or anything else.

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BRITISH NEWS.

ENGLISH.

An ex-policeman with a pension recently appeared before the Hampstead Board of Guardians and stated he had been walking about for thirty-four days and sleeping on the heath or wherever he could find a place. He wanted workhouse residence until he received his next quarter's pension, but this was refused.

An interesting scheme for a new ferry by which passenger and vehicular traffic may be conveyed from Greenwich to Millwall has just been completed. The application in the parliamentary notice is for a ferry to be worked by electricity or other power, travelling upon submerged rails across the river, commencing near the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, and terminating near the western boundary of the Island Gardens, Poplar.

Two deaths resulting from the use of swingboats are reported from Doncaster. In one case, George Edward Barber, of Elmsall, took his sweetheart in a swingboat and on leaving complained of illness. He was removed to a neighboring inn, and died in the evening. Samuel Hodgson Wear, of Doncaster, after patronizing the same form of amusement, exhibited symptoms of dizziness, and died on the way to the infirmary.

The record of the volunteer who lost the big drum has been broken again, says the 'Globe.' A company of the 24th Middlesex Volunteers marched into a fog the other day. First they lost their color-sergeant, who fell into a ditch, then the captain lost the company, and the company lost its way. They found a farm laborer with a lantern, however, and he led them with great skill to the railway station. And so home.

The Queen, having been informed that Mr. Charles Richards, a farmer, of Worthenbury, Flintshire, attained his hundredth birthday, has forwarded a communication to Mr. Richards, in which she states that she is much interested in the particulars sent to her concerning him. Her Majesty adds that she is very pleased to hear that he is still hale and hearty, and trusts he may continue so until the end of his exceptionally long life.

Lord Armstrong has just celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday, having been born on Nov. 26, 1810. He has all his life been closely connected with Newcastle, first as a solicitor, and later as the celebrated founder of the Elswick works. And the Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle pay him annually the unique honor of sending him an address of congratulation on his birthday. Lord Armstrong is at present busily engaged on the restoration of Bamburgh Castle to its mediaeval glories.

The Court of Appeal in London the other day decided a strange point under the Compensation act. A ticket collector on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway claimed damages for injury sustained during his employment. After taking the tickets he jumped on the footboard of a moving train to talk to a girl, and was injured. The Court held the claim was good, as the injury was sustained during his employment, and there was no serious and wilful misconduct. An appeal was allowed.

At Barnsley, during the preparation of the effects for auction sale, of the late Dr. Jeffrey, a remarkable find of £255, all in sovereigns, was made. The auctioneer's men noticed several old canisters in a cupboard of the surgery, and naturally thought them worthless. The weight of one, however, aroused suspicion, and on being opened it was found to contain the amount stated. Many of the coins were in such a condition as to show that the money had been put aside for many years. The deceased was known as rather eccentric.

Commander Lewis Blackburn, of the cruiser 'Blenheim,' was the hero of a plucky action at Chatham. As he was leaving Her Majesty's ship 'Royal Adelaide,' a gazelle, which he had recently brought home from abroad, ran to meet him, and in affectionately rubbing against him fell overboard. The commander, who was in full uniform, promptly plunged into the basin, although the risk was great, the night being intensely dark and there being chains between the 'Adelaide' and other ships. Shouting for lights to be brought, he kept himself and the animal afloat until both were assisted to dry land.

Mr. John Bell, of Manchester, according to the 'Home Magazine,' has the honor of owning the biggest bible in the world. The owner has himself added pictures and photographs to it at different times; it consists of no less than ninety volumes, which are illustrated by rather more than 10,000 illustrations. The biggest bible, in regard to dimensions and measurement, is over 200 years old, and belongs to a lady residing in Manchester. It is two feet in length, and about twenty inches in breadth. At the office of the 'Home Magazine' there is a bible in nine volumes, written entirely by hand.

The general committee of the National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches have unanimously decided that the tercentenary of Oliver Cromwell's birth, which will occur on April 25, 1899, shall be celebrated by Free Churchmen in signal manner. The organization committee has therefore been directed to carry into effect the following resolutions:—That a Cromwellian exhibition be held in London; that a great Cromwellian demonstration be held in the metropolis; that local councils be urged to organize celebrations in their districts; that a pamphlet setting forth the services rendered by Cromwell to the Free Churches be written by the president, Dr. Clifford.

A young civil service clerk named Werks was recently sued by a carman named Albert Bull, in Bloomsbury County Court for damages sustained through a bite from the defendant's dog. When the case came on ominous growls were heard proceeding from the defendant's box. Judge Bacon—'What is that noise? Is that a dog there?' Defendant (pulling the dog out of the box by a chain)—'Yes, your honor, it is my dog; the dog in question.' Judge Bacon—'Then take him out of court at once.' While this was being done the dog continued to growl and show his teeth. The case having been heard, Judge Bacon found for the plaintiff for three guineas, saying that people who indulged in luxuries must pay for them.

Two ironworkers, named Elwine, were recently charged at Kirkby Stephen Police Court with the theft of a bicycle under rather peculiar circumstances. It was alleged that while passing through Kirkby Stephen Junction, on their way to Midddlesborough, after returning from the wedding trip of one of them, they called out excitedly to a porter, 'Put our machine into the van,' referring to a bicycle which they saw on the platform. The porter did so, but found out afterwards that the machine belonged to one of the clerks. On the men being traced to Middlesbrough the bicycle was found under their bed. They pleaded that it was only a joke, but the Court did not see it in that light, and remanded them to Carlisle jail.

One of the few famous Mazarin bibles in almost perfect condition, came under the hammer at Sotheby's at the sale of the Mackellar Library, when it fetched £2,950, which may be regarded as a very moderate price. This particular copy formerly belonged to Sir John Thorold, of Syston Park, and at his sale some 12 years ago, realized the then record sum of $3,900. It has since been discovered that it possesses a few slight defects. The other copies sold in recent years were Lord Crawford's, £2,460; Lord Hopetoun's, £2,000; and the Perkins copy, on vellum, which at his sale went for £3,400 and only this year resold for the present record price of £4,000. In the Mackellar sale Ximenes's Polyglot bible fetched £88, and a thirteenth century MS. bible, on vellum, elaborately illuminated, £300. The day's proceedings resulted in £3,942 16s.

Sir Reginald Wingate, K.C.M.G., one of the new 'Soudan' knights, is a wonderful believer in hard work, like his chief, Lord Kitchener. Wingate was at one time the youngest major in the British army. He is only thirty-seven now. In appearance he is well-built, though somewhat short in stature, gray-haired and good-looking. As a linguist he is gifted, speaking several languages fluently. He is said to have learned Arabic—an exceedingly difficult thing to master—in the shortest time on record. He is married and has two children. It is well-nigh impossible to 'draw' him from a conversational point of view. He is always at work: 'Grind, grind, grind,' seems to be his motto. Not only does he himself work hard all day—and almost all night—but he expects all those around and under him to do likewise. Even his right-hand man, Slatin Pasha, has been known to grumble.

Almost every week sees the birth of some new League or Society for the accomplishment of some definite object. The latest league is entitled 'The Free Railway Travelling League.' The object, it must be confessed, seems somewhat Utopian, but it is only fair to say that the founders of the league do not propose to confiscate the property of railway companies, or ask them to carry passengers for nothing. Their proposal is to nationalise the railways, it is understood, by buying them up at a fair price, and restoring the old land tax at four shillings in the pound for the purpose of meeting the deficiency which would arise from carrying passengers free. The supporters of the scheme urge that its adoption would abolish slums by enabling the great mass of workers to live in the open; but even free travelling would not entirely remove the difficulties due to time and distance.

An explosion of an alarming and remarkable character recently occurred at Mode Wheel, which is occupied by the Manchester Ship Canal, Pontoon, and Dry Docks Company. A workman named Brankes descended into the interior of the pontoon, and the naked light he carried coming into contact with an accumulation of four gases caused an explosion. So great was its force that a Ship Canal Company's employee, who was engaged in the hydraulic tower at Mode Wheel, was knocked off his seat, while two apprentices in a boat by the side of the pontoon were lifted out of the little craft, alighting upon some adjoining timber. The explosion blew out the end of the pontoon, and Brankes, who was hurled out with it, was found lying on shore some twenty-five yards away. He was picked up by his fellow-workmen and conveyed to the nearest hospital.

Before the arrival of the festive season a new applicant for the patronage of the public will make its appearance in the streets of London in the shape of the 'Taxameter' cab, about fifty of which, it is understood, will soon be plying amid the metropolitan traffic. The 'taxameter' is an automatic fare register which has been found on the Continent to benefit both the cab proprietor and the travelling public. It consists of a strong circular clock-like apparatus fixed on hansom cabs outside the window on the right side, and in four-wheel cabs at the back of the driver's seat, in both cases in full view of the passenger. On a fare starting on a journey the driver puts the 'taxameter' in motion by lowering a small red metal flag attached to the lever. The new invention has just been started as an experiment in Bradford, and according to the 'Bradford Telegraph' is about to be tried also in Manchester.

The father of a boy named Chapman, aged nine, sued the London County Council in Westminster County Court for damages for personal injuries which his son had sustained in Victoria Park through tripping over a wire stretched between the tennis posts. It was dusk at the time, and the boy, who was playing 'trains' with some companions, in falling over the wire, broke his collar bone. His father had intended that he should go into the city police, but his arm was now deformed and he would be debarred from doing so. For the defence Mr. Horace Avory called a witness to prove that for years the wires between the posts on which the tennis nets are hung had been left all night, and that this was the first time anyone had run against them. The wires could be easily seen while the park was open. The jury found for the plaintiff, holding that the courts should be enclosed. They awarded the father £4 13s, and the boy £25.

A novel and exciting scene was witnessed in the course of the run of the Cotswold hounds, which met at Dowdeswell Court, near Cheltenham. After a hard gallop over hill and dale the hounds and field were for a moment at fault, owing to Reynard's sudden disappearance. Attracted by a woman's screams they then discovered that the fox had scaled an outhouse roof, entered the bedroom window of a coachman's cottage at Charlton Kings, and roamed through the house. In her fright the occupier opened another window, through which Reynard immediately jumped into the garden, landing in the midst of the huntsmen below; but he cleared the high wall and spiked fences in gallant fashion, making it very difficult for his pursuers to follow. After an exciting chase, however, he was overhauled by the hounds in a building in course of erection, his obsequies being witnessed by several hundred people.

There recently died at Llandaff a well-known inhabitant in the person of Mr. Oliver Phillips, who had met with an accident when nine years of age, and in consequence the lower portions of both his arms were amputated. The right elbow joint, however, remained to him, and by this he was able to use a pen so successfully as to win the school prize for writing, and whilst a member of the Cathedral choir he spent a considerable portion of his time in copying music scores for the members of the choir. In the world of sport he locally distinguished himself as a first-class sprinter, and won many prizes. He was also an expert swimmer, and had saved four or five persons from drowning in the Taff, and on Oct. 7, 1874, was presented with the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving life. Subsequently he was the recipient of a monetary public testimonial, which enabled him to start business as a carrier.

A hoax, which is rather in the nature of an extreme practical joke, and which is not without its humorous side, has just been perpetrated on unsuspecting tradesmen at Colchester. Orders for goods, etc., which subsequently proved to be of a wholly fictitious character, have been received, and, as an instance, may be mentioned two post-cards, which were delivered by the postman a week or two since. One was received by a well-known firm of wine merchants, and was as follows:—

Siemen's Electric Office,
Bath Hotel Yard, Osborne Street.

Please send two 3s 6d bottles of Scotch whiskey, two dozen Bass's ale, two dozen stout, and one half dozen Medoc claret, at 11 in the morning, 24th, and oblige.

H.J., Head Clerk.

Needless to say, the order was a hoax, as was another addressed to a firm of cab proprietors, and bearing a similar address and signature. This required 'one cab, without fail, at a quarter past ten o'clock a.m.' On the previous day no less than two omnibuses and four cabs were sent to the same address, under similar circumstances, while another case is that in which a firm of coal merchants received a communication purporting to come from the Rev. J. R. Cotter, of Magdalen Rectory, and ordering three tons of Silkstone coal. In response to another communication, a butcher also delivered at the rectory two tails, two hearts, a bullock's kidney, a sirloin of beef, and a leg of mutton, weighing fourteen pounds. The matter is in the hands of the local police.

SCOTCH.

Miss Lauder, daughter of a Glasgow wine merchant, who mysteriously disappeared from Glasgow on Nov. 24, has been discovered in Manchester, where, it is stated, she had taken a situation as the result of some girlish whim. One hundred pounds had been offered for information as to her whereabouts, and there are three claimants for the reward.

Mr. Andrew Usher, the distiller, who died lately, and who presented the corporation of Edinburgh with £100,000 to erect a music hall, bought the estate of St. Abb's, a few years ago, with the village and surrounding sands. He built a pier for the fishermen and also a new church, and installed electric light in the village; but he prohibited any licensed public house on his property. This, says the 'Westminster Gazette,' was rather an unusual step for a distiller.

In the course of a proof in the Perth Sheriff Court regarding the boundaries of a property in Abernethy, an old woman was called as a witness for the pursuer. She was examined by Mr. Hunter, solicitor, pursuer's agent, as to a number of points, and while being cross-examined by Mr. J. A. Stewart, solicitor, Tay street, on behalf of defender, as to certain boundaries, she was asked if she knew what a bottle-throat was. The old lady answered—'Fine that.' Mr Stewart—'I mean, of course, a bottle-throat between two properties.' Witness—'O, I ken.' The sheriff—'I have had questions of different sorts before about bottle-throats in this Court, but I don't think I ever heard of a bottle-throat between two houses. Perhaps the witness could explain what it means.' Mr. Stewart—'The Sheriff would like you to tell him what exactly is the meaning of a bottle-throat.' Witness—'Tell him yersel'; it wis you that was speerin'.' It afterwards came out that a bottle-throat was the vacant space that was to be found between the gable ends of houses in former times in such villages as Abernethy.

A lady upwards of sixty years of age, and resident in the Bridgend district of Perth, has just undergone a strange experience. The other afternoon she left home to visit a relative at Dupplin, and on her way to the station did some shopping, leaving a parcel at one place to be called for on her return. That evening and the whole of the next day came, much to the distress of her friends, without anything being heard of the old lady at the shop or at home. On the day following, however, a message was received stating that she had been found by the police late on the previous night in an exhausted condition in one of the streets in Bridge of Allan. She had in her possession at the time the return half of a ticket to Forteviot. Suffering, as she often does, from loss of memory, it is thought that on arriving at Forteviot Station she had lost her way and walked in the course of the night of and the day she started and the next day, to Bridge of Allan, a distance of over twenty miles. This supposition was somewhat confirmed by her appearance, although she can give no account of what happened. When it is remembered how inclement the weather was towards the end of last week the terrible experience of a woman between sixty and seventy can well be imagined. She has now been removed home, and, although in an exhausted condition, no serious results are anticipated.

IRISH.

An agrarian outrage was committed the other night at Kilbaha, West Clare. Some cattle belonging to a farmer named Green, who was bringing them to a local fair, were found maltreated. A donkey had its ears cut off, and four heifers were tarred all over. Green is the occupant of an evicted farm, and is consequently looked on with disfavor in some quarters.

A strange romance has just come to a conclusion in County Antrim. Some quarter of a century ago, (says the 'Irish Independent'), a German Count of high position and great wealth, was sailing about the northern coast, and came to grief upon the rocky shores of a certain island, owned by a family who bore the title of 'Kings of —— Island'—not altogether in a figurative sense, though they were and are, the quietest of country gentlemen. The shipwrecked Count was hospitably entertained by the owner of the island in the one good house which it contained. During his stay he fell in love with the pretty daughter of the house, and ultimately carried her back to Germany with him as his Countess. Years went on, the Count and Countess were dead, and their only daughter was maid of honor at a certain Continental Court, enjoying a high position, for, in addition to her father's own rank, she was a cousin of the young Queen of Holland. Then came misfortune, loss of money, and, it is rumored, a love affair, that caused trouble. The young Countess fled from the Court (where all were anxious to retain her), and came to stay with her Irish relations, whom she had never seen. Now the end of the story (according to the novelistic view) has come, for she is engaged to a gentleman living in Randalstown, County Antrim, and intends to give up Courts, Queens, and Counts for good, and settle down to a quiet country town life with her Irish lover.

THE TENDENCY TO JEST.

In an article depreciating the American habit of jesting, the 'Saturday Evening Post' says:

'Not very long ago, a well-known humorist was announced to lecture. As he lingered in the ante-room of the crowded hall, a telegram informing him of the death of his mother-in-law was placed in his hands. Tender, loving, deep and fervent was the feeling between them, and he felt as though the angel of death had called his own dear mother. Staggering under the terrible blow, he informed the manager in a few hurried words of his bereavement and of the impossibility of his going on the platform. In despair the manager spoke of the enthusiastic audience, even then stamping impatiently for their favorite; expostulated, even raged, but all in vain.

'At last, he urged the lecturer to at least make his own apology to the audience. With tear-dimmed eyes, barely seeing his way, he tottered to the footlights. Before that vast audience he held the telegraphic message of death, and in a voice choked and quivering with emotion, stammered out his apology—he could not lecture, as his mother-in-law had just died. That crowded house, hushed to catch the faint utterance of his opening words, burst into a storm of laughter and applause that seemed to shake the very rafters. The excuse seemed to them but an original witty overture to an evening's fun. The stricken man begged, implored, even prayed them to believe him; but that grand assemblage, blind victims to morbid humor, heard him not, and he made his way out into the open air as best he could, leaving them to discover later their cruel mistake. The mother-in-law joke, the relic of a past age, should be relegated to the oblivion it deserves. It has been but one of many instances of the danger of making all situations in life the subject of jest.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BIAS VELVETEEN S·H·&M· SKIRT BINDING

Binding Wear and Art-Quality

The Redfern Brand of "S. H. & M." wears—no other binding has its durability—it outwears the skirt of strongest fabric—to this superlative durability is given the highest art of deep soft richness, costing but a few cents more than the commonest binding—it adds 25 per cent. to the dress of the skirt.

S. H. & M. stamped on back of every yard.
If your dealer will not supply you, we will.
THE S H. & M. CO., 24 Front Street W., Toronto, Ont.

Shorey's Clothing . . .

for Youths, Boys and Children



is cut and tailored in the best style, sewn with linen thread and gives your boy just that appearance you would most desire.

It is a mistake to associate style with high prices. It does not cost any more to cut a garment to fit than to cut it badly.

It is sold by all up-to-date dealers and has a Shorey's Guarantee Card in one of the pockets of each garment which means **Satisfaction or your money back.** See that you get **Shorey's** make and take no other.

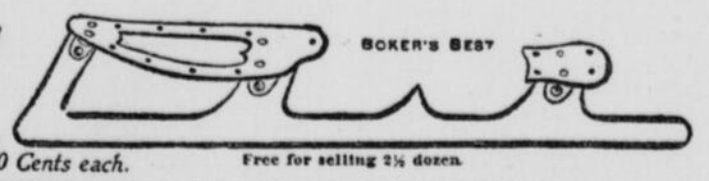


ADVERTISEMENTS.

Hood's Pills

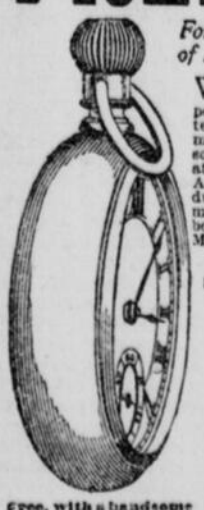
Stimulate the stomach, rouse the liver, cure biliousness, headache, dizziness, sour stomach, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. Sold by all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

FREE No Money Required.



Free for selling 2½ dozen

For Selling a few Packets of Exquisite Perfume at 10 Cents each.



WE give this handsome **Boy's Watch** or a pair of **Boker's A1 Spring Skates** for selling 2 doz. packets, a pair of **Boker's Best Hockey Skates** for selling 2½ doz., or this dainty little **Lady's Watch** for selling 3 doz. Our perfume has a most delicious and lasting odour, and is put up in very pretty packets. The testimonials below will show how easily it sells. Send us your name and address and we will mail the perfume, postpaid. **You run no risk.** We send an extra package to cover your postage, so that you need not spend a cent of your own. Sell the perfume, return our money and we will at once forward your watch or skates, **all charges paid by us.** The **Boy's Watch** is of genuine American make, very handsome and reliable. The **Lady's Watch** is a beautiful little Swiss, as durable and accurate as it is pretty. The **Skates** are Boker's Best, and you know what that means. We have them in every size, for boys or girls. Remember that the first agent in a neighborhood has the best chance. Liberal commission if preferred. Unsold perfume may be returned. Mention this paper when writing.

THE HOME SPECIALTY CO., TORONTO



Free, with a beautiful Guard, for selling 3 dozen.

Every day we receive dozens of testimonials like the following:

DACRE, ONT., Nov. 7th, 1898.
DEAR SIRS,—Enclosed you will find your money for the perfume. I sold it on the way home from the post-office. Yours for business. ANNIE J. COLE.

CANNINGTON, N.W.T., Oct. 28th, 1898.
DEAR SIRS,—I received the watch on the 22nd with chain and charm. They are far better than I expected. Your watch is a dandy and takes the shine wherever it is. It is true you give more than you promise. I thank you many times, for the work was not enough for this prize. Yours truly, JOHN G. W. GIBSON.

THOROLD, ONT., Nov. 26th, 1898.
THE HOME SPECIALTY CO.,—I sold your perfume in 2½ hours. Please find enclosed a post-office order for your money. Yours respectfully, WILLIE CLIPPERTON

ESSEX, ONT., Nov. 28th, 1898.
DEAR FRIENDS,—I received the watch and guard on Wednesday last and I like them very much. I will recommend your company whenever I can, for I think my watch is worth double the trouble trying to get it. Yours truly, CASSIE ELLIS.

31 LEWIS STREET, TORONTO, Dec. 7th, 1898.
Your Boker's Hockey Skates are worth all the rest put together. Yours truly, JOHN CAMPBELL

Free, with a handsome Chain and Charm, for selling 2 dozen

You may also earn Air Rifles, Gold Rings, Silver Bracelets, Cameras, Tool Sets, Magic Lanterns, Manicure Sets, etc.



Free with Straps for selling 2 Dozen.

With every watch we send a Written Guarantee to Repair or Replace good for 1 year

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Enameline

when applied, is most BRILLIANT, and that is the effect you want when using a stove polish. When an old stove is polished it should look as bright as new—that is the result when you use Enameline. It is put up in paste, cake or liquid form. Remember that every package is guaranteed.

J. L. PRESCOTT & CO., New York

A CHANGE

For Machinists, Newspaper proprietors and Manufacturers, if they will study carefully the undermentioned list of articles for sale:

IRON PULLEYS.

No. Pullers.	Diam.	Face	Bore.
3	5¼ in.	2¼ in.	1⅛ in.
1	12 in.	3½ in.	1⅞ in.
1	12 in.	6 in.	1¼ in.
1	14 in.	12 in.	17-16 in.
1	12½ in.	6¾ in.	115-16 in.
1	13¾ in.	3⅝ in.	1¾ in.
1	15½ in.	7⅛ in.	115-16 in.
1	16 in.	4 in.	1⅞ in.
1	16 in.	6 in.	115-16 in.
1	16 in.	8 in.	115-16 in.
1	17 in.	8 in.	115-16 in.
1	18 in.	8¼ in.	23-16 in

IRON SPLIT PULLEYS.

1	16¼ in.	10 in.	115-16 in.
1	14 in.	4½ in.	27-16 in.
1	10 in.	4 in.	17-16 bushed to 1⅝ in
1	16 in.	6 in.	2⅞ in " " 1¾ in

IRON CONE PULLEYS.

1	4 speeds	14 in. to 6½ in.	27-16 in. bore.
1	5 "	6 in. to 4 in.	1¼ in. in bore.
1	5 "	6 in. to 4 in.	1⅝ in. in bore.

DODGE WOOD PULLEYS.

Diameter.	Face.
1 30 in.	6 in. face.
1 19 in.	6 in. face.
1 20 in.	5 in. face.
1 15 in.	9 in. face.

FOR NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.

One Attachment Folder for extra fold, Mailing.
Two Forsyth Folding Machines.
One Chambers Folding Machine.
One Stonemetz Folding Machine.
These machines will cut, fold and paste, and will be sold for $100 each.
One Stereo Casting Box, 1 ft. 7 in. by 7 ft. 6 in.
Address or apply to

J. BEATTY, 'Witness' Office.
Montreal

[For the 'Witness.'

TWO MONARCHS GREAT ARE WE.

(By Professor John E. Webster.)

The Thunder god, King Thor am I,
Supreme is my control!
When Monarch Lightning rends the sky,
My mighty voice resounds on high,
O'er oceans vast to roll!
A fiery king is he,
Who recks not high degree,
He wields his sword with ruthless sway,
No power on earth may bar his way,
Tho' kingly power it be!
We laugh Ho, ho! at every flash,
On stormy day;
We're hand and glove mid thunder's crash,
Right in the fray!
Two monarchs great are we!

With Heaven's artillery great and grand,
I play my kingly part,
And volleys fire o'er sea and land,
While dazzling lightning, from his hand,
Hurls forth his deadly dart!
Relentless in decree,
No mortal spareth he;
Sheltering in a home of rest,
Who can safely shield his guest,
While Lightning's arm is free?
We laugh Ho, ho! at every flash,
On stormy day;
We're hand and glove 'mid thunder's crash,
Right in the fray!
Two monarchs great are we!

Perchance a merry mood we store,
To drive dull care away;
Staunch friends are we right to the core,
His whims and antics make me roar,
'Tis then we're blithe and gay!
We're frolicsome and free,
And full of jollity;
Some rare good jokes we love to crack,
While he brings ruin in his track,
Making poor mortals flee!
We laugh Ho, ho! at every flash,
On stormy day;
We're hand and glove 'mid thunder's crash,
Right in the fray!
Two monarchs great are we!

SECRET HIDING PLACES.

A LOVER ROASTED TO DEATH BY AN ANGRY BROTHER.

('Household Words.')

In the good old days, before life was as safe and prosaic as it is now, no architect thought of planning a house of any size without designing a secret chamber. These curious loopholes of escape and places of concealment have been discovered from time to time in recent years. A few years ago the kitchen of Holland House was being converted into a ball-room, and to do this it was necessary to cut through a six-foot wall. But this did not prove to be the formidable task the architect expected, for the partition was not solid, but hollow, composed of two nine-inch walls with a space between for a secret chamber.

In Ingatestone Hall, in Essex, there was discovered, some fifty years ago, a trap-door in the corner of one of the principal rooms. When this was raised a two-foot hole was seen, with a ladder leading into a secret chamber. This was fourteen feet long, ten feet high, by only two feet wide—a safe, but not very comfortable, place of refuge.

At Compton Wingates, near Edgehill, an old mansion belonging to the Marquis of Northampton, there is a secret chapel built in between the timbers of the roof and the wainscot partitions, leaving behind a space into which the worshippers, if surprised, could disappear through different doors to two private staircases.

Nearly every house of any age in this country possesses a secret chamber. These hiding places have furnished historical novelists with innumerable stirring incidents. Readers of 'Woodstock' will instantly recall the manner in which young Henry Lee, disguised as Charles the Second, baffled the pursuit of Cromwell, while the king was making good his escape. The merry monarch, indeed, owed his liberty, if not his life, to these secret chambers on more than one occasion, notably at Boscobel House, and Manor House, near Sherborne. After the battle of Worcester, Charles was sheltered from capture in the secret chamber of a house at Moseley, near Wolverhampton.

The family house of the Senhouses, Netherhall, near Maryport, possesses a secret chamber, the exact whereabouts of which is known only to the head of the family, his heir, and the family solicitor. So artfully is it hidden that it has defied the research of everybody who has endeavored to find it.

A perfect sample of the old-time country house is Plowden Hall, Shropshire. In the floor of the cupboard in a certain room is a trap-door, which leads by a ladder into a small chamber, large enough to hold two persons, for whose food a small shelf was provided. Though this hiding place was long known to exist, so cunningly was it hidden that only some alterations revealed its locality.

Stanford Court, Worcestershire, was literally honeycombed with secret passages and chambers. On the oak wainscoting of one of the rooms were carved several figures, and hidden in the carving of each was a spring which, pressed, caused the panel to revolve, and disclosed a passage leading to a hiding place. All these were blocked up or destroyed on renovating the mansion some years ago. Hendlip House, Worcester, had a secret entrance or exit to every room in the building. These led from room to room by means of secret passages, and so thick was the oak panelling that tapping did not reveal them.

In some houses part of the stair could be raised, revealing a snug hiding place beneath. Below this there was another set of stairs, so that examination of the top or bottom part disclosed nothing; measurement alone would have revealed the existence of a secret cavity.

Oaken panels, on being pressed, could be lifted, disclosing steps and a narrow recess in the wall of the room, through which was a loophole, so that the fugitive could watch his pursuers.

Trap-doors into hiding-places were covered by boxes, through which the fugitive descended. The box was then refilled with its contents, and this would alone satisfy any searchers who examined the old oak chest. Pictures in heavy frames were so constructed that they could swing round, disclosing a space behind, which the picture ordinarily covered. In fact, the ingenuity of architects was infinite in providing the secret hiding-places which the unsettled times demanded.

Many of these chambers of refuge were situated over or behind the chimney piece, access being had, as explained above, by means of a revolving picture. In connection with a hiding-place of this character at Kingsley Old Hall, a fearful tale is told. The eldest son of the house learned that his sister received visits from a gentleman who was his deadliest rival. One day he nearly surprised the two together, the lover barely having time to conceal himself in the hiding-place above the fireplace. From his sister's excited manner he gathered that his enemy had been present, and inferred where he was hidden. With cold-blooded revenge the brother nailed up the hiding-place, stopped the ventilating holes, and then piled up and lit a huge fire in the hearth. The shrieks of his victim soon ceased, suffocation speedily causing death. His sweetheart before that happened had lost her reason in watching her brother's dreadful revenge.

Even more romantic and tragic is another story of a secret chambr. During the '45 rebellion a warrant was issued for the arrest of a country gentleman for assisting the Pretender. Warned of the approach of the king's officers, he hid himself in the secret chamber of his house—and that the myrmidons of the law were unable to discover. Knowing that he had not escaped from the country, and convinced he was still in the house, they remained there, hopeful of securing him. Despite the presence of the soldiers, his wife managed to supply him with food and drink. Worn out at length with anxiety, she succumbed to brain fever. When his supplies of food ceased, he ventured forth to obtain some, and learn the reason for its stoppage. He met his nephew, who, to secure his estate, had denounced his uncle to the government, though of this none but the authorities knew. A free pardon, however, had just arrived, and with his plot ruined—for the soldiers were already preparing to depart—the nephew was cursing his ill luck, when he met his uncle emerging from his hiding-place. With ready wit he seized the situation; concealing the news of the pardon, he persuaded his uncle to return to his hiding-place, and promised to bring him food. For this purpose the entrance to the secret chamber was shown him.

True to his promise, the nephew visited his uncle that night—not to feed, but to murder him. The foul deed was speedily done. Chuckling over the success of his plans, for none but he now knew of the secret room, and his uncle's disappearance would excite no surprise, for it would be thought he had fled the country, the nephew ascended the steps from the secret chamber. But he could not open the door; it had closed behind him, and he could not find the secret spring which opened it. To break the iron-plated door was impossible, and thus he was doomed to die of starvation in the presence of the corpse of his victim. Of his frightful, yet righteous, end who can speak?

Even if the entrance to the secret chamber was discovered, in some cases provision was made that meant death to any person who trod the path, unless he knew its hidden perils. In the state room of one house, we are told, there is the family coat of arms. Touching a certain spring concealed in the shield causes it to revolve, disclosing a flight of steps. The first, third, fifth, seventh, ninth—all the odd stairs—can be mounted in safety; but to tread on one of the even numbered steps sets in motion some concealed machinery, which causes the stairs to revolve, precipitating their bearer into the deepest dungeons.

If these secret chambers have concealed many a man innocent of crime, from the tyrant of the moment, similar contrivances have enabled notorious rogues to escape the clutches of the law. In an inn in Epping Forest there is a recess—big enough to hold a man in a sitting position—over the fireplace. In this Dick Turpin, it is said, was often concealed, and by its aid escaped his pursuers. At the rear of a small Yorkshire hotel there is a water tub which has often delivered a gentleman of the road from the grasp of the king's officers. The butt is raised two feet from the ground, and, to the eye, looks an ordinary water tub. But it has a false bottom, to which admittance is gained by a flap door in the bottom. Crawling up into this, and drawing up the door, the fugitive was safe, for without probing the butt no one could tell that water did not really fill it to the bottom.

A HYPNOTIC CONFESSION.

HOW IT SOLVED A MYSTERY OF MISSING BONDS.

A curious case of somnambulism has just occurred at Alfortville, near Paris.

One Sunday night M. Antoine Clichy, a gentleman living on his means and possessed of considerable property, found that a package containing two thousand four hundred pounds' worth of bonds had been stolen from his bedroom.

He immediately informed the police, who, to their own and M. Clichy's great astonishment, were unable to find any trace of the entrance of the thief or thieves. All the windows and doors of the house were closed, and there was no trace of a forcible entry anywhere.

The following Wednesday morning M. Clichy was obliged to take his wife, who has for some time past been suffering from nervous prostration, to the Salpêtriere Hospital, and the doctor there, in view of the state of abnormal agitation and excitement in which Mme. Clichy was, asked her husband whether anything had occurred during the last few days to account for her condition.

M. Clichy told the doctor of his loss, adding that his wife had taken the matter even more to heart than he himself had done.

The doctor, a firm believer in hypnotism, immediately hypnotized Mme. Clichy, and drew from her, in the hypnotic state, the extraordinary confession that she herself had stolen the bonds, which she had buried under a cherry tree in their own garden.

This had been done early on Sunday morning, while her husband was at the hairdresser's. M. Clichy immediately went home, where he found traces of recent disturbance of the soil under the tree in question, and a few inches from the surface discovered his parcel of bonds intact.

He went back to the hospital, found his wife in bed there, totally unconscious of the revelations she had made, and informed her that the bonds had been recovered in their entirety. Mme. Clichy was delighted at the news. She is now much better, and is absolutely unaware of the identity of the thief.

AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL

[We invite communications from farmers giving their experience on matters interesting to them as a class; and also enquiries, to which, if we cannot answer them ourselves, some of our readers may be able to furnish satisfactory replies. Questions must always be accompanied by name and address, though not necessarily for publication.]

ONTARIO FRUIT-GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above-named organization convened in the court house, St. Catharines, Dec. 1, and was well attended. Representative fruit-growers were present from all parts of the province, and great interest was shown in the proceedings. The court-room presented a fine appearance with its tasteful decoration of palms, ferns, chrysanthemums, and other beautiful plants. There was also a remarkably fine display of fruit. The beautiful apples, pears and grapes were a very attractive sight. There was also an exhibit of the insect enemies of fruit and fruit trees, such as borers, moths, scales, and the means used for their destruction. There was a large attendance.

The first paper given was by A. M. Smith, St. Cathtarines, on 'Frauds in fruit.' Much discussion followed the reading of this paper, and the light of day was let into various dishonest practices in connection with the fruit business, such as the bringing of a few forced grapes for prizes to exhibitions, showing borrowed or bought fruit, ringing of grapes, and all deceptions as to the size and shape of fruit. The feeling of the meeting was strongly in opposition to every species of fraud and imposition and strong measures were resolved on to put down all such practices.

FRUIT-GROWING AND MORALITY.

F. G. A. Pattison, of Grimsby, read a paper entitled 'Is fruit-growing conducive to morality?' in which he humorously referred to fruit-growing being the cause of original sin, and said that the curse had followed the grower to the present day. This was illustrated by large fruit being placed on top of the basket and the small, inferior specimens put at the bottom. Nurserymen were also sometimes tempted, and were apt to sell second or third class trees for first-class specimens.

RUSSIAN FRUIT.

Professor Macoun, of the Ottawa Experimental Farm, made some observations on Russian fruits, which were being grown at that institution. He stated that experiments had extended over ten years, and that there are now a hundred and sixty apple trees, eighteen pear, twelve cherry and seven plum out of all that were planted in 1888. Of all the fruit imported from Russia, while some of it is promising, none is good enough to be recommended. An orchard of seedlings from that country had been planted, but most of the fruit had turned out to be of inferior quality. Cherries were nearly all root-killed on account of poor stocks. The same was true of plums. The Koslor Morello cherry was an exception, and was spoken well of by a number of the delegates.

PEACH BORER.

The peach borer was discussed by Mr. Burrell, of St. Catharines, and was technically described. It was characterized as the peach tree's worst enemy, especially on sandy soil. The moths come out from late July till October, and there is need of constant attention and care to kill them. Washes were described and various delegates told of their experiments with different preparations.

At the afternoon session, Mr. Brodie, of the Quebec Horticultural Association, was introduced and gave an address of five minutes. This was followed by words of greeting from Mr. E. Morden, of Niagara Falls; Mr. W. H. Runting, of St. Catharines, and others.

FRUIT PULP.

Prof. C. C. James, deputy minister of agriculture of Ontario, contributed a paper on the export of fruit pulp. It showed the importance of the fruit-pulp industry in England, and stated that there was a market there for certain varieties of fruit for this industry. In particular, raspberries and apricots are manufactured into pulp in large quantities, but there was not much demand for grapes and blueberries. He went into details on the manufacture of fruit-pulp, the methods of packing fruit for the English market, and gave some idea of the prices that could be obtained. Considerable discussion followed the paper. Prof. Robertson spoke on the subject and stated that shipments made for the pulp market had not realized very large receipts. Mr. Boulter, of Picton, a prominent canner, had sent goods to England for the pulpers, and in some cases no returns were made, the charges of the commission men being very heavy. Mr. R. W. Gregory proposed that a committee be named to discuss the question, and a bulletin will be issued embodying their views.

EXPORT OF TENDER FRUITS.

'Prospects for export of tender fruits' was the title of an instructive paper read by Prof. Robertson, of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa. It dealt with the causes of the failure of so many who have gone into fruit raising when ordinary farming has failed. He said that many were ill-adapted for such an industry, and even if they did understand the business, the small grower has to encounter very strong competition. The tastes of the buyer must be thoroughly understood before a grower can export successfully. English people consider soundness, keeping qualities, appearance and flavor, but even fruits that will keep for some time are more desirable than more delicious flavors. He showed that California pears have brought a higher price in the British market simply because they are shipped in good condition, and will keep well. Size is also to be considered. Canadian pears shipped from the cold storage warehouse of Grimsby have been successful. Tomatoes brought little or nothing; peaches did not bring very much, and apples when shipped in sufficiently large cases, sold well. Except in a very few cases, the shipment of grapes was a failure. A general discussion followed Professor Robertson's paper, and the question of the trans-atlantic transportation of fruit was also touched upon.

In the evening the session was in the nature of a citizens' gathering, the court house being well filled. Among those present were the Mayor and members of the City Council. His Worship gave an address of welcome to the visitors, to which President Wellington made an appropriate reply. The president gave his annual address in which he congratu'ated the members on the success of the past year's work. The receipts showed nearly eight hundred dollars increase over the previous year, with a corresponding increase of membership. The balance in hand was seven hundred and eighty-four dollars.

The papers discussed during the evening were: 'Manitoba and the North-West Territories as markets for Ontario and British Columbia fruit,' by Dr. Saunders, of Ottawa, and 'Horticulture at the O. A. C.,' by Dr. Mills, of Guelph. Interspersed with the addresses were musical numbers by local talent.

SECOND DAY.

At the second day's session the treasurer presented his report of receipts and expenditures. The receipts were $6,685.91, and the expenditures $5,800.98, leaving a balance on hand of $784.96. Some changes were made in the constitution in conformity with the Ontario Agricultural and Arts Act. A discussion took place on the advisability of encouraging tree-growing, and a clause was added to the constitution to that effect.

THE NEW OFFICERS.

The report of the committee on election of officers was presented by Mr. Race, as follows:—President, W. E. Wellington, Toronto; vice-president, W. M. Orr, Fruitland; directors district No. 1, W. A. Whitney, Iroquois; No. 2, R. B. White, Ottawa; No. 3, Geo. Nichol, Cataraqui; No. 4, Wellington Boulter, Picton; No. 5, Thos. Beal, Lindsay; No. 6, E. C. Bernan, Newcastle; No. 7, M. Pettit, Grimsby; No. 8, A. M. Smith, St. Catharines; No. 9, J. S. Scarff, Woodstock; No. 10, J. I. Graham, Vandeleur; No. 11, T. H. Race, Mitchell; No. 12, Alex. McNeill, Walkerville; No. 13, Geo. C. Caston, Craighurst; auditors, A. H. Pettit, Grimsby; G. E. Fisher, Freeman.

The board of directors met after the morning session, when the principal business transacted was the selection of the next place of meeting. Whitby was chosen. Mr. L. Wolverton was re-elected secretary treasurer for the ensuing year.

The reports of the auditors and finance committee were also read and adopted. The following resolutions were then passed:—

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION.

Moved by Mr. G. C. Caston and seconded by Mr. Murray Pettit, 'That we, the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario here assembled, believing that the transportation and marketing of our fruits is the most important question affecting our association at the present time, and that decisive measures to that end should be taken by our association, hereby resolve that a committee be appointed, to be styled the Committee on Transportation Markets, composed of the following:—W. E. Wellington, W. M. Orr, Alex. McNeil, E. D. Smith, M. Pettit, T. H. Carpenter, W. H. Bunting, and R. W. Gregory, and that an appropriation be made from the funds of the association to cover necessary expenses.'

A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WANTED.

Moved by Mr. Pettit and seconded by Mr. W. H. Bunting, 'That the Secretary be authorized to communicate with the Nova Scotia and Quebec Horticultural Societies, requesting them to appoint one or more delegates to join the delegation appointed by this association to interview the Government and urge upon them the importance of appointing officers, whose duty it shall be to see that proper ventilation and greater care be given to the storage of apples and other fruits exported to Great Britain on ocean steamers and that the secretary shall make all arrangements and dates for meetings of said deputation.'

When the association reassembled in the afternoon, the report of the committee on new and seedling fruits was read by Mr. M. Pettit, He pointed out that the many choice varieties of pears now grown in our orchards and gardens owed their origin to gradual development and improvements one upon another, upon a wild form, which Downing spoke of as the 'most austere of all fruits.'

Mr. E. H. Wartman of Kingston read a paper on 'Grading Fruit for Size.' He urged that it was essential to the future of the trade that grading fruit according to size and quality should be practiced by every fruit grower.

CO-OPERATIVE SELLING.

Mr. Alexander McNeill, of Walkerville, addressed the association on co-operation in fruit selling. He said that co-operation was absolutely necessary under some circumstances, and good at all times. Whenever co-operative associations were conducted intelligently they were successful. Co-operation would secure greater uniformity in packing and grading of fruit. The tendency of the grading of fruit was always up instead of down where co-operative efforts were employed.

Mr. W. M. Orr, of Fruitland, read a most important and valuable paper on 'Results of Spraying in 1898,' Spraying bulletins, the speaker said, were excellent educators, but he was afraid the greater part of the bulletins were seldom read. Let, however, a farmer, once see the work of preparing and applying the mixture properly done, let him come to the orchards where spraying was being done, and let him be shown the species of injurious insects on the trees and the best method of dealing with them, and he would remember more about it than he would if he read a bulletin a dozen times.

Mr. E. Morden, of Niagara Falls, gave an exceedingly interesting paper on 'The Future Fruitgrower,' whom he credited with gifts and graces, and knowledge almost unknown to-day.

On motion of Mr. Alexander McNeill, seconded by Mr. Boulton, Mr. W. M. Orr was appointed representative of the association to the Paris Exposition in 1900.

Mr. Armstrong, of Queenston, then gave some practical illustrations of the best methods of pruning peach trees. He had a number of small trees with him which he trimmed before the audience, explaining the reasons for taking from each a limb, or part of a limb.

HOUSE PLANTS.

The evening session was opened with a practical paper on 'House Plants,' by Mr. Wm. Gammage, of London, After referring to the fact that the demand for these was annually increasing, Mr. Gammage pointed out that failure or success in growing house-plants depended almost wholly on the person in attendance, situation, soil, water and pots being secondary considerations. The peculiar requirements of each specimen must be carefully studied.

Prof. W. T. Macoun, of the Ottawa Experimental Farm, read an exceedingly instructive paper on 'Hardy perennials, suitable for cultivation in Canada.' He dealt with the plants, however, under their scientific names, which robbed the address of its popular character.

The last address of the evening was by Dr. Saunders, of Ottawa, and with the assistance of a large number of excellent views of the Experimental Farm, which were thrown on a curtain by means of a stereopticon, he gave a charming talk on 'Points of interest to horticulturists in the work of the Central Experimental Farm.' During the evening Mr. J. A. Abbs sang several songs with much acceptance.

LINDENBANK.

N.B.—For the latter portion of this report I am indebted to the Toronto 'Globe.'

FARM GLEANINGS.

Ten years since there were only about five windmills in this county. Now there are more than three hundred, which is an evidence of the fact that farmers are getting up to the times and are making steps toward improvement. Not every farmer or stock-raiser can afford to put up a windmill as the expense is one or two hundred dollars. But it used to cost at least three hundred dol-

lars to put up a windmill. This included of course the price of the machinery, digging the well, etc. One may get a first-classs windmill put up now for about two hundred dollars, this price including everything. If you want to provide for dry seasons get a windmill. If the well is properly fixed, being well and deeply bored, water may be had at all times, dry or wet, cold or hot.

At a meeting of the Missouri Valley Horticultural Society, Mr. Goodman, secretary, said he could keep from 3,000 to 4,000 bushels of apples in his cellar. He first sprinkled them with a solution of copperas, then piled the apples as high as possible in the bins. He did not want too much ventilation, as in his experience the apples exposed to the air rotted worse than in the middle. Apples left in piles have a gray coating formed on the outside, and if they reach this stage they are comparatively free from rot. The coating is formed in from six weeks to two months and most of the rotting is done during this period. The cellar should be sprayed or sprinkled often to stop all fungous growth. He also advocated building storage houses over springs as the flow of water will keep the house cool, and also give sufficient ventilation. Another method, where ice is kept, is to have the apples stored in a cellar under the ice house, the floor above being tight to prevent leakage. This is approximately the method adopted by one of the cold storage houses in Kansas City, in which apples have been kept for three years with remarkably good results.

This is the second season in which Dawson's Golden Chaff wheat has been generally grown in Michigan, and the reports so far received from those who have grown it are proof that its early promise has been fully sustained. 'So far as we can learn,' says the 'Michigan Farmer,' it has out-yielded all other varieties this season, when big yields are quite common. Some samples received from growers are very fine. The grains are large, plump and even, and must overrun sixty pounds to the bushel in weight. The Messrs. Jenks write us that they grew five acres of this variety, and they yielded over two hundred and seventy-five bushels, or over fifty-five bushels to the acre. This is the heaviest yield so far reported, but we have one of thirty-seven bushels to the acre, on twenty acres, and several of over forty bushels on from one to five acres. In quality this variety is one of the best white wheats ever grown in the state. Analysis made by Dr. R. C. Kedzie, of the Agricultural College, who is responsible for its introduction into Michigan, show that it is richer in gluten than most white wheats, although not equal, of course, to the best red wheats in that respect. We have had no white wheat in years that has yielded as well as Dawson's Golden Chaff, or has succeeded so well over such a wide area with great diversity of soils.'

Our experience has been that apples hand-picked from the tree and carefully placed in the barrel show best results. Apples thus packed show their bloom better and show a life of freshness that apples which are run over a table or laid on the ground for a time before going into the barrel do not have. When you please a buyers' eye the sale is half made. We believe in double facing, using apples as nearly one size and color as possible, and to have the free apples represent the remainder of the barrel in size as near as practicable. Shake the barrel gently after each basket is emptied until the barrel is filled. Some varieties will stand filling three inches above the chime, others not so much; right at this point is where great care is needed. Apples properly filled in the barrel, and an experienced man with a press, can add very much to the keeping and selling quality of the apples. We often find from eight to twenty or more apples badly bruised at the bottom, caused by too much pressing; simply a waste and loss, and frequently a barrel will shake, and the dealer must use a like quantity to plug or fill the barrel before sending it out to a customer. With proper care in barrelling and heading, all this extra work and waste of apples would be avoided. Shake well and level off the face before putting in the head, then nail and head line carefully. It takes some time, but one barrel bursting in a car will cause more loss than the extra labor spent in securely nailing the bottom.

The Farmers' Alliance of Wapello County, Iowa, has issued the following advice to farmers of the state, as to holding wheat for higher prices: Within a short time, a steady advance up to the 75-cent mark at north-western shipping points is certain as death; and the farmers have the game in their own hands if they play with a little caution. The reason upon which we base our faith in the better price for wheat is that when the crop of 1898 was harvested, the world's supply from former years was practically exhausted, and the bread-eating world is now drawing its supplies from the crop of the present year. In other years, and for many years, the old stocks amounted to hundreds of millions of bushels when the crop of any given year was harvested; and in reckoning on the world's supply, the gamblers counted the old wheat as well as the new. This year there is no old wheat on which they can reckon. The low price of wheat during ten years preceding 1897 was due not to a surplus in any given year, but to the accumulations of preceding years. The chief cause has now temporarily disappeared. Again, the acute distress which for three or four years afflicted many farmers in the North-West is no longer in sight. Farmers generally are in better shape to protect themselves against the vulgar wiles of bulls and bears; and those animals are perfectly aware of the situation.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Have you a regular supply of salt for your cattle and other live stock? If not, arrange some plan by which every animal on the farm can have free access to salt at any time their appetites call for it. Even the hogs should be salted regularly, or be supplied with a place where they can get salt as often as they desire it. It is absolutely necessary to the health of animals, and to deprive them of it is a piece of costly extravagance.

High prices for sheep are being paid by Argentine breeders for the purpose of improving their native stock. They are getting most of their thoroughbreds from England, and have paid as high as 1,000 guineas, or about $5,000, for a single Lincoln ram, and have bought many others at lower but still high prices. The highest prices are being paid for Lincoln rams, but there is a disposition among Argentine flock masters to buy thoroughbred rams of other long wool breeds, which can be got at less prices. The great object among the Argentine breeders seems to be to produce a higher quality of mutton for export to the English market, as their mutton trade is even more valuable than the wool industry. The Palermo agricultural society holds its great live stock and sheep show in Buenos Ayres in September, for which 243 head were shipped from England, including Cotswolds, Devon Longwools, Kent Longwools, Oxforddown, Roscommons, Hampshires, Suffolks, Wensleydales and Shropshires, as well as Lincolns.

When the colt is put in a box stall to wean, it would be a good practice to visit it every day. Do not attempt to force matters, but let the colt get used to you gradually. In a few days it will begin to take some interest in you, and if you will give it a little salt, or, better still, a little sugar, in your hand, you will win its heart and confidence forever. Now when the colt will allow itself to be fondled it is ready for the halter. Let it be of strap and not rope, as the latter is apt to burn if the colt pulls back, for it is imperative not to hurt it during these preliminary lessons. Here, again, take plenty of time. If the colt shies at the halter, let him examine it with his nose. Avoid any quick motions, as nothing excites a young animal more than the jerky movements of a nervous trainer. When the halter is on, take a short hold on the strap and commence by quietly pulling to one side. You can move him in this way. In a few minutes he will get the idea and, if not afraid of you, will lead about the stall. Never attempt to pull a young horse out of a stable by the halter. He will resist to the limit of his strength and then lunge blindly forward and, nine cases out of ten, seriously injure himself.

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 enquiry 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.

TO CLEAN GREY FUR AND BUCKSKIN.

A.A.G., Fraserville.—Please give a recipe for (1) the cleansing of grey lamb's fur, (2) the cleansing of buckskin mitts. Ans. -1. Light colored and pure white furs may be cleansed by the following simple process: Lay the skin upon a table, and rub with bran moistened with warm water. Rub until the friction makes the fur dry. Then rub again this time with dry bran, then rub with magnesia. Instead of the wet bran at first used, dry flour may be applied. Use flannel for the application of the wet bran, or flour, and book muslin, for the dry bran. Be careful to rub against the lay of the fur. 2. Wash the gloves in lukewarm, soft water, with a little castile, or curd soap, oxgall, or bran; then stretch them on wooden hands, made to fit, or in the absence of such hands, pull them into shape, with the fingers, without wringing the wet out of them. Next rub them with pipe clay, yellow ochre or umber, or a paste of these compounds, mixed with yeast, or a liquid made from boiling water poured upon hops. Let them dry gradually and when half dry rub them well so that they may be smoothed into place. When quite dry, brush out the superfluous color, put papers over them, and smooth with a warm (not hot) iron. Another recipe specially applicable for the removal of grease spots, consists of rubbing gloves with magnesia, or cream of tartar. Then wash with soap dissolved in water, which should be warm or hot. Pull them into shape as in the first recipe; rinse them first in warm, and afterwards in cold water; dry in the sun or before the fire; all gloves or mitts are better and more shapely if dried on wooden hands. A third recipe: Stretch the mitts or gloves on a board or table. Sprinkle them with a mixture of finely powdered Fuller's earth, and alum. Dust this off, and sprinkle with a mixture of dry bran, and whiting. Dust this last mixture completely off. This recipe will not do for the mitts or gloves that are very dirty. These three recipes are equally efficacious for the cleansing of kid, doeskin or chamois gloves, and mitts.

DERIVATION OF ENGLISH SURNAMES.

C.M.T., Goderich.—1. Please state the derivations of the following English surnames, i.e., 'Holt,' 'Talt,' 'Barnaby,' 'Wagner,' 'Stark' and 'Stoddard.' 2. Name some work dealing with English surnames. Ans. —1. The name 'Holt' is derived from the Saxon; a holt, meaning a small wood coppice or thicket. When coupled with another werd the 'l' was often elided, as in Aldershot (the alder thicket); Oakshot, Bagshot, (badgers' wood); Hurst, or Herst, and Hirst, also signify 'wood,' but these terms are generally applied to forests, indicating as they do, places of greater size. Thus, Hazlehurst (wood of hazels); Oakhurst, Ashhurst, Elmhurst. If the wood were frequented by goats, Goathurst; if by hawks, Hawkhirst; if by deer (spelt, duer), Dewhurst; if by badgers or brocks, Brockhurst. We also have Crowhurst, and Lyndhurst (linden wood). A shaw or schaw also denoted a woody shade or covert; as a shelter for game or wild animals, it is found in such compounds as Bagshaw (badgers' shaw), Hindshaw, Ramshaw, Cockshaw, Henshaw, Hogshaw. Other forms are Bradshaw, Berkinshaw, Langshaw, Denshaw, Openshaw. Talt and Tate are supposed to be derived from the French 'tete,' and therefore to be Norman in origin, by certain writers. It is just as likely, however, that the name is Saxon, as it is met with in England centuries before the Norman conquest. A queen of Northumbria, during the times of the Heptarchy was called 'Ethelburrh,' or 'Tate.' The name Tate, too, is more frequently met with in the northern part of England, where the Norman influence was weaker than in the centre and south. Barnaby, Barnby, and other names similar to them, are believed to be of scriptural origin, and to be contractions or modifications of the Apostolic Barnabas. In like manner, Stevens, Steevens, Stevenson, Stephenson, Stinson, and Stimpson and Stimson, come from modifications of the proto-martyr 'Stephens,' name, so Paul, Paull, Poulson, Polson, Pollit, Poulett, Paulett, and Powel, or Powell; all come from Paul, formerly pronounced 'Poul.' Wagner, together with Wagoner, Wainman, or Wemman, come from the Saxon, wagon, or wain, and denote the driver of one of these vehicles. Later forms are Wainwright, Cartwright, for Carter, Carman and Charman. Stark signifies fierce, or determined. So William the Conqueror is described as being very stark. It also signifies the 'untutored, or unrefined nature of anything,' hence stark naked, the modern expression. Modifications of this are Starkie and Starkman. Akin to it in meaning are Wild, Wyld, and Wylde, Savage, Sauvage and Wilde. Stoddard, Stoddart, Stothard, Stotherd, refer to occupations 'herd' or 'ard,' denoting caretaker or herdsman. 'Stot' signified a bullock, hence Stothard or Stoddard denoted the keeper of the bullock herd. Hence too, Coward, or cowherd, the keeper of the cows. So, too, Shepherd, or Sheppard, keeper of the sheep. Calvert, Calverd, Calveherd, keeper of the calves; Coultherd, Coulthard, Coultard, keeper of the colts; so, too, Gottard, or Goddard, keeper of the goats, and Soward, Hoggart and Swinnart, keepers of swine. There were also keepers of birds, as Swanherd, Rocherde (rookherd), and Guscheyrd (gooseherd). We also have Coltman, Cowman, Bullman, Steerman, or Stierman and Heifferman. 2. See 'English Surnames' by Charles Wareing Bardsley, M.A., published b Chatto & Windus, fifth edition, London, 1897. This work may be ordered from Messrs. W. Drysdale & Co., 232 St. James street, Montreal; from Messrs Grafton, Sons & Co., 250 St. James street, and from Messrs. W. Foster Brown & Co., corner Mansfield and St. Catherine street, Montreal.

DR. ENGLAND AND DR. THOMAS.

S.K.R., Byng Inlet.—Where can be procured Dr. Thomas England's pamphlet on Dr. Thomas's Commentary on the Prophets, written about 1850? Ans.—There are several theological writers named Thomas. Perhaps the one referred to is the Rev. Dr. David Thomas, born 1813, died 1894. This Dr. Thomas was originally a business man, but subsequently became famous as a Congregational minister. He is said to have had much to do with the formation of the character of Mrs. Catherine Booth, the mother of the Salvation Army. The founder of the Anglican Church Army is also said to have been at one time the follower of Dr. Thomas. This gentleman (the Rev. Wilson Carlisle, afterwards rector of St. Mary at Hill, Eastcheap), was a member of the congregation of Stockwell (London) then presided over by Dr. Thomas. Dr. Thomas has also the honor of being the originator of the University of Wales. In the published list of his works we do not find any mention made of separate commentary on the prophets. This work is probably included either in his 'Homolist' or 'Voice for Truth' which first appeared in 1852, and under his own and his son's editorship ran into a series of 50 volumes and attained a sale of 120,000 copies; or else in the 'Pulpit Commentary' which, however, is of much later date. Dr. Thomas was only an occasional contributor to this last work. He also edited a 'Homiletic Commentary on the Acts' in 1870 and a work entitled 'Problema Mundi' or 'Job exegetically considered' 1878. The above are all the commentaries attributed to Dr. Thomas. We have not as yet found any mention of Dr. England. Further information concerning Dr. Thomas may, however, be found in the Congregational Year Book for 1896 (page 227). In the 'Times' of June 1, 1895, and in the 'Bookseller' of Jan. 9, 1895. One or more of these articles may possibly contain a reference to Dr. England's pamphlet.

WARSHIPS CARRYING MAILS.

H.M.L., Toronto.—Do men-of-war carry mails to any British possessions? Ans.—British warships do not as a rule take mails from Canada as the regular service is performed by merchant steamers. The commander of the flagship of the North American Squadron has, however, occasionally offered to carry a mail to Bermuda or Jamaica. The offer has sometimes been accepted by the post-office authorities of Halifax, when it has been thought that such despatch would be in advance of that of the regular service. But it is seldom that mails are sent in this way, as the movements of warships are uncertain, and their orders liable to be countermanded. When the flagship 'Renown' left Halifax last November no mail was taken.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

T.L.P., St. Catharines.—Has any country adopted a system of payment of pensions for old age? Ans.—The government of New South Wales has lately enacted that any man of 65 years of age or older whose income is less than thirteen shillings, say $3.25 a week, may, if he make formal application, be awarded an old age allowance of £18, not quite $90, per annum. This enactment is regarded as an important beginning in the direction of a national superannuation fund.

LEGAL.

(QUEBEC.)

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND JURIES.

J.A., Montreal.—1. Are justices of the peace obliged to serve on the grand or petit jury? 2. Who are eligible for seats on the jury Ans.—1 and 2.—The regulations are not the same in the different provinces of the Dominion. In some provinces, justices of the peace may be called upon to serve on special juries, although exempt from service on the ordinary juries. As a general rule, however, justices of the peace are either specially exempted, or else are so in virtue of the exemption from this service of officers of the courts of law. In some provinces there is a property qualification for jurors; in others there is not. To show the difference between the regulations of the different provinces we will compare those of Manitoba and Nova Scotia. In Manitoba, the qualifications for grand or petit jury are simply the being a male between 21 and 60 years of age, of sound judgment, unconvicted and unaccused of crime, and free from any physical imperfection which would preclude service, such as deafness, blindness, etc. The following class of persons are exempt from service in grand or petit jury in Manitoba, namely, the clergy of all denominations, members of the Privy Council, senators, members of the executive council, members of the House of Commons (Dominion Parliament), members of the Legislative Assembly, members of the civil service, barristers, attorneys, prothonotaries, permanent officers of any court, sheriffs, and their officers, bailiffs, constables, coroners, jailers, full pay army officers, pilots, schoolmasters, train hands, physicians, managers, cashiers, clerks of banks and tellers, telegraph operators, millers, firemen, registrars, and their deputies, and members of the Mennonite sect. In the list of the above occupations, it is understood that the persons in question are actively engaged, and that the office be not a mere sinecure. Special juries are those called for the purpose of supplying a panel exhausted by challenges, or otherwise; on such special panels must serve, if called upon, justices of the peace, bank officials, insurance and stock brokers, wholesale and retail merchants, and the chief officers, (managers, etc., etc.), of business corporations, or their representatives. In Nova Scotia, a grand juror must possess property to the value of $4,000, or real estate to the value of $2,000 in Halifax city; or $2,000 if living outside the city, and within the County of Halifax. If residing in any other county he must possess real or personal estate to the value of $600. Petit juors, if living in Halifax County, must be worth $300; if in any other county, $500. The exemptions from service in Nova Scotia, have, in addition to those of Manitoba, the names of officers and employees of hospitals for the insane, corporation officers, wardens, mayors, councilmen, custom house and post-office officials. They also exempt the attorney general, the commissioner of public works and mines, and his clerk, the superintendent of education and his clerk. It is understood also that the grand, or petit juror must have resided for at least a year within the county in which he is called upon to serve. No one may be summoned more than once in three years. Males under 21, and beyond 60 years of age, are exempt from service. In addition to the above exemptions may be mentioned lighthouse keepers, and members of Her Majesty's army and navy, and licensed ferrymen. Both grand and petit jurors in Nova Scotia receive $1 for each day of attendance, and an allowance of ten cents per mile, travelling expenses. It will be noted that there is considerable difference between the regulations of Manitoba and those of Nova Scotia. But a justice of the peace is, as a rule, exempt from jury service throughout Canada.

(ONTARIO.)

A DELINQUENT RAILWAY CONTRACTOR.

H.H.C., Hartney.—A farmer sells feed to a man who had a contract at grading on a railway, he promising to pay cash as soon as delivered. Instead he gave an order on the head camp, and on presenting them with the order they refused to either pay or accept it. 1. What steps would be necessary to take to get the money? 2. Could the railway company be garnished for the amount, this man taking the contract from the head contractors? 3. Could he be prosecuted for obtaining goods under false pretence? 4. Is the government or the company responsible for wages or accounts when the contractor fails? Ans.—1. Sue the contractor, and at the same time attach any money that may be owing to him from the person to whom he in turn looks for payment. 2. No. 3. We cannot see from your statement that he has rendered himself liable in that way. 4. We think not.

TO A CORRESPONDENT.

Ebenezer Tracey, Spring Bay, Ont.—Yours is a matter about which a solicitor ought to be consulted personally—that is, if anything at all should be done.

SEPARATION OF PARENTS—CUSTODY OF INFANTS—WEDDING PRESENTS.

Old Subscriber, Ont.—A and B were married and lived together for six years, when they disagreed and parted. A paid B her dowry. B signed away all further claim. No mention being made as to which should have the children, of which there are three; boy aged 6, boy aged 4 and girl aged 2 years. A had the boys for three months after they parted. B then stole them, and has had them for six months. A wants to get the children. 1. Can B keep the children? 2. Can B compel A to pay for their keep? 3. Is there any set age at which the father can force the return of the children? 4. Can B force A to give up wedding presents that were given by A's friends? 5. Can B force A to give up presents that have been nailed to the wall, such as shelves, the removal of which would injure the house? Ans.—1, 2 and 3. By the Revised Statute of Ontario respecting infants (R.S.O. chap. 168 s. 1.) the High Court or Surrogate Court, or any judge of either court, may, upon application of the mother of infants, make such order as the court or judge seem fit regarding the custody of the infants, and the right of access thereto of either parent, having regard to the welfare of the infants and to the conduct of the parents, and to the wishes of the mother as well as of the father. The court or judge may also make order for the maintenance of the infants by payment by the father thereof, or by payment out of any estate to which the infants are entitled, of such sum or sums of money from time to time as according to the pecuniary circumstances of the father or the value of the estate the court or judge thinks just and reasonable. In order to apply the foregoing provisions to the case in hand it would be necessary for us to know very much more of the circumstances than we are informed of by your statement, and a personal consultation would be requisite. Better see a solicitor. 4. Assuming that the presents were, as is usual, given to the bride they thereby become her property, and, unless she relinquished her right to them by the separation deed she is probably in a position legally to compel their return. 5. No.

MEDICAL.

[Letters for this department should be addressed "Medical Editor 'Witness,' Montreal." Should a subscriber ask any question which is not suitable for publication, a reply will be sent by mail if a stamped addressed envelope and $1, physician's fee, be enclosed with such question.]

WEAK BACK.

J.C.B.—Will you kindly tell me, through the columns of your paper, what exercises to take for a weak back, and oblige. Ans. —Lateral curvature is the result of wrong position in weak persons which may have gone on until the muscles of the back are unequally developed. Standing on one foot or over-straining one side as in carrying a pail of water or a baby on the arm when too young may start this unequal development. Obviously exercises should aim in such a case at developing the weak side. This is not hard to do in growing children who will sometimes straighten after a few months faithful treatment. The exercises are inelegant and make children laugh. A young woman of dignity and exactness can best treat little girls. Three can be treated at the same time. Care to instruct them to take these exercises seriously and not to do them except under the teacher's eye may be needed to avoid the only difficulty of the spinal gymnastics. Books for the treatment of spinal curvature by exercises can be had through bookstores who can obtain them for you. It is very hard to describe a succession of exercises Those for the spine include all movements which strengthen the numerous muscles which are arranged in layers upon the back. The best are done while the weight of the frame lies upon a mat. By raising the trunk in various attitudes and exercising the arms of first one side and then the other—a regular order of movements may be performed.

RHEUMATISM WITH INDIGESTION.

E.C.—I would like to know whether serpentaria would do me any good. Most of the time the marks of my teeth are all around my tongue, and I often have ulcers on the tongue, lips and sides of the mouth, this I am told is from the stomach; also I have a pain sometimes. This I am told comes from rheumatism. I have touches of that in my limbs, also catarrh in the head. If the cause is with the stomach please give me a remedy, if possible. I am married, age forty-seven. Do not use liquor or tobacco. Ans.—Serpentaria is pungent, stimulant, and may help a weak digestion; in small doses it increases the appetite; promotes secretion of glands, and acts as a laxative. A tablespoonful of the infusion may be taken before meals and the effects proved by the improvement or lack of it in general health and digestion after using it ten days. If it suits in every way, it could be used all winter. A quarter of an ounce of the powder, number 20, infused in a covered jug with ten ounces of boiling water makes an infusion. Rheumatism is probably a peculiar sour condition of the colorless fluids circulating in the flesh It is not directly caused by a sour stomach, but a healthful digestion is to be secured in treating rheumatism. A flabby thick tongue taking the impression of the teeth, pale in color and associated as it often is with a chronic catarrh of the nose and throat shows want of nourishment. It occurs in persons who have pale blood and usually in connection with chronic indigestion. To cure indigestion and rheumatism when chronic one must build up the health in every way possible. Oxygen which gets into the body through the lungs and is carried through the tissues by a fine net work of microscopic blood vessels is the great purifier and tonic. Pale blood does not carry oxygen as easily as red blood. Pale people shiver and shirk active exercise, thus the pale blood hinders recovery. Pale people get weak and sit all doubled over so that the liver and stomach are squeezed and the food they swallow does not get fair play. Pale stomachs lack desire for food or strength to digest it. Pale people are often too chilly to digest well. Iron, which quickly restores the blood, does not agree with persons who have chronic indigestion or constipation. Under these circumstances it can be seen that one must build up by little and little, first, improving digestion. A tonic and antiseptic or a laxative remedy for the stomach is needed first, with very easily digested but very nourishing food, and the patient must not live in a damp cold room. An upper sunny room will alone save a person from much sickness. It is no use to rub on the most wonderful liniments or blister for rheumatic pain, if a person lives in a damp room it will get worse. Many remedies for rheumatism cause perspiration. It is evidently unsafe to take a remedy which causes sweating and then go out in the chilliest part of the morning and evening or to work at a furnace until covered with moisture and then sit down in a cool room to rest. Wear enough but not too heavy woollen underwear. If it gets wet, change it as soon as possible. Use milk, strong soup, steak, roast meat, rolled oats, wheat, barley, eggs, in moderation. Easily digested vegetables, cooked tender and a little cooked fruit with less bread than formerly and that toasted crisp. Sponge with water not too cold, rubbing the skin until it glows every day. This is best done beside a fire or a good oil stove. Gas stoves deteriorate the air rapidly, and use up oxygen too fast for any but a robust person to endure. A wood or coal stove is very wholesome in or near a bedroom as it produces a wholesome warmth compared with the other two. A rheumatic person had better lay out money on a well-ventilated well warmed room, good food and the use of water, sunshine and fresh air than on medicines. A good emulsion of cod liver oil or pure cod oil, with two drops to the dose of oil of cloves or oil of gaultheria is a valuable remedy for chronic rheumatism unless it causes vomiting, diarrhoea, or seems to increase the fever sometimes present from catarrh; try to take it this winter in teaspoonful doses after meals, in one of these two forms. The emulsions contain sodium and potassium salts which you may be in need of to correct the juices of digestion.

INDIGESTION.

Enquirer.—Sore heart; gas after every meal; seems to swell the body; thin, and suffer with pain in the lower part of the back. Please prescribe. Ans.—Take the following remedy, and also wear warm foot clothing, as well as wearing extra, flannel bloomers when you go out. In the house have some sort of a vest of knitted work to put on when the house is cold. Do not live on tea and bread, but hot meat, pudding, porridge, and toasted soda crackers, or Boston biscuits, with soup or milk. Do not go long after you rise without eating. The paler you let your stomach get, the worse it will do, and the more gas will accumulate. Take care not to lose sleep or to overtire too much. To tone up your digestion take tincture of nux vomica, two drachms; tincture of ginger, one ounce; carraway water up to four ounces, mixed; dose, a teaspoonful in hot water before meals. Use a little salt with your food, or eat a little bacon, corn beef or salt fish; take no tea or coffee until better.

ABDOMINAL SWELLING.

Dorothy—A lump nearly always visible on right side near the hip, which can be pushed out of sight. Attacks of pain occur, which necessitate the use of morphine. The lump then is so tender as to make the slightest touch unbearable. What is it? Ans.—It is very important to put this case under a doctor, who has had experience in the line of abdominal and pelvic growths. Your own doctor should examine the growth or tumor, and should it be necessary, can send you to a reliable specialist. Do not hesitate to have the best advice from some one who can determine the exact nature of the lump you speak of, as you cannot treat it yourself upon ideas gained from any one who is not able to give the matter personal attention. It may be a harmless mass of fibroid tissue, which causes pressure at times upon the food canal, then becoming apparently tender. It may be an enlarged organ, a displaced one, or something more likely to make trouble.

VETERINARY.

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

DEAD SHEEP.

B.—I had two sheep die. They were pining away and would not eat. After they were dead I skinned them and could not find out what was the matter with them. There was not a drop of blood in the bodies, and the meat was as fat and as nice as it could be. I would like to know what was the matter with them? 2. I had chickens die in the summer. They had a full crop and diarrhoea. Their wings would drop and they would remain in that condition for two or three days and then they would die. I should like to know what was the matter with them. Ans.—In the absence of any symptoms or post mortem discoveries to guide us, it is impossible to diagnose the nature or cause of the disease. We presume it, however, to be due to some local cause in the food or water which your local veterinarian may help you to discover. 2. The chickens and the sheep would appear to die from the same cause.

SWOLLEN LEGS IN MARE—BONE SPAVIN.

E.H.—Have a half-Clyde mare, four years old, whose legs swell while standing. While at work the swelling leaves. I worked her this summer on public works and was compelled at times to make her very warm. She also has a bunch on front side of hind legs resembling bog spavin. She favors left leg slightly when stepping to right in stall. These bunches also get larger while standing and reduce while driving. She is in good spirits, feeds and looks well; she may be in foal. Please prescribe and oblige. Ans.—The swelling of the legs is due to weakness of the lymphatics. The favoring of the left leg when stepping to the right in the stable is due to disease of the hock joint and will most probably end in bone spavin. Neither condition will be easy to remedy. While the dropsy of the legs requires regular exercise, the disease of the joint requires rest—both cannot well be treated at the same time. Place her in a large loose box, feed her on soft mashes, or carrots, give a purgative of seven drachms of aloes in a ball; two days after give her two drachms of nitrate of potash in her mash twice daily. Hard rubbing and bandaging the legs will be beneficial. Subsequently the spavin may have to be blistered.

HOG CHOLERA.

Subscriber.—Will you through the columns of your valuable paper inform me as to the cause of disease that my pigs are affected with. They are first affected with lack of appetite, inclination to lie mostly on the side and generally at the side of the wall of the pen. When first affected they will come up to the trough and drink a little, but as the disease advances they seem less inclined to move. When they walk they appear to be dizzy, ears dropped, eyes protruding and extremities cold. They generally vomit more or less; their bowels seem quite regular and natural. I have had six pigs attacked in the above manner, five have died and one has recovered. The ones that died lasted from twenty-four to forty-eight hours from the time I first noticed any symptoms of disease. The one that recovered seemed as well as usual in about a week. The belly and all of the lower part of the body turns a purple color after death, but shows no signs of ulcers forming on any part of the skin. When opened the bladder, bowels and stomach show signs of inflammation more particularly the bladder and the bowels. The liver and lungs seem quite natural; the gall is smaller than usual and the blood about the natural color. All the pigs that have been attacked have been from three to nine months old. If you will inform me as to the nature and cause of the disease you will much oblige me. I might also say that the feed they have been getting is soaked peas, some milk and mangels at first, but I have now changed them to barley chop and milk and mangels. The pens have been kept pretty clean. Ans.—The symptoms described are sufficiently indicative of hog cholera to warrant us in advising you to report it to the Dominion Government Local Veterinary Inspector, who will advise you what to do. You have not given your name. Please do so.

MANGE.

G.—Please describe symptoms of mange in dogs, and remedy. Ans.—Mange causes dogs to remove their hair, and frequently the skin, by scratching and rubbing their backs against something. The disease is usually brought on by the use of too much flesh meat, and it is all the worse when overcooked. It is a very difficult disease to cure and will again appear after it has disappeared if the dog is allowed to have access to too much meat. If a little is fed occasionally chopped up with bread crumbs, potatoes, etc., it will not do any harm, but the best food for dogs is oatmeal, well boiled or half boiled if a mild purgative is needed. If dogs will not eat it let them go without food until they get an appetite for it. To heal the skin use about a dessert spoonful of powdered sulphur in as much hog's lard and place about five cents' worth of broken up stick sulphur with a quart of water in any kind of an iron vessel where the dog can have access to it. Add water occasionally to the sulphur when necessary and continue it.

LAMENESS AND PINING IN HENS.

A.D. McA.—What is wrong with my hens? They begin to limp, very slightly at first, but get worse and pine away and die. They live two or three months after first taken with the complaint. It came among them nine months ago, and my hens have been dying off ever since. I fed mixed grain, wheat, oats, peas, barley. Have a good, warm house, with large window in south to let in sunlight, and good barn yard to run in in fine weather. Is it contagious, or is there any cure? We shut our hens out of the hen house in summer. They roosted in shed and sheep house, but still they keep more of them taking the disease. Would be greatly obliged if you would give me some directions for cure. Ans.—This form of lameness and pining is usually attributed to damp and cold. It is described as cramp, gout, rheumatism, and other appellations. Its true cause is not clearly known. Stone, brick or wooden floors have been supposed to favor it. A thick coating of fine gravel over the floor has been recommended. A generous diet, such as bread soaked in ale, a little meat occasionally, a liver suspended so that they must jump up to reach it; oatmeal mixed with powdered pepper and corns. Some recommend a tablespoonful of cayenne pepper in a quart of boiling water, and bread soaked in this given them occasionally, is said to strengthen them. Usually, however, it is found best to feed them as best you can and kill them off, and start with a new stock.

BONE TUMOR FETLOCK.

A.A.G.—Please give a cure for a horse that has a puff on the fetlock. It is a large swelling, very hard, on the hind leg down at fetlock. It seems to have been done by heavy drawing or a sprain. Horse is considerably lame—worse at times than others. Ans.—The horse should be at once laid up, his shoes removed, and the bony enlargement freely blistered with cantharadine ointment and biniodide of mercury ointment; equal parts, and repeated in three or four weeks. He should be fed on soft mashes and hay while idle.

WORMS.

W.A.—Would you let me know what would be a radical cure for pin-worms in horses? I have a valuable young horse, four years old, and a mare, six years old and they seem to be almost eaten up with worms. I call them pin-worms; they are small and tapering at each end. I have tried the white ash bark treatment; indeed, I have tried several things but failed to get a thorough cure. They also seem very hard to physic, are falling away and dry in the hair. Ans. —Feed them on bran mashes for three days; then let them fast for eight hours and administer spirits of turpentine, two ounces, and linseed oil (raw) one pint. Two hours after give a bran mash. After ten days repeat this dose. It may be necessary to repeat it occasionally till the parent worms and the successive hatchings, which are produced, of young worms are destroyed and evacuated. Subsequently it will be necessary to feed them liberally, groom them well and give regular exercise.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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We have decided to publish 'The Mermaid' serially, in answer to requests for another of Miss Dougall's stories.'

BOOK I.

CHAPTER I.—THE BENT TWIG.

Caius Simpson was the only son of a farmer who lived on the north-west coast of Prince Edward Island. The farmer was very well-to-do, for he was a hard-working man, and his land produced richly. The father was a man of good understanding, and the son had been born with brains; there were traditions of education in the family, hence the name Caius; it was no plan of the elder man that his son should also be a farmer. The boy was first sent to learn in what was called an 'Academy,' a school in the largest town of the island. Caius loved his books, and became a youthful scholar. In the summer he did light work on the farm; the work was of a quiet, monotonous sort, for his parents were no friends to frivolity or excitement.

Caius was strictly brought up. The method of his training was that which relies for strength of character chiefly upon the absence of temptation. The father was under the impression that he could, without any laborious effort and consideration, draw a line between good and evil, and keep his son on one side of it. He was not austere—but his view of righteousness was derived from Puritan tradition.

A boy, if kindly treated, usually begins early to approve the only teaching of which he has experience. As a youth, Caius heartily endorsed his father's views, and felt superior to all who were more lax. He had been born into that religious school which teaches that a man should think for himself on every question, provided that he arrives at a foregone conclusion. Caius, at the age of eighteen, had already done much reasoning on certain subjects, and proved his work by observing that his conclusions tallied with set models. As a result, he was, if not a reasonable being, a reasoning and a moral one.

We have ceased to draw a distinction between nature and the forces of education. It is a great problem why nature sets so many young people in the world who are apparently unfitted for the battle of life, and certainly have no power to excel in any direction. The subjective religion which Caius had been taught had nourished within him great store of noble sentiment and high desire, but it had deprived him of that rounded knowledge of actual life which alone, it would appear, teaches how to guide these forces into the more useful channels. Then as to capacity, he had the fine sensibilities of a poet, the facile introspection of the philosophical cast of mind, without the mental power to write good verse or to be a philosopher. He had, at least in youth, the conscience of a saint without the courage and endurance which appear necessary to heroism. In mockery the quality of ambition was bestowed upon him, but not the requisites for success. Nature has been working for millions of years to produce just such characters as Caius Simpson, and, character being rather too costly a production to throw away, no doubt she has a precise use for every one of them.

It is not the province of art to solve problems, but to depict them. It is enough for the purpose of telling his story that a man has been endowed with capacity to suffer and rejoice.

CHAPTER II.—THE SAD-EYED CHILD

One evening in early summer Caius went a-fishing. He started to walk several miles to an inlet where at high tide the sea-trout came within reach of the line. The country road was of red clay, and, turning from the more thickly-settled district, Caius followed it through a wide wood of budding trees and out where it skirted the top of low red cliffs, against which the sea was lapping. Then his way led him across a farm. So far he had been walking indolently, happy enough, but here the shadow of the pain of the world fell upon him.

This farm was a lonesome place close to the sea; there was no appearance of prosperity about it. Caius knew that the farmer, Day by name, was a churl, and was said to keep his family on short rations of happiness. As Caius turned off the public road he was not thinking specially of the bleak appearance of the particular piece of farm land he was crossing, or of the reputation of the family who lived upon the increase of its acres; but his attention was soon drawn to three children swinging on a gate which hung loosely in the log fence not far from the house. The eldest was an awkward-looking girl about twelve years of age; the second was a little boy; the youngest was a round-limbed, blonde baby of two or three summers. The three stood upon the lowest bar of the gate, clinging to the upper spars. The eldest leaned her elbows on the top and looked over; the baby embraced the middle bar and looked through. They had set the rickety gate swinging petulantly, and it latched and unlatched itself with the sort of sound that the swaying of some dreary wind would give it. The children seemed to swing there, not because they were happy, but because they were miserable.

As Caius came with light step up the lane, fishing gear over his shoulder, the children looked at him disconsolately, and when he approached the gate the eldest stepped down and pulled it open for him.

'Any thing the matter?' he asked, stopping his quick tread, and turning when he had passed through.

The big girl did not answer, but she let go the gate, and when it jerked forward the baby fell.

She did not fall far, nor was she hurt; but as Caius picked her up and patted her cotton clothes to shake the dust out of them, it seemed to him that he had never seen so sad a look in a baby's eyes. Large, dark, dewy eyes they were, circled around with curly lashes, and they looked up at him out of a wistful little face that was framed by a wreath of yellow hair. Caius lifted the child, kissed her, put her down, and went on his way. He only gave his action half a thought at the time, but all his life afterwards he was sorry that he had let the baby go out of his arms again, and thankful that he had given her that one kiss.

His path now lay close by the house and on to the sea-cliff behind. The house stood in front of him—four bare wooden walls, brown painted, and without veranda or ornament; its barns, large and ugly, were close beside it. Beyond, some stunted firs grew in a dip of the cliff, but on the level ground the farmer had felled every tree. The homestead itself was ugly; but the land was green, and the sea lay broad and blue, its breast swelling to the evening sun. The air blew sweet over field and cliff, and the music of the incoming tide was heard below the pine-fringed bank. Caius, however, was not in the receptive mind which appreciates outward things. His attention was not thoroughly aroused from himself till the sound of harsh voices struck his ear.

Between the farmhouse and the barns, on a place worn bare by the feet of men and animals, the farmer and his wife stood in hot dispute. The woman, tall, gaunt, and ill-dressed, spoke fast, passion and misery in all her attitude and in every tone and gesture. The man, chunky in figure and churlish in demeanor, held a horsewhip in his hand, answering his wife back word for word in language both profane and violent.

It did not occur to Caius that the whip was in his hand otherwise than by accident. The men in that part of the world were not in the habit of beating their wives, but no sooner did he see the quarrel than his wrath rose hot against the man. The woman being the weaker, he took for granted that she was entirely in the right. He faltered in his walk, and, hesitating, stood to look. His path was too far off for him to hear the words that were poured forth in such torrents of passion. The boy's strong sentiment prompted him to run and collar the man; his judgment made him doubt whether it was a good thing to interfere between man and wife; a certain latent cowardice in his heart made him afraid to venture nearer. The sum of his emotions caused him to stop, go on a few paces, and stop to look and listen again, his heart full of concern. In this way he was drawing further away, when he saw the farmer step nearer to his wife and menace her with the whip; in an instant more he had struck her, and Caius had run about twenty feet forward to interfere, and halted again, because he was afraid to approach so angry and powerful a man.

Caius saw the woman clearly now, and how she received this attack. She stood quite still at her full stature, ceasing to speak or to gesticulate, folded her arms and looked at her husband. The look in her hard, dark face, the pose of her gaunt figure, said more clearly than any passionate words, 'Hold, if you value your life! you have gone too far; you have heaped up punishment enough for yourself already.' The husband understood this language, vaguely, it might be, but still he understood enough to make him draw back, still growling and menacing with the whip. Caius was too young to understand what the woman expressed; he only knew strength and weakness as physical things; his mind was surging with pity for the woman and revenge against the man; yet even he gathered the knowledge that for the time the quarrel was over, that interference was now needless. He walked on, looking back as he went to see the farmer go away to his stables and the wife stalk past him up toward the byre that was nearest the sea.

As Caius moved on, the only relief his mind could find at first was to exercise his imagination in picturing how he could avenge the poor woman. In fancy he saw himself holding Day by the throat, throwing him down, belaboring him with words and blows, meting out punishment more than adequate. All that he actually did, however, was to hoe on his way to the place of his fishing.

The path had led him to the edge of the cliff. Here he paused, looking over the bank to see if he could get down and continue his walk along the shore, but the soft sandy bluff here jutted so that he could not even see at what level the tide lay. After spending some minutes in scrambling half-way down and returning because he could descend no further, he struck backwards some paces behind the farm buildings, supposing the descent to be easier where bushes grew in the shallow chine. In the top of the cliff there was a little dip, which formed an excellent place for an outside cellar or root-house for such farm stores as must be buried deep beneath the snow against the frost of winter. The rough door of such a cellar appeared in the side of this small declivity, and as Caius came round the back of the byre in sight of it, he was surprised to see the farmer's wife holding the latch of its door in her hand and looking vacantly into the dark interior. She looked up and answered the young man's greeting with apathetic manner, apparently quite indifferent to the scene she had just passed through.

Caius, his mind still in the rush of indignation on her behalf, stopped at the sight of her, wondering what he could do or say to express the wild pity that surged within him.

But the woman said, 'The tide's late to-night,' exactly as she might have remarked with dry civility that it was fine weather.

'Yes,' said Caius, 'I suppose it will be.'

She was looking into the cellar, not towards the edge of the bank.

'With a decent strong tide,' she remarked, 'you can hear the waves in this cave.'

Whereupon she walked slowly past him back toward her house. Caius took the precaution to step after her round the end of the byre, just to see that her husband was not lying in wait for her there. There was no one to be seen but the children at a distance, still swinging on the gate, and a laborer who was driving some cows from the field.

Caius slipped down on the red shore, and found himself in a wide semicircular bay, near that point which ended it on this side. He crept round the bay inwards for half a mile, till he came to the mouth of the creek to which he was bound. All the long spring evening he sat angling for the speckled sea-trout, until the dusk fell and the blue water turned grey, and he could no longer see the ruddy color of the rock on which he sat. All the long spring evening the trout rose to his fly one by one, and were landed in his basket easily enough, and soft-throated frogs piped to him from ponds in the fields behind, and the smell of budding verdure from the land mingled with the breeze from the sea. But Caius was not happy; he was brooding over the misery suggested by what he had just seen, breathing his mind after its unusual rush of emotion, and indulging its indignant melancholy. It did not occur to him to wonder much why the object of his pity had made that quick errand to the cellar in the chine, or why she had taken interest in the height of the tide. He supposed her to be inwardly distracted by her misery. She had the reputation of being a strange woman.

CHAPTER III.—LOST IN THE SEA.

There was no moon that night. When the darkness began to gather swiftly, Caius swung his basket of fish and his tackle over his shoulder and tramped homeward. His preference was to go round by the road and avoid the Day farm; then he thought it might be his duty to go that way, because it might chance that the woman needed protection as he passed. It is much easier to give such protection in intention than in deed; but, as it happened, the deed was not required. The farmstead was perfectly still as he went by it again.

He went on half a mile, passing only such friendly persons as it was natural he should meet on the public road. They were few. Caius walked listening to the sea lapping below the low cliff near which the road ran, and watching the bats that often circled in the dark-blue dusk overhead. Thus going on, he gradually recognized a little group walking in front of him. It was the woman, Mrs. Day, and her three children. Holding a child by either hand, she tramped steadily forward. Something in the way she walked, in the way the children walked—a dull, mechanical action in their steps—perplexed Caius.

He stepped up beside them with a word of neighborly greeting.

The woman did not answer for some moments; when she did, although her words were ordinary, her voice seemed to Caius to come from out some far distance whither her mind had wandered.

'Going to call on someone, I suppose, Mrs. Day?' said he, inwardly anxious.

'Yes,' she replied; 'we're going to see a friend—the children and me.'

Again it seemed that there was some long distance between her and the young man who heard her.

'Come along and see my mother,' he urged, with solicitude. 'She always has a prime welcome for visitors, mother has.'

The words were hearty, but they excited no heartiness of response.

'We've another place to go to to-night,' she said. 'There'll be a welcome for us, I reckon.'

She would neither speak to him any more nor keep up with his pace upon the road. He slackened speed, but she still shrank back, walking slower. He found himself getting in advance, so he left her.

A hundred yards more he went on, and looked back to see her climbing the log fence into the strip of common beside the sea.

His deliberation of mind was instantly gone. Something was wrong now. He cast himself over the low log fence just where he was, and hastened back along the edge of the cliff, impelled by unformulated fear.

It was dark, the dark greyness of a moonless night. The cliff here was not more than twenty feet above the high tide, which surged and swept deep at its base. The grass upon the top was short; young fir-trees stood here and there. All this Caius saw. The woman he could not see at first. Then, in a minute, he did see her—standing on the edge of the bank, her form outlined against what light there was in sea and sky. He saw her swing something from her. The thing she threw, whatever it was, was whirled outwards, and then fell into the sea. With a splash, it sank.

The young man's mind stood still with horror. The knowledge came to him as he heard the splash that it was the little child she had flung away. He threw off his basket and coat. Another moment, and he would have jumped from the bank; but before he had jumped he heard the elder girl groaning as if in desperate fear, and saw that mother and daughter were grappled together, their figures swaying backwards and forwards in convulsive struggle. He did not doubt that the mother was trying to drown this child also. Another low, wild groan from the girl, and Caius flung himself upon them both. His strength released the girl, who drew away a few paces; but the woman struggled terribly to get to her again. Both the girl and little boy stood stupidly within reach.

'Run—run—to the road, and call for help!' gasped Caius to the children, but they only stood still.

He was himself shouting with all his strength, and holding the desperate woman upon the ground, where he had thrown her.

Every moment he was watching the dark water, where he thought he saw a little heap of light clothes rise and sink again further off.

'Run with your brother out of the way, so that I can leave her,' he called to the girl. He tried with a frantic gesture to frighten them into getting out of the mother's reach. He continued to shout for aid as he held down the woman, who with the strength of insanity was struggling to get hold of the children.

A man's voice gave answering shout. Caius saw someone climbing the fence. He left the woman and jumped into the sea.

Down under the cold black water he groped about. He was not an expert swimmer and diver. He had never been under water so long before, but so strong had been his impulse to reach the child that he went a good way on the bottom in the direction in which he had thought he saw the little body floating. Then he knew that he came up empty-handed and was swimming on the dark surface, hearing confused cries and imprecations from the shore. He wanted to dive and seek again for the child below, but he did not know how to do this without a place to leap from. He let himself sink, but he was out of breath. He gasped and inhaled the water, and then, for dear life's sake, he swam to keep his head above it.

The water had cooled his excitement; a feeling of utter helplessness and misery came over him. So strong was his pity for the little sad-eyed child that he was almost willing to die in seeking her; but all hope of finding was forsaking him. He still swam in the direction in which he thought the child drifted as she rose and sank. It did not occur to him to be surprised that she had drifted so far until he realized that he was out of hearing of the sounds from the shore. His own swimming, he well knew, could never have taken him so far and fast. There was a sandy island lying about three hundred yards out. At first he hoped to strike the shallows near it quickly, but found that the current of the now receding tide was racing down the channel between the island and the shore, out to the open sea. That little body was, no doubt, being sucked outward in this rush of water—out to the wide water where he could not find her. He told himself this when he found at what a pace he was going, and knew that his best chance of ever returning was to swim back again.

So he gave up seeking the little girl, and turned and swam as best he could against the current, and recognized slowly that he was making no headway, but by using all his strength could only hold his present place abreast of the outer point of the island, and a good way from it. The water was bitterly cold; it chilled him. He was far too much occupied in fighting the current to think properly, but certain flashes of intelligence came across his mind concerning the death he might be going to die. His first clear thoughts were about a black object that was coming near on the surface of the water. Then a shout reached him, and a stronger swimmer than he pulled him to the island.

'Now, in the devil's name, Caius Simpson!' The deliverer was the man who had come over the fence, and he shook himself as he spoke. His words were an interrogation relating to all that had passed. He was a young man, about the same age as Caius; the latter knew him well.

'The child, Jim!' shivered Caius, hoarsely. 'She threw it into the water!'

'In there?' asked Jim, pointing to the flowing darkness from which they had just scrambled. He shook his head as he spoke. 'There's a sort of a set the water's got round this here place ——' He shook his head again; he sat half dressed on the edge of the grass, peering into the tide, a dark figure surrounded by darkness.

It seemed to Caius even then, just pulled out as he was from a sea too strong for him, that there was something horribly bad and common in that they two sat there taking breath, and did not plunge again into the water to try, at least, to find the body of the child who a few minutes before had lived and breathed so sweetly. Yet they did not move.

'Did someone else come to hold her?' Caius asked this in a hasty whisper. They both spoke as if there was some need for haste.

'Noa. I tied her round with your fish-cord. If yo'd have done that, yo' might have got the babby the same way I got yo'.'

The heart of Caius sank. If only he had done this! Jim Hogan was not a companion for whom he had any respect; he looked upon him as a person of low taste and doubtful morals, but in this Jim had shown himself superior.

'I guess we'd better go and look after them,' said Jim. He waded in a few paces. 'Come along,' he said.

As they waded round to the inner side of the island, Caius slowly took off some of his wet clothes and tied them round his neck. Then they swam back across the channel at its narrowest.

While the water was rushing past their faces, Caius was conscious of nothing but the animal desire to be on the dry, warm shore again; but when they touched the bottom and climbed the bank once more to the place where he had seen the child cast away, he forgot all his fight with the sea, and thought only of the horror of the murder done or was there yet hope that by a miracle the child might be found somewhere alive? It is hope always that causes panic. Caius was panic-stricken.

The woman lay, bound hand and foot, upon the grass.

'If I couldn't ha' tied her,' said Jim, patronizingly, 'I'd a quietened her by a knock on the head, and gone after the young un, if I'd been yo'.'

The other children had wandered away. They were not to be seen.

Jim knelt down in a business-like way to untie the woman, who seemed now to be as much stunned by circumstances as if she had been knocked as just suggested.

A minute more, and Caius found himself running like one mad in the direction of home. He cared nothing about the mother or the elder children, or about his own half-dressed condition. The one thought that excited him was a hope that the sea might have somewhere cast the child on the shore before she was quite dead.

Running like a savage under the budding trees of the wood and across his father's fields, he leaped out of the darkness into the heat and brightness of his mother's kitchen.

Gay rugs lay on the yellow-painted floor; the stove glistened with polish at its every corner. The lamp shone brightly, and in its light Caius stood breathless, wet, half naked. The picture of his father looking up from the newspaper, of his mother standing before him in alarmed surprise, seemed photographed in pain upon his brain for minutes before he could find utterance. The smell of an abundant supper his mother had set out for him choked him.

When he had at last spoken—told of the blow Farmer Day had struck, of his wife's deed, and commanded that all the men that could be collected should turn out to seek for the child—he was astonished at finding sobs in the tones of his words. He became oblivious for the moment of his parents, and leaned his face against the wooden wall of the room in a convulsion of nervous feeling that was weeping without tears.

It did not in the least surprise his parents that he should cry—he was only a child in their eyes. While the father bestirred himself to get a cart and lanterns and men, the mother soothed her son, or, rather, she addressed to him such kindly attentions as she supposed were soothing to him. She did not know that her attention to his physical comfort hardly entered his consciousness.

Caius went out again that night with those who went to examine the spot, and test the current, and search the dark shores. He went again, with a party of neighbors, to the same place, in the first faint pink flush of dawn, to seek up and down the sands and rocks left bare by the tide. They did not find the body of the child.

(To be continued.)

AN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Hobart, Tasmania, Dec. 19.—Captain Borchgrevink's expedition has started for the Antarctic regions.

MONTREAL NEWS.

Captain C. J. Allen, of the North-West Mounted Police, who, in connection with the Riel rebellion, was wounded in the pursuit of Poundmaker, was in town last week for the purpose of having another operation performed upon his arm.

At the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association, which took place on Saturday afternoon, Mr. Max Murdock was elected to the office of president, and Mr. Wm. Kearney to that of vice-president.

Mr. Napoleon Picard, an insurance agent, living at No. 70 St. Denis street, committed suicide on Thursday morning by shooting himself through the head with a revolver. At the inquest, which was held on Friday morning, a verdict was returned of 'Suicide with mentally irresponsible.'

Emile Le Cuyer, aged 17, was arrested late on Saturday night by Detective Guerin, charged with the theft of a young lady's watch and chain and of $25 worth of goods from his employer, Mr. Boisvert, 415 Centre street. He pleaded guilty yesterday and was sentenced to ten dollars fine or one month in jail.

About one a.m. yesterday Capt. Leggett met an escaped lunatic coming into the city from the Verdun Hospital very lightly clad, wearing very little besides a gauze summer hat and 'duster.' The captain very kindly gave him shelter and warmed the unfortunate man, and about five o'clock returned him to the asylum.

At the recent regular meeting of the directors of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children the secretary was instructed to communicate with the government with a view to legislation by which police-magistrates and recorders may be vested with discretionary power to award the punishment of the lash for persons who beat their wives.

Judge Loranger on Thursday morning rendered his judgment on the petition presented before him on Wednesday by the city atttorney for the appointment of a new board of revisers for the ensuing year. After taking into consideration the interests involved and the names suggested, the Court appointed Messrs. Gustave Drolet, Lucien Huot and W. J. White, advocate.

Mrs. Macaulay, wife of Major Macaulay, of the High School, met with a painful accident on Friday evening, while skating, falling forward so heavily that one of the bones forming the under portion of the eye cavity was forced inward and fractured. The eye itself was fortunately uninjured, though the lid was cut and required stitching. Mrs. Macaulay is progressing favorably.

Lord Strathcona and Mount Rayol paid an informal visit to the Montreal High School yesterday, and addressed the boys and girls in the large assembly hall. His lordship arrived at the school about noon, and was received by the Rev. Principal MacVicar, Chairman of the Protestant Board of School Commissioners, the Ven. Archdeacon Evans, the Rev. Dr. Shaw, the Rev. E. I. Rexford, Principal of the school; and Mr. Arthy, Secretary to the board.

A gambling house at 1669 Ontario street was raided on Wednesday last by Chief Carpenter, Sergeant-Detective Campeau and Acting Detectives Despault and Coté. There was a barber's sign at the door to deceive the ordinary passers-by, while a room at the back was used specially for gambling. A game was in progress with money on the table when the officials entered. In the Police Court on Thursday morning all pleaded guilty. The keeper was fined $25 or three months in jail and the others ten dollars or two months each.

At 12 o'clock noon on Tuesday last, trains commenced to run both ways upon the double track of the new Victoria Jubilee bridge. The demolition and removal of the centre span of the old tubing had been removed in less time than it was thought the work would take. The reconstruction of the new bridge has cost upwards of a million and a half dollars, of which sum the Federal Government has contributed three hundred thousand. The footways and carriage roads have yet to be laid down, but it is not expected that this work will take any great length of time to complete.

Chief Detective Carpenter has received word from the British Vice-Consulate to the effect that steps are being taken to arrest Sophocoles Fouriesos, the Greek who swindled Mrs. C. Reinhardt out of several hundred dollars recently. Mr. Reinhardt has arrived in Athens where the swindler is supposed to be in hiding. All the necessary information available here has been forwarded. When he left here Fouriesos got a draft on a London bank which he expected to cash when he got across the ocean, but the bank was notified, and a hitch in his arrangements has taken place there which may be disappointing.

Two child fatalities occurred in the city on Saturday, a third at Outremont, and yesterday morning a fourth came to light. In the suburb named, Albine Daignault, a very young daughter of Mr. Arsene Daignault, set herself on fire at the kitchen stove, and was burned beyond recovery. The second case was from 8 Fullum street, where Antonio Laurin, infant son of Mr. Alphonse Laurin, had fallen out of a window and was instantly killed. Fire was the cause of the death of Réné Rochon, three years of age, son of Mr. Adolphe Rochon, 412 Beaudry street. The child, happening to pull a lamp from the table, set fire to his clothes and was fatally burned before the flames could be extinguished.

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

A Surprise to the Ontario People.

NO ENTHUSIASM OVER THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

(Special Correspondence of 'Witness.')

Toronto, Dec. 17.—The comparative unanimity with which the voters of such widely separated constituencies sustained the Laurier Government this week was a surprise to both parties here. West Prince was regarded as doubtful and Bagot as worse. The Liberal victories in these two districts were even almost unexpected, but were very welcome indeed to the supporters of the ministry. Not less so were the increased Liberal majorities in Montmagny and West Lambton, and especially the latter. Comparatively little attention was paid to North Simcoe, because it was generally understood, rightly or wrongly, that Mr. McCarthy was not unacceptable to the ministry as a candidate. The opposition to him was almost sprung on the constituency, and no prominent outside Liberal went into the district to help the Liberal nominee, who held no public meetings at all. The surprising feature of the case is that he came so near winning, not that he fell so far short of it. There is prevalent here a very general conviction that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has the French people solidly with him, and a very general expectation that he will have every French member of the next House of Commons supporting him; but this made it all the more dangerous for his ministry in a by-election in Ontario, where he might be easily prejudiced by his nationality and his religion. The West Lambton and North Simcoe contests go to show that no reaction against him personally seems to have set in. Dr. Johnston, of Sarnia, is an old-time Liberal, and he polled a full Liberal vote. There were no evidences or indications of a landslide of Roman Catholics on the school question, or any other question, and in North Simcoe a great many of the Conservative Orangemen who used to support Mr. Dalton McCarthy continued to support his nephew, though the latter practically announced that he was prepared to give the Laurier Government a fair trial. It is curious to note the tremendous change which has passed over public opinion and feeling during the past few weeks in regard to

THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

The commonest expression in people's mouths now is that of a wish that no treaty at all may result. The subject has received a great deal of attention, as all the morning and evening papers have daily special despatches from the seat of negotiations. At first there was a general aspiration for a satisfactory settlement of all irritating questions; now nobody seems to care a straw whether a single one of them is disposed of. The prevalent mood is not one of bitterness but one of apathy. 'We have got along very well so far with vexatious questions and without reciprocity, and we will get along very well in the future if the former are left unsettled and the latter is indefinitely postponed; in any case it is immeasurably better for Canada to have no treaty at all than to be tied up by an unsatisfactory one.' No doubt this indifference is due in part to the recurrence of an era of prosperity, but by the time a reaction sets in, people will have forgotten that there was such a thing as a Quebec-Washington conference. Of course it is possible that there may yet be a treaty, and it is said to be the unexpected that happens, but there is no possibility of getting one that will cause for one moment a feeling of popular rejoicing. It would be interesting to ascertain, if that were possible, just how much a robust Canadianism, as distinct from imperialism, has had to do with the change of feeling, but nothing could be more certain than that it was one of the causes at work. There has been from the first a certain amount of uneasiness lest, at the prompting of Mr. Chamberlain if not under his influence, the desire to promote a good understanding between the two states might induce the Canadian commissioners to make important concessions without securing adequate returns. Nothing that Sir Wilfrid Laurier could do, or be a party to doing, would more speedily or irretrievably injure his standing with his own followers all over western Ontario than any arrangement that bore the appearance of a 'capitulation.' The suggested sale of pelagic sealing rights, conceded to Canadians by an international arbitrament, would be extremely unpopular at present. So would be the granting of bonding and bait-buying privileges to New England fishermen for any quid pro quo less than the free entry of fish not merely into the United States but also into Puerto Rico and Cuba. No one has now any hope of free lumber, and nothing short of that would be entertained for a moment as an adequate return for the unrestricted export of saw-logs.

SHAFTER ON THE CUBANS.

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 19.—A banquet was given yesterday afternoon by officers of the Third Georgia Regiment to Postmaster-General Smith. General Shafter was present and had some interesting things to say about Cuba and the Cubans. In the course of his remarks he said:—It seems to me that a great many persons have an erroneous idea respecting our relations with the Cubans. As I view it, we have taken Spain's war upon ourselves. We shall in all probability hear a good deal more of the insurgents.'

'How about self-government for the Cubans?' General Shafter was asked.

'Self-government,' the General repeated. 'Why, those people are no more fit for self-government than gunpowder is for hell.'

In the same line General Shafter went on to tell why the United States would, in his opinion, be obliged to remain in the island for some time, and govern the territory by military force.

FELL INTO A CISTERN.

Brougham, Ont., Dec. 17.—Yesterday afternoon Willie, the five-year-old son of Robert Dafoe, lost his life by drowning near here. The little fellow was running through the yard and fell through a trapdoor into a cistern. When found about fifteen minutes afterwards life was extinct.

BARON DE LONGUEUIL.

HE DIES SUDDENLY IN NEW YORK.

A quite unexpected piece of news was that received from New York on Tuesday week announcing the death at nine p.m. of Baron de Longueuil, seigneur of Longueuil, St. Johns and Courval, and owner of a large amount of property in Montreal, and who also held the only Canadian title in existence. Death occurred suddenly, of heart disease, while the Baron was lunching in the Holland House Café.

The title held by the late Baron was granted by Louis XIV. to Charles Le Moyne, for distinguished services. The cession of Canada to Great Britain by



THE LATE BARON DE LONGUEUIL.

the Treaty of Paris, in 1763, made no change in the legal rights to hold honors; and since this period each successive head of the family has, by assumption or right, used the title; but it was not officially recognized by the British Government until 1880.

The deceased, Charles Colmore Grant, was the seventh baron. He was born in 1844, and succeeded his father in 1879. In 1878 he married Mary, third daughter of the late Thomas Wayne, of Glandare, Aberdare. There being no direct heir, the title is inherited by the deceased's half-brother, Reginald Charles D'Iverville, of 'Birchwood,' Pitlochrie, N.B. The new baron was born in 1856.

The remains of Baron Grant were brought to Montreal for interment.

MONTREAL JEWISH MISSION.

Not much has been published of late regarding the Montreal Jewish mission, the work of which goes steadily forward. During August and September Mr. McCarter addressed large congregations in Chateauguay on the subject of the Jews; notably at Ormstown, North Georgetown, Riverfield and Howick. At all of these places much interest was expressed, and liberal financial assistance was given to the mission. In November Mr. McCarter visited Ottawa, and held a meeting in the Y.M.C.A. building, at which the Rev. Dr. Rose presided. The cause of Jewish evangelization has many warm friends in Ottawa, and the interest is spreading.

On Nov. 18 a young Jew in connection with the Montreal mission, publicly confessed Christ as his personal Saviour. Prudence restrains further mention of this case at present, but more may be told in the near future. On Dec. 2 Mrs. McCarter, by invitation, addressed the annual meeting of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society in connection with Calvary Church. Very warm interest was expressed in the cause of Jewish evangelization, as well as appreciation of the address. On Dec. 8 a letter reached Mr. McCarter from the Christian Endeavor Society of Knox Church, Winnipeg, requesting information and suggestions with a view to commencing similar work in that city, where there is a large Hebrew population. The special work of this mission is advancing and its present condition is very encouraging.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

TOPICS SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF UNIVERSAL PRAYER, BY THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE, JAN. 1-8, 1899.

Where it is found impracticable to take up all the subjects the General Outline for each day should be observed.

[Other subjects which may be suggested by national or local circumstances, or by special occurrences at the time of meeting, will naturally be added by those leading the devotions of assembled believers. And for other topics, which no words can express, moments of silent prayer may helpfully be given.]

SERMONS.

Sunday, Jan. 1.—Unity in Variety: 'I in them, and Thou in me, that they may be made perfect in One.'—John xvii., 23. 'As the Body is One, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body; so also is Christ.'—I. Cor. xii., 12.

CONFESSION AND THANKSGIVING.

Monday, Jan. 2.—Confession: For grace received in vain; unity disregarded; diversity condemned; love denied; reciprocal duties forgotten; ordinances perverted; profession exceeding reality; non-spiritual worship; unchristian-like living; prophecy neglected; the Jew contemned; open missionary doors unentered; the Holy Ghost forgotten.—Ezra ix., 5-15; Psalm xxxii., and li.; James i., 12-27.

Thanksgiving: For mighty movements of the Holy Spirit in many lands; Divine overruling of human policy for missionary successes; better days for persecuted believers; great awakening of Jews, at home and abroad, to seek after Jesus.—Psalm cv.; Psalm cxi.; Isaiah xlix., 13-16, 22-26; Rom. xi., 12-36; I. Peter i., 1-9.

Prayer: For more blessing than ever before on the praying people of God in the Week of Prayer, and in the year following.—Psalm xxvii.: Matt. vii., 7-14: Luke xi., 1-13: Acts iv., 23-35.

THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL.

Tuesday, Jan. 3.—Prayer: That all who name the name of Christ may depart from iniquity; that the universal Church may realize its high commission (John xx., 21); that the Churches may manifest distinctly their recognition of the unity of all believers in the One Church, and the Evangelical Alliance be blessed in its labors to promote this; that the Holy Ghost may reveal more fully to the whole Church the things of Jesus, to the glory of God the Father; that all ministers and believers may be filled with the Spirit unto all the fulness of God, and 'all bitterness and wrath' amongst them 'be put away'; that the preaching of the Gospel may everywhere be maintained in its simplicity and fulness, and prevailing error be uprooted.—John xx., 19-23: I. Cor. xii., 12-31: Ephes. iii., 14-21: iv., 25-32: Phil. iii., 12-21.

NATIONS AND THEIR RULERS.

Wednesday, Jan. 4.—Prayer—That rulers everywhere may 'Kiss the Son, lest He be angry' (Psalm ii.); that existing unrest among nations may make multitudes submit to the Prince of Peace; that rulers and ruled may acknowledge their common interest in righteousness and love; that human laws may be framed in the interest of purity, temperance, Sabbath observance, and of the greatest possible good to the poor and needy; that the horrors of war may be averted, and the nations seek for peace; that the Lord's people may 'discern the signs of the times.'—Psa. ii.; Matt. xxiv., 4-14, 29-31; Rom. xiii.; I. Tim. ii., 1-8.

FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

Thursday, Jan. 5.—Prayer—That both in families and schools the Word of God may be supreme; that all teachers of the young may be blessed in their labors; that Sunday-schools may be mighty to correct or supplement defects and imperfections in home and day school instruction; that all religious denominations may unite so that education may be framed to benefit the people for time and for eternity; that Christian families may become more truly Christian; that students of universities and colleges, and of all grades and classes, may devote themselves and their acquirements to the service of their fellows, and the glory of God.—Eph. v., 25-31; vi., 1-9; I. John ii., 7-14; iii., 1-12.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Friday, Jan. 6.—Prayer: That no open door of access to Jewish, heathen, and Mohammedan races may be closed; that the whole world may be open to the Gospel; that God's people may fully esteem opportunity for propagating Christianity as an exceeding privilege; that the evangelization of the world may be kept in view by all Churches as accordant with the mind of Christ; that in this enterprise believers may attempt great things and expect great things; that wisdom, courage, faith, love, and patience may be multiplied to all missionary directors, workers, and converts.—Psalm lxi.; Rom. i., 18-22, xv., 4-21; Eph. ii., 1-10, 10-22.

HOME MISSIONS AND THE JEWS.

Saturday, Jan. 7.—Prayer: That all efforts for Israel in every Christian land may be richly blessed, and that multitudes may confess and serve the Lord Jesus as the Messiah; that the lapsed classes of nominal Christian communities may be reached and elevated; that all efforts to benefit and save careless, drunken, infidel, gambling, Sabbath-breaking, and otherwise immoral persons may be made effectual by the Divine blessing; that nominal Christian nations may learn to fear God and to work righteousness.—Psalm xcii.; Isa. vi.; Jer. vii., 1-15; Acts iii., 12-26; Rom. xi., 25-36; I. Thess. v., 1-22; I. Peter iv., 7-19.

SERMONS.

Sunday, Jan. 8.—Variety in Unity: 'Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.'—I. Cor. xii., 27. 'The glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one.'—John xvii., 22.

The programme of meetings for Montreal will be announced in a few days.

[The above should be cut out and preserved for reference during the week of prayer.]

BARON ROTHSCHILD IS DEAD

London, Dec. 17.—Baron Ferdinand James De Rothschild, M.P., is dead.

Baron Rothschild was born in Paris in 1839, and was educated in Vienna. He had resided in England for many years, and at a by-election in 1885 was returned as member for Aylesbury, being re-elected at the general elections of 1885, and again as a Liberal-Unionist in 1886. He was made high sheriff of Buckinghamshire in 1884. Like many of his family, Baron De Rothschild was an enthusiastic collector of works of art, and in his houses in Piccadilly and at Waddesdan had a large number of rare treasures, Romney's 'Mrs. Jordan' being one of the most famous of them.

DR. PARKHURST.

New York, Dec. 17.—Rumor is current in Presbyterian circles here to-day concerning the retirement of Dr. Parkhurst from the pastorate of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church as the result of a proposition to consolidate this church with that of Fifth Avenue. When the matter came to Dr. Parkhurst's notice he immediately stated that he was ready to step out if so doing would consummate the consolidation. He would not, however, confirm or deny the rumor regarding his prospective retirement.

BISHOP TIKHON.

Among the passengers arriving in New York on the French line steamship 'Champagne' was Bishop Tikhon, newly appointed head of the Russian Church in America, although nominally he is Bishop of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska. He is tall, slender, with long light brown hair and the reddish golden beard which is distinctively Russian. Bishop Tikhon will start for San Francisco on Thursday, but intends to visit New York and other orthodox parishes in the East again



before long. Bishop Tikhon's secular name is Vasily Bellarin. He was born in 1865, and has attained his prominent position at an early age even for a Russian ecclesiastic. He graduated from St. Petersburg Theological Academy in 1888, and immediately entered upon pedagogic work, at which he continued almost to the time of his elevation to his present ecclesiastical rank. He recently served as Bishop of Liublin and Vicar of Kholma, the Warsaw diocese. His new diocese is said to be the largest in the world, as it includes the whole of North America, and comprises about thirty parishes with as many churches and seventy chapels.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DR. HUNTER'S NEW BOOK ON **Consumption**

PUBLISHED FOR FREE CIRCULATION.

DR. ROBERT HUNTER recognized everywhere as the greatest living authority on diseases of the breathing organs, has just published a book on Consumption and other diseases of the Throat and Lungs. This book has created a sensation in medical and newspaper circles, because it shows beyond any question that Consumption, *as treated by Dr. Hunter*, is a curable disease. The book tells plainly the true nature of Consumption; its causes; its unmistakable symptoms; how to prevent it, and *how it can be radically cured.*

The book is of such great importance to the welfare of the whole people that it has been decided to issue an edition of 50,000 copies in paper covers for free general distribution.

From the New York Herald:—

'It seems after many disappointments and false rumors of the cures for consumption that the treatment as discovered and practiced by Dr. Robert Hunter, 117 West 45th street, New York, has accomplished results so satisfactory that this dread disease need no longer be classed among the incurables.'

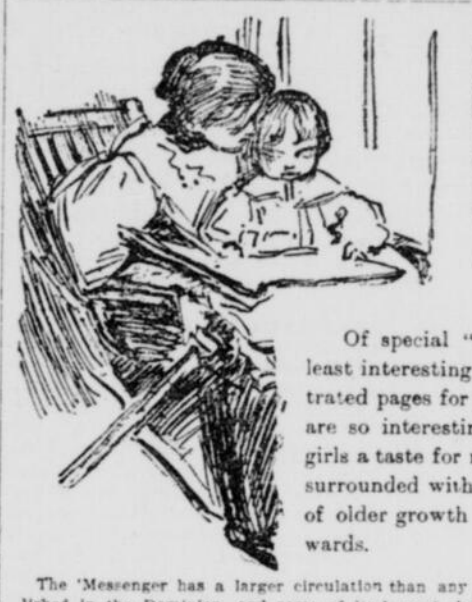
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'Dr. Hunter's recent book on Consumption and his wonderful cures that have been reported, effectually remove all doubts as to the curability of this dread disease.'

Any reader of the 'Witness' can secure one of these free paper covered copies by simply sending a request to

Dr. ROBERT HUNTER, 117 West 45th St., New York.

Advertisers, please mention 'Witness.'



Baby Points —TO THE— Pretty Pictures

Of special "Messenger" features, not the least interesting are the two large type, illustrated pages for the little ones. These pages are so interesting so to give the boys and girls a taste for reading. These two pages are surrounded with ten other pages for children of older growth from the gradmother downwards.

The 'Messenger has a larger circulation than any other Sunday-school paper published in the Dominion, and some of its largest clubs are to be found in the United States. Brooklyn, 'the city of churches,' takes a good many 'Messengers,' and other cities take their share. Every Sunday-school that distributes such a paper greatly increases the school's influence upon the scholars, and in the homes of the scholars.

The price of the 'Messenger' surprises every one. Just think of a twelve-page paper sent to any address in Canada or the United States every week for a year for thirty cents! This extremely low price is reduced by one-third to Sunday-schools, or only

20 CENTS A YEAR.

in clubs of ten or more copies. Think of the tremendous influence a Sunday-school may wield for a small amount of money in this way.

SAMPLE COPIES will be cheerfully sent free of all charges for distribution in any Sabbath-school for three consecutive Sundays where the 'Messenger' has not been taken during the past year. But requests for such copies must come in the name of an officer of a Sunday-school, or of one of our subscribers.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, MONTREAL.

FORGETS HER NAME.

A SINGULAR CASE IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 19.—An interesting case, not without a pathetic side, is found among the police items in this city on Saturday. A richly dressed young woman, who says she suddenly found herself alone at night in the street, after she had left her home on a shopping tour, unable to remember her own name or address, try as hard as she might, called upon the police for assistance early in the morning. Her extraordinary story is borne out not only by her own actions, but by a physician who has examined her, who says he believes hers is a case almost without parallel in medical history. The young woman's mind appears to be a complete blank. She knots her brows and tries to remember her name, and will suddenly clasp her hands and burst into tears, crying, 'I can't, I can't!' After an hour's questioning by Dr. Maloney, an ambulance surgeon of St. Vincent's Hospital, where the woman now is, she said she remembered that her husband was a broker in Wall street. Then that she had children. She knew this, she said, because she started out to buy them Christmas presents. The young woman's attire indicates one who lives in luxury. There are diamonds in her ears and her sacque is made of sealskin. The police have not had to deal with a stranger case for years.



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To introduce Dr. Weston's Improved Pink Iron Tonic Pills for making blood, for pale people, female weaknesses, liver and kidney disease, nervousness, general debility, etc., we give FREE a 14-k. gold-plated watch, Ladies or Gents, nicely engraved, reliable time-keeper, warranted five years. The Pills are 50 cents per box, $2.50 for 5 boxes. Send this amount and you receive 5 boxes and the Watch, or write for particulars. This is a genuine offer.

THE DR. WESTON PILL CO., 356 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

A 'WITNESS' NAMESAKE.

The 'Witness' has a number of namesakes, publications for the most part started by 'Witness' admirers and in realms purely religious. The 'Prairie Witness' is one of these, and, from small beginnings, like its great ancestor, bids fair to keep pace with the growth of its constituency. It is to be hoped that its interests will widen with its influence till it discuss from the Christian standpoint the great temporal questions of the day, both political and economic, local and national, for they all tend to bring about or delay the time when the Kingdom of our Lord shall be established.

In its issue of Dec. 1, the 'Prairie Witness' says: 'Now is the time to decide upon what papers you are going to read during the year, and we hope to give you some assistance in this matter.

'First we say—what we believe no one will dispute—that the Montreal 'Witness' is by far the best educator in Canada. Other papers give reliable news and discuss politics well, but besides this, the 'Witness' gives what is of vastly more importance—wholesome reading for the home. Every boy and girl reader of this ideal paper will be the better all the years of life for having read its columns, and mature readers will find plenty of nourishing food in every issue.

'It has done more to make Canada what it is than any other paper in the Dominion. We say this with great assurance, because we believe it true. It has the growth and character of over fifty years well-doing, and is everywhere held in respect for its work's sake.'

'IN HIS STEPS.

Every one should read this book. It is Sheldon's masterpiece. We send it postpaid for 15c.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

For premium of strawberry plants see N. E. Mallory's advertisement, on page twenty-four.

'REMEMBER GORDON.'

Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum

PROJECTED BY LORD KITCHENER IN MEMORY OF THE GREAT CHRISTIAN SOLDIER HERO.

Montreal Has Decided to Honor Itself by Subscribing.

He begs for money to bring you learning.
And all the English give;
It is their treasure, it is their pleasure,
Thus are their hearts inclined.

* * * * * *

They consult not creed nor clan;
Behold! they clap the slave on the back
And, behold! he becomes a man.
—Rudyard Kipling.

Montreal has decided to contribute to the Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum. It is true that the £100,000 originally required by the Sirdar, Lord Kitchener, has been contributed by the British public, but it is realized that even if this grew to a quarter of a million pounds, that many noble purposes could be served by it. Especially would any additions to the present contributions be useful in extending the scope of the college, so as at once to include the healing art; an art which appeals to all stages of civilization more quickly and more permanently than any other single form of knowledge. But even apart from extending the British influence by means of education in its various manifestations, the personal aspect of Gordon's character so appeals to all that is chivalrous and essentially noble in human character, that the perpetuation of his heroic name in the form he himself would most desire must ever be an object with those who love virtue and desire to do it service. Since first the Sirdar announced his desire to found this Gordon College the 'Witness' has advocated the participation of Canada, and the meeting of leading citizens on Friday in the Council Chamber of the Board of Trade has made it certain that, so far as Montreal is concerned, Canada's contribution will be not unworthy of her leading place in the Empire.

Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal presided over the meeting, and among those present were Mr. Hugh McLennan, Mr. W. C. McDonald, Col. Gordon, D.O.C.; Lieut.-Col. Ibbotson, Lieut.-Col. Starke, James Crathern, president; C. F. Smith, 1st vice-president; and Robert Mackay, second vice-president, Montreal Board of Trade; Mr. Richard White, Mr. J. R. Dougall, Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, Senator O'Brien, Mr. Robt. Meighen, president Lake of the Woods Milling Company; Mr. Jas. McKergow, ex-president Board of Trade; Alex. McFee, president Corn Exchange Association; and Wm. Nivin, ex-president Butter and Cheese Asociation.

The result of the meeting was that as subscription of $500 was made as a nucleus for further effort, after the following resolution had been unanimously passed, on motion of Mr. James Crathern, seconded by Mr. Hugh McLennan.

'That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that an opportunity be given to the citizens of Montreal to mark their appreciation of the memory of 'General Gordon,' and the efforts of Lord Kitchener, Sirdar, to establish a college in the Soudan; and that the district officer commanding and commanding officers of the militia be requested to organize a committee for the purpose of receiving such subscriptions as may be offered for this noble purpose.'

Lord Strathcona in opening the meeting referred to the growingly intimate character of our relations with the Mother Country and was sure that Canadians would wish to be identified with a movement so British and Imperial in character. It was true that more than the £100,000 originally asked for had been subscribed by the British public, but there was plenty of room for more, to carry out the Imperial object in view. He referred to the nobility of Gordon's character and the effect his life had had upon the betterment of humanity over all the wide world and he said that those who helped to honor Gordon honored only that which was noblest and best.

Mr. Richard White explained that the meeting had been called for the purpose of bringing a few leading people together to see if a Gordon memorial fund could be started. He was of opinion that if it could not be started with every chance of success that the effort should be abandoned. It was thought that probably for comradeship's sake the Montreal militia would like to take the initiative and invite subscriptions.

Mr. J. R. Dougall spoke of the many noble features of Gordon's character and did not think any fear need be felt that Montreal would not do Gordon and herself justice in this matter. He did not look upon the idea of the college only as an Imperial movement extending the Anglo-Saxon influence; but as a tribute to one of the most remarkable figures of our time. The fact that a generous subscription had been obtained in England only proved the success of the movement and should encourage an extension of the original idea. There was indeed no limit to its possibilities. Civilization could always rely upon doing good by the exercise of the healing art, there was no race not impressed by civilization in that form, and any money expended on the addition of a medical college to the Sirdar's first intention would be eminently justified.

Mr. Hugh McLennan was in favor of a tangible expression of Montreal sympathy to the great name of Gordon and to bringing the blessing of education to the benighted of the Soudan. Large subscriptions were not essential, but all might give in such measure as they could afford.

Col. Gordon, speaking as a militia officer, said that anything that could be done by the Canadian militia for this laudable object would be done of a surety.

Col. Colville said that subscriptions to any noble object had always come from Montreal citizens in the past and he would have liked the present movement to start in the same way. There was one unique point in the Sirdar's proposition to found a college and that was that he did not remember an officer of the army ever having founded a college for learning before.

Mr. Jas. Crathern was of opinion that the present appeal should be confined to Montreal and he placed in the hands of the militia. They would doubtless do their best to canvass their friends and the citizens and their efforts would surely be successful.

Among other eminent citizens who spoke in the highest terms of favor of the movement were Mr. Robert Mackay, Mr. W. W. Ogilvie and Dr. Peterson.

Lord Strathcona, in putting the motion, said that he had the good fortune, as it happened, to be personally acquainted with Lord Kitchener, and some time ago received a private cablegram from him on the subject of the college. No doubt other towns and parts of the country, the chairman said, would follow Montreal's example in this matter. The amount subscribed did not so much matter as the expressions of feeling.

On motion of Lieut.-Col. Gordon, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Ibbotson, it was resolved that the gentlemen present be associated with the committee named to assist in the carrying out of the scheme.

Before dispersing, and on motion of Mr. Richard White, a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded Lord Strathcona for his kindness in presiding, to which the latter courteously replied that he was always glad to be among his friends, and especially for the consideration of such an object as this.

The subscripition list was then opened, with the following result:—

Mr. James Crathern	$100.00
Mr. W. W. Ogilvie	100.00
Mr. C. F. Smith	100.00
Mr. R. Mackay	100.00
Mr. Hugh McLennan	100.00

A meeting of commanding officers opened at the district office at three o'clock this afternoon to carry out the charge laid upon them at the citizens' meeting on Friday in respect to arranging for receiving Montreal subscriptions towards the Gordon memorial college. Lieut.-Colonel Gordon, D.O.C., presided. The meeting elected Mr. James Crathern as secretary of the committee, and Lieut.-Colonel F. Minden Cole, treasurer, to whom any subscriptions may be sent. A regular canvass will now be commenced for this fund.

ANOTHER KHARTOUM FUND.

Ottawa, Dec. 19.—The Earl of Minto announces that, acting upon the suggestion of the Earl of Aberdeen, he is about to open a subscription list for such as desire to contribute toward the fund for the establishment of the Gordon memorial college at Khartoum.

(To the Editor of the 'Times.')

Sir,—A week ago in your columns I proposed the establishment of a Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum, and asked for a sum of at least £100,000 for that purpose. It was with some hesitation that I decided to make that appeal, but the result is proving so successful that I feel that I did not then fully realize the great generosity of the British people.

I desire, on leaving England, to tender my thanks to all who have subscribed to, or sympathized with, this object, as well as to the press for its unanimous support.

There is now no doubt that it is the wish of the British public that there should be founded at Khartoum a college in memory of Gordon. On behalf of the people of the Soudan I thank the people of this country and willingly undertake the task.

I have the honor to remain, yours faithfully,

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM.

67 Lombard street, E.C., Dec. 7.

London, Dec. 18.—It is said that Gen. Lord Kitchener's Gordon Memorial College scheme will not be put through without a protest, which, however, will be utterly in vain, as the money has already been subscribed. As is well known, General Kitchener absolutely refused all entreaties to make the college a Christian institution, saying that if the college was to be of any practical value it must be not only non-Christian, but actually Mussulman in constitution and teaching.

Gordon's sister, it is now reported, is about to make public a protest against any institution from which the bible is excluded purporting to perpetuate the memory of her illustrious brother, who, above all things, was an ardent Christian. She may be dissuaded from making such a futile protest, but there is indubitably a considerable number of persons who are unable to see the absolute necessity of General Kitchener's resolve.

When the 'Guardian,' the best-known and most weighty church organ, expressed its agreement with Lord Kitchener, even advocating the teaching of the Moslem religion, it raised a considerable storm among a part of its readers.

London, Dec. 19.—The Rome correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says he learns that the Duke of Connaught will go to Khartoum, as the representative of the Queen, to lay the foundation stone of the Gordon Memorial College, to be erected there under the direction of Gen. Lord Kitchener for the instruction of Soudanese youth.



DREAMING TRUE.

—'Punch.'

FENIAN RAID MEDALS.

DESIGN OF THE NEW DECORATION FOR THE CANADIAN VETERANS OF 1866-70.

Veterans of 1866-70 who have lived to recount among their children and grandchildren stories of the invasion of Fenians which sent the militia of Canada and the Imperial service to the frontier on their defence for the first time after the war of 1812-13-14, will learn with satisfaction that the design of the medal to mark this service has been declared. It



is given herewith. The reverse side will bear the bust of Her Majesty, which accompanies nearly all military service medals of this time.

The design shows the Dominion flag enwreathed with a wealth of maple leaves, the staff of the flag so placed as to show the Union Jack above the broad band with the legend 'Canada,' and the Dominion arms just beneath.

It looks neat in the picture, and should be taken as a patriotic and popular New Year's gift to the whole Dominion. Though it is personal to a remnant of the thirty thousand Canadian citizens or more who stood to their arms when their duty called them, the descendants of these citizen soldiers must have some stirring of the blood when the theme of medals, even at this late day, for the survivors is spoken of.

The medals will be distributed when the Militia Department and commander of the forces decide, but probably the Veterans' Associations will be served first, and individuals later.

DOMINION BY-ELECTIONS.

THE RESULT IN SEVERAL COUNTIES—LIBERALS ALL WIN.

St. Liboire, Dec. 14.—The by-election for the House of Commons for the county of Bagot to fill the seat vacated by the death of Mr. F. Dupont, resulted



MR. J. E. MARCIL, M.P.

in the return of Mr. J. E. Marcil, the Liberal candidate, by 64 majority

At the general election in 1896, Dupont, Conservative, was elected by acclamation.

MONTMAGNY.

Montmagny, Que., Dec. 14.—With two places to hear from Martineau (Liberal), is elected over Blouin (Liberal), by over five hundred majority.

WEST LAMBTON.

Sarnia, Ont., Dec. 14.—The by-election in West Lambton to-day resulted in the return of Dr. Johnston, the Liberal candidate, with over 700 majority, with three places to hear from.

Sarnia, Ont., Dec. 15.—Latest report gives Dr. Johnson, Liberal, 960 majority.

NORTH SIMCOE.

Barrie, Dec. 14.—The returns from North Simcoe, with four places to hear from, which will not materially change the result, give Leighton McCarthy (independent) 231 majority. The vote polled was very small on account of the roads being almost impassable, as a result of the recent severe storms.

Barrie, Ont., Dec. 15.—When it was known that Mr. McCarthy was elected a large crowd gathered in the McCarthy committee rooms to hear speeches on the campaign, and its results. The



MR. LEIGHTON McCARTHY, M.P.

member-elect, Mr. Leighton McCarthy, thanked those present for their hearty sympathy and support, and repeated his campaign declaration of independence of either party. He said that he purposed carrying out the principles as advocated by his deceased uncle.

RESULT IN EAST PRINCE.

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dec. 15. — All the electoral districts of East Prince have been heard from and Mr. Bell, Liberal, has a clear majority of 56 over Mr. Lafurgey, Conservative. The totals are: Bell, 1,987; Lafurgey, 1,931. A keen fight was put up in every district, and it was a hard battle. Summerside gave Lafurgey a majority of 27.

THE REMAINS OF COLUMBUS REMOVED.

Havana, Dec. 13.—The ashes of Columbus were transferred from the Cathedral to the 'Conde De Venadito' yesterday. Captain-General Castellanos, General Arolas, Senor Govin, of the Colonial Cabinet; Marquis D'Estaban, the Mayor of Havana, and a large company of notables attended upon the removal. The steel casket containing the remains of the discoverer of America was examined by Senor Govin in the presence of the Captain-General and other high Spanish officials and found to be intact. It was then borne to the Cathedral steps by the canons, amid the tolling of bells and placed on a gun carriage, heavily draped with flags and decorated with floral garlands. A solemn procession then moved to the Machina wharf, where the casket was taken in a launch, between lines of twenty-five men-of-war boats, to the cruiser. A salute of fifteen guns was fired. At intervals of a quarter of an hour all day a single gun boomed the honors paid to an admiral.

The squadron, which is composed of the 'Conde De Venadito,' 'Alfonso XII.,' and 'Infanta Isbel' sailed for Cadiz last night.

SUMMARY.

Some London newspapers declared on Thursday that the British forces are in Crete to stay.

The Paris exhibition is now declared officially as certain to take place in 1900. The recent asscrtion that it would be postponed has no foundation.

Canada is given in an Ottawa despatch of Saturday as having shown, during the five months ending November an increase in imports of $13,097,019. The export of goods showed a decrease of $2,142,130 for the same period.

The Egyptian Government is about to memorialize the European powers to have extended for another year the mixed tribunal for dealing with civil actions between persons of different nationalities and trying crimes of foreigners.

The 'Irresistible' was launched at Chatham dockyard on Thursday, and was named by the Princess Christian. It was a royal function. The 'Irresistible' is a first-class battleship, and is intended to be one of the most destructive types of warriors of the sea.

Blood-curdling stories of rebels and their attacks upon Formosan villages are published in San Francisco, and the statement is made that three thousand persons were killed or burned during the disturbance and incendiarism.

Mr. Joseph H. Choate, of New York, is announced as likely to succeed Mr. Hay as ambassador to Great Britain.

President Kruger's eyesight is said to be so bad that he will have to leave the Transvaal for Europe shortly in order to consult a specialist.

The British Admiralty in pursuance of a suggestion frequently made during the past few years, has invited Newfoundland fishermen to join the British naval reserve. They will be enrolled for five years, will have twenty dollars per year besides kit and uniform, and thirty cents per day while at drill.

The 'Isla de Cuba,' one of the Spanish vessels sunk by Admiral Dewey's fleet in their encounter with the Manilla squadron and forts, has been raised and is serviceable enough to start for Hong Kong, which she did last week. She is of of 1,030 tons displacement and 2,200 indicated horse-power.

The Hudson's Bay route is declared by Mr. James Fisher, M.P.P., to be absolutely worthless for commercial purposes. Mr. Fisher's presence with the government's last exploration expedition furnished the opportunity for observation upon which he bases his report, which has just been published, according to a Winnipeg despatch of Dec. 17.

Captain William F. Enoch of the Chicago police, who was custodian of the tiny sesamoid bone found in the vat of A. L. Luetgert's factory, and which was accepted as evidence that his wife's body had been reduced in the vat, is said now to be dying from blood-poisoning, the result of handling the bone. It will be remembered that Luetgert was imprisoned for life.

It transpired on Wednesday that Mrs. Anna Maria Druce, who had succeeded in obtaining an order to have the tomb of her father-in-law, T. C. Druce, opened, in order to prove that the dukedom of Portland is illegally inherited at present, must get an order also from the Secretary of State for Great Britain. This means delay.

The Beaver Line has been absorbed by the Elder-Dempster line, hitherto running freight to Montreal and elsewhere. The Beaver Line charter will permit the line to carry passengers as well as freight, which will probably be done now. Four new steamships are to be built, and the Beaver Line's name will be retained for several years along with the good will, for which chiefly the purchase was made.

A Paris despatch to the 'Daily News' has a story that Russia managed to keep China from paying the Japanese war indemnity long enough for Japan to lose her claim to several war vessels under construction for the Japanese navy. Then Russia acquired the vessels for her own navy and thus weakened Japan by that much. This is the story, at least.

The Manitoba Government bulletin places the wheat yield at 25,300,000 bushels, the department having deducted six hundred thousand bushels as total loss by bad weather in the autumn.

The cold wave of Dec. 12 and Dec. 13 was felt everywhere in the Dominion between Quebec and Vancouver. It spread with unusual rapidity. It was 30 below at Bury, Que., 32 at Abercorn, 22 at Sherbrooke, 22 at Saratoga Springs, N.Y., 5 at Pembroke, Ont., 23 at Mattawa, Ont., 33 at Waterville, Me., and 8 on Monday and 16 on Tuesday in Montreal. It was fiercely cold in Toronto at six below, and everywhere west between that place and the Pacific slope the weather was bitter. At Calgary it was 32 below and at Winnipeg 10 below.

Senator Cushman C. Davis, of the United States peace commission, in Paris, gave utterance in an interview with the correspondent of the London 'Daily Mail' to the idea of a triple alliance between Great Britain, the United States and Japan. He said: 'I am not appealing to sentiment, though blood is thicker than water; and this argument should not be ignored. My thesis in favor of co-operation is borne out by the coldest logic. I favor a treaty of alliance including the United States, Great Britain and Japan for the protection of all their interests north of the equator. The rest of the world would have a wholesome fear, synonymous with respect for us.'

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT.

Liberal Leader in the British House of Commons Resigns.

London, Dec. 15.—Sir William Vernon Harcourt, member of parliament for West Monmouthshire, and, since the resignation of the late Mr. Gladstone the official leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, has addressed a letter to Mr. John Morley, Liberal member for Montroseburgh, announcing his resignation of the leadership.

HARCOURT TO MORLEY.

Malwood, Dec. 8.

My Dear John Morley:

I am informed that discussions are being raised, or proposed to be raised, in reference to the future leadership of the Liberal party. It seems to be supposed that this is a question upon which I ought to feel great personal interest and some anxiety. So far as it affects myself I feel no anxiety on the matter. My record is clear and my resolution is fixed to undertake no responsibility and occupy no position the duties of which it is made impossible for me to fulfil.

There are people who appear to consider that the office of a leader is one which offers such inducements as would inspire an ambition to be pursued by all



SIR WILLIAM VERNON HARCOURT.

means and at any sacrifice. You at least are not so unacquainted with the realities of public affairs as to suffer under such a delusion. The protracted labor, the constant anxiety and the heavy responsibility of that situation are such as no man of sense or honor will undergo except under a high sentiment of public duty.

For myself, the part I have played in public life has been governed by a very plain and simple sense of obligation. In the late years of Mr. Gladstone's political life, both in the government and opposition, he was good enough, with the concurrence of my colleagues, to commission me to render him a necessary, however inadequate, assistance, in order to lighten his labors in the burdensome work of the House of Commons and elsewhere.

When the time so disastrous for the Liberal party arrived, at which he took his final leave as its responsible chief, there were many considerations which would have led me to desire relief from the burdens of office. I determined not to yield to such temptations, for two principal reasons: First, because I did not choose it should be thought that I was governed by personal feeling; secondly, because, in face of a vast deficit caused by the necessary increase in naval expenditure for the national defence, I thought it my duty to remain at my post as Chancellor of the Exchequer in order to establish the public finances upon a just and adequate basis in the budget of 1894, which was then imminent.

The task was not a promising one in face of the powerful opposition by which it was encountered. Nevertheless I felt it would have been cowardly to shrink from the risks and the labor which it imposed, and I resolved, reluctantly, to continue to discharge as leader of the House of Commons such duties as seemed to me most conducive to the interests of the Liberal party, which for thirty years of parliamentary life it has been my constant object to sustain.

At the meeting of the party called jointly by Lord Rosebery and myself on the retirement of Mr. Gladstone, we set forth at the Foreign Office our entire adherence to the principles and policy which he had bequeathed to us. The late government fought together through the sessions of 1894 and 1895, under circumstances of unexampled difficulty, with a narrow and precarious majority, the battle of Liberal principles, not, I am glad to remember, without some signal successes.

After the great defeat of 1895, in which you and I suffered in common, there were not wanting again strong temptations to any who desired only their own comfort and freedom from toil and responsibility to abandon a defeated army to its fate. That was not a course which recommended itself to you or to me. We rallied the broken ranks and took our places again in the van of the Liberal fight. Even with our attenuated line we inflicted upon the overwhelming majority of the government the remarkable defeat on the Education bill of 1896. Our successes were due to the loyalty and united action of the Liberal party in support of those who led their forces. It is only when such spirit prevails that anything can be accomplished by a political party, whether in the days of its good or its evil fortune.

The party, rent by sectional disputes and personal interests, is one which no man can consent to lead either with credit to himself or advantage to the country. You and my other colleagues know well the desire I have ever felt and the efforts I have made to secure unity of action in the promotion of the common cause, to reconcile differences of opinion where they might arise, and to consult the sentiments and feelings of those with whom it was my duty and my satisfaction to act. In this spirit of cordial co-operation, which I gratefully acknowledge, we have ever since the dissolution carried on the work of the party.

It has been whispered, by men who neither know nor care to know, the truth, that I have allowed personal considerations to influence public action. No man knows better than yourself the falsehood of these unworthy insinuations. If personal proscriptions have been insisted upon as ground for the refusal of common action in the general cause, they have not proceeded from me. In my opinion, such pretensions are intolerable, and, I, in common with my colleagues, have always refused to recognize them.

I am not, and I shall not consent to be, a candidate for any contested position. I shall be no party to such degradation of the tone of public life in this country. I have been content, to the best of my ability, in any situation which fell to my lot, to do my duty to the party which it has been my pride and my pleasure to serve. If I have arrived at the conclusion that I can best discharge that duty in an independent position in the House of Commons, you will, I feel sure, agree that a disputed leadership, beset by distracted sections and conflicting interests, is an impossible situation, and that release from vain and onerous obligations will come to me as a welcome relief.

I should be glad if you will make this letter known at once in such manner as you think fit, in order to remove any misapprehension as to my personal sentiments and position. Yours, very sincerely,

W. V. HARCOURT.

MORLEY TO HARCOURT.

Dec. 10.

My Dear Harcourt:—I have read your letter with the concern naturally arising from the gravity of its contents. I cannot feel the smallest surprise that at last you have found it impossible to keep silent in a situation that may well have become intolerant to you. For many months past I have often wondered at your steadfast reserve and self-command under provocation of those unworthy insinuations to which you refer, and which, if you had ever thought it worth while, you could at any moment have blown to atoms.

Apart from considerations of self-respect and personal honor in any individual case, nobody on either side of politics can think it good for the credit of public life in this country or for the character and repute of its public men that a situation should be prolonged in which the leadership of what has been, and will be again, a great and powerful party should be treated in a way so demoralizing both to leaders and led. All who value traditions that have made English public life the healthiest in the world will be glad that you have determined, so far as you are concerned, that these proceedings shall now come to an end.

Nobody who has any real knowledge of the circumstances either does or can suppose that at a single point since Mr. Gladstone's retirement in 1894 you were actuated by any other motives than those of genuine public spirit and unselfish zeal for the interest of the party. If at that critical moment you had declined to go on as leader of the House of Commons and Chancellor of the Exchequer none of us would have had any right to complain. It was lucky for the Liberal party that you did go on. If you had thrown up the Exchequer, as merely personal feeling might not unwarrantably have induced you to do, the country would have lost the most important contribution made to financial legislation for many a long year. The greatest of our legislative successes as a party and administration was your success.

As for events since 1895, the thing speaks for itself. Anybody who knows party history and who also knows the condition of our party after the election three years and a half ago, will agree that no leader of the Opposition—not Peel after 1832, nor Mr. Disraeli in 1848 and onward—ever undertook a more discouraging and difficult task than was laid upon you in 1895. The labor and strain of such a post in such circumstances can only be known to those who have lived at close quarters to it. And there is to my mind something odious—I can find no other word—in telling a man who has strenuously faced all this, who has stuck manfully to the ship instead of keeping snug in harbor because seas were rough and skies dark, that his position in his party is to be incessantly made matter for formal contest and personal challenge.

I remember that when you surrendered the leadership of the House before the elections of 1895, your last words in that capacity were something about its being the chief ambition of every man who has taken part in the noble conflicts of parliamentary life, whether in the majority or in the minority, to stand well in the House of Commons. We who sit there can see for ourselves how, leader of the minority as you are, you stand with both sides of the present House, politically hostile as the majority in it may be.

I know well enough, as you say, that there have been whispers about your singling out this personage or that as men with whom you would not co-operate. I also know how baseless these stories are, how precisely the reverse of truth they are, how certain it is to anybody in accurate possession of the facts, that it was not from you, at any rate, that attempts at proscription, as you call it, have proceeded. You and I have not always agreed in every point of tactics or of policy since you have been working leader of the Liberal party. For the government and Opposition alike times have been difficult and perplexing, and diversity of view on sudden issues was not on either side of the House unnatural. But I am confident that every colleague we have who has shared our party counsels since the disaster of 1895 will join me in recognizing the patience, persistency, and skill with which you have labored to reconcile such differences of opinion as arose, and to promote unity of action among us.

We are now to dismiss all this from our minds, for no other reason that I know of than that you have not been able to work political miracles and to achieve party impossibilities. On the contrary, I for one feel bound to say how I entirely sympathize with the feelings that have drawn this letter from you. It has doubtless not been written without long and careful deliberation, and I believe that I shall be doing what you desire in making it public without unnecessary delay.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN MORLEY.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, whose wife, his second, is a daughter of the late John Lothrop Motley, the historian, and at one time United States minister in London, has for twenty-five years held a commanding position in the Liberal party. Mr. Gladstone long regarded him as his ablest lieutenant in the House of Commons. Second son of the Rev. William Harcourt, and a grandson of a former Archbishop of York, he was born Oct. 14, 1827. In 1851 he left Cambridge University with high honors, and three years later he was called to the bar at the Inner Temple. In 1858 he unsuccessfully contested the Kirkcaldy burghs and ten years after was returned to the House of Commons for the City of Oxford, in the Liberal interests.

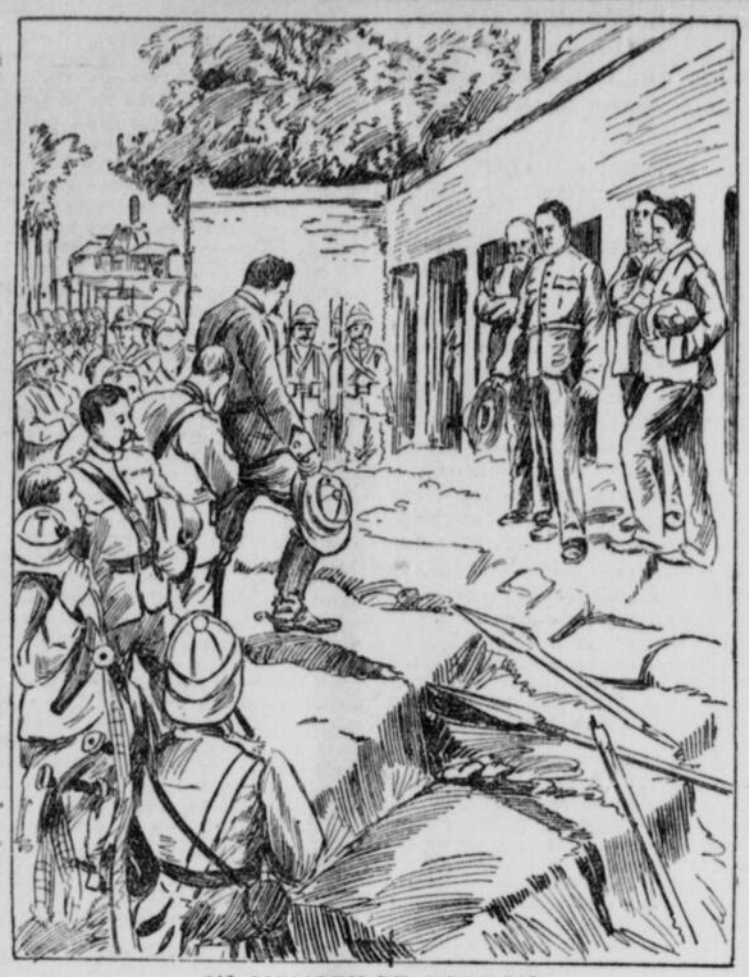
He was elected professor of international law in Cambridge University in 1869 and in 1873 was appointed Solicitor-General, on which occasion he was knighted. This office he held until the resignation of Mr. Gladstone's administration in February, 1874. When Mr. Gladstone returned to power in 1880 Sir William Harcourt was nominated Secretary of State for the Home Department. On going down to Oxford for re-election he was defeated by his Conservative opponent, but at this juncture Mr. Plimsoll, member for Derby, then a sure Liberal seat, resigned by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds, whereupon Mr. Harcourt was chosen one of the representatives of that borough.

He went out of office with his party in June, 1885, but on the return of the Liberals to power in January of the following year he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was re-elected for Derby at the general elections of 1885 and 1886.

Mr. Harcourt went out of office again on the downfall of the Gladstone Government in July, 1886, but returned to it as Chancellor of the Exchequer in August, 1892, when Mr. Gladstone reassumed power, and held this portfolio throughout the life of the Gladstone-Rosebery Government, which fell in June, 1895. In the general election of 1895, Mr. Harcourt was returned for West Monmouthshire.

The retiring Liberal leader has always been recognized as one of the cleverest parliamentary debaters. He studied the art of phrase-making in the school of Disraeli, whom he greatly admired, and of whom he was no inapt pupil. He was one of the original contributors to the 'Saturday Review,' and, under the pseudonym of 'Historicus,' has written numerous political pamphlets and letters on international law. Most of the latter have appeared in the London 'Times.'

About eighteen months ago a serious affection of the eyes threatened his withdrawal from political life but from this he has virtually recovered. It has been an open secret for some time that his tenure of the leadership was becoming increasingly distasteful to him, both on personal and partisan grounds.



IN MEMORY OF GORDON.

THE HISTORIC EVENT OF THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KHARTOUM.

No one who was present at the impressive memorial services held after the battle of Omdurman, on the spot where Gordon met his death, is ever likely to forget the deeply significant ceremony. There was not a man present in the detachments from the British and Egyptian regiments who was not well versed in the story of the hero's death, or who failed to be touched when, in a profound silence broken only by the solemn minute-guns, four chaplains—Catholic, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian—came slowly forward, and ranged themselves, with their backs to the palace, just before the Sirdar. The Presbyterian read the Fifteenth Psalm. The Anglican led the rustling whisper of the Lord's prayer. Father Brindle, best beloved of priests, read a memorial prayer bareheaded in the sun. After this scene, which our artist has selected to commemorate the historical event, there came forward the pipers and wailed a dirge. There were those who said the Sirdar himself could hardly speak or see when subsequently General Hunter and the rest, according to their rank, stepped out and shook his hand. What wonder! He had trodden this road to Khartoum for fourteen years, and he stood at the goal at last. And now, as will be seen elsewhere, the Sirdar has shown that he was not content with this fleeting tribute to England's hero. The letter which we publish on another page, and the proposal to create a permanent monument in the form of a Gordon Memorial College, testify to more than a passing emotion, and others who have honored the memory of Gordon are not likely to be backward in supporting so worthy a cause.—London 'Graphic.'

KRUGER AND THE UITLANDERS.

London, Dec. 16.—A cable despatch from Johannesburg has been received at the London office of the Johannesburg 'Standard,' recording President Kruger's later attitude toward the Uitlanders. The despatch says that the President sent a New Year message of good will to the residents of Johannesburg, and his desire that all should enjoy a contented lot. He added that the state would make no distinctions in regard to nationalities and only asked the residents to conform to the laws of the land and prove that they were worthy of confidence. He promised that there shall be a reduction in the cost of living and declared that he would protect the poor from the assaults of capital and procure for them a more prosperous existence.

Paris, Dec. 16.—An official note issued by the Foreign Office states that the ratification of the Niger convention between England and France has been postponed for six months from Dec. 8.

BRITAIN'S NIGER BOUNDARY.

London, Dec. 16.—The six months' protocol between France and Great Britain, delineating the Niger country, expired on Wednesday, and a treaty concerning this territory has not been signed. This opens another dangerous topic between the two nations.

BRITISH SWAY ON THE NLIE.

A Cairo despatch says:—It is believed here that the government of the Soudan will be independent of the government of Egypt. As regards Egypt, it is felt here that some movement in the direction of a protectorate must come. The natives say so far as they are concerned the protectorate already exists. The foreign community, however, through the capitulations, is in a different position.

WORK IN NYASSALAND.

HOW THE FREE KIRK IS EDUCATING THE BLACKS.

Lieutenant Lemaire, commander of the Belgian scientific expedition to Katanga, writes an interesting account of his journey from the Zambesi to Lake Tanganyika, in the course of which he gives some particulars of the British educational system in the Shire highlands. The school established at Bandawé, on the western shore of Lake Nyassa, by the Livingstone Mission of the Free Church of Scotland, is attended by both boys and girls. The teachers are black Atongas, like their pupils, and have been trained at the headquarters of the mission. The aged chief of the Atongas often assists at the classes. Round the walls of the schoolroom are maps, representations of the alphabet, and colored drawings, some of which depict the different kinds of rubber trees and the method of gathering and preparing the product. The school fees are threepence per pupil per quarter. The teachers' reading-room contains a copy of the bible and a number of London magazines. In a zone about 150 miles long by twelve miles broad there are forty schools, with 200 black teachers and 7,000 pupils. Captain Lemaire met on July 7 at N'Kafabay (the extreme point reached by the telegraph line from the Cape) Captain Close, of the British Army, who was assisting in the work of delimiting Nyassaland.

MENELEK'S MARCH.

RAS MANGASCIA SUING FOR PARDON.

A Milan despatch says: A telegram received from Rome by the 'Corriere Della Sera' states that Ras Mangascia has begged the Italians to use their efforts to obtain pardon for him from the Emperor Menelek, who is now seven days' march from Addis Abeba. The despatch adds that the Anglo-Egyptian troops have made their way through Gedaref into Galabat, where it was believed that the Abyssinian army was encamped for the purpose of warning the Egyptian forces not to proceed further.

Captain Cicco di Cola believes that the sole object of the forward movement of the Abyssinians is to obtain the submission of Mangascia, and that, as regards the frontier of Erythrea, Menelek still shows himself in favor of an amicable settlement.

OFF FOR INDIA.

London, Dec. 15.—Lord Curzon of Kedleston, the new Viceroy of India, started this morning for Marseilles, overland, to join Lady Curzon on board the 'Arabia' there.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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ILLEGAL MARRIAGES.

Brockville, Ont., Dec. 16.—As the question of legality of a marriage ceremony performed by a foreign minister has been the source of considerable discussion pro and con during the past six months the Division Registrar for the town of Brockville laid the matter before the Registrar-General of Ontario, who referred the question to the Department of the Attorney-General. The opinion given is 'that a marriage ceremony performed in Canada by a minister resident in the United States is not legal.' Two cases have come to light during the past year which, in view of the foregoing opinion, are decidedly illegal marriages.

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 17.—The decision of the Attorney-General of Ontario that a marriage performed in Ontario by a minister who is a resident of the United States, is not legal, has created excitement in a number of Essex county households. The Rev. John Reynolds, who was formerly long a resident of Ontario, but who has been living in Detroit for several years past, has been in the habit of returning to this country to perform marriages among his old parishioners. These marriages, under the Attorney-General's decision, are illegal, and therefore the couples affected must now either break up housekeeping or get married over again.

FOUR BELGIAN TRADERS MURDERED IN AFRICA.

The steamer 'Leopoldville,' which arrived at Antwerp last week from Africa, with Congo advices, reports that four Belgian traders have been killed and eaten by the natives of Upper Ubanghi. A punitive force, it is also said, has been despatched to that district.

SAMOAN TROUBLE.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—Special despatches from Samoa state that marines have been landed from British and German men-of-war to preserve the peace.

DEATH OF DR. MOUSSEAU, EX-M.P.

A despatch from St. Polycarpe announces the death of Dr. J. O. Mousseau, ex-M.P. for the County of Soulanges, which occurred on Tuesday. The doctor had been suffering with paralysis for several years past and he succumbed to a renewed attack of this malady, at the age of fifty-four years. He leaves a widow and five children, two sons and three daughters. One of his sons, Mr. J. O. Mousseau, is an advocate in this city, and the other, Mr. Louis Mousseau, is studying for the priesthood in the Valleyfield college.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

Rockland Riot Case Settled at Last.

THREE OF THE ACCUSED PLEAD GUILTY AND ARE LET OFF UNDER SUSPENDED SENTENCE.

Rockland, Ont., Dec. 15.—Free speech has been vindicated in this district by the placing of Joseph Trottier, Joseph Larue and Beaudry, three of the now notorious Rockland rioters, under suspended sentence, on Tuesday at L'Orignal Assizes where the case came up for a third hearing, and five others were allowed to go through the Crown witnesses deciding not to apppear against them.

It will be remembered that the pastor of the Baptist church of Rockland, the Rev. G. R. McFaul, conducted a series of special meetings about eighteen months ago, and invited the Rev. L. Coté, missionary of Sorel, to assist him. The object of these meetings was to lead to a better Christian life Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. From the very start the services were disturbed by disorderly persons, who remained outside the building while the preaching was in progress. This opposition to the efforts of the missionaries culminated in a most tumultuous riot on the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 10, 1897. The rioters, who were largely French Roman Catholics, were aroused apparently by the fact that Mr. Coté has left the Church of Rome and vigorously propagates the views he now holds.

In order to vindicate the right of free speech and to prevent the recurrence of such dangerous assemblies, a committee of citizens undertook the prosecution of several rioters who had been unmistakably identified on the evening of the disturbance. The complaint — raising an unlawful assembly—was laid before the local magistrates of Rockland, Messrs. John Tytler and P. Stewart, justices of the peace. Notwithstanding the fact that most convincing evidence was presented by twenty-one witnesses, respectable residents of Rockland, the case was dismissed on the ground of insufficient evidence. Father Hudon, the parish priest, was present at the magistrates' court, and took a deep interest in the investigations.

In order to secure justice Crown Attorney Maxwell was led to prosecute under the provisions of the Criminal Code, and the case was sent to the sessions for trial. The Court met on Wednesday, Dec. 15, Judge O'Brien on the bench. The grand jury, after having heard only four or five witnesses on this case, found a true bill. The prisoners, Antoine Maville, Frank Pilon, Jos. Trottier, Jos. Larue, Joseph Levecque, Bourgon, Beaudry and Bedard, were charged with participating in an unlawful assembly. Mr. W. W. Wyld, of Ottawa, represented the accused, while Crown Attorney Maxwell, of L'Orignal, conducted the prosecution.

It was with great difficulty and with much delay that a jury was empanelled. Never before in the history of criminal proceedings in this county were so many of our most respected citizens challenged as jurymen by the defence.

About thirty witnesses were examined. Among those for the prosecution were Messrs. F. M. Mix, J. W. Campbell, J. E. Gibson, I. Woodly, Thomas York and L. Coté. The evidence for the defence was secured chiefly from the prisoners themselves.

The witnesses for the prosecution brought to light facts which show the serious character of the uprising. More than three hundred people assembled tumultuously around the church, from which place the uproar could be distinctly heard a mile and a half distant. The shouting of the crowd was interspersed with revolver shots and the throwing of stones against the door and vestibule of the church. This riotous conduct was accompanied by most dangerous threatenings, calling for Mr. Coté's life with oaths unspeakably horrible. The constable who stood at the church door ready to defend Mr. Coté, who, with others, was imprisoned within, had difficulty in restraining the mob, which charged the entrance, and he himself was struck and seriously injured by one of the flying stones, while another witness was knocked down by the mob and rotten-egged. Even the Rev. Mr. McFaul, who ventured for a moment to the door, did not escape without a severe blow. The siege continued with unabated fury in spite of falling rain, until near midnight, when most of the crowd dispersed, but it was not until 1.30 a.m. that Mr. Coté, with a strong escort of citizens, attempted to go to his place of lodging. The testimony produced showed clearly the concerted action of the crowd, which had been well organized for the assault, sentinels having been placed at every point of retreat so as to intercept Mr. Coté should he attempt to escape.

The holding of the judge after a few witnesses were examined was that clear proof was presented of an unlawful assembly, and that all that remained for the prosecution was to identify the prisoners and show that they were part of that assembly.

At the close of the second day, during the cross-examination of the last witness for the defence, Crown Attorney Maxwell, by a series of skilful questions, disclosed a plot which startled the Court. On the morning of that day Maville, the unwilling witness from whom the facts were drawn; Trottier, another prisoner, and Father Hudon, in a room at the hotel, were seen discussing the case for a considerable time with Seguin, one of the jurymen, who had been strictly charged by His Honor to listen to no person speaking about the case. Father Hudon, it seems, came to L'Orignal and remaned there during the two days of the trial, not appearing in court but going around to the hotels where the jurymen were billeted and seeking to influence them. His Honor, after considering the matter, dismissed the jury and remanded the prisoners for a new trial.

This new trial began at the Court of the General Sessions of the Peace on June 14, 1898. Crown Attorney Maxwell appeared for the prosecution, Judge O'Brien was on the bench, but Mr. W. W. Wyld, of Ottawa, representing the accused, was absent, while Mr. W. S. Hall, his assistant, refused to act in the absence of Mr. Wyld, consequently the accused were unprepared to defend themselves. The Crown felt that the accused would take it as a hardship if the case was pressed while they were thus unprepared, and being desirous of giving them every opportunity of proving their innocence,they were allowed to return to their homes.

All this led up to the trial which convicted the prisoners, as related in the opening sentences of this article.

IN BAHR-EL-GHAZEL.

LORD KITCHENER'S EXPEDITION TO MESHRA-ER-REK HEARD FROM.

An officer stationed at Fashoda, writing under date of Oct. 5, gives an interesting account of a journey up the Bahr-el-Ghazel from which he had just returned. He writes:—

I have just returned from exploring the Bhar-El-Ghazel with two others. We went as far as we could—i.e., as far as water was deep enough—and fetched up at a spot called Meshra-er-Rek, an even worse hell than this (Fashoda). We had to cut our way through two lots of sudd; passed through Lakes No and Ambody, and the Kit River—a total distance of 265 miles from here. We shot three hippos, hartebeest, reed buck, no end of wild swan, geese, guinea fowl, and bustard. In fact, but for the mosquitoes (which nearly drove us mad both day and night) we had a most enjoyable trip. We also came across two herds of elephants, but too far off to get a shot, and stalking was impossible, in the open swamp with two feet of water. The whole river from Sobat to Meshra-er-Rek is one long papyrus swamp. I did a map and report, which ought to be useful

It is to be noted that the writer makes no mention of meeting with French posts at Meshra-er-Rek or elsewhere, which he certainly would have done had he met with them.

McGILL UNIVERSITY.

A LOT OF CHRISTMAS BOXES WHICH AGGREGATE OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

Last Tuesday afternoon the chancellor of McGill University, the Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., presided at the meeting of the Board of Governors of McGill University, and the chancellor announced that the furnishing and equipment of the Royal Victoria College was making satisfactory progress, and would open its doors to students, resident and non-resident, in September, 1899. The endowment with which the new institution would commence, including the existing Donalda fund of $120,000, would be $1,000,000.

Acknowledgment of this magnificent gift was made by Mr. Hugh McLennan, as chairman of the Board of Governors, and Mr. George Hague, also by Principal Peterson, on behalf of the professorial staff.

Mr. W. C. McDonald called attention to the inadequate endowment of the faculty of arts, and intimated his intention of endowing the chair of history, expressing a desire that the chair should in some way be connected with the name of the late Dr. William Kingsford, of Ottawa. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. McDonald for this further instance of his untiring generosity to the university.

For some time past the board has been seriously discussing the financial position of the university, and, in particular, the extent to which its general funds have been encroached upon by the recurring deficit in the revenue and expenditure account. This resulted in a joint contribution on Tuesday on the part of the members of the board of $186,000.

The medical students of McGill University never held a more successful function than the annual dinner which took place in the Windsor Hotel on Thursday evening. The dinner, decorations, attention paid to guests, speeches, songs and recitations, all were well arranged, and carried out, but to cap the climax, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, present, he said, among McGill men as one of themselves, announced in the names of Lady Strathcona and the Hon. Mrs. Howard, two donations to the medical department of $50,000 each. Needless to say the announcement was wildly applauded and was the subject of happy remark in all the speeches afterwards delivered. His Lordship was dubbed the Grand Old Man of Canada.

GERMAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Baron Von Bulow's Interesting Statementin theReichstag.

THE EMPEROR'S EASTERN TOUR CRITICISED.

Berlin, Dec. 17—During the course of the debate on foreign affairs in the Reichstag on Monday Herr Reichter, the German Radical leader, expressed the opinion that the Emperor William's tour of the Holy Land had left a mixed impression in the minds of Protestants. Herr Richter protested against the recent expulsions from North Schleswig as being unworthy of a great people, and expressed the hope that the negotiations with Great Britain for a commercial treaty were progressing well. The Radical leader also said no unnecessary obstacles should be placed in the way of the importation of American products. He then advocated the new army bill, but said it was of such proportions that it did not harmonize with the sympathy expressed in the speech from the throne on the subject of the Czar's disarmament proposals.

In conclusion, Herr Richter severely criticised the treatment of the Lippe-Detmold question, and demanded that the Emperor William's telegrams should be countersigned by the responsible minister.

Count Posadowsky-Webner, imperial secretary of state for the interior, referring to the alleged general uneasiness as to the condition of public affairs, said that in his opinion the situation both at home and abroad was favorable. In any event, he could aver that there was no uneasiness among the federal governments of the empire, which were entirely of one mind on all important questions. Regarding Herr Richter's allusion to ministerial responsibility he said that nothing was done in the empire without the responsibility of the Imperial Chancellor, and that during the Emperor William's absence in the east public affairs had been continuously disposed of. The lateness of date for convening the Reichstag was due, he said, to the necessity of thoroughly preparing the proposed bills. Regarding the expulsion, he pointed out that the power vested in individual states for the performance of such acts could not be limited. He then explained the necessity for legislation to protect men who are willing to work against the intimidation of strikers, and concluded by declaring that the settlement of the Lippe-Detmold succession rested with the Bundesrath, which had not yet reached a decision.

Baron Von Bulow, the Foreign Secretary, dwelt upon foreign affairs. He said the eastern question at the present moment was peaceful and much less threatening to the peace of the world, though he did not mean to imply that the problem was settled.

'It is like a sea serpent,' he continued, 'one bit appears after the other. None of those who hear me will live to see the final settlement. We must, after all, leave to our children's children a few nuts to crack. Germany does not aim at a selfish influence in the Orient, and in that fact lies the peculiarity and security of her position at the Golden Horn. The sympathy of the Turks with Germany rests upon the conviction that she means to uphold international law with reference to Turkey, as well as to other nations.'

Discussing the Emperor William's recent tour, Baron Von Bulow said that its result had disproved all the stories disseminated as to adventurous plans and opposing claims. The German Protestants would allow no one to dispute their right to have a house of God in holy places. The desire of the Emperor William, he asserted, to dedicate the Church of the Redeemer himself was an act of piety to his ancestors as well as a matter of personal religion. It was devoid of all antagonism to other creeds and the proof of this was in the fact that all standing on common Christian ground might equally rejoice in the opportunity afforded by the journey of His Majesty, who, as the Emperor of all the Germans, had given the abode of the Holy Virgin to his Catholic subjects.

The journey also showed other governments, the Foreign Secretary continued, that Germany does not wish to injure the well-founded rights of others anywhere. Neither in the East nor elsewhere did Germany oppose French interests, though, of course, she had nowhere recognized a foreign protectorate of German subjects, the protection of Germans belonging only to the German Emperor, a right not now declared for the first time, but which existed on Jan. 18, 1871, the day King William of Prussia was declared Emperor of Germany at Versailles, and had been exercised on several occasions since.

Referring to the expulsions from Prussia, he said: 'International relations will be in no way disturbed since the expulsions were an act of sovereignty which in certain special cases could not be avoided. Confidential friendly negotiations with Austria on the subject are proceeding. The Dreibund has not been shaken. That alliance was the result of an historic life work of great statesmanship and still holds good, preserving the most complete autonomy at home, with absolute independence, and each would lose to an equal extent by the termination of the Dreibund.'

With regard to Germany's relations to Great Britain, Baron Von Bulow said there were various matters in which Germany could proceed in company with England, and that willingly, without prejudice to, and with the fullest maintenance of other valuable relations.

Then, turning to Germany's attitude towards the Hispano-American war, he said: 'Our duty has been to take care that Germany's relations with neither Spain nor America should be disturbed. Germany has no special interest in Cuba, and it was not for Germans to judge who was right or who was wrong. Therefore, the German Government has scrupulously observed a loyal neutrality. Never during the war did the government show, or even feel, any inclination towards unwarranted intervention. In a straightforward manner within the bounds of strict neutrality, and without prejudicing our relations with either belligerent, we did everything in our power to prevent injury to German shipping and trade. (Cheers.) Various differences of principle existed in our commercial relations with the United States, but the negotiations that were stopped during the war will be resumed; and, I may venture to believe, that with mutual good will, the friendly relations between Germany and the United States will be maintained in the field of commerce.'

In concluding, Baron Von Bulow said: 'Governments everywhere are endeavoring to preserve the peace, and Germany hopes to succeed for a long time to come in avoiding serious conflicts. True to its historic traditions and the Emperor's great aims, the German nation, while protecting to the full its right and interest, and mindful that its future depends upon its strength and the sharpness of its sword, will nevertheless fail, when the universal aims of humanity or the maintenance of the world's peace and commerce are involved.

A NEW YORK RUMOR.

SAID MR. CHOATE WILL BE THE NEXT UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO LONDON.

A despatch of last week to the N. Y. 'World,' from Washington, says: — 'Joseph H. Choate, of New York, will be the Ambassador to England. This is as certain as anything can be which is not



MR. CHOATE.

an accomplished fact. The appointment will not be announced until after the President's return from the South, and the announcement may be deferred until after the holidays.

'This information was given by a Republican Senator, who would be among the first to know of it. Later a cabinet officer corroborated the Senator. The troublesome ambassadorship problem, therefore, appears to have been solved.'

THE ST. CANUT MURDER.

Ste. Scholastique, Que., Dec. 15.—The trial of Cordelia Viau, wife of Isidore Poirier, for murder, which has been in progress for some days, was concluded last night, the jury finding the woman guilty of the murder of her husband. The judge thereupon sentenced her to be hanged on March 10, 1899.

Mr. Mathieu, the Crown prosecutor, addressed the jury, after which Judge Taschereau charged the jury, impartially.

The murder of which Mrs. Poirier has been twice found guilty, was a most horrible one. She was the wife of a respectable carpenter at St. Canut, a village near here, and had for some time been on intimate terms with Samuel Parslow, a farm hand, and the two plotted together to get rid of the husband. One night last November, Mrs. Poirier left her husband's house to go to see a friend some distance away. Poirier, who was troubled about his domestic affairs, had been drinking rather freely, and next day he was found with his throat cut from ear to ear. Mrs. Poirier claimed that she had not been near the place, but she and Parslow were arrested on suspicion. The woman broke down and tried to lay the whole blame on the man. Parslow confessed, and, according to his statement, they both committed the murder. The first trial took place in February last, when the jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty. Sentence was reserved, the Court granting the defence a reserve case on the point as to whether the woman's confession should have been admitted as evidence against her.

SEVENTY-FOUR KILLED.

Brussels, Dec. 14.—Advices received here from the governor of the Upper Congo confirm the news that four Belgian traders had been killed and eaten by the natives of Upper Ubanghi. The governor adds that the traders' escort of thirty soldiers were also massacred, and that another detachment of forty soldiers in charge of two white officers, who were proceeding to the assistance of the traders, were surprised by the natives, and all were put to death.

CANADA'S POSITION.

The Discussion of Her Interests by the Joint High Commission.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Washington despatches to the Conservative newspapers furnish amusement to the Canadian commissioners in their moments of leisure. From them they learn that the reciprocity treaty has failed; that the Senate is hopelessly hostile, and that conditions generally are such that success cannot be hoped for. Next day they are informed that a recess will be taken after March 4 and before they have recovered from their astonishment the commissioners learn that one of their number is not going back to Canada to be hooted at for failure to make a treaty, and is determined to get one, cost what it may. And so the stories run, endless in variety and unique in absurdity. The Americans are scarcely less astonished than the Canadian commissioners at the March 4 story. As a matter of fact, one of the Americans still cherishes the hope that business can be closed out and a treaty drafted before Friday, Dec. 23. Even if the proposals to be submited by the Americans to-morrow are as satisfactory as it is hoped they will be, it seems scarcely possible to close up the work and put the committee reports into the articles of a treaty in a few days. The Canadian commissioners regard an adjournment as inevitable, but they agree that if a treaty is to result from the work of the commission it would be absurd to keep it hanging over Congress and parliament during the coming year. Mr. Dingley holds the same view quite strongly, and is confident that the results will be as good now as they would be after a long adjournment, and perhaps better. Under the circumstances, the announcement of a lengthy recess of several months' duration would simply mean that irreconcilable differences had been developed, and that the negotiations were at an end.

The assertion that the Canadians are determined to secure a treaty rather than be hooted at on their return is especially absurd. Canadians of all classes and parties may rest assured that there is nothing of the mendicant in the attitude of their representatives. If they cannot secure satisfactory terms they will leave Washington without loss of dignity and return to Canada with the knowledge that there will be no hooting for men who have stood up for the national rights and have greatly increased the respect of the public men of the United States for Canadian statesmanship. The intercourse of the last few months between men like President McKinley, Col. Hay, Secretary of State; Mr. Dingley, Lord Herschell and the Canadian commissioners must be in the highest degree beneficial. It is hardly saying too much to assert that if the President and Mr. Dingley had known as much of the trade relations between Canada and the United States as they know to-day neither the McKinley nor the Dingley tariffs would have been directed against Canadian industry as they were. Nor has this light come entirely from the Canadians. It is no secret that Mr. Dingley went to Quebec in August in hot anger against the preferential tariff. Even his own associates on the American commission have joined in the work of teaching him that the preferential tariff was the logical outcome of the tariff war against Canada made by the Republican party since 1890.

The apostle of high protection is not an ideal penitent, and it would perhaps be difficult even now to obtain from him a confession that this attempt to shut Canada off by a Chinese wall from the trade of the continent is wrong. Mr. McKinley and his colleagues, however, in company with the Canadian commissioners, have just about convinced him that it is inexpedient and will not pay in the long run.

Lord Herschell and Senator Fairbanks are holding private conferences, and this has given rise to the rumor that the Imperial Government is taking a hand in the affair.

To the suggestion that the more yielding disposition of the Americans during the past few days might have been brought about by the promise of a coaling station or two for the American navy in the Indian Ocean or the Pacific, one of the Canadian commissioners said that he did not believe there was anything in the story or that the conferences between Lord Herschell and Senator Fairbanks had to do with any question outside of the matters referred to the commission. It would, however, be directly in the line of Mr. Chamberlain's policy of promoting an Anglo-American interest in every way possible to exchange a coral reef or a bit of Arabian sand for some trade advantage given to Canada by the United tSates, and without which the Canadian commissioners might not feel warranted in agreeing to a treaty. Mr. Chamberlain might think, besides, that a thing is not lost which remains in the family. A final attempt is to be made to secure a settlement of the Atlantic fisheries question so that it may be inserted in the treaty.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Material progress in the negotiations was made at the meeting of the commission on Saturday morning, and at its close the announcement was made that the conference would resume its work after the Christmas recess on Thursday, Jan. 5. The final meeting before adjournment will be held to-day. The intention of the commissioners is to push the work along as rapidly as possible after they come together again. It is confidently stated that by the end of January at the furthest the negotiations will be completed, and that the treaty will go before the United States Senate for ratification by the beginning of February. This will leave a clear month for action before Congress rises on March 4 and in view of the thorough manner in which the interest of the Senators has been aroused, there is every reason to believe that the treaty will be ratified before March 4. The Spanish peace treaty will be laid before the Senate when it meets on Jan. 4, and it should be out of the way by the time the British treaty is ready. If, however, the debate on the Spanish treaty is prolonged into an anti-expansion fight, there is serious danger that the British treaty may go over to the December session of 1899, the feeling against an extra session being so great that there is little probability of one being called.

Although not officially admitted, it is said that at the meeting of the commission on Saturday an announcement was made that the approval of the necessary two-thirds majority of the Senate could not be obtained to the free admission of Canadian lumber, and that a treaty with such a provision in it would be foredoomed to failure. Were it a question of a majority vote, free lumber could safely be included, but the treaty as a whole must get the support of 61 Senators, and the lumber interest has, it is asserted, proved stronger in this respect than that of the administration. While free lumber cannot be forced through, it is understood that if Canada cares to accept, the duty will be reduced from $2 to $1 per thousand at once, or a sliding scale reduction may be inaugurated which would ultimately result, after a series of years, in free lumber. The Canadian commissioners are extremely reticent in their views as to these proposals, and will doubtless not make up their minds till they return to Washington after consultation with their friends in Canada. It may not be inappropriate, however, to point out that during the session of 1897, in the course of a conference at Ottawa, not a few of the most prominent lumbermen of the Dominion advised that if the Dingley bill, then pending, should place the lumber duty at but $1 per thousand feet the government of Canada should take no action towards preventing by export duties the export of logs. This was the course followed also by Sir John Macdonald in 1890, when the McKinley tariff reduced the tariff on lumber from $2 to $1. The question is one that must be decided largely on expert opinion. The trade returns do not show that the export of logs was greater, averaged over a series of years when there was a duty of $1 on lumber, than under the Wilson tariff, when logs and lumber were duty free on both sides of the line. That the American commissioners will offer compensations in some other direction for their failure in regard to lumber seems probable. The Gloucester fishermen, the North-West lumbermen, and the spokesmen of the Grange have in a large measure defeated the prospects for a wide measure of reciprocity. There are a good many items, however ,outside of the domain of these gentry where improvement may be made in trade relations, and a reciprocity schedule of some value may yet be secured.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The Canadian joint commission adjourned to-day until Jan. 5, after which it is expected they will re-assemble in Washington for a session of not more than two weeks, during which they will sign the draft of any treaty between the United States and Canada they may be able to agree upon.

ADAMZAD, THE BEAR.

Secret Treaty Between Russia and China.

The secret treaty existing between Russia and China is reported to be as follows: 'Until the reorganization of the Chinese army and navy is completed, China shall have assistance of the Russian army and navy for defence in case of emergency. In such case the command of the army and navy shall remain in the hands of Russian officers. The Chinese Government shall make proper pecuniary compensation to the Russian army and navy when their services are required. The commander of the Russian army at Liaotung and Port Arthur shall hold himself at the orders of the Chinese Government and may be called upon to render assistance at any time.'

A native despatch from North China states that since the Russians have commenced the work of constructing the railway in Manchuria, the country from Kirin to Hunchun is more than ever disturbed by 'horse bandits,' who have been joined by many laborers who had been employed by the Russian authorities but afterwards found work too laborious and preferred pillage to hard work. Though Chinese troops were unable to quell bandits the latter are scared of Russians and take care not to come within range of their rifles.

SPANISH PRIESTS MUST NOT DENOUNCE OTHERS.

San Juan, Dec. 15.—The Roman Catholic priests at Ponce have issued a proclamation directing their people not to go near Protestants nor to receive presents from them, and forbidding them to enter the houses of Protestants. The priests denounce as illegal marriages performed by others than themselves.

General Henry, the military commander of the island, has notified the alcalde of Ponce to inform the priests that they must stop issuing such disquieting proclamations and that the denouncing of religious denominations will not be tolerated. The alcalde is further instructed to tell the priests that if the action complained of is persisted in, the military will put an end to it.

COMMERCIAL.

WITNESS OFFICE, Dec. 19, 1898.

GAS AT 210.

TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDRED SHARES CHANGE HANDS.

Montreal Gas, Toronto Street Railway and War Eagle were the only stocks much dealt in on the local exchange this morning. Gas was the predominant feature and 2,700 shares changed hands at prices ranging from an opening at 207¾ up to a maximum of 210. The close was firm at 208½. Thirteen thousand shares of War Eagle changed hands at values ranging from 297 to 298. The market generally was very strong.

MORNING SALES.

Can. Pac.—475 at 85¼.

M.S.R.—28 at 283, 352 at 283.

Montreal Gas—50 at 207½, 5 at 207½, 525 at 208, 150 at 208¼, 100 at 208, 425 at 208¼, 5 at 208¾, 50 at 208¼, 25 at 208¾, 1 at 208, 300 at 208½, 575 at 209, 125 at 210, 225 at 209½, 100 at 209¼, 325 at 209½.

Tor. Ry. x-d—100 at 106, 175 at 106½, 10 at 106, 225 at 106, 100 at 105¾.

War Eagle—2,500 at 297¼, 500 at 297¾, 2,750 at 298, 3,000 at 297¼, 5,000 at 297.

Halifax Ry.—50 at 131.

W. Loan and Trust—24 at 95.

N. W. Land pfd.—50 at 55¼.

Montreal Telegraph—75 at 175.

Hochelaga Bank—3 at 162¾.

Royal Electric x-d—22 at 162.

Can. Col. Cot. Bonds—$3,500 at 100.

Quebec Bank—19 at 122¼.

AFTERNOON SALES.

C.P.R.—125 at 85, 75 at 84⅞, 50 at 84¾.

Halifax Railway—100 at 131½, 125 at 131.

Mont. Gas—500 at 209½, 300 at 209⅜, 125 at 209¼, 25 at 209¼.

Toronto Railway—125 at 106, 100 at 106⅛, 125 at 106, 25 at 106½, 175 at 106¼.

War Eagle—1,000 at 297.

St. John Railway—50 at 150.

Royal Electric xd—25 at 162.

R. & O.—25 at 99½.

Reported for the Witness by Mr. G. R. Marler, Banker and Broker 1721 Notre Dame St.

	Buyers.	Sellers.	Counter.
New York Funds	3-64 prem.	⅛	to ¼ prem.
Sterling, 60 days	8½	9-16	8⅝ to 8¾
Sterling, demand	9 1-32	3-32	9¼ to 9⅜
Sterling Cables	9¼	5-16	9⅜ to 9½
Paris Cheques	5.21¼	1-16	

MONTREAL STOCK REPORT.

(Furnished by Macdougall Bros. Brokers.)

Montreal, Dec. 19.

Stocks.	Asked.	Bid.
Canadian Pacific Railway	85½	85⅛
Do. L. G. Bonds	....	....
Duluth S. S. & A.	3	2½
Do. Preferred	8	6½
Commercial Cable Co.	185½	184½
" Coupon Bonds	....	103½
" Reg. "	....	103½
Montreal Telegraph	180	176
Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co.	100½	99
People's Heat & Light	32½	29
" Bonds	88	86
Montreal Street Railway Co.	284	282½
" New	282	279¼
Halifax Ry.	133	131
Halifax Bonds	....	....
Montreal Gas Co.	208	207¾
Bell Telephone Co.	172	170
Royal Electric Co.	162	161½
Toronto Railway xd	106¼	106
Bank of Montreal	250	245
Ontario Bank	122	114½
Molsons Bank	210	205
Bank of Toronto	255	243
Merchants Bank	....	175
Merchants Bank of Halifax	....	180
Quebec Bank	....	122½
Union Bank	....	110
Bank of Commerce	....	141
Cornwall Electric	....	....
Cornwall Ry.	....	....
St. John do	....	150
North-West Land	....	....
" Pref'd.	56	55
Montreal Cotton Co.	160	153½
Colored Cotton Co.	70	60
" Bonds	100	99¾
Dominion Cotton	108	107¼
Gas	....	....
Dom. Coal	34	33
Dom. Coal Pref'd.	119	1 17½
War Eagle	297	293½

LONDON CLOSING PRICES.

London, Dec. 19, 4 p.m.—Closing, Consols for money, 110 3-16; do., for the account, 110 7-16. Canadian Pacific at 87⅝; Grand Trunk at 7, Erie at 14⅝; Erie, first pref., at 38¾; Illinois Central at 117; Northern Pacific preferred at 79; St. Paul, common, at 121, New York Central at 127½; Penna., at 62⅝; Reading at 10; Union Pacific pref. at 74; Atchison at 19⅝; Louisville at 65⅝; bar silver at 27⅛; money at 2½ to 3; the rate of discount in the open market for short and three months, 3⅜ to ½.

CHICAGO MARKETS

The following table shows the range of prices in Chicago to-day and the closing quotations as compared with those of yesterday:

	Yesterday's Close.	To-day's Open.	High.	Low.	Close
Wheat—					
Dec.	65⅝	66¼	66⅝	66	66
May	66¼	66¾	67⅜	67⅛	67⅜
July	64⅜	65⅜	65⅞	65⅜	65⅝
Corn—					
Dec.	34	34⅝	34⅝	34¼	34½
May	34⅞	35⅜	35⅝	35⅛	35⅜
Oats—					
Dec.	26	26½	26½	26	26
May	26⅝	26⅞	26⅞	26⅝	26⅞
Pork—					
Jan.	9.40	9.45	9.45	9.37	9.40
May	9.67	9.72	9.75	9.65	9.67
Lard—					
Jan.	5.12	5.12	5.15	5.12	5.12
May	5.32	5.37	5.37	5.32	5.35
Short Ribs—					
Jan.	4.65	4.67	4.67	4.62	4.62
May	4.82	4.85	4.85	4.80	4.80

GRAIN.

There is no change in the market this morning. We quote:

	In store.	In Ont.
Oats, No. 2 white	30½c	28c to 00c
Oats, No. 3 white	30c	00c to 00c
Peas	65c	65½ to 64c
Buckwheat	46c	00c to 00c

FLOUR.

Trading is purely local and rather slow. We quote:

Manitoba patents	$4.20	to 4.35
Strong bakers	3.85	to 4.10
Winter patents	3.75	to 4.10
Straight rollers	3.40	to 3.60
Straight rollers, bags	1.65	to 1.75
Extras, bags	1.70	to 1.75

FEED.

There is little doing but prices have appreciated somewhat. We quote Ontario white wheat bran at $13.75 to $14.25 in bulk; Manitoba bran at $13.50 to $14, bags included, and shorts at $15.50 to $16, including bags.

HAY.

There is a fair demand for No. 1 at $6.50 to $7, but No. 2 grades, which are held at $4.50 to $5, are not much wanted. Clover mixed is now worth about $4 to $4.50, and clover is selling at $3.50 to $4 per ton in car lots.

CHEESE.

Finest western is nominally worth from 10c, and finest eastern 9⅞c; the market is somewhat firmer, and an advance is confidently looked for

BUTTER.

There is very little business doing, so that quotations of finest creamery are somewhat nominal. We quote:

Finest creamery	20c	to 20½c
Townships dairy	16c	to 17c
Western dairy	13½c	to 15c
Rolls in barrels	14c	to 14½c
Rolls in baskets	15c	to 15½c

PROVISIONS.

The market is brisk. We quote:

Canadian pork	$15.50 to $16
Pure Canadian lard, in pails	7¾ to 7½c
Compound, refined do.	5c to 5½c
Hams	10c to 11c
Bacon	10½ to 11c
Dressed hogs, light	$5.50 to $5.55

EGGS.

There is a good demand for new laid stock We quote :

New laid	23c	to 24c
No. 1 candled	15c	to 16c
No. 2 candled	12c	to 13c
Montreal limed	14c	to 15c
Culls	8c	to 9c

ASHES.

The market is easing off and there is little business doing. Firsts are selling at $4.20 and seconds at $4, while pearl ash is worth $4.90.

DRESSED POULTRY.

The supply continues to be in excess of the demand. Turkeys are gradually advancing, and 9c is sometimes obtained for fine birds. We quote:

Turkeys	8c	to 9c
Chickens	6c	to 7c
Old fowl	4½c	to 5c
Ducks	7c	to 8c
Geese	5c	to 6c
Partridges, No. 1, per brace	65c	to 75c
Partridges, No. 2, per brace	40c	to 50c

BEANS.

The demand for beans is fair and prices are steady. We quote 89c to 90c for primes while choice hand picked are worth 95c to $1.00.

POTATOES.

The market is firm at 50c to 52c for choice; common to fair are quoted at 40c to 45c per bag in car lots.

MOVEMENTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

	Receipts.	Ship'ts
At Chicago—		
Wheat, bush	170	19
Corn, bush	530	84
Oats, bush	459	199
Flour, bris	49,062	32,998
At Milwaukee—		
Wheat, bush	86,000	59,000
At Duluth—		
Wheat, bush	234,000	1,000

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Dec. 19.

At the East End Abattoir market to-day the demand was not equal to the supply, except for fat cattle, of which there were only about one hundred offered, and a few brought the highest price of the season for local use as Christmas beef. For other kinds of fairly good cattle, thep rices offered were discouraging owing, it is supposed, to a weaker feeling prevailing in the English markets. At the prices paid, shippers have met with losses, and the prospects for a change for the better are not encouraging. This refers to sheep that were shipped as well as cattle. There were 900 of the latter offered to-day at this market and about 700 sheep, old and young. The best cattle brought from 4½c to 4¾c; fairly good from 3½c to 4c; lower grades, from 2c to 3c per lb. There were some fat bulls on the market, which sold at 2½c to 3c, and about the same price was paid for steers. There were a few lots of cattle left over from last market day, and it is expected there will be more to-day. Sheep sold at from 3c to 3¼c for export. Young sheep brought from 4½c to 4¾c per lb. live weight, the demand being good. There were about thirty calves on the market, and they sold at from $4 to $12 each.

At the Grand Trunk stock yards at Point St. Charles there were about 600 live hogs received during the past week. The demand for local use was good. The best sold at $4.37½; heavy fat at $4.10 to $4.20; light stockers at $4, sows at $3, and the poorer kinds, termed stags, at $2.50 per 100 lbs.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES—Dec. 16.

The attendance to-day at the Bonsecours market was large, considering that the ferryboats have stopped running, and business was very brisk. There was a plentiful supply of poultry of all kinds, particularly turkeys, in the hands of the dealers and farmers. The latter, as usual, sold them at lower prices than their competitors. Turkeys sold at from 80c to $1.25 each outside the market, and from 9c to 10c per lb. by dealers; geese, 7c to 8c do. There was a plentiful supply of oats, which sold at from 65c to 72c per bag; buckwheat, 50c per bushel; potatoes, at 50c to 55c per bag; turnips at 35c to 50c do.; carrots and beets at 80c to $1.10 per barrel; cabbages at 15c to 50c per dozen; celery at 15c to 50c do.; cauliflowers at 50c to $1.60 do.; dressed hogs at 5¾c to 6½c per lb.; hindquarters of beef outside the market sold at from 6c to 7c, and forequarters at 4c to 4½c; pork, in pieces, at 7c to 9c per lb.; chickens and ducks at 8c to 10c do.; tub butter at 18c to 20c, and some at 16c per lb.; creamery-made brings 22c per lb. by the tub, and 24c by retailing it; prints at 20c to 25c per lb.; fresh eggs at 40c to 50c per dozen; fall packed eggs at 25c; limed at 16c do.; apples at $2 to $4 per barrel; oranges about $4 per box; lemons at $2 to $3.50 do.; cranberries at $7 to $8 per barrel; pears at $1.60 to $4.25 do.; hay at $5.50 to $7.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw at $3 to $4 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

EXPORT APPLE TRADE.

J. S. Libby & Co., of Portland, Me., received the following cables from Hamilton & Pritchard, of Liverpool, this week:—

'Eight thousand seven hundred barrels of apples selling. Inferior quality demoralized; prime lower. Canadian red fruit, 11s to 19s; russets, 15s to 16s; greenings, 12s to 17s; and Kings, 15s to 22s; Maines, 4s 9d to 18s, average, 12s.' Dec. 16:—'Twenty-two thousand barrels sold. Canadians unchanged, except Kings and greenings, which are 2s per barrel lower. Maine Baldwins 12s 6d to 18s 9d.'

SUGAR MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 17.—Raw sugar barely steady; fair refining at 3⅝c; centrifugal, 96 test, at 4⅜c; molasses sugar at 3⅜c; refined sugar, steady.

London, Dec. 17.—Sugar, cane quiet, at the decline; Java at 3d lower at 12s; fair refining, 3d lower at 10s 6d. Beet firmer, improving slowly; December unchanged at 9s 8¼d ; January, ¾d higher at 9s 9d.

LONDON CONSOLS.

London, Dec. 19, 12.30 p.m. — Consols, for money, 110 3-16; account, 110 9-16.

TRADE OF THE WEEK.

BUSINESS GENERALLY GOOD, AND IN SOME LINES EXTREMELY SO.

New York, Dec. 16.—Bradstreet's report says:—Likening the general business of the country to that of a watercourse, it may be authoritatively stated that nearly all the channels of seasonable trade are at the present time running full, and in some lines of business, the stream is virtually out of the banks. This is particularly the case in iron and steel, where production and consumptive demand are alike going on at an unprecedented rate, at a time, too, when it is usual to look for quietness, and even dullness in this industry. Nothing like the present activity in this branch of trade has been seen for many years past, if, indeed, it has ever been equalled. Probably never before in the country's history has it been possible for an American steel company to refuses a profitable order for rails for foreign account on the plea that its mills were already fully occupied so far ahead as to preclude its trying for the business, as has been the case with a Chicago firm. Ship building too, contributes its portion of activity to the iron trade by its urgent calls for material. In other lines of business the situation as regards price is a favorable one. Following the slight recession shown in wheat values of last week, an improved demand for export has again developed, which is evidence of the fact that stories of keen competition from Argentine and Russia have been more or less discounted, the United States remaining, as for some time past, the principal source of supply of the world. Corn and oats are higher on decreasing visible supplies, growing out of good foreign and domestic demand. Increased interest is being taken in cotton at the advanced price. Seasonable quietness is reported in the lumber trade, but prices retain all their old strength, and an active demand is looked for with the turn of the year. Holiday trade is reported extremely active at most markets, and clear, cold weather is still a stimulus to the retail movement of winter clothing and foot covering. The country's export trade is of the largest volume ever known, that for November surpassing the total for December a year ago, with the indications favoring a total trade for the calendar year at least one-sixth larger than a year ago, and our sales abroad aggregating two dollars for every dollar's worth we buy.

Bank clearings totals at the principal cities in the United States for the week ended Dec. 16 as telegraphed to Bradstreet's, show total clearances, $1,691,765,208, an increase of 23.4 percent as compared with the corresponding week last year. Outside of New York city clearances were, $610 256,295, increase 14.9 percent.

For the Dominion of Canada the clearances were as follows:

	Clearances	Inc. p.c.
Montreal	$18,222,382	37.3
Toronto	11,167 555	34.2
Winnipeg	2,331,289	7.9
Halifax	1,373,320	x24.4
Hamilton	779.965	16.7
St. John	666.541	2.8
Vancouver	758,206	
Victoria	622,559	

x Decrease.

Holidays and winter weather continue stimulating features in active retail trade in the Dominion of Canada. Toronto reports an active distribution on immediate account, but spring orders, too, are of good volume. Grain deliveries have been enlarged by good roads, and the demand for lumber is good, particularly for use in railway building and in the mining sections. Retail distribution in the Maritime Provinces has been improved by better weather and lumber is advancing in price. Alaskan trade is developing at Victoria and Vancouver.

Business failures for the week number 32 against 29 last week, and 43 in this week a year ago.

MANITOBA WHEAT.

The Winnipeg 'Commercial,' under date of Dec. 16, says:—The local market has been stagnant. The drop of four cents per bushel pointed out in last week's report as certain to happen on the close of navigation at Fort William, has taken place, and has been further emphasized by reason of the decline in outside markets, the drop in prices from a week ago being five cents per bushel. There has been very little trading done here during the week. The large shippers have been busy winding up business connected with the heavy shipments recently got away by lake, and in the face of dull and declining markets everywhere, there has been a general disposition to engage in new business. A week ago sales of spot No. 1 hard, Fort William, was made at 68 cents. On Monday 67 cents was nominally the figure. Since Monday only a very small and desultory trade has been done, the price losing one cent per bushel each day, until yesterday 63 cents for No. 1 hard, Fort William, for spot or December delivery was the value, although it is reported that a sale was made at 62½ cents. Some No. 1 hard has been sold at 64 cents, Fort William, January delivery, and there are sellers of No. 1 hard at 64 cents, Fort William, May delivery, and buyers at 67½ cents. The difference between No. 1 hard and No. 2 hard, and No. 1 Northern has been narrowed to 3½ cents per bushel; No. 3 hard, No. 2 Northern and No. 1 spring, seven cents less than No. 1 hard. In off grade wheat, such as scoured and tough, or damp wheat, we have heard of no business during the week.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT

ADVISES COLLECTORS AND APPRAISERS.

Ottawa, Dec. 16.—The Customs Department issued yesterday the first of a series of advisory bulletins for the information of collectors and appraisers in regard to the true values for the duty of goods entered at the custom house and the proper duty to be levied on imported goods under the customs law of Canada. Collectors are instructed to carry out the laws and regulations fairly and uniformly in the collection of customs duties, and in order to avoid the necessity for amendment of entries after the goods have passed into the hands of the importer, it is of the first importance that the prime entries shall be as correct as possible in every particular. The proper customs officer shall, therefore, carefully compare the invoices with bills of entry and check the values and ratings for duty so as to correct apparent errors, as far as practicable, before the warrant for the delivery of the goods is signed by the collector. In cases of bona fide invoices of goods sold to importers in Canada where the appraiser's estimate of value based on his information may exceed the value stated in the bill of entry only by a small amount comparatively and where the true value for duty is questionable, a reasonable discretion is to be observed in regard 'to raising' the invoice or entered values by appraisement. Collectors are specially directed to make themselves thoroughly familiar with the information furnished in the appraisers' bulletin as issued from time to time, and to see that entry or 'Long room' clerks are also fully posted in respect thereto and in regard to rules and regulations for customs entry of goods, so as to check and correct imperfect entries when attempted to be passed at the customs house.

MAKING BUTTER IN WINTER.

DEMONSTRATED TO BE PRACTICABLE AND PROFITABLE.

Professor Robertson says in his report:—Although it seemed evident that butter making at creameries in Canada during the winter was a business which could be developed with profit to all concerned, there were difficulties in the way of getting it established. Some objectors said that it was not practicable because the roads were bad during the winter, and milk or cream could not be delivered regularly. Others said that the weather was too cold and that the cows could not be kept in milk satisfactorily. Others said that the cows would be so weakened by being milked during the winter, that summer dairying would be much injured. It was also alleged that the cream and milk would become frozen, and thus the quality of the butter would be greatly injured. It was evidently necessary, if the business was to be established, that it should be demonstrated on a comparatively large scale, whether it was entirely practicable, and whether it could be made satisfactorily profitable. The two dairy stations at Woodstock and Mount Elgin, Ont., were established to settle these points. Practical experience seemed to be the only means of meeting the objections. I was able to say after an experience of three years in the management of those winter dairy stations that we had not found a single obstacle that could not be overcome by good management. Cold weather is a suitable time for making good butter. Even without artificial cold storage it does not spoil readily then. I had some cream frozen solid and afterwards had butter made from it, and it was quite as fine as any that was produced. I took samples to be examined by the members of the Butter and Cheese Association of the Board of Trade of Montreal, numbered from one to nine, and let the experts say which one was the best. They picked out sample No. 9 as the finest of them all, and that was the one made from cream which had been frozen as a test. When cream has been frozen it is usually necessary to add a fermentation starter to it, and to ripen it in the usual way for about twenty hours before it is churned.

CANADIAN LUMBER.

Farnworth & Jardine report in their wood circular as follows:

Liverpool, Dec. 1.—The arrivals from British North America during the past month have been 11,716 tons register, against 24,510 tons register during the corresponding month last year, and the aggregate tonnage to this date from all places during the years 1896, 1897, and 1898 has been 482,216, 546,794 and 467,059 tons respectively.

The business during the past month has again shown a slight improvement. Imports have been moderate, and the deliveries fairly satisfactory; there is little change in value to report, although a slight advance has been established in a few of the leading articles. Stocks, with few exceptions, are not excessive, although generally ample.

Canadian Woods—Pine Timber—There has been no import of either Waney or Square, the deliveries have been very limited, and the stock is quite ample; there is no change in value to report. Red Pine has been quite neglected, and the stock is too heavy. Oak—There have been no arrivals from Canada, the import being entirely from the United States ports; the demand has been very small, and recent sales of inferior wood have been at very low rates; the stock is much too heavy. Elm has been in active request; values have advanced and the stock is moderate. Ash continues to come forward freely; there is a fair demand and the stock is moderate; values are unchanged. Pine Deals continue in a very unsatisfactory position, the demand is disappointing and the stock is most excessive; values are unchanged. Red Pine Deals are more enquired for, and prices firmer; the stock is sufficient.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Spruce and Pine Deals—The import has been moderate, and as the deliveries have been fairly satisfactory, the stock is now reduced to a more moderate compass; there has been a slight advance in values during the month, and with a moderate import prospects are fair. Pine Deals are very unsalable, and prices rule low.

Birch—Of Logs the import has consisted of one small parcel of Dalhousie, the demand has been fair and prices are firm; the stock is ample. Birch Planks— The deliveries have been large; values are unsatisfactory, and the stock is still too heavy.

Oregon and British Columbia Pine—This wood continues to move off quietly, and as there have been no arrivals, the stock is reduced to a moderate compass; prices are steady.

DUTY ON TEA.

UNIFORM RATE OF FIVE CENTS A POUND WOULD EXCLUDE RUBBISH AND PRODUCE A REVENUE OF £1,500,000 A YEAR.

It is said that a duty on tea is now almost a certainty and that the rate should be fixed at 4 cents a pound on black and 6 cents a pound on green tea which is identical with the rate collected by the Mackenzie Government. As nearly all the green tea comes from Japan this would mean a difference of 2 cents a pound against that country, and Consul-General Mosse, the Japanese representative, has protested to the authorities against such discrimination. The reason the different rates were imposed during the Mackenzie regime was that cheap green teas were supposed to be more adulterated than black, but this does not appear to be the case now. Nearly all the tea importers are in favor of a duty, but most of them are inclined to advocate a uniform rate of 5 cents per pound. This would exclude the cheap and nasty article and would produce a revenue of $1,500,000 a year.

The trade and navigation returns show the following to be the importations of black tea into the several provinces:—

	Lbs.	
Ontario	4,337,019	$631,331
Quebec	2,077,333	301,611
Nova Scotia	2,883,025	417,934
New Brunswick	2,522,070	360,566
Manitoba	860,641	130,528
B. Columbia	712,556	100,113
P. E. Island	183,152	30,312
N. W. Territories	146,239	23,177
	13,722,038	$1,996,113

The importations of green and Japan tea last year for home consumption were as follows:—

	Lbs.	
Ontario	6,208,255	$735,400
Quebec	3,879,597	507,894
Nova Scotia	2,205	560
Manitoba	109,763	15,207
B. Columbia	127,288	13,194
	10,327,812	$1,272,255

COTTON MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 17.—Cotton, futures opened quiet. December, at $5.48; January, at $5.52; March at $5.54; April at $5.56; May at $5.61; June at $5.63; July at $5.67; August at $5.70; September at $5.63; October at $5.67.

Liverpool, Dec. 17.—1 p.m.—Cotton, spot, quiet; prices quiet; favoring buyers. American middling at 3½d. Sales, 7,000 bales, of which 1,500 were for speculation and export, and included 6,700 bales American. Receipts, 57,000 bales, including 56,800 American. Futures opened quiet with a moderate demand and closed quiet.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Dec. 19, 1898 Hogs — To-day's estimated receipts, 43,000; Saturday's receipts according to official returns, 26,311; shipments, 1,772; left over, 2,935; estimated receipts to-morrow, 30,000; market steady to a shade higher; light mixed at $3.15 to $3.37; mixed packing at $3.25 to $3.45; heavy shipping at $3.20 to $3.47; rough grades at $3.20 to $3.25; the receipts of cattle were 13,000.

LIVERPOOL MARKET PRICES CURRENT.

Liverpool, Dec. 19, 1898.—Spring wheat at 6s 1d; red winter at 6s 2d; corn at 3s 10½d; peas at 5s 10d; pork a 50s; lard at 28s; tallow at 20s 3d; bacon, heavy, at 28s; light at 27s; cheese, white, at 47s 6d; colored at 48s.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—There was a fairly heavy run at the Western Cattle Market today. Dealers were present in large numbers, but they seemed unwilling to invest in the common grade of cattle, which were in heavy supply. The prices ruled firm for Christmas cattle, but not any higher than they have done for the last couple of markets. The prices of other grades of cattle, sheep and hogs remained unchanged from Tuesday. The receipts were 58 loads, including about 550 sheep and lambs and 1,800 hogs.

Export Cattle.—The offerings were light and the demand fair. A few choice brought $4.25 to $4.65 per cwt.

Butchers' Cattle—There was a fair sprinkling of Christmas beeves, some of which were of a first-class quality. The prices remained unchanged from Tuesday. Choice were quoted at $4.25 to $4.75 and $5 for choice selections. Common were slow at $3 to $3.50 per cwt.

Bulls—The offerings were light and the demand was equal to the supply. Heavy exporters brought $3.50 to $4 per cwt. Light were in liberal supply at $2 to $2.50 per cwt.

Stockers and Feeders.—There was a fair trade done in stockers for Buffalo. The supply was light and the demand fairly good. Heavy stockers were quoted at $3 to $3.25 per cwt. The demand for feeders was quiet. A few were picked up for farmers and distillery byre men at $3.50 to $3.75 per cwt.

Milch Cows—A few choice cows found a good outlet at steady prices, ranging from $40 to $50 each. Newly calved cows sell well, but the preference is given to early springers.

Calves.—The supply was light and the demand fair. Choice veals sold readily at $3 to $7 per head. The demand for common calves was very slow, there being a few left over in the pens.

Sheep and Lambs—The offerings were a little heavier than anticipated and the prices ruled firmer. Sheep for export and butchers' use sold readily at $3.25 to $3.50 per cwt. Choice Christmas lambs brought $3.75 to $4.25 per cwt. Bucks were quiet but firm at $2.50 to $2.75 per cwt.

Hogs—The supply was fairly heavy, but all sold early. The prices remained unchanged from Tuesday's market. Choice selections brought $4.25 per cwt. Light and thick fetched $4 per cwt. Sows were slow at firmer prices, ranging from $3 to $3.25 per cwt.

BRITISH MARKETS.

Edinburgh, Dec. 7.—At the Live Stock Mart, Haymarket, Messrs. John Swan & Sons (Limited), had considerably lighter supplies of fat cattle on offer yesterday. These were generally of good quality, and with an extra large attendance of town and country buyers, trade from start to finish of sale was active, and prices were from 10s to 15s a head better. There were 85 fat cows exposed, the best class of which sold well, while those of a secondary description were cheaper. Fat bulls also dear. The number of fat sheep was not so large as the previous week, and the cuality again very good. There was a full attendance of customers, and all classes met a fair selling trade at prices much similar to those of last week. Calves were scarcer and met a good demand at rather more money. Pigs were a larger show, and while the best sold at good prices other sorts were the turn quieter. Best polled cattle made from £18 10s to £22 17s 6d; horned bullocks, from £17 5s to £22 15s; heifers from £12 10s to £18 10s; bulls to £28 10s; shorthorn cows, to £19 10s; Ayrshires, to £15 5s; best half-bred sheep made up to 44s 6d; half-bred hogs, to 35s; Cheviots, Dinmonts, 20 4ls; greyfaced sheep, to 45s; blackfaced wedders, to 38s; Suffolk wedders, from Fentonbarns to Messrs. Forgie, Leith, at 80s; ewes, half-breds, up to 56s; Cheviots, 36s; blackfaces, 23s 9d; calves, best up to 93s; others, 35s to 86s; stirk, &c., 9c to 15s 6d; heavy pigs, up to 87s; porkers, to 65s; extra top price of best beef, to a little over 7s 9d per stone; mutton, from 7¼d to 8d per lb. Customs numbers—304 cattle, 1,351 sheep, 67 calves, and 81 pigs.

Salford, Dec. 7.—Cattle at market yesterday, 2,885; sheep, 7,465; calves, 185; pigs, 41. Trade generally dull and dragging. Quotations:—Beasts, 4½d to 6d; sheep, 5½d to 7¾d; calves, 5d to 7¼d per lb; pigs, 7s 4d to 7s 11d per stone.

AMERICAN MARKETS.

East Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 16.—Receipts of sale and through cattle, sheep and hogs at East Buffalo during the 24 hours ended at noon to-day were as follows: Cattle, 33 cars; sheep and lambs, 20 cars; hogs, 64 cars. Shipments same time: Cattle, 31 cars; sheep and lambs, 9 cars; hogs, 24 cars.

There were no fresh sale receipts of cattle, but some left over were sold at about steady prices; 29 head of stockers, 655 lb. average, sold at $4.15. Calves were in fair supply, light demand and shade lower. Choice to extra were quotable at $6.50 to $7; good to choice at $6 to $6.50; sales, 4 head, 190 lbs., at $7; 4 do., 160 lbs., at $7; 4 do., 135 lbs., at $6.

The offerings were fair, 132 loads, including 12 loads left over, and 4½ loads of Canada lambs. The demand for choice lambs was active and higher, but sheep were about steady, except heavy which were dull. Lambs, choice to extra, were quotable at $5.25 to $5.45, with a few bunches a point higher; good to choice at $5 to $5.25; common to fair at $4.75 to $5.10; sheep, choice to extra at $4.25 to $4.40; good to choice, at $4 to $4.25; common to fair, at $2.50 to $3.50. Canada lambs were on the basis of $5.40.

Hogs—The offerings were liberal for the demand, 30 loads, and the market opened slow at $3.45 to $3.50 for heavy, $3.40 to $3.45; Yorkers at $3.35 to $3.40; pigs at $3.25 to $3.30; roughs at $3 to $3.10; stags at $2.25 to $2.50. The good weights were pretty well cleared up, but there were several decks over of light stuff and pigs.

New York, Dec. 16.—Beeves—Receipts, 2,623 head. Good to choice a shade higher. Common and medium steers slow. Steers, at $4.40 to $5.50; oxen and stags at $3.60 to $4.40; bulls at $2.75 to $3.90; cows at $1.50 to $3.30.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—The general demand for cattle to-day was as good as usual for so late in the week, and prices showed no particular change. Fed steers at $3.80 to $5.75 for inferior to fancy, the greater part going for $4.5 0to $5.50. Christmas beeves at $5.80 to $6.20; Texas cattle at $3.25 to $4.70; fed Westerns at $3.80 to $5.20; stockers and feeders at $3.20 to $4.25. There was an active demand for hogs from the Chicago packers and prices were steady at yesterday's decline, hogs selling at an extreme range of $3.15 to $3.42½; choice at $3.30 to $3.35; pigs at $3 to $3.25; prime lambs at $5.60; inferior lambs at $3.75 to $4; yearlings, at $4.15 to $4.90; sheep at $2.50 to $4.10 choice for fed westerns at $3.25 to $4.10; receipts, cattle, 4,000 head; hogs, 37,000; and sheep, 7,000 headd.

GUELPH MARKETS.

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 17.—Flour, at $1.75 to $1.85; red wheat at 67c to 70c; white wheat at 66c to 68c; bran at $12; shorts at $14; middlings at $16; barley at 45c to 52c; rye at 45c to 47c; peas at 55c to 60c; oats at 27c to 29c; hay at $5 to $6; dressed hogs at $5.37 to $5.50; potatoes, per bag, at 65c to 70c; sheepskins, at 50c to $1; hides at $7 to $7.50; butter at 17c to 20c; eggs, at 22c to 25c; chickens, per pair, at 25c to 50c; ducks, per pair, at 40c to 75c; geese, per lb., at 5c to 6c; turkeys, per lb., at 8c to 9c.

HAMILTON MARKET.

Hamilton, Dec. 17.— White wheat per bushel at 70c to 71c; red wheat, at 71c; spring wheat at 64c to 65c; peas at 55c to 60c; barley, at 39c to 42c; oats at 30c; corn at 40c to 41c; cloverseed at $4 to $4.25; timothy seed at $1.25 to $1.50; white wheat flour per barrel a $3 to $3.50; strong bakers' do., at $3 to $3.25; dressed hogs per cwt., at $5 to $5.25; apples per bag of bushel and a half at 50c to $1; dried apples per lb. at 4c to 4½c; potatoes per bag of 90 lbs. at 60c to 75c; butter in rolls per lb. at 14c to 16c; butter in firkins per lb. at 14c to 15c; eggs per dozen at 20c to 22c.

INGERSOLL MARKET.

Ingersoll, Ont., Dec. 19.—White wheat at 65c to 68c per bushel; red fall wheat at 65c to 68c per bushel; spring wheat at 65c to 68c per bushel; barley at 40c to 45c per bushel; peas at 55c to 60c per bushel; oats at 25c to 28c per bushel; corn at 42c to 50c per bushel; bran at $12 to $14 per bushel; shorts at $14 to $16 per ton; potatoes at 75c to 90c per bag; onions at 60c to 75c per bushel; live hogs at $3.90 to $4.10 per cwt.; flour at $1.65 to $1.90 per cwt.; oatmeal at $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; cornmeal at $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; butter at 18c to 20c per lb.; creamery at 20c to 23c per lb.; eggs at 16c to 18c per dozen; hay, at $7 to $8 per ton; hides, $7 to $8 per cwt.

ST. HYACINTHE MARKET.

St. Hyacinthe, Dec. 19.—There was an enormous quantity of fresh meat offered at the market on Saturday and prices ruled low. Fresh beef sold at $4 to $4.50 per 100 lbs., while it was retailed at 4c to 7c the lb.; fresh eggs, at 25c the dozen; hides at 7c to 8c the lb.; calfskins at 9c the lb.; potatoes at 40c to 45 cens per bag; chickens at 50c to 60c a couple; turkeys at 10c the lb.; geese at 6c the lb.; onions at 60c to 75c the bushel; turnips at 45c the bushel; carrots at 45c the bushel; cabbages at 30c to 50c the dozen; apples at 80c to $1.50 the bushel; corn at 65c the bushel; oats at 60c to 65c the bag; buckwheat at 45c the bushel; beans at $1 to $1.25 the bushel; peas at 60c to $1 the bushel; honey at 7c to 10c the lb.; hay at $4 the ton, and straw at $1.50 the 100 bundles of 12 lbs. each.

LONDON MARKETS.

London, Ont., Dec. 17.—Wheat at 67¾c to 67½c; oats at 27¾c to 28½c; peas at 54c to 62c; corn at 44c to 45c; barley at 39¼c to 50c; buckwheat at 48c to 48½c; hay easier at $6 to $6.50; dairy produce, butter sold at from 15c to 17c for good rolls, and at 14c to 16c for crocks. Eggs scarce at 22c to 25c per dozen. Apples at from 60c to 80c per bag. Potatoes at 65c to 75c per bag. Poultry, chickens at 40c to 65c per pair; ducks from 60c to 85c, according to size, and geese at 50c to 75c each. Dressed meats — Deliveries of dressed hogs were large, at $5.25 to $5.35; beef at $4.50 to $6.50; mutton at $6 to $7; veal at $5 to $7; lamb at 8c to 9c per lb; live hogs at $4 to $4.10; stags at 2c to 2

'THE MERMAID.'

BY L. DOUGALL.

(From the 'Atheneum': London.)

The author of 'The Mermaid' may at once be congratulated on the skill with which she has succeeded in conveying and maintaining the suggestion of the supernatural in the central incident of her highly romantic and—in the good sense outlandish story. For it has been Miss Dougall's good fortune to light upon a portion of the globe in which assuredly no novelist has ever laid his scene before, and, whether, as the result of faithful observation or of a poetic vision, to set before the reader a strange yet fascinating landscape, peopled with unusual and interesting characters. In Caius Simpson, the son of a farmer on Prince Edward Island, and Josephine Le Maitre, the mistress of the mysterious Cloud Island, the reader will not meet old friends; he will make new, perplexing, but attractive acquaintances.

(From the 'Academy': London.)

Miss Dougall's stories always leave an impression of originality, without that impression of strain which is its frequent concomitant. . . .

As a mere narrative 'The Mermaid' is certainly less successful than either 'Beggars All' or 'What Necessity Knows,' but in the impressive rendering of single scenes and situations it yields to neither of them. The fateful journey of Caius to the plague-stricken Cloud Island, at the summons of the mysterious Mme. Le Maitre, is a wonderfully vivid piece of descriptive work, and the story of the growing intimacy of relationship between the young doctor and the woman whose call he has obeyed is instinct with delicate truth and tenderness. Of 'The Mermaid' it must be said that the parts are greater than the whole. The entire volume does not represent its author at her best, yet there are passages in it which touch her high-water mark.

(From 'The Guardian.')

The author of 'The Mermaid' has a very pretty way of managing a secret, and when the tale tells of a castaway child becoming, or seeming to become, a mermaid, and yet one knows, one is not reading a fairy-tale, there is no solution visible to the mind. The scene is laid mostly on the unknown ground of the Magdalen Islands, which lie in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the actors are Caius, a young doctor, and Madame Josephine Le Maitre, once the mermaid, now the angel who guides the fisherfolk on those rough shores. . . . . The murder of Le Maitre by O'Shea, the farmer, recalls the view, once held, that the wicked exist to do certain actions necessary to be done, but which the righteous must not themselves undertake. Thus O'Shea kills Le Maitre, and Caius gains all the advantage, but as he guessed, the crime beforehand, and witnessed its committal, it never bore to him the appearance of accident that it did to others, and while opening the way to his happiness, must have weighted him with a deadly secret from his wife, and a half-guilty feeling of being himself 'accessory after the fact.'

(From the Manchester 'Guardian.')

That clever Canadian writer, Miss L. Dougall, is steadily improving. Her latest novel, 'The Mermaid,' is both more spontaneous and more artistic than the book that preceded it. It is called a 'love tale,' and the task which Miss Dougall has set herself is to display the development of a man's soul through the medium of his love for a very noble woman. * * * The plot trips on an airy foot along the border line between the romantic and the absurd. It is saved by the sincerity—that informs it, and by the fairy-like scenery of the Canadian islands in which the action takes place. Everything about The Cloud is picturesque, from the seal-hunting to the daily fare. Of this last, indeed, Miss Dougall has given a truly delightful description. * * * Miss Dougall need have made her heroine very charming to compensate for dragging Caius away from this Land of Cokayne. She has succeeded in doing so, and the story of Caius and his mermaid is a pretty idyll that will linger long in the memory of its readers.

(From the 'Bookman': New York.)

The authoress of 'Beggars All' is nothing if not original. To give the part of a hero to a young man who was at once a skilful burglar and an amiable, charming, generous husband and friend, was a great feat, and the audacity was justified by the consistent development of the story and by its success. There is nothing more audacious in 'The Mermaid,' But, then by its very queerness it rouses our interest. The dreamy, poetic doctor watching the mermaid in the sea, and discovering in the creature's face the look of the child whom he had seen drowned years before, makes a weird and genuinely poetical scene. * * * * The writer's imagination has gone on perilous and distant adventures and got lost many a time. But most others in such a case would have only created an absurdity. Miss Dougall has produced something very queer as a whole, but whose parts are marked by a weird charm and poetry.

A HARMLESS DUEL.

Paris, Dec. 17.—M. Antide Boyer, the Radical Socialist Deputy, and M. Deroulède, the Anti-Revisionist Deputy, fought a harmless duel with pistols on Monday at Tour De Villebon, near Meudon, as an outcome of yesterday's debate, during which M. Deroulède and M. Gauthier, another Revisionist Deputy, challenged by M. Boyer, referred to M. Boyer as a 'whitewashed Panamaist.'

Notices of births, marriages and deaths must invariably be endorsed with the name and address of the sender, or otherwise no notice can be taken of them. Birth notices are inserted for 25c, marriage notices for 50c, death notices for 25c prepaid. When announcement of funeral, extended obituary or verse accompany such notice further charge will be made. Notices received from annual subscribers inserted free.

BIRTHS.

DOWD—At 213 Laval avenue, on the 9th instant, the wife of E. C. Dowd, Montreal P.O., of a daughter. 17

GNAEDINGER—At 85 Durocher street, on the 12th instant, a son to Mr. and Mrs. J. Theodore Gnaedinger. 13

LUNAN—At Glencairn Cottage, Ste. Agathe des Monts, Que., on the 8th instant, the wife of Havelock Lunan, of a son.

PAXTON—At 9 York street, on December 12th, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Paxton. 17

RICHARDSON.—At Kingston, Ont., on the 6th instant, a daughter to the Rev. A. W. and Mrs. Richardson.

SALLOWS.—At Dunmore, Assa., N.W.T., on Dec. 9, 1898, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. James Sallows. 19

SEARLE.—At Denison's Mills, Que., on Dec. 11, 1898, the wife of Edward Searle, of a son. 14

WATT—At Chateauguay Basin, Que., on the 5th instant, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Watt. 15

MARRIED.

BURGESS—BAILEY—At the residence of the bride's mother, Goderich, Ont., on Dec. 7, 1898, by the Rev. James Anderson, of Knox Church, Ralph Burgess, jr., of the Ontario Bank, Toronto, to Elizabeth Maude, eldest daughter of the late James Bailey. 13

COLSON—BRYMNER—At the Church of St. Barnabas, Ottawa, on Dec. 14, 1898, by the Rev. T. Bailey, M.A., rector, Frederick Colson to Elizabeth Fairlie, daughter of Douglas Brymner, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S.C.

FAIRBAIRN — MACFARLANE — At Revelstoke, B.C., by the Rev. Robert Frew, on November 30th, John M. R. Fairbairn, of Kaslo, B.C., to Hannah Louise, fifth daughter of Mr. Thomas Macfarlane, of Ottawa.

FEE—COOPER—At the residence of the bride's parents, 135 Florence street, Ottawa, on Dec. 14th, 1898, by the Rev. W. Timberlake, Emerson S. Fee, of St. Hyacinthe, Que., to Rachel Ella, daughter of Robert W. Cooper, Esq. 17

GRADY—JOLLIFFE.—At the manse, Inverness, on Dec. 17, 1898, by the Rev. James Sutherland, George Grady, Esq., to Sara Jane Jolliffe, all of the Township of Inverness, Co. Megantic, Que. 19

HENSLOWE—SWIFT—On Nov. 5, 1898, at St. Paul's Church, Los Angeles, Cal., by the Rev. Henderson Judd, Henry Bagshot, eldest son of the Rev. E. J. L. Henslowe, LL.B., Vicar of Preston, Weymouth, England, to Laura Annie Lovett Swift, only daughter of the late Latham B. Swift, of Toronto. No cards. 13

HOWES—GOODFELLOW.—On Wednesday, Dec. 14., 1898, at the residence of the bride's father, Hinchinbrooke, Ont., by the Rev. Hugh McLean, George Francis Howes, son of George Howes, to Mary Goodfellow, all of Hinchinbrooke, Ont. 19

MALLOCH—WALLACE—At the residence of the bride's parents, Matilda, on the 14th instant, by the Rev. T. J. Stiles, Neal Malloch, M.D., C.M., of Winchester, to Jennie Wallace, daughter of John B. Wallace, Esq., J.P.

McCAUL—EVANS.—At the residence of the bride's father, on Dec. 7, 1898, by the Rev. J. H. Higgins, B.A., Lorenzo Peter McCaul to Lydia Evans, both of Osgoode, Carleton Co., Ont. 19

McKENZIE—CROZIER—At Toronto, on Thanksgiving Day, 1898, by the Rev. A. G. McLachlin, of Harrington, Ont., Alex. Grant McKenzie, of West Zorra, Oxford County, Ont., to Mary Priscilla Crozier, eldest daughter of John Crozier, of Leaskdale, Ont.

McWILLIAMS—JAMES — At the manse, Brandon, Man., on Nov. 20, 1898, by the Rev. E. A. Henry, B.A., George McWilliams, of Winnipeg, to Annie Lillian James, of Toronto.

REED—THOMPSON—At Toronto, on Dec. 14, 1898, J. Carl Reed, eldest son of Jos. B. Reed, of Toronto, to Myra Stafford Thompson, only daughter of the late Dr. E. A. Stafford.

SHEPPARD—SKRODER.—On the 14th inst., at 93 Hallowell street, Westmount, by the Rev. D. Winter, pastor of the West End Methodist Church, Montreal, Mr. A. C. Sheppard, of Montreal, to Miss Skroder, of St. Henri. 16

STACEY—WALLACE—At the residence of the bride's father, on Dec. 14, 1898, by the Rev. W. R. Young, Birdie M., youngest daughter of J. W. Wallace, Port Hope, to George Ed. Stacey, of Kingston, Ont. 17

WINN — MORRISON—At the residence of the bride's father, Thomas I. Winn, of Souris, to Annie J., daughter of Andrew Morrison, of Brandon, by the Rev. W. Somerville, on Dec. 7th. 13

DIED.

ARTHEY—At No. 12 Creighton street, Ottawa, on Dec. 13, 1898, Amy Clarabut, aged 23 years, beloved wife of J. Frederick Arthey. 15

BALMER—At his residence, Fernichirst, Oakville, on Dec. 11, 1898, Robert Balmer, Esq., in his 78th year. 13

BROOKS—At Minneapolis, on Nov. 22, 1898, Sarah Stuart, relict of the late Robert Brooks (born in the Isle of Skye), and sister of John D. Stuart, of St. Remi, aged 92 years and 8 months.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Our little girl's humor commenced with a tiny sore on one nostril, but it kept on spreading till we thought she would never get it cured. We tried everything we could get, but it kept getting larger all the time, till *both nostrils, the upper lip, a part of the lower lip, and up one side to the eye, were a solid sore.* We thought there was no cure, and that she would be *disfigured for life.* Finally we tried CUTICURA REMEDIES. We used CUTICURA RESOLVENT and nearly a box of CUTICURA (ointment), and in a short time she was entirely well, with no scar or trace of the humor.

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OUR CATALOGUE, WEEK BY WEEK,

—OR—

"YOUR WANTS SUPPLIED."

(A Consecutive Story by the Advertiser.)

Chapter viii.

CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE.

Oxidized Hand Bag Tops, price, postpaid, - - - - **$1.00**
Described in "Weekly Witness" of Nov. 8th.

Skates for Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, - **$1.10** upwards
See "Weekly Witness" of Nov. 15th.

Penknives, - - - - - - - - - - - - **50c**
See "Weekly Witness' Nov. 22nd.

Home Repairing Outfit No. 1, - - - - - - - **$1.50**
See "Weekly Witness" Dec. 6 and 13.

Story Books By Henty, - - - - - - - - - **40c**
See "Weekly Witness" Dec. 13th.

THE MAIL ORDER CONCERN,

'Witness' Building, Montreal.

PUSH—At Oakes, North Dakota, on Dec. 11, 1898, T. W. Bush, aged 62 years, formerly of Ottawa. 13

CAMERON.—At his residence, Grenville, Quebec, on Dec. 9, 1898, Angus Cameron, in his 68th year. 14

CHAMBERLAIN—At Ottawa, on Dec. 14, 1898, Elizabeth M., widow of the late Hiram W. Chamberlain, formerly of Westmeath, Ont., lumberman, in the 83rd year of her age.

CLARKE.—At Ottawa, on Dec. 12, 1898, Elizabeth Sarah Westwood, widow of the late T. Heriot Clarke, and housekeeper of the C. C. G. Protestant Hospital for the last 22 years. 14

CONNOR.—At 725 Cadieux street, on Dec. 19, 1899, Henry Evett Connor, native of Co. Armagh, Ireland, in his 71st year.
Quebec, Kingston and Co. Armagh papers please copy. 19

CRAWFORD—At the Western Hospital, on Dec. 14, John Crawford, aged 28 years and 5 months.
Liverpool, England, papers please copy. 15

DOHERTY—At Quebec, on Dec. 12, 1898, William Robert, youngest son of Joseph Doherty, aged 14 months.

DUBEAU—In this city, on Dec. 13, 1898, at the age of 92 years and 5 months, Marie Ducharme, beloved wife of the late Alexander Dubeau, carpenter.
United States papers please copy. 15

GORDON—On Dec. 10, 1898, at Oswego, New York, Gertrude Waddington Ogden, daughter of the late Gouverneur Ogden, Esq., of Waddington, and wife of the late John Gordon, Esq., formerly of Quebec. 13

GRANT—At his late residence, No. 9 Peter street, Toronto, on Dec. 15, 1898, Alexander Grant, barrister-at-law, Registrar Court of Appeal, in his 60th year.

HALL—At the residence of his son, John, at Trenholmville, on Dec. 9th, 1898, Geo. Hall, of "Hillside," Kingsey, Que., in his sixty-ninth year. 13

HARDING—On Dec. 14, 1898, at Lindsay, Ont., Kate McLean, eldest daughter of Judge and Mrs. J. E. Harding.

LIGHTFOOT—On Dec. 9, 1898, at the residence of her brother-in-law, William Sleeth, 110 Grange avenue, Toronto, after a long and painful illness, Margaret Matilda (Maggie), the beloved wife of Thos. Lightfoot, and daughter of James B. Marshall, aged 32 years. 13

HART—In this city, on the 13th instant, at the age of 73 years, Constance Hatton, widow of the late Adolphus Hart, in his lifetime, advocate, of this city.

LONGUEUIL.—Suddenly, in New York, on the 13th inst., Charles Colmore Grant, seventh Baron de Longueuil. 19

LYDON—At 293 St. Urbain street, on the 12th instant, Mabel Irene, beloved and only daughter of Edward and Clara Lydon, aged 5 years, 11 months and 13 days.

MACCULLOUGH.—In this city, on Monday, Dec. 19, 1898, at the age of 94 years and 10 months, Ann Turner, widow of the late Captain Macculllough.

McCULLOCH.—On Dec. 14, at 20 McTavish street, Elizabeth McCulloch, daughter of the late Michael McCulloch, M.D.

McGREGOR — (By cable)—At Dufftown, Scotland, on the 12th instant, Margaret Anderson, relict of the late John McGregor, and mother of James McGregor, Branch Manager, Commercial Union Assurance Company, Montreal. 15

McKENZIE—On Dec. 9, 1898, at her late residence, No. 14 St. Denis street, Cape, Quebec, Annie McKenzie, second daughter of the late James McKenzie, of Point Levis. 13

MURRAY.—In this city, on Dec. 18, 1898, Dame Celina Voisard, widow of the late J. N. Murray, aged 62 years.

PARKE.—On Dec. 13, at the residence of his grandfather, Mr. James Scott, 28 Donegani street, of meningitis, Nevin Harkness, youngest son of James H. S. and Margaret Parke, Cornwall, aged 3 years, 10 months and 12 days.

PATTERSON — On Dec. 14, 1898, at 27 Grange avenue, Toronto, Olive Laly, beloved daughter of A. J. Patterson, aged 13 years. 17

PICARD.—Suddenly, on Oct. 16, at No. 79 St. Denis street, Napoleon Picard, at the age of 56 years.

PRENTICE—At 61 Wellington Road, London, England, on Sunday, Dec. 4, 1898, Ewerella A., widow of the late Alexander Prentice, and daughter of the late George Auldjo, all formerly of Montreal.

RANDALL.—On Dec. 12, 1898, at the residence of his father, 392 James street, Ottawa, George, youngest son of Mr. T. E. Randall, aged 16 months. 14

RAY—Suddenly, at Granby, on Monday, Dec. 12, Chas. E. Ray.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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From Glasgow.		From St. John, N.B.
Nov. 26....	SS. ALCIDES.....	Dec. 13
Dec. 10....	SS. CONCORDIA.....	Dec. 27
Dec. 24....	SS. AMARYNTHIA.....	Jan. 10
Dec. 31....	SS. KEEMUN.....	Jan. 17

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From PORTLAND.

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SS. DEVONA.....Dec. 20
SS. CERVONA.....Dec. 24
SS IONA (cold storage).....Dec. 30
SS. HURONA (cold storage).....Jan. 7

AGENTS—Cairns, Young & Noble, Newcastle-on-Tyne; A. Low, Son & Co., 27 Leadenhall St., London, E.C.; W. Thomson & Co., Leith; W. Thomson & Sons, Dundee, Scotland.

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Sat. Dec. 10..Gallia.....Portland, Me., Thur. Dec. 29
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Sat. Dec. 17..Lake Ontario..Norfolk, Va., about Jan. 9

Gallia does not carry cattle.

Subsequent Sailings throughout the Winter will be duly announced.

To those desiring a pleasant trip from a Southern Port we would draw their attention to the LAKE ONTARIO from Norfolk, Va., sailing as above. Ocean Rates same as from other ports. Splendid all rail, or boat and rail, communication from all points at Moderate Rates.

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For further information apply to any agent of the Company, or to

D. W. CAMPBELL.
General Manager
18 Hospital Street, Montreal

SCOBIE.—At Montreal Road, Ottawa, on Dec. 11, 1898, Jennie Grey, wife of James Scobie, aged 37 years and 6 months. 14

SEARLE.—At Denison's Mills, Que., on Dec. 11, 1898, Mary Alice Hunt, of Wansworth, Eng., beloved wife of Edward Searle, aged 34 years and 16 days. 14

SHOREY.—Suddenly, at 84 Redpath street, on the evening of Thursday, the 15th inst., Leila Knight, wife of S. O. Shorey.

SMITH—At Quebec, on Dec. 11, 1898, Robt. Herbert Smith, in the 54th year of his age. 13

STEWART—At Covey Hill, Que., on the 8th instant, William Stewart, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, aged 86 years.

TURNER.—At Ottawa, on Dec. 11, Harry F. Turner, the promising 19-year old son of Frank Turner, loco. engineer C.A.Ry. Also his youngest son Edward, aged 2 years, died on the 13th inst.
The parents have the sincere sympathy of a large circle of friends and the entire community in their sad double bereavement. 19

WEBSTER.—Suddenly, on Monday, Dec. 13, 1898, Robert Webster, aged 64 years.

WILKINSON.—On Dec. 12, at Easton's Corner, Ont., Leslie L., fourth son of the Rev. J. Wilkinson, aged 16 years and 9 months. 19

YOUNG.—On Dec. 19, of heart disease, Ida Isabella, widow of the late J. K. Young and eldest daughter of Mr. William Galt.

YOUNG — At Gravenhurst, Ont., J. F. Young, hardware merchant. 13

Those sending notices for the above column may send with them a list of names of interested friends. Marked copies of the "Witness" containing such notice will be sent free to any address in Canada, Montreal excepted.

FARMERS' EXCHANGE,

For Sale and Want Advertising,

ONE CENT A WORD.

For the benefit of the subscribers of the 'Witness,' many of whom have during the year, something to sell or exchange, or some want to be filled, we have decided to take advertisements of this class, to go on this page, and under this heading, at the extremely low rate of one cent a word each insertion. This is just one-third the regular price. The 'Weekly Witness' has a sworn circulation of over

26,000 COPIES.

Twenty-six thousand families are a very great many, and means that the 'Weekly Witness' must have about

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The address must be counted as part of the advertisement, and each initial, or a number, counts as one word. Cash must accompany each order, and advertisements must have address on, as we cannot forward replies sent to this office.

Copy must be received not later than Friday for the paper published on the following Tuesday.

All 'Farmers' Exchange' advertisements will be condensed, no large display type being used, thus making a small adv. as noticeable as a large one.

Subscribers to the 'Witness' will find that an advertisement in this department will prove a paying investment, and only regular subscribers may avail themselves of this rate.

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For twenty-five cents extra or if your order amounts to three dollars including subscriptions we will pay the express to any office in Ontario. Subscriptions will be forwarded at once; plants shipped in April. Our plants are first-class, Strictly pure, and of the best varieties. Fourteen years experience in fruit and plant-growing. Shipping station, Blenheim. N. E. MALLORY, Guilds, Ont. 13

MORE LIVE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES are desired by the Star Life Assurance Society (established 1843) throughout Ontario, particularly in Brockville, Cornwall and Kemptville; liberal arrangements made with agents. Address the Secretary, Wesley Buildings, Toronto. 13

PERSONAL—BOSTON DENTAL PARLORS 1856 Notre Dame. Beautiful Sets of Teeth for Ten Dollars. Fit and quality guaranteed. Painless extracting a specialty. All charges moderate.

WANTED, BOUND VOLUMES OF THE 'Witness' of any period. Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, 'Witness,' Montreal. 11

TEACHERS AND STUDENTS—WANTED, in every school district throughout Canada, to get up clubs for the 'Daily Witness,' 'Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger.' Send for sample copies and circular. Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at the next session thereof, for an act to incorporate "The Canada Plate Glass Assurance Company," for the purpose of carrying on the business of plate glass assurance, and having its chief place of business in the city of Montreal.

Montreal, 12th October, 1898.
HATTON & McLENNAN,
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THE WEEKLY WITNESS is printed and published at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall, of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the Editor should be addressed 'Editor of the "Witness."'