Montreal Weekly Witness.

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BLOWN UP.

United States Battleship 'Maine' Wrecked in Havana Harbor.

Havana, Feb. 16.—At a quarter of ten o'clock last evening a terrible explosion took place on board the battleship 'Maine,' in Havana harbor. Many were killed and wounded.

All sorts of stories were afloat ,from the moment the news was known outside the harbor of Havana. Spanish treachery was charged. Stories that a boat had been seen alongside the 'Maine' just prior to the explosion; that the harbor was mined and probably a stray torpedo had struck the 'Maine'; that there had been dynamite cartridges placed in the coal—these were all circulated by the press and people of the United States. Even in Great Britain the press gave currency, but with caution, to the stories telegraphed. The London 'Globe' remarked :—'It is impossible to refrain from the suspicion that the explosion may have been caused by foul means.'

What really was certain was the explosion on Feb. 15, at 9.40 p.m., and the loss of over two hundred sailors and marines of the United States navy—these killed or drowned by the explosion of the powder magazine which was situated just beneath their quarters. They had just been piped below to their hammocks, and most of them would be probably in sound sleep when the awful shock came upon the vessel.

Telegraphic accounts came in fragments, as news was difficult to get, and the work of relief for the survivors occupied the first moments of the time that followed the explosion.

STORY OF THE OFFICER ON WATCH.

Key West, Fla., Feb. 18.—Lieut. John L. Blandin, of Baltimore, one of the 'Maine's' survivors, who is here, gave the correspondent of the Associated Press this evening a succinct account of the disaster, saying that not until now has he been able to recollect the sequence of events in the awful ten minutes following the explosion. Lieut. Blandin says: 'I was on watch and when the men had been piped below I looked down the main hatches and over the side of the ship. Everything was absolutely normal. I walked aft to the quarter deck, behind the rear turret, as is allowed after eight o'clock in the evening, and sat down on the port side, where I remained for a few minutes. Then, for some reason I cannot explain to myself now, I moved to the starboard side and sat down there. I was feeling a bit glum, and, in fact, was so quiet that Lieut. J. Hood came up and asked me laughingly if I were asleep. I said "No, I am on watch."

'Scarcely had I spoken when there came a dull, sullen roar. Then came a sharp explosion, some say numerous detonations. I remember only one. It seemed to me that the sound came from the port side forward. Then came a perfect rain of missiles of all kinds, from huge pieces of cement to blocks of wood, steel railing, fragments of gratings and all the debris that would be detachable in an explosion.

'I was struck on the head by a piece of cement and knocked down, but I was not hurt and got to my feet in a moment. Lieut. Hood had run to the poop and I supposed he was dazed by the shock and about to jump overboard. I hailed him and he answered that he had run to the poop to help lower the boats. When I got there, though scarce a minute had elapsed, I had to wade in water to my knees and almost instantly the quarter deck was awash. On the poop I found Captain Sigsbee, as cool as if at a ball, and soon all the officers, except Jenkins and Merritt, joined us. The poop was above water after the 'Maine' settled to the bottom. Captain Sigsbee ordered the launch and gig lowered and the officers and men, who by this time had assembled, got the boats out and rescued a number in the water. Captain Sigsbee ordered Lieut.-Commander Wainwright forward to see the extent of the damage and if anything could be done to rescue those forward or to extinguish the flames, which followed close upon the explosion and burned fiercely as long as there were any combustibles above water to feed them.

'Lieutenant-Commander Wainwright on his return reported the awful character of the calamity, and Captain Sigsbee gave the last sad order, 'Abandon ship,' to men overwhelmed with grief, indeed, but calm and apparently unexcited.

'Meantime four boats from the Spanish cruiser 'Alfonso XII.' arrived, to be followed soon by two from the Ward Line steamer 'City of Washington.' The two boats first lowered from the 'City of Washington,' were found to be riddled with flying debris from the 'Maine,' and unfit for use. Captain Sigsbee was the last man to leave his own vessel and left in his own gig.

'I have no theories as to the cause of the explosion. I cannot form any. An examination by divers may tell something to a court on inquiry. I, with others, had heard that Havana harbor was full of torpedoes, but the officers whose duty it was to examine into that reported that they found no signs of any. Personally I do not believe that the Spanish had anything to do with the disaster. Time may tell. I hope so.'

'We were in a delicate position on the 'Maine,' so far as taking any precautions were concerned. We were friends in a friendly, or alleged friendly port, and could not fire upon or challenge the approach of any boat boarding us unless convinced that her intention was hostile.'

A SURVIVOR'S STORY.

New York, Feb. 16.—A special from Havana to the 'Evening Telegram' says concerning the 'Maine' disaster :

James Rowe, ship's cook, was the least injured of any that were brought in while I was there. I asked him how it happened.

'I don't know,' he replied, speaking with difficulty. 'I turned in my hammock at eight o'clock and heard three bells strike. I don't remember anything more until I felt myself turning over and over and falling heavily upon the deck through a mass of smoke. I got on my feet and worked my way on deck. When I got there the superstructure deck was dripping under water, and I jumped overboard to keep from being drawn down in the suction. I was picked up by a boat from the Spanish man-of-war. Four more were picked up by the same boat. They were Daniel Cronin, a landsman; Charles Berryman, boatswain's mate; Albert John, seaman, and Bloomer, a landsman. One poor fellow whose face is injured past all resemblance, is lying moaning in a cot in the hospital. I asked him his name and he mumbled back through horribly swollen lips: 'My folks would feel uneasy if I told you.' So far as I can learn now the explosion took place in the magazine used for the storage of gun cotton for the torpedoes. The vessel lies with her bow wholly submerged and only a part of her stern showing.

The explosion, which shook the city from one end to another, created the wildest excitement. All the electric lights were put out by the shock. Fire engines rushed madly from one direction to another, and no one knew for certain from which direction the explosion came.

THE CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Secretary Long received the following detailed despatch from Captain Sigsbee, commander of the 'Maine':

'Advise sending wrecking vessel at once. 'Maine' submerged except debris, mostly work for divers now. Jenkins and Merritt still missing. Little hope of their safety.

'Those known to be saved are: Officers, twenty-four, uninjured, eighteen wounded, now on board Ward Line steamer, in city hospital and at hotel, fifty-nine so far as known. All others went down on board or near the 'Maine.' Total lost or missing 253.

'With general exception no officer or man has more than part of a suit of clothing and that is wet with harbor water. The damage was in the compartments of crew.

'Am preparing to telegraph list of wounded and saved. Will send all wounded men to the hospital at Havana.'

Madrid, Feb. 16.—The Captain-General of Cuba, General Blanco, has cabled the authorities here, and has sent a similar message to Washington, saying that the disaster to the 'Maine' was indisputably due to an accident.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Contrary to the reports current here yesterday, the divers have not yet made any investigation of the wreck, and the general opinion expressed in Spanish circles is that the explosion occurred inside the 'Maine.'

Mr. Jose M. Mann, of New York, a passenger on the 'City of Washington,' of the Ward Line, which was moored near the battleship 'Maine' on Tuesday night, at the time of the disaster to the battleship, in describing the catastrophe to-day, said: 'While we were conversing in the cabin at about twenty minutes past nine on Tuesday night, a loud report startled the company. They rushed to the port holes and saw an immense flash shoot up in the air with a terrific report. Debris of all kinds and a large number of bodies were thrown upwards. It was at first believed that the 'Maine' was being fired upon; but, afterwards, as the 'City of Washington' was struck by what turned out to be falling debris and she careened, it was thought she was being fired upon. A second explosion took place, and, following it, we heard groans and cries for help. The boats of the 'City of Washington' and those of the Spanish cruiser 'Alfonso XII.' were hurriedly launched, and went to the rescue. I went in one of the boats of the 'City of Washington,' and the scenes I witnessed were heartrending beyond description. Two of the small boats on board the 'City of Washington' were stove in by debris from the 'Maine,' which sank even with the water in about seven minutes after the explosion. The 'City of Washington' was converted into a veritable hospital. Many of the rescued men were brought on board almost nude and the passengers gave them clothing. The officers of the 'City of Washington' did all in their power to make the rescued men comfortable.'

Key West, Florida, Feb. 17.—The steamer 'Olivette,' with sixty-two survivors of the 'Maine' on board, arrived here at 10.10 last night, seven and a half hours from Havana. Of the number, twenty are wounded, ten seriously, and one fatally. Captain Merrill, with Company A, first artillery, took possession of the dock before the vessel's arrival, and kept back the excited crowd, which included half the population of Key West.

It was a sad scene at the dock as stretchers were carried to the waiting ambulances by artillerymen, and the sufferers tenderly placed on seats for conveyance to the Marine Hospital. The brave fellows bore their suffering admirably, and some limped through the line of eager faces with their arms in slings, heads bound, and blood-stained bandages on legs or body.

Every possible arrangement for the comfort of all who were disembarked had been made and all who could talk praised highly the kindness of the Spanish officials, who opened their hearts and wardrobes to the survivors.

The 'Maine' was looked upon as one of the best ships in the navy. She was a battleship of the second class, and swift, having many times made seventeen and three-quarter knots an hour. She had vertical turrets, and two military masts. Her armament was composed of four ten-inch breech-loading guns in her main battery, and seven six-pounders, and eight one-pounder rapid-firing guns, and four gatlings in her secondary battery, together with four torpedo tubes.

Captain C. D. Sigsbee, her commander, is one of the most careful and capable officers in the naval service. He was selected to take the 'Maine' to Havana harbor because of the great confidence which the Navy Department has in his ability to cope with any crisis.

The 'Maine' cost the United States between two and a half and three million dollars. She carried a crew of three hundred and fifty-four officers and men.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

Washington, D.C., Feb. 18.—A number of messages have been received at the State Department from foreign governments expressing regret in connection with the 'Maine' disaster. Among them are the following:

Secretary of State,—I have the honor to inform you that I am commanded by the Queen to convey to the President the expression of Her Majesty's sympathy with the American people on the occasion of the sad disaster which has befallen their navy by the loss of the battleship 'Maine' and of so many members of her crew. I request you that you will be so good as to transmit the above message to its high destination. I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, your most obedient humble servant,

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

In addition to the message of sympathy from the Queen, messages were also received from Spain, Germany, France, Russia, and other nationalities. The British Royal Family, Lord Aberdeen, for Canada; the members of the British Admiralty, Spanish residents in New York, Cubans, and others, all sent messages of sympathy. None have been more sympathetic than the British navy.

BURIAL OF THE VICTIMS.

Havana, Feb. 18.—The burial of the victims of the battleship 'Maine' took place yesterday afternoon and business was generally suspended. All the stores were closed on the streets through which the procession passed. A delegation from the unfortunate Concentrados expressed the wish to carry the bodies on their shoulders to the grave as proof of their gratitude to the Americans, but General Lee thanked them and said the bodies would be carried in the manner selected by the authorities. In front of the Albisu Theatre, on Reina and Belascoain avenues, about four hundred Concentrados joined in the procession, which had by that time increased by some fifty thousand persons of all classes. The procession did not reach the Colon cemetery until after 6 p.m. There the religious ceremonies were presided over by Bishop Manuel Santander and the Rev. J. P. Chadwick, chaplain of the 'Maine.'

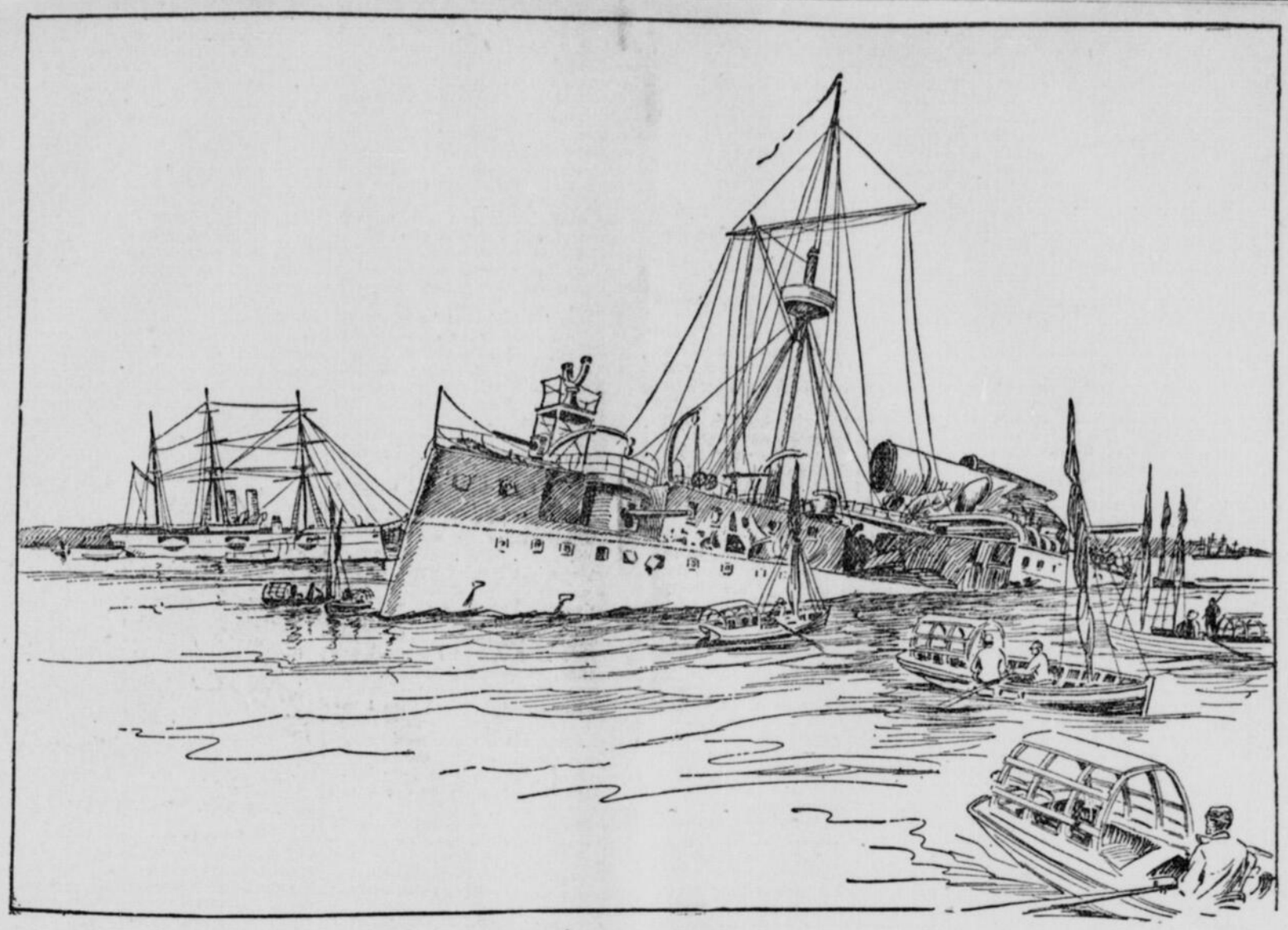
A HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE BODIES RECOVERED.

Washington, D.C., Feb. 19.—Late in the day, Captain Sigsbee telegraphed to the State Department that so far a hundred and twenty-five bodies had been buried and that identification was very difficult.

New York, Feb. 21.—A despatch to the 'Herald' from Key West says: It is learned from what may be considered a semi-official source, that the divers sent down on behalf of the United States to examine the wreck of the battleship 'Maine,' have made a preliminary report of their work. Incredible as it may seem, it is said that after a partial examination of the magazines of the 'Maine' the divers report that the one in which the explosion is supposed to have occurred is intact.

According to my information the contents of this magazine are unharmed. Therefore, if this report be true, an entirely different aspect is given to the terrific explosion which brought death and destruction to the 'Maine.'

The report reaching Key West, it is said, caused the members of the court of enquiry to decide to proceed to Havana and begin their investigation at once, instead of organizing the court here. At any rate the lighthouse tender 'Mangrove,' with the court of enquiry on board, left for Havana. Upon arrival in Havana the court will make a personal examination of the wreck and will then take testimoney regarding the loss of the vessel.



THE 'MAINE' AS SHE NOW APPEARS IN THE HARBOR AT HAVANA.

Drawn from a description sent by cable from the New York 'Herald's' correspondent in Havana.

SITUATION IN ABYSSINIA.

New York, Feb. 20.—The London correspondent of the 'Times' says : Not a word has been heard for a long time now of the celebrated Marchant expedition, which was to grab the whole of the Upper Nile for France, and the slaughter of which was both reported and denied months ago. Upon this phase of the Anglo-French tension, however, public feeling here is enormously reassured by the details of the English treaty with Menelik. A still happier effect is produced by a book by the Queen's grand nephew, Count Gleichen, who accompanied Rennell Rodd's mission to Abyssinia, and which gives an admirable account of the affair. It appears by this that, contrary to all previous impressions, Menelik was specially courteous to the British envoys, and paid them such honors as no other mission ever received. Accordingly, the British have now a high opinion of Menelik and regard as moonshine all the stories with which the French comfort themselves of his intentions to make mischief for the British in the Soudan. It is also felt to clear the atmosphere a good deal that the German semi-official papers should be saying so distinctly for the past few days that Germany continues, as it has always done, to support the British policy on the Nile. I put these Anglo-French subjects in the forefront of this despatch for the reason that they are most likely to be soon thrust by events into special prominence.

AFRICAN CRISIS.

French Forces Still Advancing.

London, Feb. 20.—Sir Charles Dilke, the well-known authority on foreign affairs, whose question in the House of Commons on Friday night elicited information from Mr. Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, regarding the dangerous situation in West Africa, said in an interview that he thought the other powers would not interest themselves in the Anglo-French dispute, for the reason that the West African question was only of vital interest to Great Britain and France.

The state of affairs in West Africa he added, was what he had always anticipated might be reached in Newfoundland at any moment. He had considered the Newfoundland question the only dangerous one between France and Great Britain, because of the ever-present risk of conflict on a spot which would appear to engage national honor. Now there was imminent risk of the same thing all over West Africa.

New York, Feb. 20.—Mr. Ford, cabling from London to the 'Tribune,' to-day says: 'The only grave incident of a week of torpid and turgid debate in the House of Commons occurred early this morning, a few minutes before adjournment. Sir Charles Dilke, evidently by prearrangement with his old-time colleague, asked Mr. Chamberlain whether a British force in the Lagos hinterland had been ordered by a French force to haul down its flag. Mr. Chamberlain replied by reading two despatches received from West Africa a few hours before, and declining to comment upon them. One confirmed the report that a small British force at Boria had been ordered by thirty Senegalese to lower its flag, but had refused to do so; the other declared that protests had been exchanged between the rival outposts on the edge of the British settlements of the Gold Coast, and that a French station had been established in a district which had been proclaimed as lying within the British sphere of influence.

OFFICIAL DISCLOSURE.

'A painful sensation was caused by this official disclosure of aggressive action, after the failure of the protracted negotiations in Paris to secure a settlement of the rival claims. The outposts of each side are small detachments, but their presence under arms confronting each other in territory claimed by each is proof that the situation is critical. Whatever may be the real value of the hinterland, the British and French governments have taken up a position from which it is not easy to retire with dignity, while it is difficult to avoid the reproach of yielding to menace and undue pressure.

'This incident in the House of Commons throws a strong sidelight upon the rumors persistently repeated during the last fortnight of cabinet dissensions, or, rather, a conflict of views between Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain over the West African policy. Mr. Chamberlain, by putting up Sir Charles Dilke to ask questions at an unusual hour, has published two despatches a few hours after receiving them at the Colonial Office, and has concentrated public opinion upon a serious conflict with France over disputed territory. Protests at once follow from the British press against the abandonment of the territory which is declared to be British as a matter of unimpeachable right. The unusual manner in which the facts have been revealed indicates that Mr. Chamberlain is intensely in earnest, and bent upon bringing public opinion to bear upon Lord Salisbury, who has not taken so serious a view of the French complications as he himself holds.

'The Cabinet probably sympathized with Lord Salisbury in minimizing the controversy, and Mr. Chamberlain, convinced that a display of firmness is essential to the maintenance of the peace with honor, made a strong bid for the moral support of the British press. By a curious transformation, Lord Salisbury, who was once Beaconsfield's lieutenant in the forward policy, has become an advocate of peace at any price, and is identified with a vacillating and timorous diplomatic policy; whereas Mr. Chamberlain, trained in the school of commercialism of Birmingham and Manchester, has reverted to a militant Imperialism, not readily distinguishable from jingoism. Sir Charles Dilke, Radical as he is, finds common ground with his old ally.'

THE FRENCH FORCES.

Akassa, Gold Coast Protectorate, West Africa, Feb. 20.—Intelligence has arrived here that two French expeditions are advancing toward Sokoto, capital of the Sultanate of Sokoto, on the Sokoto river, in the extreme north of the Hassan States, and that six French officers, with a force of two hundred men, have arrived at Argungu (Argungi) and Tagga.

The Sultan of Sokoto has commanded the French force to halt about forty miles from the capital. The Royal Niger Company's representative, Deputy-Agent-General William Wallace, is holding the company's forces, with ammunition and stores, in readiness, and is awaiting instructions to assist the Sultan of Sokoto and to secure French evacuation of British territory.

EVERYBODY'S BODY.

(Ethel F. Heddle, in 'Sunday Companion.')

I.

A' BODY'S BODY.

'Ye should ask Mistress Janet Burn—her that bides down by the burn. She kens aboot bairns' ailments better nor anybody I ever kent.'

'But I do not know Mrs. Burn! I should not like to trouble her!'

'Hoots!'—and the speaker closed her gate with a little clash of dismissal and farewell—'Janet's just a'body's body! She'll dae onything for a'body!'

That was my first introduction to Janet Burn, and the first description I heard of her. She was 'a'body's body!' I was thinking of the words as I went down the road towards the kelpie burn. This is not my story, but hers, so I need only say that I was a widow then, just twenty-seven, and was making my living by painting. I just managed to make both ends meet.

My husband, who had been killed in one of the 'little wars' in India—they are very deadly and great wars for some women—had been able to leave me very, very little. That did not seem to matter much, as Guy and I, my little boy of three, came down to Langside, a lovely little village on the east coast of Scotland, and I found a neat little cottage and a strip of garden and a small handmaiden, all of which were obtainable for a very small sum. I had gained a certain modest celebrity for little seascapes. 'Finnicky women's work,' I had heard it described and I dare say the criticism was just enough.

They sold, however, for the corners of rich women's boudoirs, and they gave Guy and me sufficient for the day's need. I thought ambition, with some other things, was buried in a certain far-off grave which I shall never see, and nothing seemed to hurt me. But my little boy had been ailing, and I had consulted my landlady, a bustling, busy woman called Brown. She, as has been seen, sent me on to 'a'body's body.'

I reached the cottage, and saw a little gate and a small garden all aglow with flowers. There were pansies and sweet-william, and stock and mignonette and southernwood—or, as they call it here, 'apple-rengie'—and 'lad's-love.' A great bush of a certain deep-hued monthly rose grew over the house and peeped in at the windows. The front stone step was scoured with blue, and the windows fairly shone.

I could hear the cheerful song of a kettle as I knocked on the door, and then a soft, slow step. An old woman in a grey linsey gown, black apron, and spotless 'mutch,' stood before me, looking up with gentle inquiry. She had a wrinkled face, with a little ruddy color in the cheeks, and she had the softest, kindest, happiest eyes it has ever been my lot to see. I felt a sudden glow of happy confidence. I knew instinctively I had come to the right place for help. 'A'body's body' would help me! I told my story rather diffidently, and she bade me come in, and seated me in a big, old-fashioned chair by the side of the fire.

She said she knew just what was wrong with Guy, and she told me her simple remedies.

'I did not care much for the look of the doctor,' I said frankly. 'And the wee boy is very shy. He sees so few people—no men at all!'

'Puir wee man!' I can never tell you the pity and the understanding in her voice. And then she looked at me. 'I heard o' the story,' she said gently. 'And you'll be thinkin' the time lang, my lambie. Hae ye learnt tae leave the sorrow when it first drifts awa' and awa'?'

I raised my hand with a little start. I had never spoken of my loss to any human soul. I had no relatives, and few friends, and people had let me alone after writing the usual conventional letters. I thought no human being understood. My husband's death had not seemed to make any difference to any one in the world except his wife. And I was not a religious woman.

After the first weeks of black darkness, in which only the child's little arms kept me back from mental death, I raised my head and faced the world. The child had to be provided for, and he was Guy's boy. Somehow I could work and eat and live and talk to strangers in much the old way, and as if I had not a great leaden weight where my happy heart had been.

'No,' I said calmly and drearily, after her question; 'I have never left the sorrow anywhere. I am not what people call "religious." I am sorry, Mrs. Burn, but your words mean nothing at all to me.'

She looked over at me, and I could hear her draw in a kind of long breath.

'You're just a bit bairn yersel,' she said, in her soft Scotch voice; 'jist a bairn. I was lookin' at ye in kirk. Oor sin minister is awa'. Ye didna git muckle help frae that laddie.'

I smiled at that, remembering the theological tirade we had all listened to in the bald little kirk. It had bored me inexpressibly. I remembered watching a yawning pewfull—a big, hearty farmer, stifling his gapes behind a horny hand, a sonsie woman in a bead-spangled cloak, and six children, whose faces shone with soap and health—they were all so heartily sick of it all! And so was I. We none of us knew what he was driving at, or trying to prove or disprove, and none of us cared.

'Well, no,' I said. 'And I have not been back since.'

'I dare say he meant weel,' she said earnestly. 'Maybe there was a heap o' book-larnin' behind a' yon! But we dinna want mere book-larning. We want help tae bear oor burdens—a' o' us!'

I looked at her curiously, and then round the well-scrubbed kitchen. I thought half cynically, how it would be for a simple, pious old woman like this, who probably did not know what deep sorrow or anxiety meant, to talk. She was a kindly, sweet old body; but that sort of talk was all just shibboleth! So I rose, and buttoned my glove.

'I suppose people take their comfort in different ways,' I said. 'Thank you very much. I'll try what you said. Good-evening!'

She came and opened the door. As I walked down the village street I could see her looking after me wistfully. I had a bunch of the roses she had given me, and I painted these on a piece of Parian delft next day. I did not think again, then, of 'a'body's body.' But her remedies did the boy good, and I went back and thanked her.

II.

I saw Mrs. Burn every now and then in the village, and she would give me a little, respectful, kindly nod. If there was a new baby, I would see her going in and out of the cottage. I heard them say, now and then, she had 'mair skill nor any doctor.' And I saw her pass every Sunday to the kirk, to which I had never gone after my first experience. I was really an Episcopalian, only the 'English chapel,' as they called it, was too far off.

My next experience of her goodness and kindness came when the boy took typhoid fever and nearly died. She came and relieved me every day, and would not take a penny. Though old, she was the most capable woman I ever met. She cooked exquisitely; she had a marvellous knowledge of herbs and remedies; and she had the most attractive way with children.

The boy grew to love her. He called her 'grannie,' and would nestle in her arms, she calling him her 'wee lambie' and her 'coodlin' doo,' and a shower of loving and endearing names.

I heard her mention her husband now and then as her 'auld man'; but I was selfishly absorbed in the boy. I think I really did not hear when she spoke of any other subject. Grief like mine is the most selfish thing in the whole world. I wonder, sometimes, if there is anything more hateful in God's sight than utter selfishness, or more beautiful than unselfishness!

She discovered one day, by chance, that I could sing, and I found her dusting a pile of music-books.

'You can sing?' she then said eagerly. 'Eh, then, some day will ye sing tae me? And tae my man?'

I shook my head. 'I never sing now. I shall never sing again.'

'What for noo?' she asked gently.

'My husband—liked it,' I said shortly. 'All my music is—associated with him.'

She was looking at me, with her strangely vivid eyes. 'Bairn,' she said, slowly, 'ye will no let God heal ye! Ye are just pushing him awa'! I was aboot tae ask—I'd tak' it as the greatest gift ye could gie me'—she had refused everything—'if ye would, some day, come and sing a sang—ony bit sang—till my auld man. He's fair daft about music! He hasna many pleesures i' the world, and he's whiles tell't me there was nae music on airth like a leddy's braw voice!'

She said no more then. I said to myself coldly I should certainly not torture myself; but something made me say: 'I never see your husband. Does he work out of doors?'

She looked round, as if in surprise. 'Div ye no ken? He's blind—blind, and crippled wi' rheumatism. He lies ben the house.'

'But you?'—I remembered suddenly all the hours I had had her in my cottage. 'Can he let you come here?'

She gave a little faint smile. 'He's wonderfu',' she said. 'I leave a'thing by him. He likes me tae dae ony bit thing for the neebours. I'm a frail auld body getting, but they have a deal o' confidence in puir auld Janet!' And she smiled.

I was thinking, and I spoke suddenly. Deep down in my heart a shaft of shame had struck like a knife. 'I'll come and sing,' I said, and turned away, 'if you like.'

I went, after that, and I sang Guy's songs—he had always liked my simplest ones best—to the blind old man. Janet would come in, and sit and listen, and she would thank me, with glistening eyes. One day I sang a little Scotch song I had learned from my mother, who was Scotch. A tender little thing, with a refrain about some one's being 'aye awa.' One line went, 'It's just that you'll aye be awa.'

I saw Janet rise up suddenly, and go to the blind old man, and lay her wrinkled hand in his. Their fingers closed and locked. I crept out and left them. Had I been wrong about Janet? Had she come through any other grief?

But one day—it was a bitterly cold evening, with a sleety rain—I was putting on my cloak preparatory to leaving her, when a woman knocked at the door, and we both saw a wretched tramp, with a baby huddled close to her breast, and wailing piteously. She was one of the 'tinklers' (travelling hawkers) I had seen on the road earlier in the day.

Something to eat and something for the child. If only 'the mistress' would give her some 'claes for the bairn!'

Janet had no money to give; neither had I. The old woman turned round piteously. I could see a kind of struggle going on in her face.

'What is it, Janet?' I asked.

'It is the bairn,' she said in a low, trembling voice. 'I cannot hear it greet! And I ha'e claes!'

I waited. What did she mean?

She turned away then, and went up to an old-fashioned chest of drawers. Out of the middle deep drawer she took a little warm flannel frock and a Shetland shawl—an old grey one. Janet, the quiet, unemotional, stood there, and suddenly clasped them to her breast.

I have never seen anything like the passionate grip and love of the gesture. She kissed them like living things, and then she went to the woman, took the baby from her, warmed its chill limbs, put on the frock and shawl, filled its bottle with hot milk, and saw the woman turn away. She thanked Janet, but grumbled a little at obtaining 'nae siller.'

'Janet,' I said, 'what baby-clothes were these?'

'My ain wee bairnie's,' she said. 'She died forty years syne!'

'And had you no other?' I asked.

We were standing by the fire. Janet had not lit the gas, and the light flickered upon her face as I spoke. It was paler than usual. She gave a kind of shiver, speaking in a whisper, but with her brave eyes fixed on my face.

'Did they never tell ye i' the village?'

'Tell me what?'

Another shrinking movement, then she stood quite still.

'Ithers would tell you!' she said piteously. 'My laddie—Gavin—is—is serving his time! He's in prison—for—a life sentence!'

I cannot tell you what I felt. I cannot describe to you the torture or the heartbreak of her voice, or the dogged Scotch courage and honesty behind it all!

And this was 'A'body's body!' The honest, upright, honorable and proud old woman, who would not have wronged a living being of a pin's worth! This was Janet, whom I had thought spoke so easily and unknowingly of bearing sorrow!

I went and put my arms round her suddenly; it was as if the ice broke around my own heart. My tears fell scaldingly on the breast of her wincey gown.

'Janet! Janet! Then you know?' I said, 'O Janet! teach me to bear it like you!'

III.

I had been three years in the village. Things outwardly had not changed much, except that my little boy had 'lessons,' and that I had hired a pony-trap, in which we drove through the beautiful roads which climbed above the cliffs on the coast. I looked at life, thank God, however, with different eyes. Janet Burn had taught me how. The sting had been taken out of it all. Once the great truth of a loving God is realized, and rested in, all sorrows are lightened, and the rainbow of hope is always athwart our sky.

I told Guy we would 'find father' some day—and, thank God, I believed what I said! For the sanity of Janet's religion—its simple, beautiful sanity—had lifted me out of the pit and set me on my feet!

We were driving down the village one day in the trap, and it was growing dark. 'Trot' had not been out for some time, and was very fresh, so fresh that my wrists ached, and I thought I should be glad when home was reached; and unfortunately, just then a collie flew out from a cottage door, barking wildly, and off went the pony in a wild gallop, quite beyond my powers of holding-in. There was a perilous turn before our little abode was reached, and then a sharp hill! I set my teeth, and called to the boy to 'Hold on!' But I thought we would both be killed together.

And just then a figure sprang out—it seemed to me from the ground—and the pony was caught and firmly held. We were safe. I could get out, and I did so; and, holding Guy, who was pale and trembling, I went up to the rescuer.

He was a strange-looking man—very white and thin, with queer, shrinking eyes. I noticed that he wore his hair oddly short, and wondered who he could be, and how he came to be lurking there in the dark.

'I cannot thank you enough!' I gasped. 'You have saved our lives! I think we should have been killed! I cannot thank you enough!'

His face brightened oddly, and he gave a little shadowy smile—a curious, lifeless smile, which somehow made me shiver. I felt as if this man had lived amongst guileless people—as if he had forgotten what laughter was.

He was holding the pony, who was pulling and champing still, and as I was wondering what I could offer to reward him, he suddenly said:

'I'll take him home for you. He's a bit skittish still. Do you live far from here?'

I told him, and he led the pony down; and we passed no one, and the boy who attended to Trot took him in.

'Won't you please come in for a moment?' I said. And, as if used to obey mechanically, he followed me into my little hall, and then into the dining-room. Tea was spread on my dainty little table. There were home-made scones, apricot jam, and oatcakes, and in the centre of the table an old china bowl of faded bracken, bronze-colored, and rowan-berries.

The man stood looking at the table like one in a dream. I could not make out of what class he was. His manner was quiet and respectful. I liked his voice. His clothes were dark and neat, but it struck me that somehow he was not at home in them! In spite of his oddness, I liked his face.

'Won't you sit down and take a cup of tea?' I said, prompted by an impulse. 'It is just ready.'

He turned on me then with a kind of gasp, curiously. As he did so Janet's face seemed to flash before me. And then he gave the oddest laugh.

'You're a very trusting lady,' he said, 'and I mean to tell you the truth. See if you'll ask me then! Do you know Janet Burn? Is she—is she—still alive?'

'Alive? Janet? Why, yes!' I said, puzzled. 'Do you know her?'

'I'm her son!' he said then, looking me full in the face. 'The son who was in prison for a life-sentence! You heard, of course? I broke her heart. I got into bad company, and got mixed up in a political plot in Dublin, where I was in a printer's office. I was eighteen, and they were clever men—the others. I'm not excusing myself'—he put his hand to his forehead wearily—'and God knows I deserved it all! But they said I behaved well in the prison, and the governor made a plea for me to the new Home Secretary, and I'm free!

'I'm kind of dazed yet, for I've had twenty years of it and I'm stupid. I feel as if it were all a dream, and I'd waken in—the cell! I'm wondering if it's any good being out, for no one will ever look at me. And I'm wondering about her—and him! Bringing disgrace upon them—bringing it all up—'

He spoke strangely, like a person, half-awake, and as if mentally stumbling. I cannot tell you how sorry I felt for him. Long ago Janet had told me the story. It was true that he had been made a scapegoat of, and I suspect the truth of that had been impressed upon a new Home Secretary after twenty years. I turned to Gavin Burn eagerly, and bade him listen.

'Mr. Burn,' I said—and he raised his head with a start at the name—'Janet, your mother, has done more for me than I can ever repay. She is the best woman in the world, and she will welcome and love you. Your coming will just rejoice her heart. I can't keep you for a minute from her, for your father is very low, and you are just come in time to comfort her.'

He got up then, looking at me in a dazed way.

'Is that true?' he said.

I answered, 'Come and see!'

. . . . . .

Janet was in the inner room, reading to the old man. The firelight flickered on the sanded floor, and on her neat, tidy figure, grown a little bent and frail. We stood in the doorway, and Burn told his mother after that he felt like a boy again when he saw the familiar, worn furniture, and the very same china dogs on the mantelpiece! And then I motioned him to wait, and I went in softly, and, stooping, put my arm round her.

'Janet,' I said, so that the old man should hear too—'you who have borne sorrow so bravely—oh, dear Janet, can you bear joy too?'

She rose, holding on to me. The old man turned his white head on the pillow, and Janet looked up in my face. Her eyes shone; she took one step forward—two more. Burn came to meet her.

'My laddie! Oh, my own dear laddie!' Her arms were round his neck, her hand was on his shoulder.

'Janet!' called her husband tremulously. She turned as I crept out. I left them alone, these three, in the firelight, with the God who loved all three!

Janet had led him up to the dying man, and I heard a low, inarticulate, happy murmur—of blessing, I think, and gratitude.

. . . . . .

It was not long after this that circumstances threw money into my lap, enough for the boy's education, and sufficient to buy a larger house and a garden. We have a little carriage and a tiny conservatory, and I could afford to pay well to have these looked after. I never dreamed of leaving Sunnyside. I loved it now, and in the nearest county town there was a capital boys' school.

And Gavin Burn is my gardener! He begged for the post when I suggested it tentatively, and he will never leave his mother. She is still alive thank God! though the old man is gone! 'A'body's body' still! They go to the kirk every Sunday, she leaning proudly and fondly on his arm. Her eyes are the homes of peace. Langside has accepted and forgiven Burn, though he never goes out into any village society, and spends his evenings reading—studying at home. He is very clever, but he will never be anything but shrinking and retiring. My boy loves him, and has no more careful guardian.

And I go, as all the village does still, to 'A'body's body' for advice and help. I often tell Burn of her quaint, wise sweet sayings. I tell him I love her like a mother. And the strange, sad, mirthless smile crosses his face. I am kind to say so, he says; but it is true that 'there never was any one like her!'

WOMEN AS FARMERS.

The discovery of profitable employment for women on the land would be one of the supreme triumphs of social science, as the Countess of Warwick remarks in 'The Land Magazine.' She advocates the establishment of an all-round agricultural training college for women and agricultural settlements in various parts of the country. The college, she hints, is soon to be an accomplished fact. It will be under the control of 'a lady principal, a gentlewoman by birth and education,' and a thoroughly efficient staff of lecturers and practical instructors. Everything from market-gardening to pig-keeping will be taught. The theoretical work will include botany and other sciences. The pupils are to be over sixteen years of age, and the daughters of professional men will have preference. There will be thirty-three hours of work a week and any amount of play. The proposed settlements will consist of one to four acres, with six to twenty cottages. Each of the latter will be occupied by two women 'settlers.' A lady warden will have charge over each settlement. As for finances, each settler will pay a certain rental. To be eligible as settlers women must possess some practical knowledge of gardening or poultry-keeping, etc., and an annual income of £20 to £50; to this income, the Countess of Warwick thinks, gradual additions will accrue through the profits of the settlement, 'though it is not likely that fortunes will be made.'—'Christian World.'

BISHOP TAYLOR RETIRES.

The venerable Rev. William Taylor, the famous 'California street preacher,' the founder of self-supporting missions in India and South America, and the pioneer Methodist white bishop of Africa, has at last retired from active duties, to spend the evening of his days in the bosom of his family.

It will be remembered that directly after Bishop Taylor's retirement on account of the age limit, in May, 1896, he sailed away on the steamship 'Wilcannia,' for what proved to be one of the most successful evangelistic campaigns of his fifty-five years of active service, and on Dec. 17, last, the steamship 'Lucania,' returned him to this country. More than two thousand saved heathen will celebrate the trip in heaven, and its influence on Christian missions will continue while time endures.

A few months ago, when the bishop began to realize that the infirmities of age were getting the mastery of him, he closed a letter by saying: 'My hand shakes so I can hardly write; guess I'll quit and go home.'

He has now returned to his loved ones, for he loves his own as great natures only can love; and yet he has never hesitated when duty called him. The two elements that, next to the power of God, have contributed most largely to his world-wide success, have not been published. First, he has ever unhesitatingly paid the price. He loved his family so dearly that upon each occasion when he sailed away he called it crossing the dead-line; and yet his obedience to the call of God and the Church was unfaltering. Second, his native humility has remained undisturbed by the widest popularity that has been enjoyed by any servant of Christ of the century. Just before his departure for this last evangelistic trip, after the completion of the 'Story of My Life,' as he crossed the ferry, he said: 'I have always been overestimated. I am only an humble Methodist preacher endeavoring to do his duty.'



THE REV. WILLIAM TAYLOR.

He is retiring to his church; the church he served in the mountain circuits of Virginia and Maryland on horseback; the church that sent him as its first missionary to San Francisco in the early gold days, when he demonstrated 'self support' with flour at forty dollars a barrel; the church to which he gave the conferences of Southern India, the prosperous missions of South America, the grading and tracklaying in heathen Africa—his life of fifty-five years of difficult service in distant lands!

His friends will be gratified to learn that he returns in good general health, although the bronchitis he has suffered from occasionally for some years has weakened his voice, and his right hand is affected by his arduous toils.

Of his evangelistic labors in South Africa, the Bishop himself, in a letter written just before leaving for America, said:

My increasing hoarseness has defeated my soul-saving success among the whites, but my preaching to natives, through interpreters, struck fire every time. The last sermon I preached, which was in a wild, mountainous region, seventy-eight seekers went down on their faces, and nearly forty professed to receive Jesus and his great salvation. The week preceding I was preaching in a mountainous region equally wild, but more populous; nine sermons in four days; over eighty natives saved, and forty seekers not yet delivered. These are only average results, but I mention them as illustrative of a probable finish of my unbroken term of fifty-five years of itinerant ministery. Glory to God! I expect to be admitted from the kingdom of grace to the kingdom of glory in God's time—get in on the same ground and on the same condition on which the poor, crucified thief got in. — 'Michigan Christian Advocate.'

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

TWO WAYS OF LAUGHING.

(By Hattie Louise Jerome.)

Johnnie and Ed and Nellie were playing steamcars in the kitchen one stormy afternoon. The coal-hod was the engine, the shoe-box the tender, an empty soap-box the baggage car, while the kitchen chairs made very comfortable passenger cars. Johnnie was engineer, Ed was the conductor, and little Nellie wore one of her mother's old bonnets tied primly under her chin, a pair of her kid gloves buttoned over her small hands and a large apron tied on for a long dress, because she and her dolls were the passengers.

They were having a fine time, making almost noise enough to have been a real train of cars, when all at once, in spite of the dignity of the bonnet, the kid gloves, and the long apron skirt, little Nellie lost her balance in trying to make one of her dolls—Catherine Sarah—sit more erect, and tumbled, dollies and all, into the soap-box baggage-car.

'Ha, ha, ha!' laughed Ed; 'oh; ha, ha, ha, ha!'

'Keep still!' shouted Johnnie; 'you mustn't laugh when there's a smash-up, and all the passengers are thrown into the baggage-car. Where are you hurt madam?'

Now little Madam Nellie wasn't hurt in the least—that is, she was only very much ashamed of having lost her balance and tumbled into the baggage-car, but being ashamed hurt so much she was just ready to cry when Ed laughed at her.

'Ha, ha, ha!' laughed Ed again.

Nellie's bonnet was tumbled over one eye, one glove was in the coal-hod, and the apron was wound about her feet in such a way Johnnie could scarcely get her out of the box.

It was very easy to laugh. Even Johnnie had to try hard to keep from smiling. Ed did not try.

'I should think you were a baby,' he said, 'if you can't sit in a chair.'

Nellie's lip quivered.

'I'm not going to play cars any more,' she said, moving away with her arms full of dolls, and trying to look just as dignified as if her bonnet had been straight, and one glove had not been lost. 'Catherine Sarah and I are going to take the dolls away.'

'Oh, that's mean, to take all our passengers away!' cried Ed, repenting a little.

'It isn't any worse than it is to laugh at a lady when she has an accident,' said Johnnie, severely. 'Be kind to her about it, Ed, and she won't spoil our fun,—will you, Nellie? Come back now, and let's play it was a big accident. You did your part splendidly, Nellie.'

Of course, any little girl would have returned after such kind treatment. It began to seem rather funny to Nellie, too, when she remembered how the dollies looked in the baggage-car, and how wildly Catherine Sarah spread her arms about the other dolls as she fell, and Nellie began to laugh. Then they all laughed together, but it was a different laugh from Ed's first one. It had the ring of kindness in it. They were laughing with the little lady who had met with the accident, rather than laughing at her, and that makes all the difference in the world.

'I'll do it over again,' offered Nellie, good-naturedly.

'All right!' and 'Do!' shouted the boys.

And when the dolls and the other passenger were again thrown into the baggage-car, they all had such a royal good time over it mamma looked in to see what it was all about.

'I tumbled out first, and when Ed laughed I thought I wouldn't play any more,' confessed Nellie. 'But then Johnnie was kind about it, and that made it all right. I don't care if folks do laugh that way,' which was Nellie's manner of saying that there are two ways of laughing, and that the kind way is to laugh with a person, and never at them. —'S.S. Times.'

The field is not the church; the church is simply the reapers thrust out into the field. God help us to keep before ourselves the map of his entire extended kingdom, and give us a heart that is willing to go anywhere. Unless we are willing to go anywhere, we are fit to go nowhere.—W. H. P. Faunce.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Wonderful Effect

Child was not well a Single Day for Three Years.

A Father's Grateful Words for the Cure of His Daughter.

'My little girl, who is now seven years old, weighed only three pounds at the time of her birth. For three years and a quarter of her life she was not well a single day. I was persuaded to give her Hood's Sarsaparilla, and thought I would give it a fair trial. The child began taking it according to directions. The result was a perfect cure and her health has been good ever since her recovery, due, we feel sure, to the good effects of this wonderful medicine. You do not know what a comfort it is to my wife and myself to have her restored to health. I believe the cure is permanent, and I shall always feel thankful for Hood's Sarsaparilla.' GEORGE McFARLAND, Wallaceburgh, Ont.

ANOTHER CURE.

'I had a swelling on my chest which appeared like a cancer, which caused me great pain and many sleepless nights. The physician advised me to have it cut out, but my daughter told me to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and I did so, and after taking six bottles the swelling and the pain have all left me.' Mrs. J. W. CRONKWRIGHT, 432 Front street, Belleville, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is Canada's Greatest Medicine. Sold by all druggists. Price, $1; six for $5. Get Hood's.

Hood's Pills are prompt, efficient and easy in effect. 25 cents.



Lady Murray has built a home at Antibes (the Riviera) for 'Authors in distress.'

The first motor-car coach carrying Her Majesty's mails, is now running between London and Redhill.

The Duke of Norfolk is said to have spent more money on building than any Englishman now living.

The oldest noblewoman in England is the Dowager Baroness Carew, who has just completed her ninety-ninth year.

Visitors admitted to the State apartments at Windsor Castle last year by the Queen's permission numbered 94,775.

It has been determined to build a lifeboat house at Eastbourne as a memorial to the murdered actor, William Terriss.

A granite obelisk is to be erected at Canterbury in memory of the martyrs who were burned at the stake during the reign of Queen Mary.

At the desire of the Queen, the Old Palace at Kew is to be opened to the public, as well as the State rooms at Kensington Palace, unoccupied since 1760.

'In recognition of good work done for the sake of Eastern religions,' the King of Siam has conferred upon Sir Edwin Arnold his order of the Grand Officer of the Crown of Siam.

The Earl of Mansfield is the only man living who has sat in the House of Lords since the beginning of the first Parliament under William IV. He is now ninety-one years of age.

Sir Thomas Lipton is developing his cheap restaurant scheme for London. He hopes to supply a substantial dinner for 4d. or 4½d. Multitudes of the wage-earning population will warmly appreciate this endeavor.

The oldest living clergyman of the Church of England, the Rev. Edward Allen, of Tiverton, Devon, celebrated recently his hundredth birthday. Mr. Allen is a native of Theale, in Berks.

The East Township of Deeping St. Nicholas, in Lincolnshire, is so hemmed in by fens that the vilagers have to go eight or nine miles round to get to the church, and the railway station is two-and-a-half miles away. They are agitating for roads.

Lady Salisbury's health is again causing anxiety to her family, and it is not likely that she will be able to go to the Riviera as was intended. Lord and Lady Salisbury will therefore continue to reside at Hatfield House for some time to come.

Of all the people who died in London, during last year no fewer than 3,236 had passed their eightieth year. Out of a hundred and three persons over eighty who died in London in one week, forty died of 'old age.' The very old, by remaining indoors, suffered less from fog and frost than many younger people.

By direction of the Manchester Watch Committee a circular has been issued to the City Police Force warning all members of the force of the very grave views entertained by the Watch Committee with regard to the offences of being drunk, and of being in public beer houses when on duty, or when off duty in uniform, and stating that a repetition of the offence is likely to be met by either an order to resign or summary dismissal.

The interesting dispute between the Oswestry Guardians and the Local Government Board as to the legality of the appointment of a woman as a relieving officer, has ended in favor of the Guardians. At the last meeting of the board a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that, while of opinion that it was undesirable, as a general rule, for women to hold the office of relieving officer, in view of Mrs. Price's special qualification they would not withhold their consent to the appointment.

The coroner for Central Warwickshire has stopped the funeral of the head nurse at Hatton asylum, which had been fixed for yesterday, in order that a post-mortem examination of the body may be made. Upwards of a hundred persons have been seized with illness in the institution. The asylum authorities say the invalids are suffering from influenza. Others have expressed the belief that the persons ill are affected by something contained in the food eaten at a ball given at the asylum.—Sheffield 'Independent,' Jan. 29.

Corporal Cummings, a horn-player in the band of the 1st Life Guards, has recently come into an unexpected fortune amounting to about a hundred and twenty thousand pounds. The information was first brought to the lucky horn-player by a comrade in the same band named Fenwick, who drew his attention to one of the many advertisements which appear in the press, and which inform people with certain names that if they apply to certain solicitors 'they will hear of something to their advantage.' The horn-player at first laughed at the idea, but on being pressed by his comrade to 'have a try for it,' he willingly consented, with the result already chronicled. It will not be strange to hear that he has announced his intention of giving to the comrade who lured him on to so much wealth a bonus of a thousand pounds.

The rural workhouse of Clutton enjoys the distinction of including among its inmates the Rev. Samuel Trueman, who was formerly rector of the adjoining parish of Nempnett, and for some years was a member of the Clutton Board of Guardians. It is now nearly twelve years ago that Mr. Trueman was forced by circumstances to seek a home in the workhouse, and people in the district had forgotten his existence until the last meeting of the guardians, when a letter was read from the old gentleman's wife, who is eighty-three years of age, asking to have the amount of her contribution to her husband's support reduced. Out of her scanty income of forty pounds a year she has contributed two shillings and sixpence a week ever since the aged rector became a guest of the ratepayers. As a result of the guardians' deliberations the amount of her contribution was reduced by sixpence a week.

'When Arthur Hallam went with his family, in 1826, to Italy, (says Mr. Gladstone in a recent review of his life), there was not so much as a guide book. A visit to Italy was then the summit of a young man's aspirations. It took sixteen or eighteen days to post to Rome, and each change of horses was an event. The young traveller could not but try to make the most of what he bought so dear. Scene, history, and language now flash before the eye; then they soaked into the mind. Men were then steeped in the experiences of Italy; they are now sprinkled with the spray. Its scenery, its art; its language, which was a delight and luxury to learn; its splendid literature; its roll of great men, among whom Dante himself might serve to build up the entire fame of a nation—all these constituted a many-sided power, which was brought to bear on the mind of Arthur Hallam.'—Now a traveller goes from London to Rome in forty-two hours for six pounds second class, or nine pounds first class.

An interesting address on the geology of North Wales was delivered by Mr. Thomas H. Cope recently before the members of the Liverpool Welsh National Society. The lecturer said there was evidence to show that for countless ages before the country of England had emerged from under the water Wales existed in the present position as an island. The formation of the Welsh mountains, he attributed, not to violent earthquakes but to slow, ceaseless quiet, natural forces which had crushed and wrinkled the outer crust of the earth. He spoke of the influence of volcanoes, with which Wales at one time was thickly studded, in the configuration of the country, and of the influence of moving ice, and of especially a gigantic glacier which proceeded from the north and cut off Anglesey from the mainland. Speaking of the denuding process of nature, he stated that there was a belief that the Welsh mountains were originally higher than any of the present day pinnacles of the Alps, so that the decaying process must have gone on from almost the beginning of things.

JUDGMENT ON THE SPIDERS.

Certain spiders, who took up their abode in the Church of St. Martin, Ludgate Hill, while combining in a well-intentioned fraud to save the coffers of the church, have paid for their wickedness with their lives. When an agent of the Electric Light Company visited the building to see how much electrical current had been consumed in lighting it during the past quarter, he found that the delicate clockwork apparatus had failed to record any consumption whatever. Further investigation revealed that the wheels had been clogged with the spiders' deftly-woven webs, so that they would not act, and hard by lay the corpses of the electrocuted arachnids.

A FIGHTER OF THE NELSON AGE.

The death of Commander Henry James, who died recently at Brighton, removes one of the last survivors of the navy of the past and the great war with France. Born in 1799, he entered the service when twelve years old, and was in action in the 'Pompeii' against the French fleet off Toulon in 1812. He was the last known link among the actual fighters between the present time and the Nelson age, and he remembered seeing Nelson's funeral procession as a little boy. There is, however, one other name still on the navy list who was his senior in service. This is Commander Richard Sadleir, who joined the navy in 1808, but he was never in action. According to the official record, the British Navy a hundred years ago consisted of a hundred and twenty-seven ships of the line, twelve of fifty guns each, a hundred and thirteen frigates and sixty sloops or cutters.—Stirling 'Observer,' Jan. 19.

OPEN WEATHER IN ENGLAND.

The London 'Daily Mail' of Jan. 24 last says the mildness of the weather is evidenced in some of the consignments to Covent Garden markets, where there were to be seen last Saturday numerous clumps of primroses and bunches of snowdrops. Violets—nearly all foreign—are, it may be added, a drug on the market. The wholesale price is about four a penny for lots of ten-dozen bunches, and as these are subdivided by street and shop vendors, some idea can be obtained of the profits. Judging from the innumerable letters we have received nature is everywhere being deceived. Crocuses are in bloom in Kent, and white roses in the gardens of the Langland Bay Hotel, near Swansea. In some parts of Lincolnshire primroses have been flowering for the last week or two, and even roses may occasionally be seen blooming in the open garden. Pansies are also much to the front, reports from Welling, Kent, and Bournemouth showing them to be quite common. In the latter place, the Deronicum, which usually comes out in June, is already in bloom. Tales of venturesome butterflies and indiscreet birds, who have brought their young progenies into the world several months too soon, continue to reach us. One blackbird signalized Christmas Day by laying an egg in a nest secreted in the ivy of the Aylsham Workhouse. A correspondent who sends us the last interesting item also states that he has just seen a nest containing three young sparrows in the ivy of the workhouse at Swaffham, Norfolk.

THE KENTISH MARTYRS.

The revival of the proposal to erect a memorial to the forty-one Kentish martyrs who suffered death at Canterbury during the reign of Queen Mary is attracting much attention in the city, and has, in fact, a very wide interest for the entire county of Kent. The first victims of the persecution who perished in the Martyrs' Field were John Bland, vicar of Adisham, and John Frankester, vicar of Rolvenden, who with two others were burned on July 12, 1555. The last who gained the martyr's crown at Canterbury were two men and two women, who were burned on Nov. 10, 1558, these being the last of all the Marian martyrs. The remainder of the forty-one came from all parts of Kent and the suggested perpetuation of their memory ought to be warmly supported by Kentish Protestants. The committee have secured a plot of a hundred feet of land, including the actual site of the martyrdom. They propose to erect a granite obelisk standing on a marble plinth and a rock base, and the names of all the martyrs will be engraved on the monument. The subject of the memorial is to be brought before a public meeting in Canterbury shortly, at which the Mayor will preside and Dean Farrar will deliver an address. The honorary secretary for the movement is Mr. W. Horsley, St. Stephen's, Canterbury.—'Kentish Express,' Jan. 22.

ENGLAND IN DANGER.

The disaster and devastation caused by the recent storms (writes Mr. J. Burham Stafford in the 'Pall Mall Gazette') have been appalling, not only in the North Sea, but along the English Channel. It has been a rude awakening to the dwellers along the East Coast. Not they alone, but the nation at large ought to be awakened from the apathetic indifference to the manner in which England is being washed away by the encroachment of the sea. Through the unobserved removal of protecting cliffs, inland towns, hitherto safe, are now endangered. Our governments appear, in their anxiety to increase the Empire, to care nothing whatever for the integrity of the kingdom. In January, 1896, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports promised the Parish Council of St. Margarets-at-Cliffe that he would look into the matter, but, I understand, up to date, nothing has been done. It is, indeed, grasping the shadow and losing the substance to spend millions of our money to acquire foreign lands for their inhabitants, and allow our own land to waste away and our people to be destroyed. We may conceive the future power that will hold sovereign sway over 'alf the universe will be but a pinnacle surmounted by a cocked hat.



That Robertson of Irvine, the poet-preacher, a native of St. Ninian's Parish, who has been dead for ten years or more, is still held in esteem in Scotland, is shown by the promptitude with which the recently issued volume of passages from his sermons and addresses has gone out of print. The first edition was exhausted in six weeks, and another is now in preparation.

Mr. Alex. Mackenzie, editor of the 'Scottish Highlander,' and author of several clan histories, died at his residence, Park House, Inverness, on Saturday, Jan. 22. Mr. Mackenzie was a native of Gairloch, and had entered his sixtieth year. He had a varied career in his youth, and came to Inverness in 1869. Possessed of great mental energy, he was an active force in the Highlands, and his figure in the streets of the Highland capital will be missed. He leaves a widow and a large family.

Lord Overtoun has just offered £1,000 towards the building of a new Free Church in Renton, on the condition that the Levenside and Gaelic congregations there amalgamate. He has also intimated the gift of £250 to the Deacons' Court of Dumbarton Free High Church towards renovating the manse, previous to the induction of the Rev. Mr. Inch, of Dundee. His lordship has also presented the Town of the Rock (Stirling) with a site whereon to build municipal buildings, and has undertaken to lay out the surrounding ground as a square at his own expense.

Snow fell to the depth of six inches in the Braemar district of Aberdeenshire on Saturday morning, Jan. 22. Traffic was greatly impeded, and outdoor labor, of which there is at present abundance, was almost at a standstill. Keen frost has set in. In Badenoch, after several weeks of almost unprecedented open weather, a change set in on the same Saturday, when snow fell. The wind changed to the east, and was bitterly cold. In Buckie the first fall of snow was experienced the same day. During the early hours of the morning about three inches of snow fell in Buckie district, and four to five inches at Grange and Keith, further inland. There were no signs of drifting, consequently traffic experienced no interruption.

A murderous attack on a warder was made a short time since by a convict in Peterhead Prison, Aberdeen. While a gang of twenty prisoners were at work in the Admiralty Quarry at Stirling Hill, under charge of a warder and one of the civil guards, one of the convicts left his work, and going up to the warder, asked to be allowed to absent himself for a few moments. On being told to return to his work, the man lifted his spade and struck the warder in the stomach. The official managed to draw his sword and parried a number of heavy blows, but tripped over some rails and fell at the convict's feet. The convict again struck the warder with his spade, but in spite of his injuries the latter dealt his assailant a blow with his sword, which fractured his left arm, and a second blow on the head rendered the man senseless. The convict was removed for treatment in the prison infirmary.

THE QUEEN'S ANCESTORS LIVED IN GLASGOW.

The chairman at a Glasgow banquet, in asking the company to pledge the toast of 'The Queen,' referred to Her Majesty as a descendant of the Provost of Glasgow—a remark that raised loud laughter from the assemblage, particularly the English members, who regarded it as a joke. But the chairman, it would seem, meant what he said, for he was reported as following up the statement by informing the company 'that admittedly Queen Victoria was a descendant of James I. of England and VI. of Scotland, and his grandfather, the Earl of Lennox, was Provost of Glasgow.' Strange to say, no one seems to have taken the slightest notice of these remarks, and only one evening paper mentioned the matter.

The writer, following up the above statement, has ascertained the following additional facts, which may be interesting: The Montgomeries of Eglesham had from an early period a dwelling-house in the Saltmarket. Alexander Lord Montgomerie, who died about four hundred and fifty years ago, had a daughter, Margaret, married to John Stewart, Earl of Lennox. Their son was Matthew, Earl of Lennox; his son, John, Earl of Lennox; his son, Matthew, Earl of Lennox; his son, Henry, Lord Darnley, husband of Queen Mary; their son, King James VI. of Scotland and I. of England; his daughter, Princess Elizabeth; her daughter, Princess Sophia; her son, George I., and onwards to our present Queen. It thus appears that Her Majesty's ancestors fourteen generations back lived in the Saltmarket of Glasgow.



The strike on the Cork, Bandon and South Coast Railway is now general. Attempts have been made to wreck trains on two sections of the line.

The Rev. J. P. Mahaffy says: 'Ireland used to be an island of saints; now it is an island of politicians, and where politicians are plenty, saints are scarce.'

The Queen, in accepting a gift from the Band of Hope Union, said she retained the active interest she had always felt in well-directed temperance work.

A remarkable personality in Irish Methodism at present is Mr. Robert Taylor, of Scarva, county Down, over a hundred and fifteen years of age. He has been postmaster of Scarva seventy years.

It is rumored that preparations are being made locally for establishing a branch of the Gaelic League at Mitchelstown. Few places are better situated for this purpose, being, as it is, under the Galtees—a stronghold of the Irish language.

The idea of introducing the Irish language into parliamentary election contests was tried in the St. Stephen's Green constituency. However, the situation of the parties was against the success of the experiment, and, moreover, Count Plunkett has been a consistent supporter of the Irish language movement for a long time, and stood in the ranks when the odds against its success were many times greater than they are now. The Gaelic Leaguers in most constituencies in Ireland will soon be powerful enough to insist on obtaining satisfactory declarations on this point from candidates for parliamentary honors.

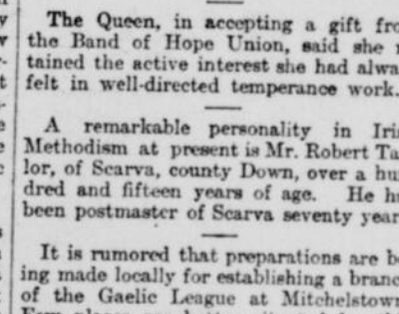


THE ANCIENT FORM OF HUSBANDRY.

THRESHING IN THE OPEN AIR IN BULGARIA.

There are many modes of threshing practised in the rural districts of Continental countries, but none is so quaintly primitive as the method which can be seen in any of the villages of Bulgaria. The view presented explains itself. On a hard earthen space is spread the grain, and over its surface is drawn a kind of primitive sleigh, to which is attached a yoke of oxen. On the sleigh are seated a mother and two children, whose weight helps to press out the grain, while the mother also guides the oxen round the threshing floor. The mother smiles as she works—the reader can see it for himself—and helps to prove the argument of the late Mr. William Morris, that certain forms of labor were at one time done under pleasanter circumstances than at present.—'St. James's Budget.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.



A vegetable remedy for diseases arising from Disordered Liver, Stomach or Bowels, such as Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Coated Tongue, Bad Breath, Feeling of Languor, Distress after Eating, etc.

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THE MOST NUTRITIOUS

EPPS'S

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

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READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

'A GRAUND COUNTRY.'

A travelling American made a visit to Greyfriars churchyard at Edinburgh. The sexton was a man of Aberdeenshire, and his heart was in the Highlands, plainly. The visitor had been at Greyfriars before, and said to the sexton, as the old man pocketed his fee: 'I have seen your Highlands since I was here last.' 'Oh!' said he, with inimitable Highland inflection, 'and had ye never bene there before?' 'No, I have never been in Scotland before. I live in America.' 'Oh! 'Tis a graund country that.' 'America? It is, indeed!' The old man looked up in utter surprise. 'Nay, nay,' he said, impatiently, 'the Hielands! A graund country!'—'Argonaut.'

AN INTELLIGENT POLLY.

The man with a sailor-like appearance murmured something about having got on the wrong street and tried to dodge when the lady ran down the steps and made for him.

'You ought to be ashamed of yourself!' she exclaimed as she took her stand squarely in front of him to prevent escape.

'You ain't the lady I sold the parrot to, are you?' he asked, throwing back his head and looking at her with one eye.

'Yes, I am.'

'An' how's the parrot treatin' you? Fine, I warrant.'

'You're a swindler.'

He dropped his head and shook it deprecatingly, still keeping one eye closed. 'You told me,' she went on with increasing indignation, 'that parrot was one of the most intelligent animals of its species and that it had a gift of language which you had never heard surpassed.'

'Did I tell you all them things?' he inquired.

MRS. SHERMAN'S SECRETARY.

A clever young woman, who is a member of the Washington staff of a New York newspaper, had occasion to call on Mrs. Sherman the other day on a matter of importance. Mrs. Sherman was not at home, the man servant who answered the bell, informed her.

'Well, hasn't she a secretary who can tell me about it?' said the newspaper representative.

'Certainly, madam,' answered the man. 'This way, please.'

And leading the way along the hall he threw open a door and ushered her into the presence of the secretary of state. The secretary laughed heartily when the quick-witted newspaper woman explained the situation, and acted as his wife's private secretary long enough to give precisely the information that was desired.—Washington 'Post.'

AFTER THE FIRE.

'I thought,' said the man who had been burned out, 'that you told me this was a fire-proof safe.'

'So it is,' replied the travelling salesman, 'if anybody doubts that you have had a fire, you can point to that safe and prove it immediately.'—Washington 'Star.'

JUST THE THING.

'Here's the poem,' said the foreman, 'with some fire in it.'

'All right,' exclaimed the editor, 'put it in the stove! Wood's three dollars a cord.'—Atlanta 'Constitution.'

A SPUR TO PRIDE.

'It does a man good to be rejected by a girl.'

'Why?'

'It makes him pitch in and marry a more attractive girl.'—Chicago 'Record.'

NOT WHOLLY UNSUCCESSFUL.

Brown—'The detectives have not made any arrest yet, have they?'

Smith—'Well, yes. They've arrested the attention of the public.'—New York 'Truth.'

A DOUBTFUL COMPLIMENT.

Author—'What do you think of my new book?'

Friend—'It certainly contains much food for thought.'

Author—'Do you really think so?'

Friend—'Yes, but it seems to have been wretchedly cooked.'—Chicago 'News.'

PATRIOTISM.

'Aw, you know, you may celebrate Christmas as best you know how,' said the supercilious Englishman, 'but you cawn't come up to the old English plum pudding, you know.' 'Sir,' said the patriotic American, with asperity, 'our home made, or still more, the bakery made, mince pies can produce as fine a line of nightmares as any English plum pudding ever boiled.'—Indianapolis 'Journal.'

CASTORIA.

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

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A SWINDLE.

Employer—'I see you have a glass eye, Pat.'

Pat—'Yes, yer 'anner; but it's a swindle, sir. I can see nothin' out of it.'

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

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

The Boys' Page.

Skimmin' the Dew; Or, an Irish Road to Beauty.

(Gerald Brenan, in the Chicago 'Inter-Ocean.')

I.

'Is it true what they do be sayin' about skimmin' the dew, Mrs. Geraghty ?'

Mrs. Geraghty took off her spectacles, laid down last week's Ballyragget 'Chronicle,' and folded her arms.

'Now, what in the world, Noreen Fleragh,' she exclaimed, 'has set your mind runnin' on such an old-fashioned pishogue as skimmin' the dew?'

Noreen cast down her eyes.

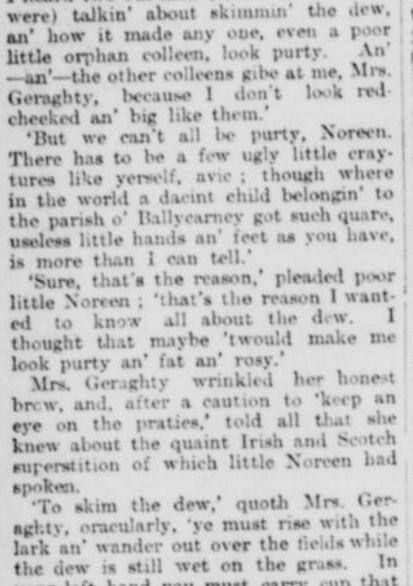
'Well, ye see, ma'am,' she faltered, 'comin' from the turkey fair yesterday, I heard two oul men (raal wise men they were) talkin' about skimmin' the dew, an' how it made any one, even a poor little orphan colleen, look purty. An' —an'—the other colleens gibe at me, Mrs. Geraghty, because I don't look red-cheeked an' big like them.'

'But we can't all be purty, Noreen. There has to be a few ugly little craytures like yerself, avic ; though where in the world a dacint child belongin' to the parish o' Ballycarney got such quare, useless little hands an' feet as you have, is more than I can tell.'

'Sure, that's the reason,' pleaded poor little Noreen ; 'that's the reason I wanted to know all about the dew. I thought that maybe 'twould make me look purty an' fat an' rosy.'

Mrs. Geraghty wrinkled her honest brow, and, after a caution to 'keep an eye on the praties,' told all that she knew about the quaint Irish and Scotch superstition of which little Noreen had spoken.

'To skim the dew,' quoth Mrs. Geraghty, oracularly, 'ye must rise with the lark an' wander out over the fields while the dew is still wet on the grass. In your left hand you must carry cup that none ever drank from ; and in your right spoon that never touched mortal lips. Up hill an' down dale must ye go till ye find a field of clover with a brook that never was bridged runnin' through it, an' a red-berried rowan tree growin' beside the brook. When ye see such a field, ye may go down on your knees an' gather with the spoon thirty drops of



NOREEN CAST DOWN HER EYES.

dew. Only the clover an' the grass must ye skim . Take no dew from any weed, nor from any flower but the clover bloom.

'When the thirty drops are shinin' at the bottom of the cup, dip your finger in and bathe your face with the magic dew. Then sit ye down under the rowan tree an' close your eyes. Sleep will come to ye, an' while ye sleep the dew will change your face an' make it fair to look upon. . . . At least, Noreen achorra, that's the spell that my ould gran'mother taught me, an' there wasn't a wiser woman than herself in the County Kilmore.'

II.

That afternoon Noreen carried to the village all her little hoard of halfpennies, and at the very best shop purchased a cheap delft cup and a pewter spoon—both brand new and unpacked from their several cases before her eyes. These were the articles mentioned by Mrs. Geraghty as necessary to the success of her spell—the 'cup that none ever drank from' and the 'spoon that never touched mortal lips.'

All night the child slept but fitfully, for thinking of the 'magic dew.' The spoon and cup were hidden beneath her pillow, and when she woke up, as she did many times ere morning, her hand would steal toward these precious treasures, to learn if they still were there.

Sunshine came blinking in through the little flawed window panes at last, and the song of the lark called Noreen from her bed. Up she got and made the fire very quietly, so as not to awaken the old folk in the loft overhead. Then she put the teakettle on the hob and filled the great black caldron with potatoes. A wash in the little cracked basin by the window, a careful combing of the thick black hair, and Noreen, in her tattered frock and Sunday best pinafore, trotted out of doors into the keen, odorous air of the mountain morning.

Carefully she carried the delft cup in her left hand—the pewter spoon in her right ; and very grave indeed were the great dark eyes as they scanned the far-stretching hillside, and the glens below for some such field as that described by good Mrs. Geraghty.

On she trotted, her feet now hidden in shimmering, dew-laden grass, now clambering over stone stiles or through friendly gaps in the tall thorn hedges. Streams and rivulets she passed a many; clover fields and rowan trees were common enough, but the precise combination of tree, clover and bridgeless stream she did not encounter.

Noreen was beginning to despair of ever finding just such a field, when a cheery whistle in the neighboring boreen revealed the presence of old Meehaul, the parish sheannachie or 'wise man.' Such information as she sought it was Meehaul's business to know ; and the child lost no time in accosting him through the hedge.

When Meehaul heard her question he grinned broadly. 'Why, 'tis the good people's field ye're lookin' for,' he cried. ''Tis the field where colleens go to skim the dew. . . . Well, well ! For ten year I've never heard tell of any one goin' to skim the dew. I wish ye good luck, alanna, though 'tis a big change 'twill take to make the likes o' you purty.'

'But the field ! Whereabouts is it ?' exclaimed Noreen.

'Oh, the field ! 'Tis down yonder at the back of Castle Carney, where the quare Yankee lady has rented the cottage from Sir Geoffrey. They say she keeps a private doctor of her own, an' is so tremenjous wealthy that she can afford a new disease for every day in the year.'

But Noreen stopped not to hear anything about the 'quare Yankee lady,' who had rented Ballycarney cottage. Hurriedly thanking old Meehaul, she sped across the hills in a southerly direction; and presently—so unexpectedly does the long expected occur—found herself halfway across the very field for which she had been looking all the morning.

There was the clover ; there bloomed the red-berried rowan, and, at Noreen's feet, prattled a stream so tiny that nobody would have ever troubled to bridge it over.

Down on her knees went the child in the midst of a fragrant bank of clover. Quickly the spoon scooped up a clinging drop of dew and shook it into the cup.

Another and another followed ; Noreen counted aloud as she did when numbering the goslings for Mrs. Geraghty. Only at the tenth drop did she pause for breath perforce, for all the gleaming dew had been skimmed from the clover within reach.

Further down the bank moved Noreen, and, a trifle more slowly, began anew the work of skimming. Weeds and flowers she passed by, although the dew hung upon their leaves and petals temptingly enough. Only the grass and clover were to be skimmed, and Noreen was determined not to spoil her spell by any heedless action.

'Twenty-five,' she counted—'twenty-six— twenty-seven— twenty-eight—twenty-nine,'—and then, with a great deliberateness, followed by a gasp of relief—'thirty !'

The skimming had been accomplished. The requisite number of drops were lying at the bottom of Noreen's delft cup. Eagerly she dipped a small forefinger in the gathered moisture, and slowly anointed her face. Forehead, lips, chin, nose, cheeks, and above all the eyes, those offending black eyes, were all bathed in the magic dew. Then the rippling waves of dusky hair, the tiny feet, and, last of all, the little brown hands were laved in the precious fluid.

Noreen, all smiles and dimples, hastened toward the rowan tree and sat herself down beneath its spreading branches. In obedience to the spell she closed her eyes, leaning her head against the gray bole of the ancient tree.

Whether the spell was really working, or Noreen's long morning journey brought it about, the child's head began a-nodding, and little by little slipped from the supporting trunk of the rowan, until it rested half-hidden in the long grass. There, soothed by the scent of the clover, Noreen fell fast asleep.

III.

A loose bunch of red berries, detached by the breeze, fell upon her outstretched arm, but did not wake her. A hare scuttled by without arousing the spell-bound slumberer. She did not hear the rook regiment from Castle-Carney woods go cawing overhead, nor the same rooks returning with clangorous rejoicing, from their breakfast amid the fallows. The blackbird in the rowan wasted his choicest notes upon her; and even the sound of approaching human voices failed to break her sleep.

'Dear me !' murmured the doctor sympathetically. 'Dear me !' he repeated much more forcibly a moment later, for his companion had gripped him tightly by the arm and was pointing, half in astonishment, half in triumph, to the prostrate form of little Noreen Fleragh, lying face upward under the rowan tree.

'It is my model, doctor ! My Spanish beauty of yesterday ! . . . Now I can finish my picture in spite of ill-health and exile to the mountains.'

Perhaps the spell passed away from Noreen; perhaps she felt, as sleeping persons are said to do, the intense scrutiny of eyes fixed upon her. At any rate she stirred slightly, opened her eyes and sat up.

'What a lovely child,' exclaimed the enthusiastic artist. 'Did you ever see such beautiful eyes ?'

Noreen had expected it all. Clearly the magic dew had transformed her just as she hoped it would. So she smiled



SHE SMILED GRAVELY BACK.

gravely back at the pale-faced lady, and promptly gave credit where credit seemed due.

'Sure, 'twas the dew that did it,' she said. 'You should ha' seen what an ugly little crayture Noreen was afore she skimmed the dew.'

The strangest part of the whole affair was that, when Noreen had been taken to the stranger lady's home and arrayed in a new gown, with her dark hair neatly braided and wonderful little red shoes upon her feet, the whole parish of Ballycarney cried out in astonished chorus :—'Thanaman dhia ! 'Tis the raal purty colleen our Noreen is entirely.'

But Noreen only looks out across the fields toward where the rowan tree shook its red berries into the clover, and the bridgeless brook went lilting by.

'It was skimmin' the dew that did it all,' she whispered; and no one has the heart to say her nay.

Story of a Band.

(Belle Moses, in Chicago 'Inter-Ocean.')

Gladys sat with her elbows on her desk, her chin supported by both hands, but she said nothing; she only listened while the other girls stormed.

'Where's the note, Gladys?' asked Ruth Burton; 'I can tell Frank's writing anywhere.'

'I don't think you could possibly tell this,' said Gladys, as she handed Ruth the big square envelope.

'Him—no, I guess not; typewritten inside and out. Listen, girls:

'"Dear Madame,—We are sorry that your application for membership in the Excelsior band has been set aside. We do not care to extend our list, and, furthermore, we have no ladies among us. Regretting that we cannot avail ourselves of your undoubted talent, we are very truly, etc., etc."'

'Outrageous !' cried Jessie Snow; 'I'd give them hail Columbia if I were you; but you're not meek, I'm glad to say.

'Not very,' said Gladys, modestly; 'here is my answer:

'"Members of the Excelsior Band,—Dear Sirs: I am sorry that you have refused my application but trust that some day you will reconsider the matter. Very truly,

"GLADYS VERNON."'

'I wouldn't go into their old band for pay,' said little Olive Ferguson, indignantly.

'I won't unless they beg me,' returned Gladys calmly.

Gladys was a born fiddler; at fifteen she handled her bow with such grace and skill that her family and friends considered her a budding genius. Even at the boarding-school they were proud of her gift, and it was no uncommon sight for this small, childish-looking girl, with the golden curls and blue eyes, to send a hush over everything as her violin sang to her rapt audience.

Several music-loving fellows in the boys' school near by clubbed together and organized the Excelsior band. They all chose wind instruments; Frank Burton led off with the cornet; there were two flutes, a flageolet, a clarinet, trombone, and, at their first impromptu concert, the young musicians played the simple selections remarkably well.

II.

Gladys's note was read at the next meeting, commented upon rather derisively by some of the Excelsiors, and laid regretfully away by Frank Burton.

'It's a pity !' he remarked, 'she would have made a valuable addition.'

'It's the principle of the thing,' said Charlie Grant; 'we must take those girls down a peg or two.'

'Reconsider !' sneered Jack Evans, one of the flute players, 'that will be "never and a day," I guess.'

The band met and practiced constantly, but their public appearance was deferred until midwinter, after a distressing accident, when money was being raised to relieve the situation. The 'Excelsiors' came forward handsomely, and Mrs. Wallace offered her assembly room for rehearsals after school hours, when the girls and teachers could be present or not, as they felt inclined.

It would have been an act of courtesy had the boys invited Gladys to assist at this special performance, but they didn't, much to the indignation of the girls, though Gladys still preserved an ominous and deadly silence.

The first rehearsal took place on Friday afternoon; the girls rushed from their desks to make a few simple changes of toilet, as girls are prone to do whenever they can. Then they trooped to the assembly-room, taking with them characteristic diversions to while away the afternoon. Some brought their fancy work, but the general inclination was toward refreshment; candy, crackers, cakes, apples, bananas, oranges, and all sorts of things.

The musicians were ready when Gladys came into the room; she carried a salt cellar in one hand, and a small paper bag in the other, and slipped into a seat, a little to one side of the raised platform. At the signal to begin they led off in fine style, with a selection from 'Carmen.'

Gladys listened attentively, her quick ear on the alert, her serious eyes fixed upon the players; then she slowly and contemplatively opened her little bag, and drew out a lemon ! It was large and luscious looking; she bit off the top, and began sucking it contentedly, dipping it in the salt now and then, as an extra relish; she kept her gaze still upon the platform. The music was not so smooth, there was a hitch somewhere, becoming at last so painfully apparent that the music master suggested a halt, and a fresh start.

This was humiliating. They were thoroughly familiar with the music, and there was no reason why they should fail. They plucked up courage, and began again, but they could not help a sheepish glance toward Gladys, to see how she was behaving under the trying circumstances. She was absorbed in her lemon, but that one glance 'finished' the Excelsior band.

They understood the cause of the break. It was the lemon, which made their mouths water and held the glands of their throats in stringent grip. A sudden tension of the muscles is death to the playing of wind instruments, and the sight of a lemon has been known to accomplish this in the twinkling of an eye.

The Excelsior band grew pale to a man. They made several unsuccessful attempts to pull themselves together, but finally 'Carmen' was laid despairingly aside. Instead of the applause they had anticipated they were greeted with polite but chilling silence, and were furious in consequence. As for Gladys—she looked very sorry and sympathetic, and she sucked her lemon sadly, shaking her curls, as number after number fell flat.

Poor fellows ! They began bravely enough, keeping their eyes upon vacancy, their lips firmly on their instruments, but the detestable lemon always loomed in sight at the critical moment, and they were helpless. They struggled through somehow and went away quite ashamed.

III.

The band met that night in secret conclave, but could find no remedy for the situation.

'We can't complain,' said Frank Burton. 'We shouldn't like the thing to get public, and have mischievous fellows continually trying that prank on us. Besides, it may just be an accident.'

'But if she means it—and she's smart enough for anything !' persisted Jack Evans, who was sore from his experience that afternoon, having murdered the 'Cavalleria Rusticana' with great slaughter.

'Well,' said Frank, 'we can't tell on a girl. If it was one of our fellows, we could puck him and bind him to silence. I move that we take no notice until we are quite sure she means mischief'—a resolution which they adopted with a groan.

They marched bravely to their next rehearsal. The atmosphere was not quite as friendly, but they tried not to notice any falling off in interest. Gladys was not to be seen. Perhaps she was not coming. Ah ! vain hope! There she was, marching down the aisle to a vacant front seat. As before, she carried a salt cellar and a brown paper bag. How innocent she looked as she laid her things on the desk, folded her hands, and gazed expectently at the band !

Consternation took hold of them; they clustered together for one moment of desperate consultation; then they faced about, manfully grasped their instruments as if they were so many explosives and fell to work.

Strange to relate 'Carmen' glided smoothly to the finish; the applause was generous, and the flushed musicians bowed, smiling down defiantly at Gladys, which was unfortunate, as she was inclined to mercy, if, indeed, she had any intention in the matter. During the first number she had not opened her little bag; now, however, she seemed suddenly to remember that refreshment was necessary, and brought forth her lemon.

The boys' eyes were riveted upon that terrible object; it fascinated them, and when it was time for the second number they were panic-stricken. They tried to signal Gladys without attracting attention, but she was sucking her lemon with that far-away, soulful expression which they had learned to dread.

At last Frank Burton stepped forward from among his mates : 'I am very sorry,' he began, 'We—we don't feel quite sure of ourselves this afternoon; I think—we'd better practice a little more; we—we are afraid to give you our next number—it may not be so good.' He spoke jerkily, and his forced smile looked almost ghastly.

'Nonsense, Frank !' said the music-master; 'it is your solo; don't go to pieces; you won't be able, at this rate, to face a large audience. Try the "Fantaisie"; you played it well last night.'

But Frank shook his head. 'I can't, sir, really, and the other fellows would rather wait, too.'

Gladys brought her eyes back to earth and took the lemon from her lips for one brief moment.

'Oh, please,' she said, persuasively ; 'I'm enjoying it so much.'

Of course she was, the little witch; that was the last straw; Frank held his ground, the other boys were equally firm, and so the second rehearsal could scarcely be called an improvement on the first.

IV.

'See here, fellows,' said Frank that night, 'I'm the last man to cringe to a girl, but we have our reputation to consider; we must meet the enemy half way, that's all.'

After a stormy debate the Excelsiors decided to hold forth a flag of truce. They sent the following note, which Gladys received the next morning:

'Miss Gladys Vernon—Dear Madam : The Excelsior band beg your assistance at their approaching concert. Knowing how prompt you are to respond to any call of charity, they hope you will show your usual charity on this occasion.'

This was signed by each member, and Gladys read it to the girls.

'What answer will you give ?' asked Jessie Snow.

Gladys shook her long curls all over her face, to hide her dancing eyes. 'I shall refuse,' she said.

Some of her comrades nodded approvingly, but others preferred a middle course.

'Don't say "No," out and out,' urged Jessie Snow. 'I wouldn't stir them up; boys are so queer, you don't know what they'll do next.'

'No, that's it; if I was certain—well—it wouldn't make much difference, for my mind's made up. Listen to my note:

'Members of the Excelsior Band—Dear Sirs: I am sorry to refuse your kind invitation, but, not being a member of your band, I feel that it would be unfair to take part in the concert. With many regrets, sincerely

'GLADYS VERNON.'

This was sent in spite of protests, for the girls wanted their violinist to the front at any cost. But Gladys had the fibre of true genius; she could bide her time. She knew the Excelsiors had none to waste; that they would never have written unless in dire straits; she knew what had put them there. She knew what would release them, and so —she waited.

Several days passed without a sign At length Frank Burton called on Mrs. Wallace, and Gladys was summoned to the parlor.

'My dear,' said her teacher, as she came in, 'Frank is here as a representative of the band.'

Gladys looked at him enquiringly; he grew confused, but he managed to speak straight to the point.

'We present our compliments, and ask you to become one of us. We need a violin to help us in our efforts, and we herewith beg you to sign this form of enrollment.'

Gladys took the paper and read it carefully, while Frank watched for the faintest gleam of triumph on the childish face. But there was none; facts were facts to that matter-of-fact young person.

'Yes, I should like to join,' she said, quietly. 'Where shall I sign ?'

This was balm to his boyish soul; in the fullness of his joy he gallantly offered his fountain pen to seal the compact.

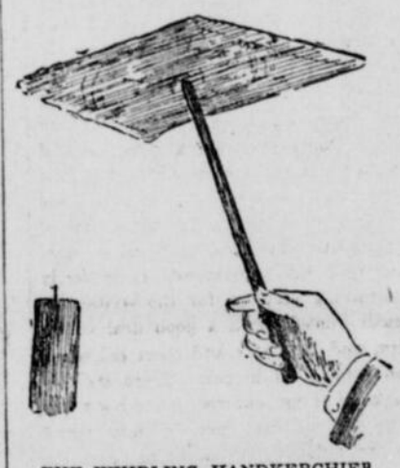
There is no need to say that the third rehearsal was an overwhelming success, and that the Excelsiors secured a good round sum at the forthcoming concert. The slim, dreamy-looking girl, in her white gown, looked like a flower in the midst of those sturdy lads, and the tender melody that breathed from her violin gave them the tone and color that they needed.

Whether this was due to the new order of things, who can say ? With Gladys the Excelsiors became famous in their way; without her—but why guess at improbabilities ?

TRICKS FOR AMATEUR JUGGLERS.

The spinning handkerchief is a great favorite with the jugglers. A handkerchief is borrowed, thrown into the air and caught on the end of a whirling stick held by the juggler, when the handkerchief spreads out to its full size and commences to rapidly spin around. The secret, says W. B. Caulk, in the current number of the 'Scientific American,' is that in the end of the stick a needle is inserted about one-quarter of an inch, leaving the sharp end out. When the handkerchief is caught on the end of the whirling stick the needle point passes through it, thus preventing it falling off the stick, which is rapidly whirled around, and the handkerchief will spread out and spin on the end of the stick.

Jugglers are very partial to tricks performed with eggs, and spinning an egg on its smaller end is a trick they are almost sure to perform. It is impossible



THE WHIRLING HANDKERCHIEF TRICK.

Easy enough when you know how.

to spin a raw egg, so our juggler uses a hard boiled one, and spins it on its small end on a shallow japanned tray. If the tray is kept gently moving in a small circle in the opposite direction to that in which the egg is spinning the latter will continue to spin as long as desired.—N. Y. 'Herald.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A Common Cold

and common carelessness can make a combination strong enough to defy all the healing skill of the physician. Common carelessness lets the cold root and grow. Common carelessness says, between paroxysms of coughing, "It will be all right in a day or two," and the common end is confirmed lung trouble, perhaps consumption. The common-sense treatment of a common cold is a prompt dose of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It is the most efficient and reliable cure for colds and coughs, and is constantly prescribed by physicians.

S. HAYNES, M. D., Saranac, N. Y., says :—

"I have used Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in my practice since 1853, and have always found it reliable for the cure of colds, coughs, and all lung diseases."

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Free advice on any disease from our eminent physician. Address, Medical Department, J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Wyckoff's new book, 'The Workers, an Experiment in Reality,' is an attempt to show, ungarnished by the least touch of imaginative painting, how the tramp and day laborer procure their living. To collect the material for the book the author dressed as a day laborer and took to the road without a cent, asking at one house after another for enough work to earn his dinner or lodging, as the case might be, with the explanation that he was on his way to West Point, where, he understood, work could be procured. On arriving at West Point he got work as an unskilled laborer at loading carts with the débris from a ruined building. This he stayed at for only a week, when he gave his 'boss' notice, and again took to the road with a balance of only ten cents. So, alternately laboring and tramping, he was employed at different times as a hotel porter, day laborer in an asylum, farm hand and in a lumbering camp. Curiously enough, the greatest drawback to Mr. Wyckoff's book is the lack of imagination, the very thing on which he bases his claim to realism. It is certainly real, but the realism does not carry to the reader an objective view of the whole situation as an imaginative work would. He went into another world, and, coming back, tells us his experience there—tells us how he felt, how his hands got cut by handling the heavy stones, how offended he was when tipped, how he learned to clean windows and scrub floors, how he tried to alleviate the drudgery of his heavy work by imagining himself going through his round of duties and pleasures at home. This, of course, is all that can ever be done by a book which only states facts out of one man's experience. But how much this lacks of the beautiful realism of Rudyard Kipling's chapters in 'Captain Courageous,' in which he gives us the whole life of the seamen on the fishing banks, treating them from the artist's large point of view. Our author did a great deal of hard work in his earnest effort, but it is a pity that it should not have been done by a man who could make better use of it. Taking the book as it is, a mere history of his experiment, it is fairly entertaining reading, for the writer expresses himself with a good deal of facility, and it is here and there enlivened with a touch of humor. There are few new or striking features in the book, for he is not the first man to have found out the difficulty of scrubbing, cleaning windows and lifting heavy stones. One thing which one notices with some surprise is the ease with which he found work whenever he wanted it, either of a permanent or temporary character. Another is the sharp class distinctions which he found to exist. Though there are very few, there are two or three pieces in which the feeling of his colaborers are given. Here is a most suggestive one. The following conversation with Sam, the stable boy, is of peculiar interest :—

I had asked Sam to go to church with me. Sam had been watering the horses, and now had an empty bucket in each hand and some tobacco in his mouth. He stood still for a moment, regarding me intently, and shifting the tobacco from one cheek to the other. Then he asked me with much directness if I took him for a 'dude.' I said that I should then go alone. 'That way?' asked Sam, with an eye to my gear. 'It is the best that I can do,' I explained. 'Then go, and be fired for a bum,' he replied, as he moved on toward the pump.

Shortly after, and in instructive contrast to this, comes an expression of the views of one of the men who worked on the débris heap at West Point with him with regard to the theatre.

Jerry broke in abruptly here with sudden unmeasured condemnation of the dulness of evenings in a country town in the absence of the theatre. The drama had fired his imagination for the moment, for he broke through his wonted reserve and waxed fluent as he expressed his views: 'When I go to the theatre, I go to laugh. I want to see pretty girls and lots of them, and I want to see them dance. I want songs as I can understand the words of, and lots of jokes, and horse play. You don't get me to the theaytre to see no show got up by Shakespeare nor any of them fellows as lived two thousand years ago. What did they know about us fellows as is living now?

Another interesting scrap of the real views of the laborers with regard to their surroundings is as follows :

'I reproached myself with fastidiousness at first, and imagined that to the other servants, who shared it, the fare was entirely palatable; and so I was surprised when, at a dinner early in my stay, one of the negro laundresses seized a plate heaped with scraps of meat, from which we had all been helping ourselves, and carried it out with the indignant remark that it was fit only for the dogs, adding, sententiously, as she disappeared through the door: 'We are not dogs yet; we are supposed to be human.' And back to her afternoon's work she went, although she had eaten only a morsel.'

* * * *

After reading the two abstracts from 'The Workers,' in which Mr. Wyckoff epitomises his experience as to the way in which the day laborer views the Church and stage, it is interesting to notice that an ecclesiastical drama, 'The Conversion of England,' by the Rev. Henry Cresswell, was performed by clergymen and laity in the Great Hall of the Church House, Westminster, the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church in England. The clergymen were the original actors of England, and it is from their old mystery plays that our modern drama is developed, through the intervening miracle plays which were at one time almost the sole method of religious instruction. In these days, when every branch of education is being so radically changed by the introduction of the visual method, when in the kindergarten clay is given to the little ones to mould into forms, and sand to make maps of, while almost no course of college lectures is complete without its limelight views, this re-introduction of the stage as a religious teacher may prove of more than momentary interest. The play consists of ten scenes. In the first is presented the English slaves in the Roman market-place, of whom Pope Gregory said, 'Non Angli sed Angeli'—'not English, but angels.' Then comes a scene in old Druid life. After this the scenes depict the progression of the mission of Saint Augustine, his despatch, his detention at Lerins and Anjou, his meeting with King Ethelbert, the king's baptism, the consecration of Saint Augustine to the work, and finally the consent of the British bishops to coöperate in the conversion of England. A hymn was sung by the choir, which gave it a religious significance. Of the manner in which the play was performed the 'Saturday Review' has this to say :



THE MISSION OF ST. AUGUSTINE: THE MISSIONARIES RECEIVING THE POPE'S BLESSING BEFORE STARTING FOR BRITAIN.

A CHURCH PLAY IN THE CHURCH HOUSE—'THE CONVERSION OF ENGLAND.'

'The Conversion of England' on their play-bills means something more than the title of an entertainment; and that something is not the conversion of England's follies and vices into box office returns. At the Westminster performance last Saturday the actors spoke as men speak in the presence of greater matters than their own personal success. You may go to the theatre for months without hearing that particular dramatic effect. The men who will make it will finally play the men who cannot make it off the stage, in spite of the hankering of the public after the vulgarities which keep its own worse qualities in countenance. I should add, by the way, that the applause which our actors declare they cannot do without was excommunicated in the church house, and that the effect of the performance was highly beneficial.'

* * * *

From the ideal stage as sought to be illustrated by the entourage of Cardinal Vaughan to the real, is a terrible step. The world has just been startled by the damning testimony concerning the stage as it is to-day, which has been voluntarily offered by some of those best able to give it. Asked whether the theatre made for good, Mr. Clement Scott, dramatic critic for the 'Daily Telegraph,' and in that occupation for thirty-seven years, said he 'was the worse for his thirty-seven years of play-going; that actresses are not, as a rule, ladies, nor pure, and that their prospects frequently depend on the nature and extent of their compliances; that the theatrical profession induces the vain and egotistical that is in all of us to a degree that would scarcely be credited by the outsider; that whilst the pit and gallery retain the old faith, the men who write and criticise are free-thinkers.'

Mr. G. B. Shaw, dramatic critic for the 'Saturday Review,' and a man of marked ability, discussing Mr. Scott's interview, says that to deny it is to deny what everybody knows to be perfectly true. And adds : 'He might, I repeat, have said a great deal more on the some side, and yet been well within the mark. He might, for example, have said that no member of the theatrical profession ever dreams of believing any statement made by any other member of it.'

These very frank expressions naturally evoked a good deal of talk both on the part of those who would fain have denounced them as untrue but could not, and of those who have been opposing the theatre as a demoralizing influence. To all such Mr. Shaw replied in an article in the next 'Saturday Review,' admitting the immorality of the stage in still more sweeping terms and boldly defending it all as in harmony with natural human morality.' Dealing with a critic who had mentioned the names of six of the most respected living actresses, he says that a profession that can boast such names should surely disdain to defend itself against Mr. Scott's charges, and adds :

As to that I beg to point out remorselessly that at least three of the six are artists whose characters on the point at issue notoriously stand or fall with that of Parnell, and that these very three are the most admired, the most respected, the most unshamed and unashamed, the most publicly and privately honored members of the profession.

The leaders of the stage themselves have met the discussion, according to Mr. Shaw, with shrieks of splendid silence. To do otherwise after admitting in the Ibsen controversy the rightness of what Mr. Shaw is pleased to term Mr. Stead's mechanical character tests, would, he says, have been flagrant and cowardly hypocrisy.

* * * *

The six best selling books of the month, according to 'The Bookman,' have been (1) 'Quo Vadis,' by Lienkiewicz ; (2) 'Hugh Wynne,' by Mitchell ; (3) 'The Choir Invisible,' by Allen ; (4) 'The Christian,' by Caine ; (5) 'Captains Courageous,' by Kipling ; (6) 'In Kedar's Tents,' by Merriman.

* * * *

The 'Bookman' says :—

The censorious critics of the Kailyard in fiction will hail with delight what seems in two notable instances to be a return to the historic romance of the Stevensonian type. First on the field was Mr. William McLennan with Spanish John, which began as a serial in the October number of 'Harper's.' The author's intimacy with the Scottish Highlands shows him no stranger to the heather, the loch, and the Ben, as his selection of themes denotes his knowledge of the salient features in Scottish romance. The second newcomer is Mr. Neil Munro, whose John Splendid will appear throughout the year in 'Blackwood's Magazine' in England, and in 'The Bookman' in this country.

The extravagant praise of Neil Munro's 'John Splendid,' which follows, is to be discounted by the fact that the tale is appearing in 'The Bookman.' This periodical, which often leads the would-be literary, is both in London and New York more than suspected by the initiated of using its critical reputation in the interest of its publishers.

LITERARY REVIEW.

THE IROQUOIS NATION.

In 'The People of the Longhouse,' a handsome book published by the Church of England Publishing Company, Toronto, Major Edward Marion Chadwick tells of the customs, tokens, and some past and present chiefs of the Iroquois, who possess, the author says, 'a reliable history of respectable antiquity and of great interest, the main incidents of which have fortunately been preserved.' Of their wars in earlier times he says:

Although the Iroquois, in the days of their greatness, had acquired a settled abode and subsisted to some extent by agriculture, and sought to establish and maintain peace, war may be said to have been at all times prior to their settlement in Canada their normal condition. If the confederacy were not engaged in war, some of the nations or parties great or small, were constantly engaged in some hostility or war-like enterprise. Any person desiring to lead a war party, after consulting a few, invited all the young men of the town to a feast of dog's flesh, when each one who partook of it was thereupon enrolled for the expedition. A war party, when formed and about to proceed, put on all their best clothes, and then set out, marching in Indian file, in silence. Such a party passing a British fort was accorded the honor of the garrison being turned out to present arms, the drums playing a march, which the Indians each one by one acknowledged by firing his musket into the ground before the officer commanding. They proceed thus to a distance of three or four miles and halted, when the women having followed with the men's old clothes, they put these on, doffing all the finery, with which the women returned. At the place of this halt they cut a blaze on a large tree and recorded on it in picture writing with red paint the particulars of the expedition. On their return . . . . they recorded the result of the expedition on the blazed tree, the number of prisoners killed, denoted by scalps painted black, the number of prisoners denoted by a pot-hook-like figure representing the withes with which a prisoner was bound, and other particulars, and canoes pointed homewards.

In a careful discourse on the Iroquois character Major Chadwick maintains that it would be advisable to treat our Iroquois Indians more as friends and less as children; he finds them honorable and proud, their self-respect should be encouraged. He thinks, too, that there should be no ignominy attached to their recalling a romantic past by carrying out national customs of an innocent sort and wearing their ancient costume. The details of the Indian dress are described at length. The head-dress is mentioned as decorated in several different ways:

A chief now living on the reserve wears a cap furnished with a silver fillet from which rise two crane's wings set back to back and turning backwards, covering the cap, but displaying the Iroquois single feather slanting downwards at the back. This single feather, which Morgan who describes it as slanting back but upwards, says is typical or distinctive of the Iroquois, and for which an eagle feather is preferred, should be set in a little silver tube on the top of the arched splint, and loosely, so that it may revolve freely. Anciently chiefs wore horns in the headdress as the insignia of their rank or office.

(W. Drysdale & Co., $2.00.)

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS.

Apropos of Mr. R. P. Wilder's visit to Montreal, we notice a book by one of his colleagues in the Student Volunteer awakening. 'Strategic Points in the World's Conquest,' by John R. Mott, describes the religious conditions of student life observed by the author in a tour around the world. Perhaps the most interesting section is that on India, in which Mr. Mott says:

Not a few are disposed to look upon educational mission work as less important than directly eveangelistic work. We had shared this feeling. A careful study of the question in four or five mission countries, however, has led us to attach the greatest possible importance to educational missions. No country has done more to deepen this conviction than India. Educational missions have opened a larger number of doors for the preaching of the gospel than any other agency. They have furnished the most distinguished and influential converts, and have done more than all else combined to undermine heathen superstitions and false systems of belief.

This accords with the judgment of the majority of those who have sought to spread the gospel in India. Even the pioneer missionary, William Carey, after nineteen years' experience, commended educational and other indirect methods of work as 'labors that may operate indeed more slowly on the population, but more effectually in the end.' The reason generally urged is that the whole system of knowledge and life in India is so interwoven with idolatry and caste, that unless other views are introduced the whole mental atmosphere presents a continuous obstacle to the progress of the gospel. It is true that in recent years much has been done by the government to introduce western secular learning, but this is only another argument from Mr. Mott's point of view for educational missions:

They are to-day the chief, if not the only force to counteract the influence of the secular character and tendency of the government institutions of learning. . . . . More and more India will be governed and its thought-life moulded by the student class. The burning question is, Shall this leadership be heathen, agnostic or Christian?

Mr. Mott also says, referring to the general loosening of the bands of heathenism:

Whatever we do for India must be done quickly. Wherever we went in our thousands of miles travel up and down the presidencies, agencies, and native states which make up the Indian Empire, we were conscious of great tension. The break is inevitable, provided the present force of missionaries is maintained and increased.

Another general statement in this book which may be new to many readers concerns Australia and New Zealand: 'The Australasian colonies have an Anglo-Saxon population larger than that of Canada. Their material resources are fully as great. Their people are characterized by the same energy and progressive spirit.' But they are far behind in religious interest, and the endeavor to establish voluntary bible classes, etc., in the colleges was something new. Yet a student convention was held, with delegates from thirty-four institutions of learning, and fifty students offered themselves for foreign mission work, while the societies formed or awakened to fresh life will send forth an increasing number of young workers into 'the troubled heart of the Australasian cities.' Similar work was started or aided in other countries, both heathen and nominally Christian, and the 'World's Student Christian Federation' has become an active force.

RELIGIOUS.

'The Weaving of Character, and Other Sermons and Addresses,' by the Rev. G. M. Meacham, pastor of Union Church, Yokohama, is published by the Yokohama Bunsha, in Yokohama, Japan. The sermons are selected from those composed during a ministry of twenty years and dedicated to the people of the Union Church (over whom Mr. Meacham has been pastor for ten years) 'and to many valued friends of former years in Canada.' There is little in these sermons to indicate that any of them were written amid Asiatic surroundings, though we find the following in a very able essay on 'God's Ancient People,' referring to the persecution the Jew meets with at the hands of Gentiles still:

The critic says he is found 'inserting' himself into this or that nationality for purposes of gain. We wonder if this is true of no other nation! For what purposes do merchants of England, America, France, Germany and Italy come to Japan?

Ernest, orthodox, eloquent and practical sermons are these, and more readable than most. We quote a few sentences from that on 'Esau Selling his Birthright.'

From that day Esau shrank and shrivelled in the volume and amplitude of his being, albeit he became a rich and mighty Arab chief in his stronghold on Mount Seir, till at last deteriorated and degraded he lay down in darkness to sleep the sleep of death. Alas, the day which began with so bright and sunny a morning ended in a night of gloom and disappointment! His unsteadiness and want of faith and lack of principle vitiated and ruined those splendid qualities of vivacity and brilliance and good nature which had early distinguished him. . . . . 'Esau despised his birthright.' How have we treated ours? You ask, What inheritance? An inheritance of the Bible, of the Sabbath, of the Gospel.

'Sabre Thrusts at Free-thought,' by the Rev. W. W. Walker (Wm. Briggs, Toronto,) is a small book which many may find useful in strengthening their own faith or answering the cavils of others. Some of the objections met are of the kind that betray ignorance in the objector and yet are hard to answer on the spur of the moment, such as the statement that Solomon acted foolishly though scripture declares his prayer for wisdom to have been answered. Mr. Walker refers to Solomon's prayer as asking not for general wisdom but for the special wisdom required to judge the causes that came up before him as chief magistrate:

It is quite evident from the reading of this verse that the king is thinking of his position as judge alone, and fearing he should not be able to render just judgment, he asks God for discernment and discretion along this particular line. Evidence of this is in the eleventh verse, the wording of which proves that God interpreted the petition of his servant in this way: . . . 'that thou mayest judge my people.'

'Was Moses Mistaken?' by H. L. Hastings, is No. 36 of the Anti-Infidel Library and may be had from 47 Cornhill, Boston, for 15 cents. It is in a brighter style than some of Mr. Hastings's other publications and is well brought out as a handsome illustrated pamphlet.

MISCELLANEOUS.

'The National Home Reading Union Magazine' is the organ of an English union for the study of solid books, somewhat corresponding to the system of Chautauqua Reading Circles, with which our neighbors in the United States have made us familiar. It seems to have this advantage over the Chautauqua system that its object distinctly is the reading of great books. The tendency in such an organization to ignore the wealth of existing literature and supply cram books written to order cannot be too much deplored. It is a far greater thing for the student to make acquaintance with the great writers of our language than to have his head stuffed with crude facts. The 'National Home-Reading Union' goes into social science and the history of the Chartist movement in a manner to delight the British workingman. Branches have been formed in many parts of the English-speaking world, and it seems to be the wish of the promoters to gain fellow-students of great books among their Canadian cousins. The president is Princess Louise, and the secretary, Miss Mondy, may be addressed at the office of the N. H. R. U. Surrey House, Victoria Embankment, London.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

STRENGTH CAME BACK.

The Anvil once more rings with the strokes of his hammer.

Mr. Thos. Porteous, the well known blacksmith of Goderich, Ont., tells how sickness and weakness gave way to health and strength. "For the past four years my



nerves have been very weak, my sleep fitful and disturbed by dreams, consequently I arose in the morning unrested. I was frequently very dizzy and was much troubled with a mist that came before my eyes, my memory was often defective and I had fluttering of the heart, together with a sharp pain through it at times. In this condition I was easily worried and felt enervated and exhausted. Two months ago I began taking Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills since that time I have been gaining in health and strength daily. They have restored my nerves to a healthy condition, removed all dizziness and heart trouble, and now I sleep well and derive comfort and rest from it. That Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are a good remedy for Nervousness, Weakness, Heart Trouble and similar complaints goes without saying." Price 50 cts. a box at all druggists or T. Milburn & Co., Toronto, Ont.

Laxa-Liver Pills cure Dyspepsia.

CONSUMPTION.

I will send FREE and prepaid to any Sufferer a sample bottle of the Best and Surest Remedy in the whole World for the cure of all Lung and Throat Diseases. Write to-day and be made sound and strong. Address Prof. T. A. Slocum, 183 Pearl St. New York

HOME DEPARTMENT

SUNDAY WITH THE CHILDREN.

Literature for the Klondike.

A MODEL TENEMENT.

BLOCK DESIGNED BY WOMEN BEING BUILT IN NEW YORK—THE PLODDER'S PETITION—ARTISTIC HAIR DRESSING.

SUNDAY AND THE CHILDREN.

As was to be expected the essays on different ways of spending Sunday in the family circle have elicited a lively correspondence. Very few even of strict Sabbath keeping families have exactly the same list of things to be permitted and things to be forbidden on Sunday, and in such essays a certain freedom of opinion had to be permitted. The essays were submitted to a literary gentleman who presumably awarded the prizes rather on account of the whole tone of the essays and their literary merit than because each suggestion was a safe precedent for all to follow. It is, therefore, important that our correspondents should point out the suggestions which they consider dangerous, with their reasons. In such a discussion, however, it is necessary to remember the old proverb that circumstances alter cases—city and suburb, village and farm present different problems, while the ages of the children, and their surroundings have also to be taken into consideration. Many, for instance, would not object to allow very small children to play in the snow on Sunday who would think it quite wrong to permit older ones to do the same. Many children have quite enough exercise in their walk to church and Sunday-school. In other cases, however, it is necessary for parents to devise something to occupy the nervous activity of the young people. If no occupation is devised the children may fall into mischief or if watched and restrained, but left with nothing to do, may learn to hate the day of rest. In this discussion, too, it should be remembered that there is much in a name and in our conventional ideas. A 'tramp on the mountain' has quite a different sound from 'a quiet walk in the fields' and yet the expressions may represent the same idea. A respected correspondent writes that she was brought up in the country and was permitted to take a quiet walk in the fields on Sunday or to take her book and sit under the trees, not realising that there is no very essential difference between this and the practice she condemns of a father who lives on the mountain side taking his children for a quiet walk on the hill even if the depth of snow requires them to put on snowshoes. We are, however, responsible for our example, and have often to deny ourselves what we consider harmless indulgences because our example might be quoted in favor of injurious practices. There are many things to-day which tend to make Sunday a holiday rather than a holy day and religious people have to be careful that their example is not quoted in favor of parties for riding, bicycling, boating or snowshoeing on Sunday or other methods of Sabbath breaking. Further, it is of great importance that parents in trying to make Sunday happy for the children should not break down the barriers which separate it from the other days of the week. It is all too easy to permit one encroachment after another in reading, conversation, occupation and the entertainment of friends until the day has little value either in a religious or in a hygienic point of view. Instead of being sacredly set apart from secular uses it is almost lost in the rush of every day life. This discussion should rouse the attention of parents to this very important matter.



P. A. AS SHE IS. P. A. AS SHE MAY BE.

TO A SNOWBIRD.

(By Frances E. Willard.)

Dear little bird with bright black eye,
If you but knew my eyes were kind,
How swift the pretty ferm would fly
Our shining porch-berries to find.

Dear little bird with fluttering heart,
If you but felt my heart was true,
That fairy figure soon would dart,
To sheltering hand held out for you.

Dear little bird with glancing wing,
Did you but know I long to fly,
Perhaps you'd sit quite near and sing
To me in my captivity.

Dear human heart, be not afraid,
Thy need of food, thy dream of flight,
He knows, by whom the worlds were made
To speed thee on is His delight.

—The 'Independent.'

A GOOD SPANKING.

A great preacher was speaking the other day on the patient, long suffering love of a mother. No matter how far a child might wander she loved him still. And the audience wiped their eyes in silent tribute to his eloquence. All but one little woman, the mother of a large family. She just looked and looked, and appeared lost in thought. Not a word was said till the congregation was dismissed and she and a friend were walking slowly away from the building. Then suddenly apropos of nothing apparently, the little woman remarked: 'Do you know I don't take much stock in that kind of love! I think mothers often endure too much. I think there comes a point where patience ceases to be a virtue. I have quite as much faith in a good spanking.' And she never struck her friend as one of the spanking kind either.

LITERATURE FOR THE KLONDIKE.

The Rev. R. M. Dickey, the Presbyterian missionary to the Klondike, writes from Skaguay, to the 'Westminster' under date of Jan. 15, a letter of thanks for a book received, 'Beyond the Marshes.' 'I had read it before,' he writes, 'but I re-read it with renewed pleasure. Then, on Thursday evening I read it to the boys who had gathered in the reading room. One of them went home and told his mother that 'it was only too short,' and then she came over herself immediately to borrow it. Another man came and said he had a sick wife and would like to send it to her; another wants to send it to his crippled mother. Captain Davidson didn't say a word till I asked him how he liked it. Then he said a man would need to be a very bad man who would not love to hear that. So you see, even away in Skaguay, those gentle touches are having their effect.'

This gives emphasis to the suggestion, of a W.C.T.U. woman the other day. 'Send good literature to the Klondike,' she said, 'there is no telling the power that literature may become in influencing men for good. When your friends are starting for the Klondike see if you cannot help them by suggesting a little literature—only a little they will have room for; so let it be of the very best. And don't forget temperance literature. There is quantities of it. But let it be up-to-date arguments and statistics that will touch a sharp, wide awake business man, showing him that prohibition means, not less liberty, but more liberty, and more money in his pocket.'



R. I. AS SHE IS. R. I. AS SHE MAY BE.

NOT FAIR TO THEMSELVES.

ARTISTIC HAIR DRESSING.

A noted authority on personal beauty in a late number of the New York 'World,' protests against the injustice women so often do themselves in the way in which they dress their hair. Neither does she content herself with showing how not to do it. She gives among others the following pictures, showing the unbecoming coiffures, and side by side with each the style of hair dressing best suited to each particular type of face. For instance, she urges:

P.A. has made the common mistake of dressing her hair according to some alleged fashion without in the least regarding the shape or contour of her face. Nature has given P.A. a face that is too short and too broad for artistic standards. Instead of brushing her hair off her brow and away from the sides of her face she has seen fit to dress it after a fashion that may be in vogue in some parts of the country, but which is so manifestly grotesque that it should be prohibited by law. I have done nothing to this face itself. The change in the picture as she may be, and which P.A. must surely agree is marvellously to her advantage, is the result alone of the hair arrangement aided a little by the different manner of dressing the throat. A woman with very regular features, of classic beauty and a perfect complexion might not be robbed of her looks by a gown with a braided front such as P.A. wears. A woman who is not a radiant beauty should never take such chances.

A. L.'s forehead is that of the philanthropist. It gives every evidence of an exceptional mentality. But that is no reason for her dressing her hair so that she appears almost bald from one point of view, and I have yet to find a rhyme or reason for the beauty-destroying, hideous little side combs. I have greatly enhanced the charm of this attractive face by the arrangement of the hair, which is softly rolled and brought down loosely over the temples. This manner of dressing the hair in no way detracts from the intellectuality of the face. I would suggest, also that the ruffle about the throat is not a becoming style for her.

R. I.—This is the face of a woman whose individuality and originality are at once apparent. The arrangement of the hair is as unbecoming as it is possible to be. It is considered bad form for a woman to be eccentric in her appearance. I therefore suggest that R.I. shall arrange her hair not only with due regard for the prevailing mode, but with some little consideration for her own appearance. It is seldom one sees a face of such enthusiasm and energy. These characteristics are unmistakable in the expression of eyes and mouth, as well as the pose of the almost masculine head. The flamboyant mass of hair thrown off the brow emphasizes all the noticeable characteristics and gives the subject a look which is too agressive for a woman. R. I. will achieve her ambitions much more readily if she will moderate her views on hairdressing.

E. F.—This is the photograph of a school girl who looks about sixteen years old. Not even a Japanese woman, with her picturesque garments and wonderful head decorations, can well bear the straight, black bang across her brow. E. F. suffers from this barbaric treatment, as every girl and woman must, in a certain boldness of expression which the bang always produces. The change in the hair dressing as here suggested results in a totally different expression.

A MODEL TENEMENT.

DESIGNED BY A WOMAN.

More than a week ago, at the annual meeting of Sorosis, a small, dark haired, earnest eyed woman stood in the parlor of the Waldorf and read a paper to a distinguished gathering. It was entitled 'What the Tenement should be,' and it happily followed a series of other papers, all of which discussed the tenement problem. The first for instance, was entitled 'A few impressions from tenement life;' the second, 'How emigration affects the tenement,' and the third was, 'How crime affects the tenement.'

It was then, remarks the New York 'World,' that Mary Gannon, who is not one of the kid-gloved members of Sorosis, but who is a working woman—an architect—arose without any silken flutter or wave of violet sachet and read her paper on 'What the Tenement should be.'

Mary Gannon is the partner of Alice Hands, and these two women between them have solved a problem that mere men have been striving at unsuccessfully for half a century. They have brought their women's wits to bear on a subject that has defied solution for more years than they count between them, and so have designed a model tenement house that has been approved of by all the practical thinkers, architects and builders of the world.

The model tenement which Mary Gannon and Alice Hands have designed is not an idle dream but a reality. Plans have been filed at the Building Department, and within a week or two at most ground will be broken for the new house in West Sixty-seventh street.

The building they have designed will be adapted wholly and entirely to the wants of those who are to occupy it.

The front of the building will measure 100 feet, and it will be 50 feet in depth. It will be of buff brick with limestone trimmings, six stories in height. There will be eight apartments on every floor, some of three rooms and ranging to more expensive flats of six rooms each.

From $8 to $18 a month will be the rental asked, and absolute comfort will be possible within each little flat. Each family will have a balcony and a coal bin, and there will be a roof garden, where sick babies may be cared for in the warm weather.

The building will be fireproof, thus removing one of the most awful dangers to which the lives of the tenement dweller is exposed.



E. F. AS SHE IS. E. F. AS SHE MAY BE

Every inch of space has been utilized, and there will be no halls or stairs within the house. The stairs, which will be of iron, will circle upward in the courtyard, protected by a fireproof casing of iron and brick, through the centre of which will run the freight elevator.

The courtyard in the centre of the building will make perfect ventilation and light possible to every apartment. Some will open on the street reaching through to the court, and will have the direct current of air.

At night an electric arc lamp will hang in the centre of the court, illuminating the different floors and balconies. Everything will be arranged with such comfort and niceness that it will be different from the tenement that we know of.

The roof garden will be one of the features. Miss Gannon and Miss Hands propose to lay a flooring of wood about a foot above the tin roofing, protecting the garden from the heat which the tin roof retains. There will be awnings and plants and hammocks to transform the place into a veritable garden in the air.

In each room there will be a hanging closet, 3x6 feet. The living room will be the largest, and will be about four times the size of the average tenement room. It will contain a range for coal or gas, a sink, with hot and cold water, and a kitchen china closet.

A small room adjoining will have stationary tubs, which may be converted into a bath tub by removing a middle partition. This room, which also affords toilet conveniences, is partitioned off and thoroughly ventilated. It has a cemented floor and walls which permit of a washing out with a hose if desired.

The sleeping rooms are extra large, are provided with built-in hanging closets, and have free ventilation, not from an air shaft, but from the street and court.

'Our two rooms in Forsyth street cost us $15 a month,' said Miss Gannon. 'One of them was dark, and we had to burn gas all day, thus bringing our gas bill up to $8. We lived exactly as those around us did. We tried to beautify the rooms, but they were so unbeautiful that they did not lend themselves readily to ornamentation.

We bought our food and fuel as the others did, in order to ascertain just how much more the poor have to pay for their flour, their coal and wood and their potatoes, because they cannot keep them in any but the smallest quantities.

We dressed plainly, and we visited the homes of those about us whenever opportunity offered. We found out all about their needs or their privations. Of course they did not guess that we were at work trying to design a house which would lessen their trials. Had they done so they would have been constrained, or would have enlarged on their troubles.

'This has been a very long and tedious work for us, not so much on account of our year of life in the tenements as through the delays in raising money to realize our object. But our model tenement offers a safe investment for any one who wants to make money. It is not a charity.'

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

My grandmother used to say to me,
My grandmother used to say,
'Now don't run after the boys, my girl,
But stick to your sewing, pray!
For men who want wives will hunt them, dear,
Care not to be met half way;
For the longest chase is the fairest sport,'
My grandmother used to say.

My grandmother used to say to me,
My grandmother used to say,
'Now stop that dreaming and baste your hem,
Dreams never were meant for day.
Don't hurry, my girl, to find a lad,
Maids never have will nor way
Till sorrow and twenty are come and gone';
My grandmother used to say.

But I'd heard some tales, and said one day:
'Now, granny, you dear old thing,
You met, I've been told, your lover
At the gate by the meadow spring,
And, though scarce eighteen, you rode behind
To the village six miles away,
And were married and all by Parson Phipps;
Now, what have you got to say?'

And grandmother smiled demurely, then,
Above the hurrying thread:
''Twas not for the lack of precept dear,
Things happened as you have said;
For "stop your dreaming and baste your hem,
For the men won't run away";
And "Wooing will keep for a good two year,"
My grandmother used to say.'—'Puck.'

SUNDAY AND THE CHILDREN.

Dear Editor Home Department,—In reply to 'Enquirer' I would say very few will coincide with Mr. Haskell in his views concerning the Sabbath question. Mr. Haskell points to the Sabbath as being intended for a day of rest, and so it is, but we fail to see how a tramp over the mountain is even resting.

He who said 'The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath,' evidently did not mean that it should be a day of gloom. And there are many enjoyments consistent with the sanctity of the day. But when one writer advocates and practices snowball games, and another sailing and rowing, and snowshoe tramps, what are we coming to? Next thing somebody will be suggesting lawn tennis or baseball as appropriate recreations.

Heaven forbid that such desecration should be countenanced among us in this enlightened age. What an example to set before the rising generation.

I was brought up in the country where we usually found walking to church exercise enough, the only other we indulged in was a quiet walk in the fields or to take our books and sit under the trees enjoying ourselves. Yet I don't remember feeling Sunday too long.

Of course, Mr. Editor, every one has a right to his or her opinion, and the newspaper is the proper vehicle for giving them publicity. But the idea of bestowing prizes for such letters as these, particularly when the said prize is the very book which condemns all profaning of the Sabbath and upholds its sanctity, really does seem inconsistent, to say the least.

A MOTHER.

THE PLODDER'S PETITION.

Lord, let me not be too content,
With life in trifling service spent—
Make me aspire!
When days with petty cares are filled,
Let me with fleeting thoughts be thrilled,
Of something higher.

Help me to long for mental grace
To struggle with the commonplace,
I daily find.
May little deeds not bring to fruit
A crop of little thoughts to suit
A shrivelled mind.

I do not ask for place among
Great thinkers who have taught and sung,
And scorned to bend.
Under the trifles of the hour;
I only would not lose the power
To comprehend.

—Helen Gilbert in New York 'Independent.'

Very gratifying news comes from the deputation sent to Madagascar by the directors of the London Missionary Society. Two important interviews have been held with General Gallieni, the French Governor, and it is reported that a modus vivendi with the authorities has been found, so much so that a lady missionary who was to be removed to Samoa will not now leave the island.



A. L. AS SHE IS. A.L. AS SHE MAY BE.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON.

March 6, 1898.

JESUS AND THE SABBATH.—Matt. xii., 1-13.

BY. JOHN R. WHITNEY.

Golden Text.—The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath day.—Matt. xii., 8.

The incidents included in this lesson are two—the plucking of the ears of corn (heads of wheat or barley) and the healing of the withered hand. Both were done on 'the Sabbath day.' This made them offensive in the eyes of the Pharisees. If they had been done on any other day they would not have awakened any remonstrance. But by their traditions the rabbis had made the requirements of the Sabbath one of the most grievous of the many heavy burdens which they had laid upon mens' shoulders. They had woven around its law a web of sophistries in which it was very easy to become entangled.

As regards the first of these incidents, 'to pluck the ears of corn' (Mark ii., 23), in their estimation, was a species of reaping, 'rubbing them in their hands' (Luke viii., 1), was a species of threshing. Hence

the act of the disciples was a grievous violation of the law of labor on the Sabbath-day. Plucking a head of ripened wheat, and rubbing out its grains, was simply the harvesting of a whole field in miniature.

The answer of Jesus to their criticism, was an argument they could not meet. The case of David and Ahimelech (1. Samuel xxi), was well known, but no one had ever thought of condemning either of them, for what they did. The action of the priests in killing the animals offered for sacrifice on the Sabbath day, and in performing other labors connected with their office, was still better known; yet no one had ever uttered a word of protest against them. So now, they all held their peace.

The other incident occurred on 'another Sabbath.' (Luke vi., 6.) Whether it was before or after the other; whether they were separated by a long or short interval, we are not told. It was a case of healing, and that was the 'work' of a physician. Their argument was, 'There are six days in which men ought to work, in them, therefore, come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.' (Luke xiii., 14). By their fine spun casuistry, the rabbis had 'elaborated endless rules for the treatment of all maladies on the sacred day.' As illustration, Geikie says: 'For the toothache, vinegar might be put in the mouth, if it were afterward swallowed, but it must not be spit out again. A sore throat must not be gargled with oil, but the oil might be swallowed. The school of Schammai held it unlawful to comfort the sick, or to visit the mourner on the Sabbath.'

The origin of these traditions dated as far back as the time of Nehemiah. When he returned from Persia he found that the high priest was allied to his old enemy, Tobiah, and had actually installed him in one of the best rooms of the temple. The temple service itself was so neglected that 'the Levites and singers' had 'fled every one to his field' for support. Neglecting to provide for God's house and service, they soon began to disregard his day. Then the transition was very easy and very rapid to an open and almost universal union with the heathen and a following of their ways. With promptness, decision and energy Nehemiah met this condition of affairs. His action produced lasting results. It marked an era in Jewish history. The temple was ever afterwards held as too sacred a place for any unauthorized person to even enter; the Sabbath day was held as most sacred. It was even esteemed wrong to defend one's life on that day. Very naturally, popular teachers continually engrafted more and more stringent rules upon the law. These additions became, in time, very sacred traditions. In the time of Christ they had thus come to rob the day of all its blessedness, and had made its observance a merely empty but heavy burden. Men feared to break these traditions more than they feared to break the law of God. So it is still. What men think weighs vastly more with multitudes than what God says.

This brings us to inquire into the scriptural meaning of the Sabbath. The ceasing of work on the part of man was only the outward expression of a necessity for something higher than physical rest and it was a step by which to reach it. Now a careful comparison of Scripture with Scripture shows that the work forbidden on the seventh day was that which was done to secure earthly pleasures or possessions—work by which life was sustained or made more and more comfortable. That kind of work was to cease and the day was to be kept as a 'holy' day. It was this particular feature of it that men were commanded to 'remember'—always to keep in mind. This command has never been repealed or modified.

The change from the seventh day of the week to the first day, as the day to 'keep holy,' sets forth a still greater truth. When the work of creation was done, God, the creator, rested on the seventh day. He rested from the work of creation. In like manner, when Jesus died upon the cross, he declared that his work of the creation, for 'all things Then God, the Redeemer, rested from the work of the redemption. He rested on the same day that he rested from the work of the creation, for 'all things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.' (John i., 3.) When he rose from the dead, a new era opened in the history of man. He was now a redeemed creature. Through the Atonement of Christ, he could now enter into the eternal rest of the children of God. The day of his resurrection, which inaugurated this new era, has, ever since, throughout Christendom, been recognized as 'The Lord's Day.'

Day of all the week the best,
Emblem of eternal rest.

The old Sabbath of the seventh day thus marked a finished creation. The new Sabbath of the first day marks a finished redemption. It thus speaks of a new life—the resurrection life—in Jesus Christ. Through it men can now look far beyond the Jewish year of Jubilee, even to the everlasting rest, which remaineth 'to the people of God.' (Heb. iv., 9.) Thus 'the Lord's Day' of the Christian has a far higher significance than 'the Sabbath' of the Jew. Its observance is not to be a matter of formal outward conduct, but a matter of spiritual and personal position and privilege.

The invitation to enter into this rest, is addressed to men who are fitly represented by the man 'which had his hand withered.' According to tradition, this man was a stone mason, and his affliction was the result of an accident in his daily work. But whatever the cause, the effect was the same—the hand was dead. The condition was very different from that of one afflicted with the palsy. In him the muscles were alive, but they were not under the control of the will. In the 'withered hand,' however, there was no life or sensation; they could not, rather than they would not, respond. Thus this man fairly represents 'the dead in trespasses and sins.'

He might have pleaded that he felt no pain and that he had no power. But he had the testimony of his own eyes, and of his own experience, as well as the information derived from others. Now he had an opportunity, which might never come to him again, of having his hand restored. When he was willing to do what Jesus directed him to do, he was perfectly cured. Strength to do came with the obedience of faith. The same willing obedience to the Word of Christ is demanded of all who would enter into the rest of Christ.

HOME READINGS.

M. Matt. xii., 1-21.—Jesus and the Sabbath.

. Mark ii., 23-3: 6.—'The Sabbath was made for man.'

W. Luke vi., 1-11.—Correcting False Views of the Sabbath.

T. Luke xiii., 11-17; xiv.,1-6.—Releasing the bound on the Sabbath.

F. John ix., 1-41.—Opening blind eyes on the Sabbath.

S. Matt. xii., 22-37.—Rebuking blasphemy against the Holy Ghost.

S. Matt. xii., 38-50.—Rebuking those who sought a sign.

DEPARTMENT.

TOPIC—March 6, 1898.

WHAT IS A PROFITABLE SABBATH?

Ex. xx., 8-11: Isa. lviii., 5-14.

'Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it.' (Isa. lvi., 2.)

'Whosoever, therefore, shall break one of these least commandments and teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.' (Matt. v., 19.)

'Call the Sabbath a delight.' (Isa. lviii., 13.)

This is one of the great problems of the day. To keep the Lord's day sacred and yet to thoroughly enjoy it seems to many people an impossibility. But it is not a very difficult problem to those who love God so much that they really enjoy obeying him, and honoring him in every way. Anyone who is determined to obey God and to keep his day holy will find that there is a great blessing attached to this obedience. The two greatest commandments, 'Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself,' contain the command for a day of worship to God and rest to our neighbors. 'Loving one's neighbor' brings in the question of influence. For us it may be perfectly allowable, for instance, to take the car on a wet Sunday to our distant church or Sabbath-school. Our neighbor does not attend church or Sabbath-school, but takes the car to a Sunday picnic for a pleasure trip, comforting his conscience with the assurance that he has seen us take the car on Sunday, and we are Christians. In profaning the Sabbath thus he claims to be following our example. It is right for us to go to church, but it is wrong for him to go on a picnic, how far are we responsible for our brother's mistakes? These questions can only be settled individually between each Christian and his Redeemer.

God loves those who make the Sabbath a delight (Isa. lviii., 13,14.) He never meant that that day should seem gloomy and full of restrictions. It is an insult to him when we make it so. (Amos viii., 5: Ezek. xx., 12-16.)

It has been wisely observed that the Sabbath must be 'remembered' the day before if we wish to kep it holy. Many little duties of the week are left to be done on Sunday, whereas a little forethought would have enabled us to have everything done through the week or on Saturday, so that God's day might be free from worry and unnecessary work.

God's holy day should be as great a day in the week as Christmas is in the year. All week we should look forward with joy to the coming Sabbath, and when it comes we should rise with a thankful heart. Instead of the yawning, 'O dear, this is Sunday; what shall we do to-day? We cannot do this and we cannot do that, and we must go to that dull church because every one goes, and it is the proper thing to do,' or some similar plaint, let us lift our hearts in reverent praise to God: 'O Lord, we thank thee for this thy holy day. Give us joyful hearts, full of praise to thee. Teach us how to glorify thee in all that we do and say. Teach us how to make the Sabbath a delight to all about us. Keep us from grieving thee in any way this day. Fill our hearts so full of thy love that there will be no room for selfish desires. We praise thee for giving us this day in which we may draw near to thee with a heart free from the cares of yesterday and the anxieties of the morrow. Draw us very close to thyself to-day; in Jesus's name we ask. Amen.' A day begun in this way, with sincere prayer and expectant faith, cannot but be full of blessing. The overflowing blessing sent to your heart will run over and touch the hearts of all with whom you come in contact in the Spirit of Christ.

Selfishness has no part in the religion of Jesus Christ. No follower of his has a right to spend the Sabbath selfishly. It is not simply a day in which to receive blessing and listen to preaching and teaching. It is a special day on which to pass on those blessings which we are receiving, give to others the lessons we have learned, and to reach out our hands to the weary, sin-sick souls around us, bidding them in the name of Jesus to rise up and walk. You have heard a good sermon in the morning? Drop in to cheer up that sick person or that friend who could not get to church; tell them the good points of the sermon; tell it in that bright, winning way that you know so well how to use in conversation which is not strictly religious. Perhaps in your quiet hour this morning you received a new and specially precious thought; can you not repeat it to your friend as you walk along to church together? You say, 'Oh, I think about it, but I never could talk about these things.' Why not? It is a great pleasure to Jesus to hear his people talking about his love. This is his day. If the thought has been a blessing to you, it cannot but be helpful to your friend, and perhaps your words will help him over a hard place, and make a turning point in his life. Your friend may answer with an equally helpful thought, and thus you may have joyous conversation which God will love to hear. (Mal. iii., 16, 17.)

The church you attend may not be just to your liking, but if you feel that it is where God wants you to go, you can worship him better there than anywhere else. Do not spend your time in criticising or in wishing things were different. Do not allow the everyday cares and worries to have the slightest place in your heart now, you left them all with Jesus yesterday, leave them till to-morrow. This is God's House, you have come here to meet him specially. You have not come to see the people nor to hear the minister specially, you are here to meet God and to praise and worship him, to hear what he has to say to you. On our way to and from God's house we should be thinking with joy of our meeting with God. So shall we make the Sabbath a delight, and keep the covenant of the Lord our God. Ex. xxxi., 13.)

SUGGESTED HYMNS.

'O Day of rest and gladness,' 'Safely through another week,' 'Take time to be holy,' 'Stand up for Jesus,' 'Praise him, praise him,' 'I am praying for you,' 'How much owest thou?'

THE QUIET HOUR.

MEDITATION FOR MARCH.

The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit.—John xiv., 16-26; John xv., 26; Rom. viii., 26, 27.

REMEMBER EACH OTHER.

One of our comrades, an honored pastor in Massachusetts, who was also a devoted member in the Prayer Chain, suggests that among our petitions in the Quiet Hour be always a petition for the other Comrades, that thus our fellowship and unity in the Quiet Hour may be marked and promoted. We heartily approve the suggestion. With the golden chain of prayer may we be bound one to another as well as to the throne of God.—Rev. F. E. Clark.

'MR. FEELING AND BRO. FACT'—A MISSIONARY DIALOGUE.

(Rev. W. T. Gunn, in 'Congregationalist.')

Mr. Feeling and Bro. Fact had a talk about foreign missions one day, and it all came about through Fact having received a letter from a missionary, and being so full of it that he had to prove it out to Feeling when they met. It dawned upon Fact at last that Feeling did not seem to be enjoying himself, and so he said, 'What's the matter with you, old fellow?'

'Well, to tell you the truth,' said Feeling, 'I don't believe in foreign missions.' 'Why?' but our Master believed in them, and for us it is a question not of belief but obedience; for the very last command he gave was, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."'

Feeling said nothing for a minute, then rather gruffly replied, 'Anyway, I don't see that they do much good.' 'That's because you never really looked to see. Every one who knows what missions have done believes in them,' said Fact very earnestly.

'The heathen seem to be happy enough when let alone,' interjected Feeling. 'Not at all; no happier without the Gospel than you would be. There is not, as some one has said, a space ten miles square on the globe where a man's life and property are safe outside of the regions where the Gospel is known. Our missionaries are compelled by their regard for public decency to leave unpublished the darkest two-thirds of the sin and shame and suffering they see.'

'Supposing, though, that the heathen live up to what they believe to be right, don't you think they'll be saved?' asked Feeling. 'Certainly,' replied his friend, 'but they don't, and can't. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." No man that ever lived did all and always what he believed to be right, except Jesus Christ.'

'Still, they can be saved without the Gospel,' persisted Feeling. 'The question is whether you can be saved if you don't sent it to them,' retorted Fact. 'What do you mean?' asked Feeling. 'I mean this, that you are so utterly out of harmony with God, who so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son to save it, with the Son who gave his life for the world and who commanded his disciples to give the Gospel to every creature, and with the best ages of his Church, and the best men in all ages of the church, that you are in danger.'

'Oh! Well, charity begins at home,' remarked Feeling. Fact's eyes flashed as he answered, 'Yes, but it doesn't stop there!'

'Doesn't it say somewhere, though, that we are to begin at Jerusalem?' Feeling argued.

'Not when rightly interpreted, for the word "at" is the Greek preposition "from," so that it really means from Jerusalem.'

'I believe in Home Missions and in helping my own Church,' said Feeling; but Fact interrupted, 'So do I. But if there had never been any foreign missions we'd have been heathen yet. It is a curious thing that in the age of the apostles their strongest man, Paul, should have been a foreign missionary, while tradition tells us that every one of the apostles except the one whom Herod slew, died a missionary in a foreign country, and this although Palestine was by no means all Christianized.'

'I think,' said Feeling, 'that a man ought to pay his debts first.' 'So do I,' said Fact. '"Owe no man anything save to love one another," but that last is the greatest debt of all, "That ye love one another as I have loved you." Pay that debt, too, will you?'

'It's hard times, anyway, Fact?'

'Not a bit, my dear Feeling, you have not suffered for lack of food, have you? You have spent something on luxuries, too, haven't you? Not so hard you couldn't really give something if you wanted to do it.'

'But they say it takes dollars to send cents abroad.'

'That is not true,' replied Fact. 'Including printing and management, all the great boards spend less than ten percent; the American Board about seven percent, and the C. C. F. M. S. less than that. Anyway, before the question of money, I want you to give yourself to the Master's work of foreign missions.'

'What do you mean? I never had a "call to go as a missionary?"'

'No, you had a command in Matthew xxviii., 18-20. You must have a special call to stay at home.'

'You don't mean that every Christian should go abroad?'

'No, answered Fact, 'but I mean that every Christian should himself or herself ask Christ, "What would'st thou have me to do," and then go where he sends. I think you will find, if you think it over, that he meant far more of yourself, your heart, your prayers, your family, and your money to go abroad for him than you now think possible. Remember what you pray for when you ask, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," (where it is done by all), and then see how much he meant when he taught us that.'

'Well, I will; to tell you the truth, I have been so busy with other things I have not thought so much of this work as I should, but I will take the time.'

'Do, my dear Feeling, and think it over prayerfully, remembering what it would be to you to be without Christ. Good-bye.'

SAVED IN THE SIERRAS.

'Would you care to look at this, sir?'

The powerful engine-driver of the Sierra line handed me a letter as he spoke. We were standing together on the platform of a small Peruvian station where our train inland from Callao to Lima had paused on its ascent to the mountainous Andes region.

The engine-driver was a splendid man, who had attended our Callao meetings, and come very near the point of decision for Christ. Breaking the envelope with interest, I discovered a special permit he had obtained for me to ride on the engine, and readily availed myself of this coveted privilege, especially as it brought me into close contact with him.

The run that followed was a marvellous experience. Nothing that I had seen before, including the Mont Cenis, the St. Gothard and the zigzag railway of the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, can compare to the audacity of engineering skill, and the blood-curdling effects produced by a climb on the Peruvian line among the lonely Andes solitudes. Often it seemed as if the train must surely dash over the precipice before us, when we neared a new curve, only to swing round it, and rush along the edge of some enormous steep that plunged into the valley below, where the rushing Rimac dashes its foaming course amongst crag and boulder towards the sea. Every now and then we plunged into a tunnel, and the mountain peaks, with glorious sunshine, were exchanged for an awful blackness, in which the blazing furnace and flying sparks dazzled the eyes, while the ceaseless roar of the train made the loudest shout absolutely inaudible. I clung to an iron support on the vibrating steed, and felt what one cannot describe. Capital opportunities occurred for conversation, and I was deeply grateful for such a chance to present the necessity for personal decision.

About eight kilometres before arriving at Matucana, the train suddenly pulled up, and a crowd of excited people jumped out to examine what was wrong. We found that one of the connecting iron rods which bind the rails together was torn up and had struck the carriages underneath, so as to alarm the conductor and bring the train to a pause. At the time we were travelling up an incline of about five feet in one hundred, at twenty miles an hour. When the trifling nature of the accident was known we jumped on board again. On arrival at the station, however, what was our dismay to see that one of the wheels of the coal tender had smashed off both from the axle and the bearings, and was lying partically on its side jammed under the tender. It was evident that the train would be unable to proceed until another engine could be sent up the line. This accident, which fortunately had not dashed the train over a bridge spanning the precipice just before running into Matucana, might have proved very serious, and both the managing inspector of the road and the engine-driver united in recognizing a signal interposition of Providence on our behalf. The effect of our narrow escape was a double one; it made it impossible for my new friend to leave till next morning, and thus gave us several hours in one another's company, but it also deeply affected him, as he felt that God was thus giving him by an apparently miraculous intervention an opportunity he must indeed lay hold of to turn to Jesus Christ. He had many a time heard the Gospel and had attended Mr. Moody's meetings at St. Pancras. He had lived at Nottingham, and knew every mile of the Derbyshire and Midland County rails, with which we are so familiar.—Dr. Harry Guinness, in 'The Christian.'

MEDICAL MISSIONS IN HONAN.

PECULIAR INCIDENTS.

How the Medical Mission wins the confidence of the heathen and opens the way for the gospel is seen in the experience of one of the Presbyterian missionaries in Honan recently when out visiting towns and villages at a distance from his station. Instead of having to put up at a wretched native inn and with scant courtesy admitted there, he was received and well entertained by a well to do merchant who was operated on by Dr. Malcolm some time previously, and whose hatred of the foreigner was turned into friendship. Another way of showing gratitude was that of an official from a distant city, who was treated not long since by Dr. McClure, and who sent back a fine tablet, telling in letters of gold the doctor's virtues. We laugh at his method, but it is doubtful if he could have shown his gratitude in any other way that would have been so helpful. That tablet, and the story of it, will do much towards giving the people confidence in the missionary.

The following recent incidents are related by the missionaries:—

A woman, one day recently, on being told that her baby might not live, laughingly asked, 'Shall I feed it to the dogs now?' What it is to be a heathen mother!

Mrs. Lin, who a couple of months ago tried to commit suicide by opium, and was brought here for treatment; comes now daily to be treated for abscess. She seems much happier with the abscess, than she was with the opium.'

Last night at ten o'clock there was a call to run and try to save the life of a man who had taken opium to kill himself a few hours before. When the doctor arrived the poor fellow begged him not to give him any medicine as he wanted to die. Apomorphia and zinc sulphate soon produced severe vomiting and at midnight he seemed out of danger. This morning we heard he was better and to-night he came to the dispensary for something to cure his sick stomach. The medical work here is growing. To-day there were a hundred and eight patients treated, and some three or four others, in trying to dodge the preaching in the chapel, just missed their treatment too.

The ways of foreign doctors seem unequal to Chinamen. Why one man totally blind with cataract should be given more hope of restored sight than another man of the same age from the same village who is only partially blind from some other cause is beyond their power of comprehension.

'The scene of the old story of the patient who thought the reason that the pills he had swallowed had not worked, was that probably the lid was not on the box yet, had better be located in China. The other day we caught a man in the act of swallowing the packet which contained his medicine.'

The parental form of Chinese government has its drawbacks. At an examination of military candidates held very early one morning recently in Huen Hsien, a friend of one of the candidates wore a fur gown to protect him from the chilly morning air. The examiner noticing the fact, caused him to be apprehended and charged him with breaking old customs and being disrespectful to his superiors inasmuch as the time for wearing fur garments had not come nor was the examiner wearing one. Punishment awarded, twenty-one strokes with the bamboo.

Our table boy, Golden City, who was given by his father to a creditor in lieu of a debt of fifty dollars, has reason now to be glad of the transaction. His ex-father was found guilty of highway robbery and sheep-stealing, and executed, the other day.—'Presbyterian Record.'

MR. M'NEILL AND THE PHARISEE.

'I don't believe much in stained glass windows, portraits of impossible apostles, or decorative pictures of sheep and shepherds in churches; no, but I would have an immense painting of the Pharisee and the publican in every church, just back of the pulpit, where the congregation could see it, and another one at the other end of the church for the benefit of the minister and the choir,' said the Rev. John McNeill at his crowded midday meeting at the City Temple on Monday. Underneath the Pharisee he would place the legend, How Not to Do It.' A London business man would find it very easy, he observed, to construct, in imagination, a heap of extortioners, murderers and adulterers, and to stand upon this heap, in exaltation of spirit crowing like a cock in a barnyard. 'I wouldn't stand there five minutes for £10,000,' the evangelist exclaimed. 'Come down; you may be struck by lightning!' The purse-proud Pharisee was known in the churches; he jingled his purse in the pastor's ears, and said, 'There d'ye hear that? Your stipend's in there. Be discreet; don't preach these humbling sermons, or I'll go bang out of the church with my big purse, then what'll you do?' Another form of pharisaism which was 'awfully dangerous' was that of people who really liked to go to church every Sunday, but were not very near heaven. They sang, 'God' in the hymn, and said 'God' in the prayers, but in their hearts they said 'Myself.' They virtually kissed their hands to themselves. 'Now,' said Mr. McNeill, 'isn't there some one whose tongue you could bite without much trouble to whom that applies?' — London 'Christian World.'

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Baroness Hirsch has purchased a well-known residence at Hampstead Heath for the purposes of a convalescent home.

The Bishop of Tinnavelly has confirmed more than two thousand native Indian converts during the past year. Step by step the evangelization of India goes on.

There is a vegetarian church in Salford, England, of which for the past eighty years no person could be a member unless he or she abstained from animal food and intoxicating drinks. Many of the members also belong to the Peace Society.

A great scheme for bringing water to Jerusalem has fallen through. The present supply depends principally upon water collected in cisterns during the rainy season. Some of this water flows in the first place through the streets of Jerusalem, and afterwards stagnates in the cisterns.

The London 'Times' of the opening year has been drawing attention to the great work done by the Bible Society. The Queen of England is a great lover of the bible, and in her jubilee year, 1887, selected and wrote out a passage of Scripture to be reproduced in facsimile in an edition of the New Testament to be circulated as a gift among the scholars in the secular state schools of Australasia. The inscription was 'On earth peace, good will toward men. Windsor Castle, March 8, 1897. Victoria, R. I.'

A band of seven young men, including Mr. J. Martin Cleaver, solicitor, are going out from Ireland to Egypt in order to devote themselves to mission work among the Greeks, Maltese, and Moslems in the country. They intend to make Alexandria for the present their headquarters, and from thence they expect to branch out as the Lord opens up the way. They are not going under the auspices of any existing missionary society, and they have been led to give themselves to this work through special good received at the Keswick Convention and by coming in contact with the Rev. Chas. Inwood. The party wish to be prayed for under the name of the 'Egypt Mission Band.'

The Arabian missionary, the Rev. Samuel M. Zwemer, before the American Society of Comparative Religions, gave an interesting account of a curious religion he encountered in a trip to the lower Euphrates and Tigris. He said of this peculiar sect: 'These strange people whom we know as the Star Worshippers, Sabeans, Nasoreans, or St. John Christians, designate themselves the Mandaeans, and although they number only a few thousand, remain entirely distinct from the Jews, Moslems and Christians, among whom they have dwelt for centuries. Their origin is lost in obscurity, and their number is rapidly diminishing. Their religion is compounded of Christian, heathen and Jewish elements; the language they speak is entirely different from that of their neighbors. They are a moral, peaceful and industrious people. They believe that the stars embody the good of the universe, and the planets the evil. Unlike the Parsees, they do not worship the sun and the moon. I found that their knowledge of astronomy was thorough in many respects.' He further said that their moral code is that of the Old Testament in every particular, and that he found them an easily approachable people, though it required a long acquaintance before they allowed their literature to be seen.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

How Young People Can Earn Money

A bright schoolgirl in Middletown, Conn., writes: "You say that you think I am the youngest person on your entire list of agents. This makes me prouder than ever of my success. I do not know of any other little girl who has earned thirty-five dollars in so short a time and in such a pleasant way as I have, and I am quite sure that none of your older agents are more pleased with their success."

What this schoolgirl did others can do. The Ladies' Home Journal will willingly co-operate with others who want to accomplish the same result. A very liberal commission will be paid upon each subscription and renewal secured, besides offering each an opportunity to share in $11,500, to be awarded on April 15.

The Curtis Publishing Company
Philadelphia

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ALL IN ADVANCE.

Daily Witness	**$3.00**
Weekly Witness	**1.00**
Northern Messenger (single copy)	30
" " 10 copies and over to one adress, 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 23c; "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; 3 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 20 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 3c; $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, FEBRUARY 22, 1898.

We are pleased to note a proposal to give Mr. William Ogilvie, the hero of the Klondike, a substantial parliamentary grant in view of the signal services he has rendered in furnishing his country with a disinterested report on the Yukon country. It is a matter of honor with government surveyors that they shall not finger any of the wealth they discover, and nobly, so far as we have ever heard, has this principle been observed both by engineers and geologists. It has not, however, been granted to many to walk over so much gold as Mr. Ogilvie reports, and despise it all—to distribute indiscriminately and lavishly among strangers and reserve none for friends. We presume enough is already proved of the correctness of Mr. Ogilvie's estimates to warrant the reward which is said to be proposed. We shall know much more of this before the end of the summer, when some further honor may be in order. Knighthood has been given so often to men whose business in life was to grab everything within their reach that it would be a refreshing change to honor a man who has had untold wealth within his reach and never touched it. We are not saying that there are not many men in Canada both in the public and in private service as loyal as Mr. Ogilvie, men who make money for their employers with as much glee and as little covetousness as he. We know some such; but he is a shining illustration of that sort of greatness, and in honoring him all such would be honored.

The manifest failure, or rather deliberate setting aside, of justice by the French court in the case of M. Zola is easy enough of explanation. France believes that its national existence depends upon the effectiveness of its army, for which it has made every sacrifice. It believes that if Dreyfus has been convicted unjustly by a court-martial of the greatest officers it must have been in order to shield the weakness or rottenness of the army. M. Zola's attempt, therefore, to prove that Dreyfus was not guilty seems like an attempt to prove that the army is rotten. Therefore he is regarded as unpatriotic and as having been guilty of treason. The fact that Dreyfus is a Jew only lends the force of the universal prejudice against Jews to the rage against Dreyfus and Zola. In the unjudicial course of the French court, the haughty contempt of court of the army officers and the frenzy of the French mob, the world outside of France will only see evidences of apprehension of the worst on the part of the French themselves in regard to the truth concerning the French army and even the French nation. By all this manifest injustice the very worst has been done for the reputation of the army, which the government, the courts and the people have united to exhonerate, as well as for that of Esterhazy, who, as far as the world's judgment is concerned, might as well have been found guilty.

Since John Bunyan described Judge Jeffreys under the style of Lord Hategood of Vanity Fair there has possibly been no such travesty of justice made equally public until the days of the Zola trial. It is singular that the man whose name has contributed a word to the English language, Zolaism, meant to express literary indecency, should have become the hero of the better-thinking world as the champion of righteousness. But Zola will be as much remembered in history for his intrepidity in facing a nation's insensate rage as for the nudeness of his writings. Indeed, unless later generations shall reverse the general trend of civilization, which has on the whole tended to increasing reserve with regard to things fleshly, posterity will forget his writings, while on the other hand whatever time may reveal as to the respective criminality of Dreyfus and of Esterhazy, whatever may even be the result of the trial he is at present undergoing, his present position, confronting at once the surging waves of popular frenzy and the browbeating of enthroned tyranny, will set him forever among those who have been privileged to expose and vanquish great wrongs. He may suffer, but the unrighteousness of the trial of Dreyfus and of his own will not be easy to repeat.

We cannot uphold 'A Seventh Day Baptist' in his demand for the practical abrogation of the Sunday laws because Jews and Seventh Day Baptists keep a different day from the rest of the community. The purpose of the laws requiring the observance of the Lord's day is not to make the people 'sabbatize,' as our correspondent words it. It certainly would be an interference with people's religious liberty to make a Jew forsake the Sabbath of his fathers and observe a day whose legal appellation implies that it is kept in honor of Jesus of Nazareth. The law is based on the need which has been proved to exist for a day of rest in seven, and the further need that the law shall step in and preserve one such day against forced labor and public indecorum. No country could undertake to protect a different day for every creed. The immense mass of the people observe Sunday as the sabbath, and if the country is to have a weekly rest day at all it must be on that day. Our correspondent is a lawyer, and has therefore learned the dictum, 'De minimis non curat lex'—law can only be made on broad lines and must ignore details. If individuals want to keep any other day they may, but they may not do anything that would interfere with the public sanctity of the day which the great mass of the people observe.

Mr. Ogilvie is of the opinion that the river steamers used on the Stickeen river can very well proceed down the coast to Fort Simpson and take passengers and freight there. Rough weather would doubtless interfere with them at times on that part of the coast, about sixty miles only, which is unsheltered from the open Pacific. This would prevent the absolute necessity of transferring cargoes at Fort Wrangell, and enable Canadian goods under former practices of navigation of the Stickeen from being entered in bond. But if the proposed amendment to the navigation laws of the United States carries, the river boats would be compelled to enter the port of Fort Wrangell and declare their cargoes and have them placed under bond. If the United States changes its navigation laws so as to prevent the free navigation of the Stickeen river, as in times past, it will be virtually repudiating its obligations under the Washington treaty. It is to be taken for granted that President McKinley will prevent the dishonor of the United States and veto the measure if it is placed before him. Legislatures often act with no sense of their international responsibility, and it is for the executive, which alone in the country is in the presence of both sides of the facts, to see to it that the legislature does not discredit the country.

The Rev. Dr. MacArthur speaks in hopeful terms in favor of the substitution of arbitration for war. The weak points about arbitration have hitherto been lack of frankness in submitting the question and lack of loyalty to the decision. As nations become more democratic it seems the more difficult for their governments to act righteously, even when entirely willing. Another remedy for war is in the hands of the nation which Dr. MacArthur now represents. It must be patent to all that if the United States was in cordial and effective alliance with Great Britain the nations would behave very gingerly about going to war. There might be one clash of arms, but there would hardly be another. We doubt if there would ever be one serious one. That Great Britain is ready for such an alliance needs no argument. She has been indeed practically so ever since Canning proposed the Monroe doctrine in 1825. The United States has had to live down her mythological spite at King George, but surely that might now be relegated to the old curiosity shop.

The war fund to fight the plebiscite on one side is, according to a Hamilton liquor-dealer, to be a million dollars. The question is, what the other party is going to do. Money is a small matter where a lucrative business is in question. It is very hard to find on the side of reform. But there are forces on the side of reform which should prove worth more than a million dollars. The Philistine came forth with sword and spear, but David met him in the name of the Lord. If there is the same heroism and the same faith now as then there will be the same result. If every pastor and every congregation do their duty there is no fear as to the result. The present thing is to lay siege to parliament about prohibition in Yukon.

It is said the rate of permits to sell liquor in Yukon is to be raised from twenty-five cents per proof gallon and under to two dollars. This is certainly a very high rate of license. It seems to be based on the supposition that no light liquors will go into that country. Certainly, all the liquor that goes in under it will be as strong as permitted. We are not told to whom these costly permits to injure the Queen's subjects and to encourage crime and lawlessness are to be granted. The danger is plainly acknowledged to be great. Besides the high license rate, there should be some pretence at least of choosing trusty men to do the injury discreetly; there always is some pretence of this kind. Is this the Canadian Government's response to Canada's very widespread demand for prohibition in Yukon? Mr. Sifton, who, by the way, is the son of a provincial president of the Dominion Alliance, is, we sincerely hope, not going into the demoralizing business of a whiskey licenser. We were assured recently that no permits were being granted. If the government only sticks to this practice we shall not mind what rate is fixed for them in theory.

The fast Atlantic service seems to be steadily, if somewhat slowly, materializing. A few weeks ago it was announced that the second deposit had been made, which would indicate that the company was quite certain of success in carrying out its contract. The latest announcement that five steamships have been ordered will be welcomed as a long step toward the realization of the scheme upon its present very economical basis. Five vessels are a very adequate and even liberal allowance for the work. An agent of one steamship company which tendered for the contract said that by close work three fast steamships might be sufficient. It has generally been supposed that four would be sufficient. It is not improbable that the extraordinary prosperity of Canada at the present time, the increase by leaps and bounds of its export and import trade, the actual and prospective Yukon trade, have emboldened the company to increase the capacity of its line beyond its actual contract needs.

It is said by one who knows that Australian and Cape newspapers get ten or twelve times the amount of British advertising that the largest Canadian newspapers do. It is probable that the amount of the advertising is a fair gauge of the business done in advertisable lines. If so the fact is interesting, seeing that Canada is the largest of the colonies. The reason given is that British dealers do not want Canadian business on account of the looseness of our insolvency laws—that, in fact, Canada has in Britain a very bad business name on this account. This is doubtless one reason. The good name of a nation, in days when credit reaches to the world's ends, requires that law should step in to see that at least a man does not secrete his estate or prefer near to distant creditors. The principal reason is the proximity of the United States. Many things that the other great colonies have to get from Britain we get from the United States. Another is that we manufacture ourselves things which those countries find it cheaper to buy—which in some cases perhaps we would find it cheaper to buy. A great reason is that we have a high tariff, which, as imposed by a colony which owes Great Britain protection, the British merchant resents. Even where the tariff is no real barrier, as we must have the goods or others quite as dear, it looks insurmountable, and old country dealers balk at it.

In view of the economic and climatic advantages of Canada for the manufacture of furniture, it is a little strange to find that as a matter of import furniture hardly figures in the British trade returns at all, while the United Kingdom exports, almost wholly to the colonies and India, almost three million dollars' worth. What Britain exports is said to be chiefly of a highly-finished description and in response to specific orders. This is the more strange as it is well known that British furniture will not stand in such dry climates as our own or those of most of the countries mentioned. So much is this the case that British pianos are never brought to any part of America. When the Grenadier Guards went to India, after being in Canada, they for this reason sent large furniture orders to a Montreal firm. The converse of this statement is not true, that Canadian furniture will not stand in Britain. Something must be wrong, then, if Canada has not a very large export trade both of cheap furniture, which by her wholesale methods she should be able to make, beyond the reach of British competition, and the expensive sort, which, when equally carefully and conscientiously made, is worth far more when made in Canada than when made in Britain. In view of these facts, it is interesting to learn that a number of Ontario manufacturers have associated themselves to develop the business. Their proposal is not to ship goods in a finished condition, but in the rough, thus avoiding the great cost of more clumsy packing and the abrasions of the voyage. What is, it seems to us, chiefly to be gained by combination is a careful and intelligent realization of the needs of the markets sought as well as of the advantage of allowing only well-seasoned goods to cross the sea with the brand 'Made in Canada' upon them.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, by bringing into the Senate a motion to appoint a committee to investigate what has been called the Drummond deal, managed to forestall the Premier, who had promised a similar committee, and who a few hours later moved for one in the House of Commons. The Premier did this with every evidence of good faith, accepting the suggestions of the Opposition extending the scope of the inquiry. The government's committee consists of four supporters of the government and three of the Opposition. Senator Bowell's consists of twelve members of the Opposition and five of the government supporters. Each fairly represents the complexion of the house which appoints it. Of course, each leader wants to secure a report favorable to his side, and each will certainly get from the committee he has nominated a report as strongly biased on his side as the circumstances will warrant. At least this result will follow if these committees do not act differently from all previous parliamentary committees. The country does not care much about what the reports say. That is foreordained by the complexion of the committee. The country would like to see a thorough investigation, as, for some reason or other, it has misgivings. Indeed, even with all confidence in the good faith of the government in appointing a committee, and accepting that so far as it goes as an evidence of clean-handedness, the country would, supposing both investigations shall go on, take a greater interest in the proceedings of that appointed by the Senate. They would feel quite sure that that committee, at all events, would leave no stone unturned, so far as the constitutional rules of evidence would allow, to expose any iniquity that they could nearly or remotely associate with the transaction in question—at least so far as that iniquity was not Conservative. It would, it must be confessed, be a little absurd, as well as expensive, to have two tribunals of opposing tendencies trying the same case. On the other hand, it would be a pity that the Senate should not have some share in a patriotic service for which it is so eager—the only useful political service which a Senate of different politics from the House of Commons can very well render. Could not something be done to make a joint committee?

The United States will have the sympathy of the whole world, and particularly that of Great Britain, over the loss of so many gallant men by the disaster to the battleship 'Maine,' which was blown up in the harbor of Havana. These great floating forts, loaded down with heavy armor, stored with the most powerful explosives, equipped with dangerous enginery, fitted with electric machinery, and crowded with men, are only more dangerous to foes than to friends and themselves. The United States squadrons, small as they are, scarcely ever go out without meeting with some disabling accident, and yet it is probable that the average intelligence and native skill of the United States crews are at least equal to that of the crews of the best navies in the world, though probably in practice and experience they are behind those of the British navy, which alone of all crews are practiced in manoeuvres with fleets on a large scale. Accidents of a serious character are very frequent in the British navy, and the loss of the 'Maine' is quite paralleled by the loss in the Mediterranean in 1893 of Admiral Tryon's flagship, the 'Victoria,' a battleship of ten thousand tons and an indicated horse power of twelve thousand. Vice-Admiral Tryon and four hundred and thirty officers and men went down with her. The 'Maine' was a battleship of 6,648 tons and nine thousand indicated horse power; the loss of life will not be over a hundred, and few, or none, of the commissioned officers were killed. There is the best of feeling between the sailors of British and American navies, who, being of one blood and language, naturally regard one another as cousins, if not brothers, when in foreign ports. British sailors will therefore feel keener sympathy with the American sailors over the disaster than those of other foreign navies.

That portion of the speech of the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Sifton, on the Yukon Railway which deals with the United States Government is to be highly commended for the marked friendliness of its tone. Mr. Sifton, who negotiated with the McKinley executive in regard to the police, customs and general freight transportation questions arising out of the United States possession of the coast, declares the friendly and obliging spirit in which he was met, and sets forth the privileges extended to the Canadian Government and people. This is an eminently statesmanlike attitude to take, and one which is all the more necessary for our ministers to take, because it is rendered hard and unpopular to do so by the annoyance caused by the American Congress, which threatens, in effect, to repudiate the treaty obligations of their nation by preventing the free navigation by Canada of the Stickeen river according to the terms of the Washington treaty. The Dominion Government is bound to take it for granted that the United States will observe its treaty obligations, and in this matter of the Yukon route it cannot be blamed for proceeding on that assumption. Mr. Sifton has taken the ground that the United States executive has in its dealings with the Canadian Government in regard to the Yukon so far been not only fair but friendly, and the Canadian Government has no reason to believe that it will in future act in any other manner. Canada has treated the United States very generously, allowing its citizens all the rights that Canadians themselves enjoy in the Yukon, and it is to be hoped that this friendly attitude on both sides will be maintained in spite of the threatening position assumed by Congress.

THE FRENCH IN SOKOTO.

Mr. Chamberlain seems ever watching for any trembling of the aging hand of the Nestor of the Conservative party, that he may snatch the truncheon of power from it. How not to fight is Lord Salisbury's anxious care, and in this he has the solicitous sympathy of his queen. To uphold the nation's honor, if possible, without war, is the highest ambition of the aged statesman. He seems at times to vacillate, and the nation hates vacillation, but an experienced chieftain may well vacillate a little before plunging Europe into war. If Mr. Chamberlain was credited with a patriotism that had in it no thought of personal advancement, he would carry the nation with him with more unbounded enthusiasm. He has taken the opportunity offered by the French advances on the Niger to force the hand of his chief by having questions asked with regard to alarming news that had just reached the government, and by making the most of this news. That the case is very serious is proved by the fact that it was not a jingo but a radical like Sir Charles Dilke who evoked this information. It would certainly seem as though Britain's best policy were to stave off open dispute and let France broil on till the red feol fury of the Seine shall have fought her enemies' battles. A foreign war would do much to let off France's bad blood and thus to rehabilitate her at the expense of another people.

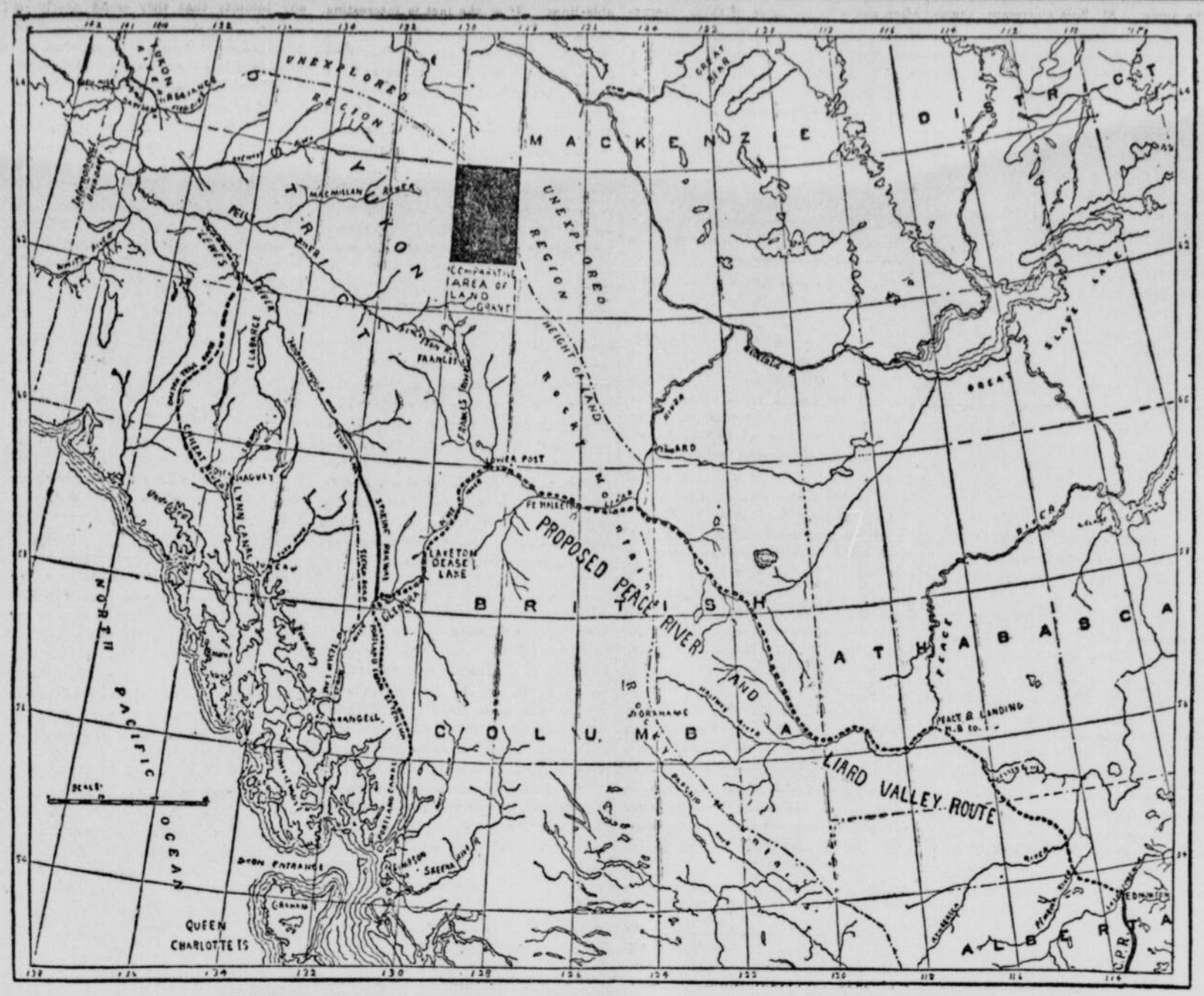
The French advance into the territories of the Sultan of Sokoto is, however, calculated to bring to a head the growing troubles between the two nations in north-west Africa. The Sultan of Sokoto rules over nearly all the Haussa states which lie between the Upper Niger and its great tributary, the Benue. For many years the Royal British Niger Company has had treaties with him and with each of the states of his empire, by which in return for a subsidy he placed all his territories under the protection of Great Britain. Last year one of the states of Nupé, probably prompted thereto by the French, tried to sever its relations with the British and shut out British trade and influence. The British company sent an expedition against Nupé, which at Bida completely shattered the native forces at one blow, and Nupé submitted. The sultan was displeased with this act of the British, and thinking to balance the white powers against each other, tried to unite his states against them and throw off their suzerainty, but the native states refused to obey him, and only recently the sultan again acknowledged the treaty and accepted the annual instalment of the British subsidy. Now the French have sent an expedition from the west across the Niger river, into the State of Gando, immediately north of Nupé, to take forcible possession of the sultan's own state, with the idea perhaps of thereby claiming possession of the whole sultanate of Sokoto.

If the British Government is to be aroused by any possible act of French aggression in West Africa it will be by this. In the hinterland of the Gold Coast, and even of Lagos, the native races are for the most part the same as the Ashantees, a people in the lowest state of barbarism, with whom trade and commerce will for many years be comparatively small and invaluable. The people of the Haussa States are of an altogether higher race, who have a fairly high Arab civilization. Their language is the language of the rulers and of the most influential peoples of north-west Africa, in which there is a fragmentary literature. A lectureship in Haussa has been established in Cambridge University, and a grammar and translations of the gospels in that tongue have been published. The people are Mohammedans, and their needs in the way of clothes, arms, ironware, brassware, saddlery and so forth, are very great. Their trade is therefore valuable, and the Royal British Niger Company was formed largely with the purpose of securing it. For years they have been extending and establishing trade throughout these states. Now the French threaten by the most wanton aggression to deprive them of it by force. If the British are to make a stand at any time anywhere in West Africa against French aggression, it will surely be in regard to this latest raid. The Sultan of Sokoto has immense armies, both of cavalry and foot, and it is just possible the French may in him catch a Tartar. It is to be hoped that the thing will be settled in some way without bringing the British and French to mutual blows.

THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

The 'Witness' drew attention to the fact that no mention was made in the speech from the throne as to the necessity for amending the preferential tariff so as to confine its advantages to Great Britain and those nations to which the Canadian Government in return for like advantages desired to extend them. The German and Belgian treaties, which Great Britain cancelled, prevented Great Britain from accepting from any colony preferential treatment unless the same treatment was extended to them. These treaties have been denounced as a consequence of Canada's preferential tariff of a year ago, and will end on the thirtieth of July, and Canada will then be free

to give Britain the full benefit of the preferential tariff, by which a reduction of one-fourth of the whole duty upon British goods alone will come into force. This preferential tariff comes fully into force, according to present legislation, on the first of July, a month before the period covered by the denounced treaties expires, so that Belgium and Germany and other nations stand to benefit for a month by the full reduction of twenty-five percent. It may not prove impossible to avoid giving the preferential tariff to those nations to which it was proposed to extend it only upon reciprocal terms. It is necessary to amend it in any case, however, so as to avoid trouble under the class of treaties containing what is known as the most favored nations clauses. Great Britain has treaties of this character with almost every commercial nation, and these treaties include Canada as a part of the empire. They do not prevent Canada giving a preference to Great Britain without extending it to any other nation, but supposing Canada wished to extend the advantages to some other nation, say Norway and Sweden, in return for like advantages, it could not be done without extending similar advantages to all other nations which have treaties containing the most favored nation clause with Great Britain. Nearly all the most important commercial nations have these treaties, which it is not desirable to denounce. Canada is therefore compelled to amend her preferential tariff legislation so as to confine its advantages to nations which by special arrangement with the Canadian Government are entitled to its benefits. It is probable that definite arrangements will have to be made with each separate foreign nation by the Canadian Government, even under an amended tariff act. It was announced in the Senate by the Minister of Justice that the government would introduce the necessary legislation, and in the House of Commons the Premier, in reply to a question, made a similar announcement, with an intimation that a pleasant surprise was in store for the country in this connection.



THE SASKATCHEWAN—YUKON ROUTE.

THE 'LAMP OF LIGHT.'

The 'Lamp of Light' is the name of an Egyptian society which has recently stirred up a commotion in the land of the Pharaohs. From the name, one would judge this association to be one of psychologists or metaphysicians, or other searchers out of occult ideas or phenomena. Occidentals forming even such associations would not be sufficiently imaginative to call themselves by such a poetical name, much less those who form our political clubs, which can think of nothing else but their party name, combined with that of their leader or their city. But the imaginations of the Orientals are far better developed, and it is a patriotic society composed of young men for the most part who in Egypt have taken this name. The Europeans call them 'The Young Egypt party.' They are Moslems who are devoted to the rule of the Sultan, and who seek to foster the influence and power of the Sultan and the Khedive as distinguished from that of Great Britain and of the European powers. This society has its own political methods, which are very different, indeed, from those of European and American political parties and clubs. Its members do not raise funds to carry doubtful constituencies for its party, or plan the systematic telegraphy of votes and personating of voters, or provide scrutineers to block voting by swearing the electors, nor do they seek to control patronage or secure a 'pull'; they are too unenlightened to entertain a thought of such civilized methods and objects. Into these, as into their name, imagination enters, and it must be confessed that it is allowed pretty free play.

They composed a play which they entitled 'The Valor of Edhem Pasha and the Cowardice of Greece,' and hired a large theatre in Alexandria for the performance of it. A translation of one passage of the play reads: 'Good Mos-'lems should pray the prophet that God 'may cause a catastrophe sufficient to 'annihilate all Christians.' This is hardly a sentiment one would expect from a 'Lamp of Light.' But at least these 'men are better than their creed,' as witness the final scene, in which the Sultan is represented as enthroned amidst the emperors, kings and rulers of the earth, with the seven European powers prostrate before him kissing his feet and imploring his pardon. Yet he does not call in his bashi-bazouks and order the instant execution of these abject Christian culprits. He does not grant their prayers, but he spares their existence. And when the Queen of Greece enters, prostrates herself, and after blaming the foolishness of her husband, begs mercy for the Giaours, the chivalrous Sultan grants to a woman's petition that which he had refused to the prayers of the seven powers. There are many Greeks in Alexandria, and a mob of them gathered at the theatre, where a free fight with the Moslems seemed imminent, when the governor of the city forbade the performance of the play and closed the theatre. It is said that the members of the 'Lamp of Light' are students, young lawyers and government employees, whose views are held in contempt by the best class of natives, and are unheeded by the poorer classes. It is hinted, however, that the Khedive is in sympathy with them, and that his encouragement of such ideas is not unlikely to cause trouble in the near future. This play reveals, it is said, the view of the situation at Constantinople taken by the half-informed Moslems the world over, and to these ideas a good deal of the trouble Great Britain is having with her Moslem subjects is put down.

THE SASKATCHEWAN TO THE YUKON.

It is pleasing to see how the need for a through railway from Edmonton to Yukon has simultaneously taken possession of the whole country. The only dissentients seem to be the people of Prince Albert, who would prefer that their route should be chosen. Even the premier of British Columbia, who might be supposed to represent those Pacific ports which would by such a route be cut off from a large traffic which now passes their way, has telegraphed to Sir Wilfrid Laurier to urge the immediate prosecution of this work. This route is the one which the 'Witness' has set forth as the right one ever since it became evident that Yukon demanded a road. The present sudden and unanimous cry for it is Canada's response to Fryeism. We have no doubt that the government has half a dozen contending propositions for the charter. It becomes the government deliberately to make the best of a good situation, and there is no need of urging it to precipitancy.

We print a map in this paper which shows that the work already entered upon from Glenora to Teslin Lake will in no way be superseded by the line proposed. It has been explained by ministers that according to their best knowledge a road from Edmonton to Yukon must cross the Rocky Mountain range by way of the Liard river valley, and will then have to follow the valley of the Dease, which would conduct it straight to Glenora. Thus the line now building would fall in as a section of the through route. If these conclusions are correct they greatly simplify the question. The proposed route has these advantages, that it opens the Peace river country, that now needs a railway anyway; it passes along the eastern foothills of the Rockies, in which region there is said to be much coal almost on the surface, and it passes through the once famous Cassiar gold region, deserted on account of its unapproachableness.

One of the strong points in favor of the construction of the Stickeen river and Teslin lake Railway is, as Mr. Sifton pointed out in the House of Commons, that it is not only an absolutely necessary link of an immediately necessary 'all-Canadian water and rail route,' but it is a necessary section of the future all-rail Canadian route from Edmonton. From the best information which the government has at present, gathered from reports of explorers and surveyors, the route from Edmonton to Dawson will probably be that by the Peace river, the Nelson river, the Liard river, the Dease river and the Tanzilla river to the Stickeen river at Glenora. North of the Dease river the Rocky Mountains form an impenetrable barrier to railway construction, until very high latitudes are reached. This road will certainly be constructed in the near future if quartz mining is entered upon in the Yukon, and will in any case be carried out eventually, as the Peace river valley, the Nelson river valley and the districts adjacent contain millions of acres of fertile lands, as well as coal and mineral lands of great value.

THE DE LOME EPISODE.

A press despatch from Washington thus reads: 'Actuated by a sense of 'honor and a strict idea of justice, the 'State Department has taken steps to 'place in the hands of Senor Canalejas, 'to whom the letter was addressed, the 'epistle written by Senor De Lome which 'led to the resignation of the minister.' The above appears to have been written in good faith, and without any suspicion on the part of the author of the fine irony pervading the statement. The publication of the stolen letter having served its purpose, the high sense of honor and strict idea of justice entertained by the last receivers of the purloined missive impels them, after utilizing it in the most dishonorable way, to forward it to its rightful owner. The entire proceeding connected with this now famous epistle is much more in accordance with the sharp practice of a pettifogging Philadelphia lawyer than with the procedure of the executive of a powerful nation. To say that the course of the United States Government has been undignified fails to express the utter meanness characterizing the whole business. That Senor De Lome was indiscreet goes without saying, but surely his presence in an official capacity at Washington might have been dispensed with in a manner much less public and more consonant with diplomatic usage. After all, the minister merely expressed opinions of President McKinley and his Cuban policy, which have been widely proclaimed by certain sections of the press of the United States and of other countries. They are not novel, nor are they at all equal in strength to those familiar to the newspaper readers among Mr. McKinley's own countrymen. The gist of Senor De Lome's offence lay in his official position.

Had the offending letter been an official one, it would, of course, have been necessary to take cognizance of it. Private expressions to personal friends, if they imply no crime or treachery, should be treated as if they had gone no farther. Such writings cannot in any case be taken publicly at their face value. The fact is, had the ambassador not antagonized the Cuban sympathizers in the United States his epistolary delinquencies would probably have remained unknown, or, if known, unnoticed. The experiences of the executive of the United States with foreign diplomats have been rather unfortunate, and are strongly suggestive of crass ineptitude on the part of the former in the practice of the art of diplomacy. It is safe to assume that indiscretions of the kind attributed to Senor De Lome are not strictly confined to foreign representatives at Washington, yet how rarely is publicity given to incidents of the kind occurring at other capitals. The fact seems to be that at European courts the maxim of Solomon, 'Take no heed unto all words that are spoken,' receives either tacit acceptance or heed is only taken in an indirect manner. It may be also that the stealing of private letters is not a practice with which foreign governments are anxious to be openly identified, and certainly it is one that reflects small credit upon either governments or individuals—one utterly opposed to 'a sense of honor and a strict idea of justice.' In the days of ancient Rome, to be 'fur' (a thief), a 'man of three letters,' was the acme of ignominy; now both times and manners have changed, and to steal a letter, whether at Washington, Ottawa or Quebec, is a diplomatic or a political triumph. It is related of a great historical character that after a decisive victory over his rival he caused all the letters found in the latter's tent to be destroyed, lest their perusal should expose the treachery of false friends and pretended patriots. It is plain that he was not adapted to public life in the nineteenth century.

CONTENDING RAILWAYS.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company wants a line from Toronto to Sudbury. Toronto has an almost air-line connection with the Canadian Pacific at North Bay, but this line is under control of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and the companies are unable to agree over their respective shares of the traffic and the traffic receipts, and therefore the interests of the public which heavily subsidized both railways, have been sacrificed, not to those of the companies, for the companies do not benefit apparently, but to their quarrel. With a line of its own from Sudbury to Toronto, which would be a shorter connection with the North-West by seventy miles than the Grand Trunk line to North Bay, the Canadian Pacific would be in a position probably to get a large share of the Toronto traffic with the west which the Grand Trunk secures for its route through the United States. Sir William Van Horne, in a letter to the vice-president of the Toronto Board of Trade, says:—

Notwithstanding that our rates between Toronto and points in the North-West are made lower than the rates between Montreal and the same points, we are at the present time carrying Toronto traffic to and from the North-West almost to within sight of Montreal, and then turning it back westward. In other words, we now carry Toronto traffic to and from the North-West seventy-nine miles farther than we carry Montreal traffic, and get considerably less for doing it, whereas, with the Sudbury-Toronto line completed, the distance between Sudbury and Toronto would be only 235 miles, as against 443 miles between Sudbury and Montreal. The bearing of this upon the interests of Toronto and of all Western Ontario is too obvious to require further remark.

Sir William appeals to the people of Ontario, and especially of Toronto, for support for the proposed line to Sudbury. He says: 'The time seems now to have 'come when the direct Sudbury-Toronto 'line must be built, and we trust that 'in this undertaking we may have the 'warm support of the Board of Trade of 'Toronto and of every organization and 'business man in Ontario.' Meanwhile, the public interests suffer. It is not our part to decide who is to blame for the failure of these two roads to do business together. It certainly is not to the public interest that business should be blocked. Mr. McLean very reasonably interrogated the government as to whether it was going to use the considerable powers it possesses in the premises to compel these two roads to work together. Railways are not built in Canada without enormous public concessions. These concessions are given in view of their supplying the country with a certain service. For any company wilfully to obstruct the service its road is able to give is a misdemeanor which properly comes under the purview of government and of legislation.

INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENCE.

Nothing could be finer in its way than the conduct of both the American and Spanish peoples and governments in regard to the terrible disaster to the United States battleship in the Spanish waters of the harbor of Havana. It is a curious result, but it is an obvious fact, that the relations of the two nations are for the moment at least manifestly more friendly than they have been for a long time. A great disaster occurring under circumstances which are strongly calculated to create suspicion as to its cause, almost at once, as soon at least as both peoples have had time for thought after the first effects of the stunning blow have passed, has the effect of bringing out, as heat brings out secret writing, the underlying confidence which civilized governments and nations have, after all, in the good faith of one another. There was during the first hours a whiff of suspicion, evidenced chiefly by the decline in the values of securities, indicating apprehension of war, but beside this and a few hysterical screams on the part of obscure jingoes, there has been no manifestation whatever of general distrust or anger. The Spanish Government and authorities bear themselves as innocent people naturally would. They do not hesitate to say that they were at first afraid that some fanatic of their own race had perhaps done his nation and the United States this great wrong. But it manifestly did not occur to them that the government of Spain or any responsible agency could be suspected of such an act. Their sorrow and sympathy, as well as that of the authorities and people of Havana, has been obviously sincere, and has been manifested both by word and spontaneous deed. The United States has borne itself with extraordinary self-control and dignity. A most unwonted and almost painful silence at first ensued upon the news, and since, the general tenor and tone of public opinion as expressed everywhere in Washington by public men and in the press is admirable in its confidence in the integrity of the Spanish authorities. Such conduct on the part of two great nations under the circumstances not only raises them in the esteem of the world, but actually promotes the cause of general good government and of friendly international relations among all peoples.

AN AMENDMENT.

The announcement by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Fisher, that the section of the contract with Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann which provides for the extension of the syndicate's land blocks so as to bring the extensions under the rule, securing the government the alternate sections, does away with the only reasonable objection to the method of selecting the land grants. The effect of the amendment may easily be understood. As it originally stood, the section of the contract in question enabled the syndicate to secure a block of land, at right angles to their bare lines, twenty-four miles in length by three in breadth. The amendment will make it possible for the syndicate to secure blocks of only six miles in length and three in breadth. This was really the intention of the original contract, and probably the amendment has only corrected what was merely a mistake in the expression of the terms. This amendment removes perhaps the chief objection not only to the land grant part of the contract, but of the whole of it. The gauge and character of the roadbed is one which in reality concerns the syndicate very much more than the government. If the capacity of the road is inadequate, or if it be inefficient owing to poor construction, it will be less profitable than it otherwise would be to the company, which will be the chief, if not the only, sufferer. The company cannot make the public pay the extra cost of hauling over the poor or inadequate road, inasmuch as the government has retained absolute power to fix the rates which shall be charged. The company, then, will be interested in securing the utmost economy in the cost of transportation. The Canadian Pacific Company took over a narrow-gauge railway the other day in British Columbia, and immediately, in its own interest, converted it into a broad-gauge road, and for light rails and equipment substituted heavy and substantial tracks and rolling stock. The Stickeen and Teslin Railway will, if the demands made upon it be sufficient to justify the change, be similarly converted in the interests of the company, which has to face a series of substantial reductions in rates within seven years.

COTTAGE GARDENING.

This department is conducted by Mr. S. S. Bain, nurseryman and florist, to whom all questions should be sent. All questions answered through the 'Witness.'

So many questions have to be answered this week that I am afraid the space allowed will be too small, and for this reason my own article is held back.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ORANGE TREE DRACAENAS.

M.B.T.—I have an 'Orange Otaheiti,' in fruit, but some time ago the leaves fell, and not one has appeared since. The plant is about twelve inches high, and has one large, ripe orange. It is in a five inch pot. The room is about sixty to seventy degrees. 2. I have also a 'Dracaena Terminalis,' which is not doing well. The leaves are withering and drop. The 'Dracaena Indioisa,' leaves wither at the top of the leaves. Should I cut them off? I may mention that two 'Mums,' 'Maud Dean,' and 'Ivory,' are blooming for the second time, this season. Is this unusual? I allowed the 'suckers' to grow, and now they are in bloom. Ans.—Your orange tree has had its roots killed back in some way, and from your treatment I think it has been for the want of water. About the end of this month have the head (or branches) of the plant cut back, and at the same time shake it out of the pot and have it put into fresh soil, and use as small a pot as the roots will easily go into. Do not shake too much of the soil off the plant, but what is loose; any rooted roots ought to be cut back. Give it but a moderate quantity of water until you see the plant start into growth, when you may increase the quantity. If you are to have a hotbed this spring a very good way would be to plunge the plant into the bed, which would cause it to shoot sooner, and more freely, both in root and top. In order that this plant be of much good for next winter you will require to have it put on a good growth in the early part of the season. A little less heat would be better to grow it in. 2. Your dracaenas are suffering through the same cause. Make sure that the soil in your pots is quite tight, if not, the water will run through too quickly, and the atmosphere will have too much play among the roots, drying them up and causing the damage in the way here indicated. The leaves should be cut off as soon as damaged, to be left on would injure the plant very much. 3. No, it is no unusual thing for chrysanthemums to bloom the second time. This is caused in your case by allowing the first suckers which came up early last season to grow, when they should have been cut off to allow the parent plant to have all the strength from the plant in the pot, enabling them to give better blooms.

QUESTIONS ON MANY PLANTS.

E.J.T.—I have an old Hoya Carnosa; it has never bossomed; I cannot tell why unless it has not had heat enough. I had one from a green house at Niagara Falls, which blossomed, but unfortunately I lost it. Please tell me how I can get this large one to blossom. 2. Do begonias need much water? I have a begonia which grew nicely for a time, after which the ends of the leaves dried and turned black, and now it is dried in the middle of the stock and lopped down. I tried to start the upper part. I have not watered the root much since. I have very poor success with heliotropes, the ends of the leaves turn black, and the plants soon die; those who have them here say they require much water. What is the proper treatment for them? My Chinese primroses looked quite thrifty and budded, but have failed and are going down. 3. Last fall I got some hyacinths and Star of Bethlehem bulbs. I potted them in October, and put them in the cellar after watering them well, and left them there for four weeks. I then took them out and put them in the window, so they would get the sun and heat. They are about two inches high, the flowers are trying to show themselves, I may have them by Easter. I took slips of foliages last fall so as to keep them through for spring. Do they require much water? Is water of ammonia any help to plants or shall I try plant food? Ans.—1. Hoya Carnosa, or Wax Plant, requires a good heat to grow it in and a rich light soil. It makes a splendid house plant, and if treated well should flower every year. Give your plant a little more feed. Mix some cow manure in a quantity of water, let it steep for a few days, and then use the clear water to feed the plant. Make sure that the drainage in the bottom of the pot is in good order, and that the soil is well packed in the pot around the roots. You will soon see a difference in the growth of the plant. A curious thing about this plant is that it always produces its new flowers upon the end of the last year's flower stalk; therefore the old flower stalk should never be cut off, otherwise you will not have so many flowers upon the plant at one time. Another reason that your hoya has not flowered is perhaps that you have been repotting it too often. This plant requires to be pot-bound before it flowers. Do not shift it often, but feed it well. 2. The want of water and too heavy a soil is the cause of the begonia acting as it has. The same, I think, is the trouble with your heliotrope, and Chinese primroses. 3. You did not leave your bulbs long enough in the dark. Had you been a reader of the 'Witness' last fall you would have seen by an article on bulbs, how to treat them. One of the sure ways to get good flowers, is to leave the bulbs in the dark under the ashes, or sand, until the flower stalk has grown at least six inches high, which would take about two or two and a half months. Then you could have them in bloom about two or three weeks after setting them in the light. All you can do with them at the present time is to place an empty flower pot over the bulb, upside down, keep this pot very wet and this will help to draw the flower out of the bulb. 3. Had you told me what sort of a foliage plant I would be better able to give you a more definite answer. The trouble is that you did not take the cuttings early enough so that they would have filled their pots with roots before winter set in. The cuttings had better be kept on the dry side during winter, yet not so dry as to cause them to drop their leaves. A little ammonia in the water you give plants is not hurtful, provided you don't let it touch the leaves, but I would recommend you to use plant food instead, or, if in the country use wood ashes, taking care not to use it too strong, better far a little and oftener than once too strong. Keep this fact in mind.

BULBS.

R.P.—1. I got a bulb of tuberose from a gardener which flowered that year. Next year I planted the old bulb, which threw out a lot of small bulbs. I planted them last year as they were two years old, and fair-sized bulbs, but they did not flower. Last spring I took about a hundred small bulbs from the ones I planted, and set them in the ground. I have in all about one hundred and twenty-five bulbs of all sizes. How old must they be before they flower, or will they ever flower? Kindly advise me how I should treat them? Ans.—1. Tuberose sets require to be grown for three years before they flower so that your oldest bulbs may be expected to flower next summer, that is provided you have grown them well during last summer, and cured the bulbs well last fall, so as to have them in good condition when planting time comes round. You should keep the bulbs apart so as to know the two year from the one year and so on, but if you have a hobby for growing them you will find the results rather disappointing in our northern climate. The tuberose bulbs require a warm climate and long summer to bring them to perfection. Treatment—Plant the bulbs out about the first of June, in a warm situation, covering them up about one inch over head in ground, and you may expect to have some of them in bloom in August or September. When they have once flowered they never flower again.

FUSCHIA.

Mr. R.—A fuchsia 'Storm King' has been in the cellar all winter. Has lost its leaves and is now beginning to bud. Shall I cut it down or what had I better do with it? Ans.—The fuchsia should be taken up from the cellar, and cut back to proper shape. Water slightly until the plant sends out its buds, and then as the leaves advance, increase the water. When it is well started shake it out of the pot and give it a fresh potting. First shake the soil well off the roots, and then put it into as small a pot as you can get the roots into. This will give it a fresh start, with good fresh soil. Keep the plant well syringed for a few days, and away from the sun, this is to allow it to have a good chance to make fresh roots before any work is expected of it; then bring it out to the light, shading it for a few days more from the noon-day sun. If you are growing your fuchsia in a house window you must turn it every day to keep it in shape. Whenever the plant begins to grow freely attend to pinching the ends, etc., as directed in last week's article of 'Cottage Gardening.' Keep off all flowers until your plant is as big as you want it to grow, but keep repotting and watering, syringing and feeding as the plant may require. Do not rest satisfied until you get it two or three feet high and broad in proportion; then allow it to flower, and you will have such a sight that will make your neighbors talk for a long time.

INSECTS ON FUSCHIAS.

M.S.B.—I send you a few leaves from my fuchias that you may see a fly peculiar to them, for I never see it on any other plant. Ans.—The insect on leaves of fuchsia is one of the thrip family, and must be destroyed at once. Use strong tobacco water, and dip the plants three times a week, and afterwards syringe them with clean water, turning the force of the spray well under the leaves to destroy the insect and its eggs. Under the glass the leaves are full of eggs and flies which must be destroyed at once.



FARM SCENE IN SASKATCHEWAN.

The territory of Saskatchewan is so named from the fact that a large part of the valley or basin of the great Saskatchewan River (both branches) lies within its borders. The north and south branches meet east of Prince Albert, the latter being on the south bank of the north branch and thus, in the area between the two streams. Saskatchewan lies north of Assiniboia and east of Alberta and extends east to the great inland lake, Winnipeg, and north to the fifty-fifth degree of latitude, the fifty-third degree being the southern boundary. In extent it is a magnificent province. In situation, lying on the banks of the great stream that crosses from the mountains almost to the sea, it is unique and its location just west of the great lakes, which connect both with the Province of Manitoba and the Hudson Bay is most commanding. In surface it is wonderfully well watered by large and small streams and these are supplied by numerous lakes in many parts. The presence of so much water has probably something to do with the wonderful climate of the Saskatchewan. The surface is further varied by stretches of timber forming a great supply both for lumber and fuel. Prairie, rolling and level, is interspersed with stretches of scrubby land affording shelter for animals from cold winds. Vast plains suitable for grazing exist everywhere and surrounding the lakes are hay meadows in plenty. Large areas are adapted for grain-growing, which is being taken up more extensively by those already settled and others as they come in. The growth of wheat, coarse grains, all kinds of roots and vegetables, equals that of any other part of the west. Abundant supply of three essentials for farming, wood, water and hay or grass lands are found in all parts of the district. Crops are sure, frost is a rarity, drought unknown, owing to the number of lakes and streams; settlers of long or short time here are well satisfied, which is the best criterion in forming an opinion.

The largest settlements are between the two branches of the Saskatchewan, and for seventy-five miles south-east, also for forty miles south, and sixty miles east. The area between the two rivers is practically all settled from the line of Prince Albert east to the confluence. North of the river and west is the Shell River settlement, some thirty-five miles distant, in a good district and well settled. North-east is more of a hay and ranching country. The south-easterly line of settlement is the heaviest because of being on the line of the proposed extension of the Manitoba & North-Western Railway, which is some two hundred miles in length and pretty well settled all the way. The opening of this district with more railways will bring into market an immense area of the finest homestead land yet remaining to the Government of Canada.—Winnipeg 'Commercial.'

ARMY AGITATION AT HOME.

(Shanghai 'Times,' Dec. 31.)

When some years ago the old system of the British army was broken up, a brand new service founded on German precedents was established. We had taken everything from Germany which was useless or unsuitable, short service, territorial regiments, linked battalions, but had forgotten to reform the War Office. The fact is, what we call our army has no counterpart on the Continent, and because it has no counterpart, we have therefore no model to imitate. What does really represent a Continental army is our militia. Our army, as we call it, is akin to what in France is known as the Foreign Legion. A force specially enlisted for service abroad, which should be always prepared at a day's notice to undertake service. It may be from the frozen fields of Klondike to the burning desert of the Soudan. It is ridiculous in such a case to hear about conscription for our army. The most despotic country in the world never thought of conscription for foreign service. For the militia we have all the machinery if we were only wise enough to use it. Our militia—our real territorial force, is jeered at and starved. The men are given little opportunity of training, have no reserves, no staff and no subsidiary departments, as military train, artillery, cavalry, medical department and commissariat. Yet it is to our militia not our army that we should have to look in case of invasion. The territorial system looked well enough, but it broke down on the pinch. There were to be just so many territorial regiments, and each regiment was to have just one batallion at home and one abroad. At the time, we had some seventy abroad and seventy at home to keep the affair going. Now we happen to have seventy-six abroad and but sixty-four at home, and we have to raise an earthquake to make our adjustments. There is nothing automatic about the system. By all means, let our militia be territorial, but let it be properly territorial and let all services be fully represented. Let each district be able to turn out a proper army corps of all arms properly trained and disciplined, but let us leave aside the idea that it has anything to do with our foreign service troops. A foreign service force always in the highest state of training, and always ready without denuding the country of its defensive power to start to the furthest limits of the earth. An Imperial force, in fact, in the fullest sense of the word, is one thing. But our home defence should be entrusted to our real home army, our militia, in fact, and our militia should be drawn by lot every year, and service at home made compulsory. This is beginning to dawn on the War Office, who have not yet grasped the idea that in the militia properly organized they have without any change of the constitution as efficient a body of men as is possessed by the most warlike Continental power.



THE STATUE OF QUEEN BOADICEA

To be Placed on the Thames Embankment, London.

Thornycroft's colossal statue of 'Queen Boadicea in her war chariot,' which the sculptor's son gave to the London County Council, was at first to be placed in Parliament Fields, London, on the site which was at one time supposed to be that of the tomb of the warrior queen. The expense of casting so large a work in bronze is considerable, but it was taken up by friends of the project and has been successfully carried out by Messrs. J. W. Singer & Sons, of Frome. The council allowed the plaster model to be placed as an experiment in a very conspicuous position, at the point where Westminster Bridge joins the Victoria Embankment, and there Boadicea now stands in her chariot, with her prancing horses in the act, it would seem, of charging the House of Commons. There are doubts as to whether the statue ought to remain there, if only on account of the lop-sided effect which its presence lends to the approach to the bridge. It is questioned whether the statue is artistically worthy of such a very distinguished position. It has, according to artists, very considerable merits; it is ambitious, and the horses have energy and 'go,' but the whole conception of the queen and her two attendants is conventional, and the modelling leaves much to be desired.

ROYAL ACADEMY ELECTIONS.

The recent elections to fill vacancies in the ranks of the Royal Academicians and the Associates of the Academy, have resulted in the honors falling upon four distinguished gentlemen who will worthily sustain them.

Mr. Aitchison, R.A., president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, is



MR. GEORGE AITCHISON,

Newly elected R.A.

familiar to the public chiefly as the architect of Lord Leighton's house in the Melbury Road; but in reality he has done far superior work to this, and is most favorably known as a lecturer and writer upon architecture and decoration. Mr. Gregory—an early contributor to the London 'Graphic,' and not a little responsible for the character



MR. E. J. GREGORY,

Newly elected R.A.

for artistic excellence t has achieved from its first appearance—is equally admired by public and artist. His refined taste, exquisite touch, fine drawing, and perfectly genuine sympathy, which so early disclosed themselves in his Scandinavian series, and were still to be seen in his 'Dawn,' 'Marooned,' 'Miss Galloway,' and other portraits, and, finally, in 'Boulter's Lock,' of last year—in truth, a great historical picture—have achieved for him a reputation which is perhaps greater on the Continent than it is in England. The water-colors and oil-paintings of Mr. Lionel Smythe have been admired for thirty-five years and more by those who, disregarding the glamor of great names, could appreciate the beautiful, poetical transcripts of landscape and country life—chiefly fisher-life on the coast of France—and have had the wit to follow his art, on the walls first of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water-



MR. LIONEL SMYTHE,

Newly elected A.R.A.

Colors, and then of the Old Society, all the while giving of his best to the Royal Academy, which, quietly taking note of them, has now acknowledged his talent with cordial recognition. Mr. La Thangue, who has been painting, and painting well, for many years, has latterly been asserting his brilliant gifts and high artistic perceptions with increased emphasis. 'The Man with the Scythe' at last convinced the Academy how admirable a painter he is, and they straightway bought it for the Chantrey Bequest. His work last year was so strong and forcible that it was clear that it must receive immediate proof of appreciation.



MR. H. H. LA THANGUE,

Newly elected A.R.A.

[For the 'Witness.'

THE MISSING STRAIN.

See the east, a marvel gleaning,
Heaven's golden doorway seeming,
All the sky with sunshine streaming.
By its rosy light confessing,
By its tender warmth caressing—
'God sends down his morning blessing.'
Then behold the vast creation,
With unanimous ovation,
Send up praise and adoration.
Woodlands vibrate with the sound,
And the echoes ringing round
From the hill-tops high resound.
And the torrent, see it glide,
Hear its mighty rolling tide,
Shout His praises far and wide.
Then each mountain in rotation
To the swelling incantation,
Adds its deep reverberation.
Far at sea where billows leap,
Forming hills and valleys steep,
Booms a prayer from out the deep.
And the winds in ceaseless motion
With a rapturous devotion
Join their voices with the ocean.
And the anthem rising high,
Through the rosy morning sky,
To heaven's portal draweth nigh.
And the angels reverent wait
As the notes reverberate
Through the shining golden gate;
Reverent wait to hear the word
Of the everlistening Lord,
And the verdict to record:
'High the praise, the music sweet,
And the adoration meet
Which from earth my senses greet.
But one strain is missing there,
In creation's morning prayer,
Floating to me on the air.
Ah, it is the leading strain
That I miss as the refrain,
Echoes back to me again.
Thou in my own image made,
Hast alone no homage paid,
All but thee have knelt and prayed.'

EDNA.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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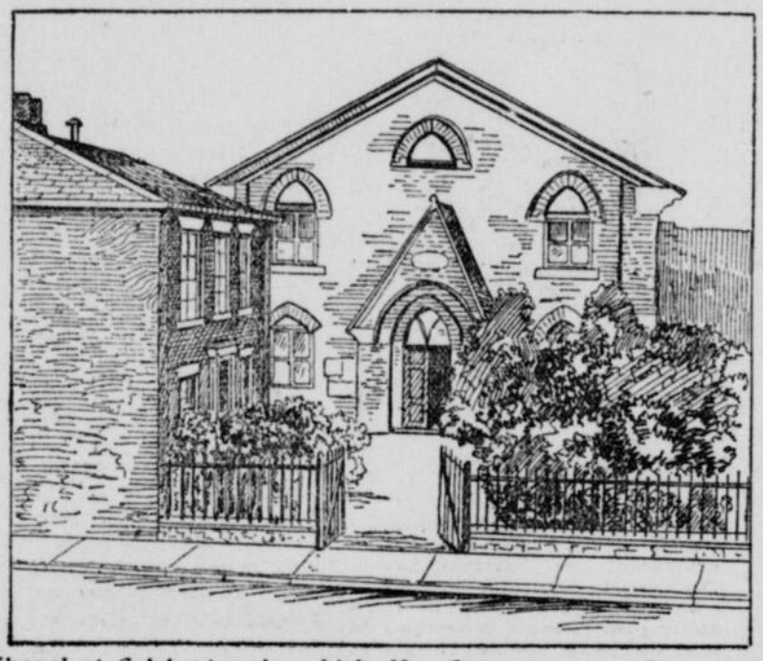
NOBLE RECORD OF A NOBLE LIFE.

C. H. SPURGEON'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

(Compiled by his wife and private secretary.)

('Christian Herald.')

The influence of the life of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, the late pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, lives on, although six years have passed since he was called home, at Mentone, the beautiful spot he loved so well, in the South of France. In a very real sense he still lives, in the numerous institutions he founded, and in his books and sermons, the circulation of which can be calculated by millions; while in numberless places all over the world are to be found those who look up to him still as their friend, their teacher, and pastor. These must have heard with pleasure that an autobiography (to be complete in four large volumes) was being prepared by his wife and private secretary, compiled from his diary, letters, and records. The first volume has been issued. It is certainly a very handsome production, containing three hundred and seventy-five pages of large print. The frontispiece is a copy of an unpublished portrait—'a lover's gift to her who was soon to become his wife'—and there are about thirty other illustraions, carefully drawn for this work; among them will be found the chapel where he was converted, the place where he delivered his first sermon, and the ferry where he was baptized. The volume, which is quarto size, is handsomely bound in thick bevelled boards with gilt edges. It contains thirty-three chapters, covering a period of twenty years—from 1834 to 1854. Here we have: Happy childhood at Stambourne—the home and school life—early religious impressions—the great change, conversion—diary, April to June, 1850—beginning to serve the Lord—the boy preacher of the Fens—first outlines of sermons, 1851-52—the young soul-winner at Waterbeach—first sermons at New Park Street—the cholera year in London.



Chapel at Colchester in which Mr. Spurgeon was Converted.

WHO WILL SING THE LOUDEST?

The introductory chapter of this work contains some useful remarks by Mr. Spurgeon on the value of good biographies, together with some general reflections on his own life, in which he remarks:—

'My life seems to me like a fairy dream. I used to think that I should sing among the saints above as loudly as any, for I owe so much to the grace of God; and I said so once in a sermon long ago, quoting these lines:—

'Then loudest of the crowd I'll sing,
While heaven's resounding mansions ring
With shouts of sovereign grace.'

'I thought I was the greatest debtor to Divine grace, and would sing the loudest to its praise; but when I came down out of the pulpit, there was a venerable woman who said to me, "You made a blunder in your sermon this evening." I said, "I dare say I made a dozen, good soul, but what was that particular one?" "Why, you said you would sing the loudest because you owed most to Divine grace: you are but a lad: you do not owe one-half as much to grace as I do at eighty years of age! I owe more to grace than you, and I will not let you sing the loudest." I found that there was a general conspiracy among the friends that night to put me in the background.'

HAPPY CHILDHOOD AT STAMBOURNE.

The chapter with this heading contains many interesting incidents of Mr. Spurgeon's early life, which he spent with his grandparents at Stambourne, Essex. The grandfather, the Rev. James Spurgeon, was the preacher of the meeting-house in that village, and, as is still the manner with many country pastors, was a farmer in a small way as well. Mr. Spurgeon has drawn a pleasing picture of the good feeling prevailing in those days between church and chapel in this Essex village. 'While my grandfather,' he says, 'was preacher at the meeting-house, Mr. Hopkins was rector at the church. They preached the same Gospel, and, without surrendering their principles, were great friends. The Bible Society held its meetings alternately in connection with the church and the meeting-house. At times the leading residents went to church in the morning and to chapel in the afternoon; and when I was a boy I have on Monday gone to the squire's to tea with Mr. Hopkins and my grandfather.' As Mr. Hopkins had more of the meat, and Mr. Spurgeon more of the mouths, the rector did not forget to help his friend in divers quiet ways. On one occasion, it is said, having a joint of beef on the rectory table, the clergyman cut it in halves, and sent his man on horseback with one-half of it to the Independent parsonage, while it was yet hot—a kind of joke not often practiced between Established and dissenting ministers.

The time came when young Spurgeon had to return home, and of this he remarks: 'I recollect when first I left my grandfather, how grieved I was to part from him—it was the great sorrow of my little life. Grandfather seemed very sorry, too, and we had a cry together. He did not quite know what to say to me, but he said, "Now, child, when the moon shines at Colchester, and you look at it, don't forget that it is the same moon your grandfather will be looking at from Stambourne;" and for years, as a child, I used to love the moon because I thought that my grandfather's eyes and my own somehow met there on the moon.'

MR. SPURGEON'S CONVERSION.

This volume contains a three months' 'diary' for the early part of 1850, which Mr. Spurgeon gave to his wife shortly after their marriage, and which is now published for the first time. It is of special interest, as it contains his reflections on his conversion. It commences with this reflection: 'Saved men and women date from the dawn of their true life—not from their first birthday, but from the day wherein they were born again; their calendar has been altered and amended by a deed of Divine grabe.—C.H.S.'

The diary opens with these facts:—'Born Jan. 6, 1850; admitted to fellowship, April 4; baptized, May 3; communed first, May 5; commenced as S.S. teacher same date; joined the church at Cambridge, Oct. 2.' And then comes the entry of this 'consecration prayer': 'O great and unsearchable God, who knowest my heart, and triest all my ways! with a humble dependence upon the support of thy Holy Spirit, I yield up myself up to thee; as thy own reasonable sacrifice, I return to thee thine own. I would be forever, unreservedly, perpetually thine; whilst I am on earth I would serve thee; and may I enjoy thee and praise thee forever. Amen.'—Charles Haddon Spurgeon, Feb. 1, 1850.'

Our first picture represents the Primitive Methodist chapel in Colchester where Mr. Spurgeon found the Saviour. The story is well known. Young Spurgeon, then fifteen years old, was under deep conviction of sin, when one Sabbath day, owing to the inclement state of the weather, instead of going to his usual place of worship he went to the Primitive Methodist chapel, which was not so far off. The preacher took for his text the words, 'Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.' During the discourse he fixed his eyes on Mr. Spurgeon, and said, 'Young man, you are in trouble; you will never get out of it unless you look to Christ.' And then, lifting up his hands, he cried out, 'Look, look, look! it is only look!' The lad immediately saw the way of salvation, and joy took the place of the deep spiritual anguish under which he had been laboring.

Our second picture is a view of Isleham Ferry, on the River Lark, Cambridgeshire, where Mr. Spurgeon was baptized by immersion, when fifteen years old, by the Rev. W. W. Cantlow, and on his mother's birthday. Mr. Spurgeon describes his baptism in interesting detail. He tells how he commenced the day by rising early for a couple of hours' quiet prayer and dedication to God; then an eight-mile walk to reach the spot.

'The wind blew down the river with a cutting blast as my turn came to wade into the flood; but after I had walked a few steps, and noted the people on the ferry-boat, and in boats, and on either shore, I felt as if heaven, and earth, and hell might all gaze upon me; for I was not ashamed there and then to own myself a follower of the Lamb. My timidity was washed away; it floated down the river into the sea, and must have been devoured by the fishes, for I have never felt anything of the kind since. Baptism also loosed my tongue, and from that day it has never been quiet. I lost a thousand fears in that River Lark, and found that in keeping his commandments there is great reward.'



Isleham Ferry, on the River Lark, in which he was Baptised.

MR. SPURGEON'S FIRST SERMON was preached, it is almost certain, in January, 1851. He does not appear to have recorded the date of that memorable event, although in his 'Autobiography' he has made very special reference to it; but he has noted the fact that his fourth discourse was delivered on Feb. 9, 1851. There is, therefore, very little doubt that his extempore address in cottage at Teversham (see our third picture), from the words, 'Unto you, therefore, which believe, he is precious,' was given the previous month, as immediately afterwards his services were in request for the various village stations around Cambridge.

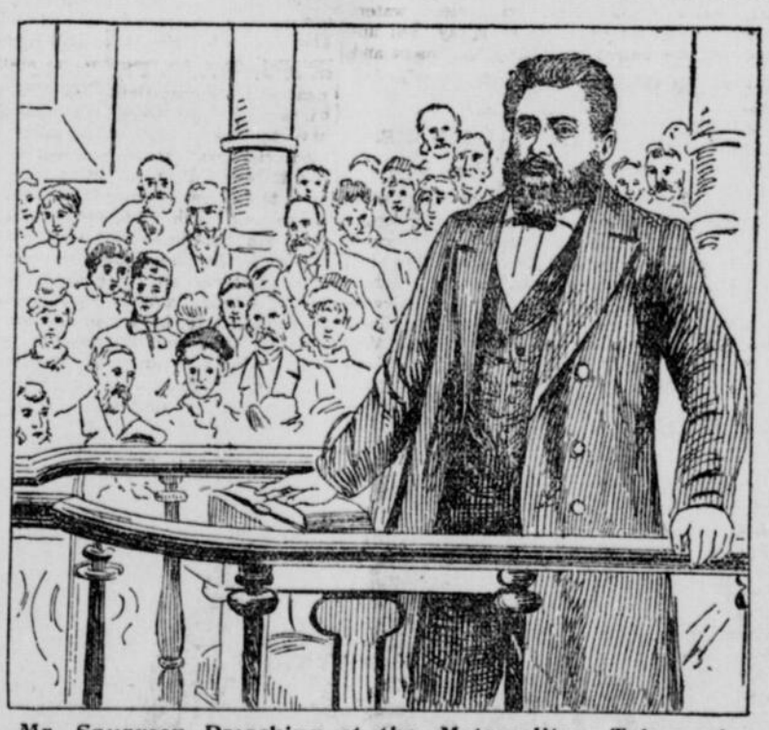
From this time he became a constant worker for God. The following glimpse of him at Newmarket in the midsummer of 1850 is a full proof of this:—

'I have had two opportunities of addressing the Sunday-school children, and have endeavored to do so as a dying man to dying beings. I am bound to Newmarket by holy bonds. I have seventy people whom I regularly visit on Saturday. I do not give a tract and go away; but I sit down and endeavor to draw their attention to spiritual realities. I have great reason to believe the Lord is working—the people are so kind, and so pleased to see me. I cannot bear to leave them. We are so feeble here that the weakest cannot be spared. We have a pretty good atendance at prayer-meetings; but so few praying men that I am constantly called upon.

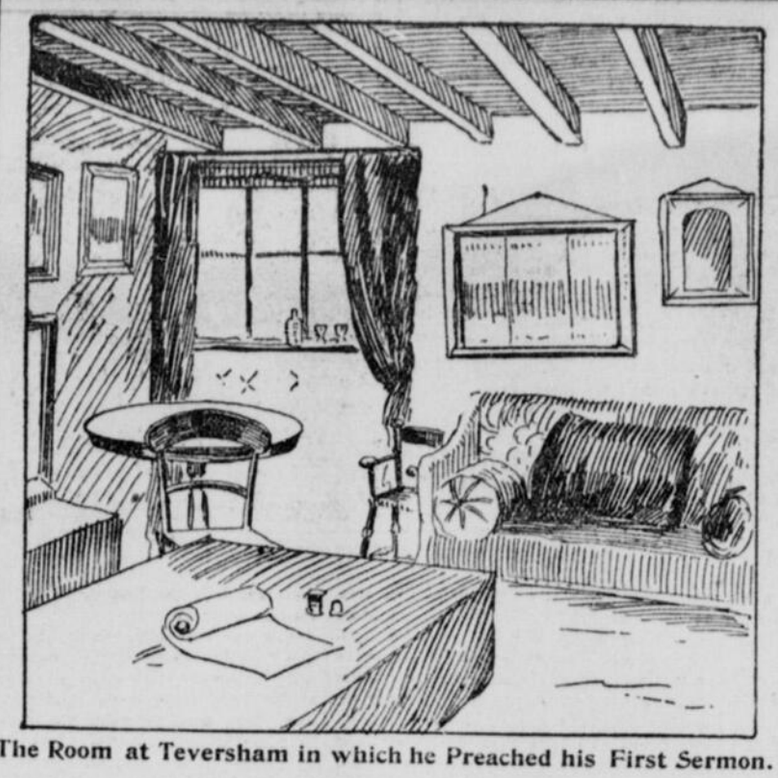
SHERIDAN KNOWLES'S PROPHECY.

The volume ends with the year 1854, the year of the commencement of his London pastorate. When Mr. Spurgeon had been in London only two Sundays, Sheridan Knowles—who before his conversion was one of the most famous actors of the day—had just become a member at Bloomsbury Chapel, and he taught elocution at Regent's Park College. The students presented him with a bible, and in accepting this gift, he thus spoke of the new preacher: 'Boys, have you heard the Cambridgeshire lad? If not, hear him at once if you want to know how to preach. His name is Charles Spurgeon. He is only a boy, but he is the most wonderful preacher in the world. He is absolutely perfect in his oratory, and, besides that, is a master in the art of acting. He has nothing to learn from me or anyone else. He is simply perfect. He knows everything. Now, mark my words, boys, that young man will live to be the greatest preacher of this or any other age. He will bring more souls to Christ than any other man who ever proclaimed the Gospel.'

Our fourth picture shows Mr. Spurgeon at a later period of his life, on the platform of the Metropolitan Tabernacle.



Mr. Spurgeon Preaching at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.



The Room at Teversham in which he Preached his First Sermon.

VICTORIAN NURSES FOR THE KLONDIKE.

LADY ABERDEEN HAS ONE IN VIEW.

Some weeks ago there was an appeal from the Rev. R. M. Dickey, Presbyterian missionary in Skaguay, for trained nurses for the Klondike.

'There will, I fear,' he says, 'be a great deal of sickness and many accidents. What is to become of the sick and wounded if we do not do something for them? I understand some of the Presbyterian societies are talking of sending in lady missionaries. If they could send in trained nurses with the love of Christ in their hearts there would be a great work for them to do. The people are mostly too eager after gold to care for the sick. We have had two very bad accidents of late. Two young fellows have recently been brought to town unconscious, suffering from bad accidents and it was only with great difficulty that places could be secured for them or any one found to nurse them. I am in great hopes that something will be done by the ladies soon. A man cannot do much in such work.'

In reply to this Lady Aberdeen writes to the editor of the 'Westminster':

'Allow me to say that if any of your readers are desirous to join in providing skilled nurses, who will undertake district nursing work in the Klondike this summer, the provisional committee of the Victorian Order of Nurses will undertake to send out an experienced lady-superintendent, with two or three graduate nurses to work under her, under the direction of the medical men who are going to settle in that district.

'We have heard from other quarters of the great need for such nurses, and we have a lady in view well fitted for such pioneer work, and who would delight in undertaking it.

'I should be happy to receive any contributions for this purpose, or they can be sent to Mrs. Edward Griffin, treasurer of the Victorian Order Fund, the Russell House, Ottawa.'

When once on the spot the nurses will doubtless not find it difficult to obtain subscriptions for the carrying on of their work. The majority of their patients will probably be in a position to pay remuneration for services rendered. We also hope that facilities will be given in the way of transportation. The main requirements will therefore be for the necessary outfits and supplies and a fund for guaranteeing the salaries of the superintendent and nurses for the first few months.

'I remain,

'Yours faithfully,

'ISHBEL ABERDEEN.'

A GREAT ISSUE IN CANADA.

('Presbyterian Record,' February.)

A great moral issue, long looked for by many, and worked for and prayed for by some, is now near in Canada; viz.: whether our people wish the liquor traffic continued by law among them or not.

Our General Assembly annually declares strongly in favor of prohibition of the liquor traffic. Last Assembly resolved:

'That our people are hereby earnestly exhorted to use their utmost endeavors, in every lawful way, to carry the plebiscite in favor of prohibition by an overwhelming majority; and thus free the Church from one of its deadliest foes, our land from untold misery and crime, and our modern civilization from its direst reproach and shame.'

Some twenty-five years ago, we heard Principal Grant, at a public meeting in Halifax, speaking in favor of one central Government University, and against State Aid to Denominational Colleges. He opened his terse, telling speech with one of those pithy sayings which great men sometimes coin for posterity: 'If you want to convince a man that he is right, argue with him.'

Do not be too severe upon him when he now takes to press and platform against prohibition. May it not be possible that the learned Principal has taken, in accordance with his own dictum, this somewhat novel method of convincing the people that they are right in following the 'earnest exhortation' of the Assembly and helping the work which the Assembly describes as 'freeing the Church from one of its deadliest foes, our land from untold misery and crime, and our modern civilization from its direst reproach and shame.'

Temperance people are used to the opposition of the liquor interest, and perhaps become too indifferent to it; but opposition from unexpected quarters leads them to examine more closely their foundations, and thus become more convinced of the importance of their great trust and more earnest in its behalf.

Can prohibition injure public morality?

The righteousness of a cause, its justice, its morality, its effects upon the public welfare, may be fairly judged, in advance, by the great body of its advocates. Take, for example, the question of prohibition of the liquor traffic in Canada. While there are good men and true, honestly opposed to prohibition, yet none will deny the following propositions:

(1) The liquor interest, from gutter to gin palace; from the 'gilded saloon' of the publican, to the gilded 'salon' of the brewer and distiller; maker, seller, drinker, tippler, sot, are all against it; unless indeed, it be an occasional poor victim, who in lucid moments, longing for freedom, wishes it beyond his reach.

(2) All the vicious elements in any country or community are against it. A plebiscite of our criminal population, our lawless men and fallen women, would decide the fate of prohibition beyond a doubt.

(3) The vast majority of the best men and women of our country, are in favor of it. The vast majority of those who are devoting strength and life to the well-being of humanity are in favor of it. The vast majority of those who are brought face to face with its awful results, in their efforts to save and uplift the fallen, the world's army of rescue, are in favor of it.

Judging from these facts there does not seem much room for doubt as to what effect prohibition would have upon public morality.

THE HORN BOOK.

The horn book, which is not a book at all, but a little handled tablet of oak on which is mounted a printed sheet containing the alphabet, short syllables, and the Lord's prayer, faced with a thin pane of protective horn—hence its name—was used in days when books were scarce to teach little children the first rudiments of learning.



In olden times these tablets took the place of the spelling book, and were in use in every dame's school. In those days a newspaper like the 'Witness' was undreamt of, and if such a storehouse of information could have been produced at all (which is doubtful) the price would have been at least several hundred times the cent now charged. Later on, when paper and print became cheapened, the horn-book was elbowed out of existence by the primer or spelling-book.

When Mr. Andrew Tuer began writing his recently-published 'History of the Horn Book,' but ten or a dozen were known to exist. Mr. Tuer has since unearthed about a hundred and fifty examples, all pictured and described in his interesting volumes, in the binding of which are recessed in pockets some real horn books copied in facsimile from rare originals. If any readers of the 'Witness' should be fortunate enough to unearth a horn book, they may be glad to know that it is a thing of price, and coveted by collectors.

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The seeds have been carefully selected as most suitable for all parts of the Dominion and comprise the new and improved varieties of flowers and vegetables.

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Send a list of eight subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' for the remainder of 1898 at seventy cents each, and secure offer No. 1, the Farm Garden Collection, free, the value of which is $1.75.

Send ten subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness' at seventy cents each and secure offers No. 1 and 2. A subscriber renewing for the 'Weekly Witness' and sending a new name along with $2.00 will secure the Farm Garden Collection free.

A list of five subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness' for the remainder of 1898 at seventy cents each, the sender will receive free Offer No. 2, the Kitchen Garden Collection.

Send four subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness' at seventy cents each for the remainder of 1898 and secure the Flower Garden Collection of Seeds free, the value of which is $1.25.

Offer No. 1.

The Farm Garden Collection.

$1.50 will secure this collection of seeds post-paid, and the Weekly 'Witness' to December 31st, 1898.

	cents.
Beans, Mammoth Wax or Butter	.05
Beans, Wardwell's Kidney Wax	.05
Beet, extra early Intermediate	.05
Cabbage, first and best	.10
Cabbage, Premium flat Dutch	.05
Carrot, early horn	.05
Carrot, half long Scarlet Nantes	.05
Cucumber, Impd. long green	.05
Corn, sweet, early market	.10
Corn, sweet, evergreen	.05
Lettuce, Nonpareil	.05
Musk Melon, earliest of all	.10
Nasturtium, dwarf	.05
Onion, selected yellow Danvers	.05
Onion, Silverskin, pickling	.05
Peas, new Queen	.10
Parsnip, New Intermediate	.10
Parsley, Triple Curled	.05
Radish, Olive Gem, white tipped	.05
Radish, half-long Scarlet	.05
Pepper, long Red	.05
Spinach, long standing	.05
Squash, Hubbard Winter	.05
Squash, Vegetable Marrow	.05
Tomato, New Canada	.10
Turnip, Early White Stone	.05
Turnip, Purple Top, Swede	.05
Sage	.05
Summer Savory	.05
Total	$1.75

In addition to above, an excellent novelty will be included free, consisting of a packet of New Giant Chilian Salpiglossis, price, twenty cents.

The Farm Garden Collection to 'Witness' Subscribers, post-paid, 75c.

Offer No. 2.

The Kitchen Garden Collection.

$1.20 will secure this collection of seeds post-paid, and the Weekly 'Witness' to December 31st, 1898.

	cents.
Beans, Mammoth Red German Wax	.05
Beet, extra early intermediate	.05
Cabbage, first and best	.10
Carrot, half long Scarlet Nantes	.05
Cucumber, improved long green	.05
Corn, sweet early market	.10
Lettuce, Nonpareil	.05
Musk melon, earliest of all	.10
Onion, selected, Yellow Danvers	.05
Parsnip, New Intermediate	.10
Parsley, triple curled	.05
Peas, New Queen	.10
Radish, Olive Gem, white tipped	.05
Squash, Hubbard Winter	.05
Tomato, new, Canada	.10
Turnip, early stone	.05
Total	$1.10

In addition to the above, an excellent novelty will be included free, consisting of a package of New Giant Chilian Salpiglossis price, twenty cents.

The Kitchen Garden Collection to 'Witness' Subscribers, post-paid, 45c.

Offer No. 3.

The Flower Garden Collection.

$1 25 will secure this collection of seeds post-paid, and the Weekly 'Witness' to December 31st, 1898,

	cents.
Aster, giant flowering, mixed colors.	15
Sweet Mignonette	.05
Pansy, new giant flowering, mixed	.10
Zinnia, mamoth double, all colors	.10
Nasturtium, tall, mixed	.05
Portulaca	.05
Candytuft, all colors	05
Morning Glory	.05
Pinks, Double, China	.05
Balsam, Improved double mixed	.10
Marvel of Peru	.05
Verbena, mammoth flowering	.10
Stocks, large flowering, ten weeks	.10
Sweet Peas, the finest selection	.10
Phlox Drummondi, all colors	.05
Petunia, finest, all colors and shades	.10
Total	$1.25

In addition to above, an excellent novelty will be included free, consisting of a package of new Giant Chilian Salpiglossis; price, 20c.

The Flower Garden Collection to 'Witness' Subscribers, post-paid, 40c.

ADDRESS

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
'Witness' Office, Montreal.

ADVERTISEMENTS.



Vapo-Cresolene

FOR

Whooping Cough, Croup, Colds, Coughs, Asthma, Catarrh

Items from physicians' statements in our Descriptive Booklet. Send for it.

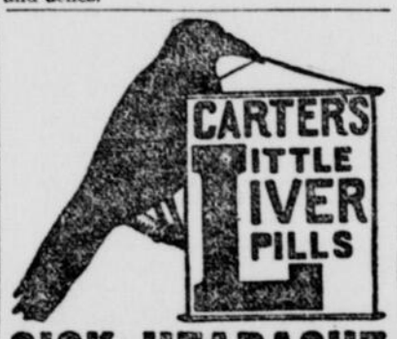
"Have found it of such great value in Whooping Cough, Croup and other spasmodic coughs, that I have instructed every family under my direction to secure one." "It is of great value in Diphtheria." "It gives relief in Asthma. The apparatus is simple and inexpensive." Sold by all druggists.

VAPO-CRESOLENE CO.,
69 WALL STREET, N. Y. City.



You need it to bear the daily burdens of life. If your back's weak—Doan's Kidney Pills will strengthen it. If it pains and aches—Doan's Kidney Pills will cure it. No experiment in taking Doan's Kidney Pills. They cured hundreds of weak, aching backs long before other kidney pills were dreamed of.

Mr. James Row, Belleville, Ont., suffered for nine years with terrible pain in the back, rheumatic pains, and pains in the bladder. He spent $300 doctoring, but got little relief. Doan's Kidney Pills have completely curedhim,banished the back pains, and all the other pains and aches.



SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

EPILEPSY FITS
FALLING SICKNESS
CONVULSIONS
AND SPASMS

CURED

LIEBIG'S FIT CURE

Is the only successful Remedy for Epilepsy and its kindred affections. This disease is increasing at an alarming extent. It is claimed by Scientists that one person in every 500 has this disease in some form or other, therefore there are to-day, 10,000 sufferers in the Dominion of Canada.

We wish every sufferer to use Liebig's Fit Cure and we will send a large

FREE SAMPLE

Of Liebig's Fit Cure to any sufferer sending us his name and address, which will be sent by mail securely sealed (in a patented mailing tube), direct to your post-office address, thus saving from 25 to 40 cts. for express charges. As we have gone to considerable expense in putting samples in these mailing tubes, we would ask you to enclose 10 cents to cover cost of postage. Send name and address to

THE LIEBIG CO.,
4½ Brunswick Ave., TORONTO, ONT.
Mention 'Witness.'

THIS CANCER CONQUERED.

The following regarding the "VITALIA REMEDIES" for the cure of CANCERS, tumors and blood poisons speaks for itself:

Toronto, Oct. 12th, 1897.

Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to testify to the merits of your remedy, "Vitalia."

For the benefit of similar sufferers to myself you may say that I believe the "Vitalia" has saved my life.

In the fall of '91 I received a blow in the left breast which formed a lump which grew steadily for four years. This spring I had it removed by a plaster, a most severe process. However, it was of no avail. A lump formed in the other breast and grew rapidly. The shooting pains grew worse in both breasts. The lump has nearly disappeared. I have been taking the "Vitalia" only two months. Yours sincerely,

MISS NEIL,
514 Queen st., W.

Consultation at office or by mail, free.

They will give or mail free to any one interested a 120-page book that contains much valuable information about the workings of this wonderful remedy. Address the A. Myron Mason Medicine Co., Dept. M.D.W., 577 Sherbourne street, Toronto. 16

DO YOU WANT A FARM?

Advertise in the 'Weekly Witness.' Twenty-five cents for twenty-five words each insertion.

FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

RENEWALS, AND REMINISCENCES OF EARLY DAYS OF SETTLEMENT.

There is in the letters given below evidence of hearty appreciation of the 'Witness.' In a friendship that lapses into a lifetime of pleasant communication, it is the earlier days of acquaintanceship to which one especially reverts. It is not surprising, then, that our subscribers have chosen to refer to the length of days of friendship and it is the more pleasing that the hopes expressed are for its prosperity in the future—sentiments that the 'Witness' now heartily reciprocates.

Brachead, Herdman, Que., Feb. 8.

Jno. Dougall & Son,

Dear Old 'Witness.'—The Montreal 'Witness' is almost a sacred name to me. Long years ago, when Mama came to Canada from Aberdeen, Scotland, a young married lady, having met with serious losses by the breaking of a bank, they settled in a bush farm, although Papa was the son of one of the professors of Marischal College, Aberdeen, and knew nothing of farming in the world. The very next summer, Mr. Grafton, your well-known agent, came walking into their pretty, old-country-looking house, with Mrs. Grafton, I believe, and presented for their inspection some copies of the Montreal 'Witness.' Well, the 'Witness' has been a visitor in whatever has been my home since I came into the world, unless at short intervals when I was not able to keep it up. I know the influence it has for the right, and the good it has done as a newspaper will never be known to you until time shall be no more. I have pleasure in expressing undying love for the Montreal 'Witness.'

Yours sincerely,
RACHEL J. PEAKE.

P.S.—With regard to premiums, we consider the 'Witness' is in itself a premium, independent of any other.

Litchfield, Minn., Jan. 31.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Dear Sir,—The 'Weekly Witness' is joy and satisfaction to my family. For foreign and home news it has no rival. I cannot keep house without it.

Yours sincerely,
S. A. HEARD.

Mr. Peter Grant, of Galt, Ont., says, in renewing his subscription for 1898:—'I have read the 'Witness' ever since 1855.'

Amherst Point, N.S., Jan. 25.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Dear Sir,—Would that I could wield the pen of a ready writer. I would proclaim to the world the admirable manner in which you conduct the 'Witness,' and at so low a price that no household need be without a weekly family paper, a faithful advocate of peace and good will to mankind. They have long been welcome messengers to our home, and prized next to our denominational paper.

I very much regret that a Nova Scotian standing so high in the religious and literary world as Principal Grant should think it his duty to take a stand against prohibition, the enactment of which I hope to see in my day in our fair Dominion. Thanks to Dr. Carman and others for their replies to Principal Grant. May their discussion awaken every temperance man and woman to the necessity of standing shoulder to shoulder against our common foe, intemperance.

Wishing you continued success in your noble work, and with the assurance of continued friendship, I remain,

AN OLD BAPTIST.

Thornhill, Ont., Feb. 1, 1898.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Dear Sir,—My father has taken the 'Weekly Witness' for about twenty-five years, and from one Wednesday to another seems too long to wait for the paper to come. I wish you every prosperity.

Yours respectfully,
EDITH M. WARD.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son,

Gentlemen,—I herewith enclose you six renewals to the 'Witness.' I may say that as a popular weekly the 'Witness' continues to hold a first place in the minds of your subscribers here. For strictly reliable information on the leading questions of the day, political or otherwise, the 'Witness' editorials are a standard reference. Being 'Britishers to the core,' the pictorial sketches of incidents in Britain's little wars are much appreciated, and when we read in your columns that in international diplomacy the tight little island comes out on top we are particularly happy.

Wishing the 'Witness' a prosperous New Year, I remain, yours sincerely,

W. COPELAND.

Merigonish, N.S., Jan. 3, 1898.

Crookston, Minn., Jan. 21.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son,

Gentlemen,—Herewith find post-office order for one dollar, to pay for one year's subscription to the 'Weekly Witness.' The 'Weekly Witness' is the best family paper in the world published at one dollar a year.

JOHN MOORE.
Superintendent of City Schools.

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.]

FARM GLEANINGS.

Old Wooden Buckets.—If these are used in handling sap they should be first cleansed by slacking a little fresh lime in each one, after which rinse thoroughly. Convert the sap as soon as possible into syrup and sugar.

For the production of gilt-edge maple products I tap the trees in a shallow manner, because the most and sweetest sap lies in the latest growth of wood. The last ring contains the richest sap. I tap close to the ground, for here we get the most sap, and it is also the richest. Gather as soon as possible, keeping sap cold, even if ice must be resorted to for that purpose, and evaporate at once.

Why sprouted potato seed goes further than unsprouted. Sprouted seed goes further from the fact that the conditions of growth are more favorable in a warm room than in the damp, cool soil in the open ground. Every eye develops a strong young plant, and when transferred to the field makes a rapid growth, instead of damping off, or failing to start at all, as is frequently the case when fresh cut potatoes are planted early, with cold damp weather following.

I read the other day that, 'when a man begins to see the need of economy he thinks it should commence with his wife.' Isn't that often true? Economy should not be confined to one member of the family, it should be general. There are many leaks out of doors that the average man doesn't notice. If your farm is small you don't need every new invention in machinery that comes along, you expect when you get a sewing machine it will last your wife the best part of her life, but a binder that is only used a couple of weeks in a year will give out in five or six years. The trouble is this, many of you don't properly care for your machinery or run it carefully; if one has expensive machinery it pays to have a decent place in which to store it when not in use. A cheap building devoted to this use soon pays for itself.—Ex.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Keep constantly in mind the sound piece of advice that 'a steer that is well-wintered is half-summered,' for a truer agricultural maxim was never promulgated. In fact, nothing that grows for the farmer should cease to gain in weight or be retarded toward maturity even for a moment, while it is in his care. Checked life in plant or animal, however short, can never be overcome and restored to pristine vigor.

A few years ago veterinary surgeons thought glanders in horses could not be controlled. By slaughtering all affected animals it could be held in check but not stamped out altogether. The discovery of mallein has put an entirely new complexion on the question. With its aid any horse owner can now keep his stock free from the disease without having to kill a single animal except those actually affected.

The ewes require liberal treatment after lambing. The flow of milk should be assisted in every way possible by roots, clover hay and mixed grains. Within recent years, however, it has been found more profitable to feed the lamb extra food directly rather than give him everything through the ewe, and to this end small enclosures are made, excluding the ewes and admitting the lambs to rations of pulped turnips, bran and small quantities of finely ground peas and oats.

In treating either horses or cattle for lice, the cause should be removed. If the animal is poor it should be well fed and sheltered. If it is the poultry lice which are causing the trouble, the hen house or roosts should be removed and the stable whitewashed with fresh lime. There are a number of remedies recommended for the destruction of lice. An effectual solution is made by boiling one pint stavesacre seeds and twenty pints of water for one hour. Keep it nearly at a boil for one hour longer, making up the water to the quantity originally used. Such a solution rubbed into the skin not only kills the lice, but also destroys their eggs. If stavesacre seeds cannot be obtained, substitute tobacco instead of the seeds. A simple remedy is equal parts of coal oil and raw linseed or cottonseed oil, but this is difficult to remove from the hair.

DAIRYING DOTS.

Mr. F. C. Harrison, bacteriologist at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, has made a large number of analyses of Canadian cheddar cheese during the past two years, and has obtained a lot of valuable information in regard to the kinds of bacteria producing bad flavors in cheese. Last season Mr. Harrison received a sample of cheese from Instructor Publow, of the Eastern Dairymen's Association, containing a bad flavor which on careful investigation was found to be caused by undesirable bacteria getting into the cheese from the use of bad water at the factory. The cheese from which this sample was taken was made at the Ashton Union Factory. According to Mr. Publow's report everything about the factory was in good order and kept clean and tidy, only the water from the well had a very bad flavor. The cheese was good in every way except having a bad flavor. The water at the Ashton factory was condemned, and on discontinuing the use of the water from the well the cheese made afterwards was all right. Hence we may repeat what has often been said, viz., that factorymen should pay very close attention to the water supply in their factories, to see that it is clear, pure and good. Bad smelling water should never be used for setting vats. In all doubtful cases the water should be boiled, and then cooled to the required temperature.

At London during the convention of the Western Butter and Cheese Association, the cheese and butter-makers formed an organization for their own mutual benefit and protection. Mr. J. T. Henderson, Pine River, is president and F. Brooks, Holbrook, secretary. During the past few years the makers have had to make good many losses for inferior cheese, for which they were not to blame. Many instances are reported where cheese sold on the local markets was rejected by the buyer at the factory because of some imaginary fault, and the maker rather than have the matter made public would agree to pay the buyer a certain sum of money and have the affair kept quiet. In quite a few instances makers are known to have been compelled to pay out the whole year's wages as 'silence' money to the buyer. To a certain extent the maker is to blame for this condition of things, as he very often submits too readily to the demands of the buyer. If the quality of the cheese is not up to the mark when inspected by the buyer and if the maker is to blame, all well and good. But we know of one or two instances where the cheese was reported by persons competent to judge to be of good quality, and it would seem as if the buyer complained of the quality for the express purpose of getting an extra commission from the cheese-maker. If such a condition of things exists it is time that the makers were taking steps to protect themselves. The plan which the makers have adopted to protect their interests is a good one, and if the new organization is only managed along proper lines and within reason, it will do much to counteract the tendency to impose a little too much upon the maker. Aside from the question of protecting the rights of the makers, the organization should prove invaluable as a means of advancing the education of the maker in the best methods of cheese and butter-making which is indeed the important thing to be considered.

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.

CONCERNING BARLEY AND BEER.

A.G.R., Kars, Ont.—1. How many gallons of beer could be made from 1,000 bushels of barley when malted? 2. What would be the value of this beer? T. M. Prescott, Ont. 3. Would any loss result to farmers from the prohibition of the manufacture of beer as regards the sale of barley? 4. Where can the book 'Jamie Douglas the Covenanter' be obtained? Ans.—1 and 2. One bushel of barley when malted would produce about 15 gallons of beer. Hops and other ingredients would of course be used in the manufacture. Therefore 1,000 bushels of barley would with other ingredients produce about 15,000 gallons of beer, which would be worth say seventy-five cents per gallon at the retail place or about $11,250 for the 15,000 gallons. In 1896 the price of barley was forty cents per bushel. Of the $11,250 paid for the beer the former would therefore receive about $400. The remaining $10,850 would represent the profit of the brewer and liquor-dealer, the amount (a small item) paid for hops, and small amounts paid to the maltsters, coopers, bottlers, cork makers, and cutters, etc. 3. Probably not, as only about six percent of the average annual crop of barley is sold for malting purposes. A market for this small proportion of the annual harvest could easily be found; e.g., in 1893, the Inland Revenue Report showed that 1,389,045 bushels of barley were sold for malting purposes the annual average crop of barley for the twelve previous years having been about 23,000,000 bushels. The great bulk of the barley now produced is being used for food, the price has consequently been reduced to a food basis. Part of it is being exported to Europe, part is being used in Canada for feeding purposes. The malster has taken advantage of the lowered price and is now giving more for it than the feeder. The malster is in fact getting his six percent of the annual barley crop at about the same rate as the feeder is getting his ninety-four percent. In 1896 it was generally believed that with barley at only forty cents per bushel the lowest price at which it would be profitable to raise this crop, had been reached; at this rate the farmer received only about $10 for an acre of land sown with barley. It is not probable that the stoppage of the sale of barley would result in a further reduction of its price. If it did, then the probability is that it would not be grown at all. The hops used in malting purposes are to a great extent imported. At any rate hops are not grown to any great extent in Canada. 4. Try Messrs. W. Drysdale & Co., 232 St. James street, Montreal; Messrs. Grafton & Sons, 259 St. James street, or W. Foter Brown & Co., corner Mansfield and St. Catherine streets, Montreal.

SALARY OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

G.T.M.—What salary does the Mayor and aldermen of the city of Montreal receive? Ans.—The mayor gets $2,000 a year. There is no remuneration for the aldermen.

FENIAN MEDALS.

W.R., Denver, Colo.—I see by the 'Witness' that the volunteers of long ago are to get a medal. If so, I think I am entitled to one, as I was one of the Highland Company that was called out at the elections in the fifties. Besides, I fought and bled (mosquitoes) for 18 days on Ile-aux-Noix, with Capt. Durbar Browne's Battery of Artillery in 1866. There are others here besides myself. Ans.—The Fenian medals have not yet been given. They will probably be struck shortly, and the only question is who shall get them, whether they will be given to all who volunteered at the time or only to those who actually were sent to the frontier.

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.]

INFLAMMATION OF JOINTS.

D.W.—I have been troubled with inflammatory rheumatism for the past ten years in the joints of my little fingers, and till last year it had not extended; but during the last year it has attacked every joint in both hands; hands swell at night, and have to rub them in morning before I go to work. I have tried many kinds of liniment, but get no relief. Kindly let me have a remedy. Ans.—Small joints sometimes are affected with a deforming change which seems to be caused by some failure of nutrition or in nerves governing nutrition as it occurs in pale or overworn people. This has been called rheumatoid arthritis, arthritis deformans or chronic osteo-arthritis. These names call attention to the fact that it is an inflammation, changing the joint, and like rheumatism without being quite the same thing. Some, however, believe it to be the same disease, in which case, difference of constitution might be one of the reasons for its differences. In practice the two seem to mix up.

Osteo arthritis is treated by seeking to build up the poor blood and exhausted nerves by food, change of air, tonics and such means, while massage—a process of gentle kneading of the limb or hands or feet is found grateful to the patient and encourages absorption of the products of inflammation into the blood which is nature's method of cure. These products are not hurtful to the system, but pass harmlessly along to be utilized or thrown off as waste. Yet when all this has been done an arrest of the process of deformity is about all that can be looked for from medical treatment. The fingers already deformed with nodular bony enlargement remain so, as in chronic rheumatism where the inflammation shows itself by pink flush, swelling of quite a noticeable kind, severe pain and more rapid progress. Sometimes in old people one large joint, the hip joint, for instance, may become gradually stiffened from a process of this kind. The hip disease of the old is totally different from the abscess of the hip joint in young people. It is inconvenient, but does not otherwise involve the general health or poison the system with absorption of pus and organisms. Such cases need comfort, feeding up warm dry rooms, and something to relieve pain when it comes on, but no perfect cure is possible after a joint is changed. Cod liver oil is much relied upon in chronic joint inflammations, strongly flavored with oil of wintergreen and emulsified with compounds of soda and potash it digests easily and promotes a healthier condition of the nerves and tissues. Alcoholic stimulants must be avoided. A yearly visit to mineral springs is of use in such cases partly for the actual benefit of active alterative measures, and partly for the ideas gained during a course of treatment, as to home treatment, diet and so on. The change of scene and fresh experiences also tend to invigorate the system. Sulphur has always been believed in as a cure for rheumatism. When it acts as a laxative and stimulates all execretions and secretions it certainly relieves a clogged system, but continued use does not perfect cure. Sulphur troches with tartrate of potash contains five grains. Brunton gives ten grains of sulphur, as an alterative dose, thirty to sixty grains as a laxative. Two to six of the lozenges might be used for six weeks as an alterative and laxative taking care to wear woollen undergarments on account of more free perspiration.

CREOLIN.

Enquirer.—Can creolin be safely used? 1. In bath room. 2. As a disinfectant. 3. As a gargle for throat. 4. Internally for colds or catarrh of stomach. Ans.—Creolin is a remedy something like carbolic acid. It is prepared from coal tar and must be carefully diluted from one part in 100 to one part in 500 when used. It has an antiseptic influence and purifies when used to wash ulcers or cleanse catarrhal discharges. It is not better for these purposes than some better known drugs. It may safely be used for washing or rinsing, but should be ordered by a doctor for internal use. In the 'British Medical Journal' in 1889, creolin was spoken of as an unreliable disinfectant, a weak antiseptic and more poisonous than was supposed. A person who swallowed nine ounces and was poisoned thereby is mentioned as having recovered in the same journal in 1892.

TROUBLE WITH EYES.

J.S.T., Oregon.—A full reply under heading, 'Seeing Spots,' was given to your questions in medical column of Feb. 1. Please look up that issue. As your last letter is dated Feb. 1, it is evident you wrote again before the answers to your former communication appeared.

WELL WATER.

B.—Is the constant use of well water, that is strong with sulphuretted hydrogen, unhealthy? What are the ill effects? The water is not as bad if we dip it as when it is pumped from the bottom of the well, which has seven feet of water in it. Ans.—Sulphuretted hydrogen in a well necessitates an analysis of the water lest there should be unhealthy organic matters present; also to find out the medicinal value of the water; as a drinking water, the well water is unfit for constant use, unless it could have the sulphuretted hydrogen, etc., precipitated and then filtered. Boils, rashes and disorders follow continual use of sulphur springs.

TO GET WATER ANALYZED.

Collect the sample in a perfectly clean bottle with a glass stopper. Tie down the stopper with clean cotton or linen cloth. Keep in a cool, dark place, and have it examined if possible, within twenty-four hours. In collecting the water dip down below the surface and remove the stopper below the water; fill completely and cork at

once; then send to an analytical chemist, who could always be heard of through the professors of chemistry of our universities.

CONTAMINATED WELLS.

Sulphates, if unassociated with any special geological features which would account for the presence of an unusually large amount of sulphates; their existence in excessive quantity, taken in conjunction with chlorides, organic matter, ammonia, and so on, is corroborative evidence of sewage contamination.

How the S (3 H) is formed.—The presence of sulphuretted-hydrogen gas in water is generally held to arise from the deoxidizing influence of decaying organic matter on the various sulphates present: the oxygen of the sulphuric acid unites with the carbon to form carbonic acid (gas), while the sulphur unites with the hydrogen (of the organic matter), to form sulphuretted hydrogen.—Husband's Hygiene.

SULPHUR SPRINGS.

Celebrated health resorts have been built up in the regions where natural uncontaminated sulphur springs exist. The gases of these springs are carbonic acid and sulphuretted hydrogen. Harrowgate and Strath-peffer in Great Britain; Aix-les-Bains and Aix-la-Chapelle in France; Alpena well, Alpena County, Michigan; Blue Lick, Kentucky, with Sharon, Schoharie County, New York, and Avon Spring, Livingston County, New York, are well known examples. Patients have been sent to these places who suffer from rheumatism, gout, piles, congestions, gravel and liver disorders.. A course of baths at such a place of three to six weeks has been found useful to many such patients. The waters of these springs taken internally are actively alterative and purgative. The amount of sulphur absorbed in the system is less when the quantity taken is great. Sulphur itself is inactive unless it is altered outside or inside the system into sulphuretted hydrogen or sulphides.

ERYTHEMA.

R.—Every spring my face burns very red, and the skin peels off in places. Very painful when rubbed. Kindly prescribe a cure. Answer—Erythema comes on from various causes. It is a deep flush upon the skin, which does not last long, but may be followed by the skin rubbing off. This red flush is not like erysipelas, which is a deep red raised spot, which spreads continuously from the edge of the spot. Erysipelas is also different in the severity of the general symptoms. Erysipelas is serious, and needs attention from a doctor. Certain plants, like the primula, or the poison ivy, may cause a red flush. Eczema may take the form of a dry, red spot with peeling skin. Some persons get this condition from being out in cold weather. In all cases softening and cooling the skin will relieve the discomfort, and if done at first may prevent the trouble altogether. By preventing the first heat and redness the swelling, tension and dryness can be prevented. While applying a salve use a cooling drink such as lemonade. This may be sunburn. Borax or soda in the water to wash the face will help to cool it. Keep some powdered borax in a box on your toilet table so as to use a pinch of it when wanted. Then apply any of the following three remedies, which are cooling and softening to the skin: Hamamelis ointment, one part in seven; cucumber cream, or glycerine of tannin, one part in four, or five parts of water. Apply these while the skin is damp from washing, and dry gently with a piece of soft, clean, old linen. If done at once, it will work best.

PAPAIN.

Enquirer.—In your issue of Jan. 4, on page 11, under the title of 'A Vegetable Digestive,' you have a short article describing the qualities of 'Papain' as a digestive. Please say where the preparation can be got. Do you place it before 'pepsin' for that purpose. Ans.—Papain is a new remedy. It is placed before pepsin in a work upon indigestion not very long published. When the nearest druggist does not keep a remedy of this kind, he no doubt would send for it. Pepsin will perform the same work, and is put up in many forms and sold every where, which may make it cheaper than sending for papain.

DEAFNESS.

W.E.M.—I am a man of thirty-five years of age. I am a little deaf, and I am getting worse every month, especially when I have a cold. I have been under several doctors, the best in our town. I was under one for five or six months. He said all my nerves running to the drum of the ear were good, and he could not make it out. Another doctor said I should be where I could be treated for the ailment every day. He said I should sniff some salt and water up my nose, which would stop it from going any further. But I don't find it so. Do you think it would be best for me to consult a specialist? Ans.—Deafness may proceed from wax hardened against the drum membrane, or from stiffening and thickening of the lining membrane of the drum, or from a hole in the drum, or from paralysis. In your case the doctor thought there was no paralysis. If there is any catarrh, which is the most common cause of deafness, it would account for the advice to rinse the throat and nose. It seems very important that you should see an oculist and get the best care possible, as you are still comparatively young. Catarrh of the middle ear, when it has lasted a while, is very hard to cure. Lotions snuffed through the nose, containing salt or muriate of ammonium, or chlorate of potash, will tend in this way, but are ineffectual to cure. Without examining the ear it is not possible to say whether the ear drum and middle ear concerned in hearing, are inflamed or injured in any way. Catarrh of the middle ear is very common and in time thickening of the tissues may result with dryness and tension.

LEGAL.

(ONTARIO).

A PROPOSED ACTION OF TRESPASS.

Subscriber, Winnipeg, Man.—I rent a house. Since I came in it has been sold to a new landlord. He has moved a house into my garden, broken my fence down, and never said a word to me. I pay my rent regularly. Can I sue him for trespass or what can I do? Ans.—He probably rendered himself liable for trespass. On the other hand it is possible you have legally waived your right to recover damages for it. To be sure of your exact position you should consult a solicitor personally.

DOCUMENTS WITHHELD.

Thornbury, Ont.—1. Supposing myself to be interested in my late grandfather's will and said will being in the possession of a cousin (my grandfather's family, i.e., my mother and her brothers and sisters being all dead) can I compel my cousin to allow me to read the will or give me a copy thereof? I do not know where will was proved or whether proved at all. 2. If aforementioned cousin obtained said papers by stealthily taking them from house of her deceased brother's widow can said widow compel her to give them up? Ans.—1. Yes; by taking the appropriate legal action—for which a solicitor should be instructed. 2. Yes.

A SUPPOSED INHERITANCE.

Inquirer, Ont.—My grandfather's father was born and died in the State of Connecticut and is supposed to have left property to my grandfather who died nine years ago without looking after said property. I being the next heir what course could I take to find out such property? How long would said property have to be unclaimed before appropriated to other than the legal heirs? Ans.—You should instruct a lawyer to investigate the matter for you.

LIMITATION OF PROCEEDINGS FOR DEBT.

A Subscriber, N.S.—Is a debt outlawed in Nova Scotia twenty years from the time it is contracted, or twenty years from the time that judgment is delivered, or from the time that the first summons is issued? Ans.—The period would begin from the time of judgment.

MOTHER COLLECTING SON'S WAGES.

Reader, Princeton, Ont.—1. Can a boy seventeen years old hire for a year on a farm so that his mother could draw his wages and prevent his father from drawing them—his mother having left his father? 2. Can a woman leaving her husband take anything out of the house, she having spent two hundred dollars in furnishing the house when she got married? Ans.—1. The matter is capable of being so arranged. 2. She could take with her anything that she was in a position to identify as her own property.

AN ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Treherne, Man.—Married man has rent and fuel free for the winter to cut 150 cords of wood at 50c per cord; he to repair the house. He has cut 63 cords when his employer stops him and wants to put him out of the house. 1. Can his employer stop him from cutting? 2. Can his employer put him out of the house? 3. Can the employee go on cutting and charge the employer for it? 4. Can the employer charge the employee rent for the house after the employer has stopped employee cutting? 5. Can the employer charge the employee for the fuel he uses after employer stops him cutting providing employee cuts the said wood? 6. Can the employee come on the employer for damages as he is unexpectedly thrown out of work? Ans.—There must have been something in the conduct of the employee that, whether legally sufficient or not to justify the action of the employer, at all events prompted it. The statement of facts is silent in that regard. In order to answer your questions we ought to be informed respecting all the material circumstances bearing thereon. Not having such information before us we consider that we are not in a position to give an opinion.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL.

(Conducted by W. F. Clarke, "Lindenbank," Guelph.)

THAT SHAMELESS PLAGIARISM.

E. Duncan, Comax, B.C.—My only excuse for not answering Mr. Stevenson sooner is that in the bustle of Xmas-time your issue of Dec. 14 was quite overlooked, and it was only yesterday that a friend showed me the paper.

A week after the appearance in the 'Cosmopolitan' of Mr. Roberts's 'Epitaph for a Husbandman,' I sent the 'Elegy' to an American periodical as an avowed imitation and correction of the same. Mr. Roberts is a real poet, but has hazy notions of the life and ideas of a farmer. Let us analyse his poem: 'He who would start and rise before the crowing cocks.' (This farmer was in the habit of rising about 3 a.m.) 'No more he lifts his eyes, whoever knocks.' (This farmer was in the habit of being knocked up.) 'He who before the stars would call the cattle home,—they wait about the bars for him to come.' (Why not 'at,' 'beside,' or 'behind,' the bars? 'About' implies both outside and in. Would the outside cattle wait?) 'The clods he used to cleave now cover him.' (Was he buried in his own ploughed fields?) 'But the green growing things lean kindly to his sleep.' (These include weeds, of course.) 'White roots and wandering strings closer they creep.' (An exact description of the roots of nettles which grow so rank in every country churchyard.) 'Because he loved them long.' (This is the stunning blow. Tell a farmer that he loves the roots of weeds!)

Below are the poem and imitation, and farmers can judge which is truest to life.

THE POEM.

'He who would start and rise before the crowing cocks,—
No more he lifts his eyes, whoever knocks;
He who before the stars would call the cattle home,—
They wait about the bars for him to come.
Him at whose hearty calls the farmstead woke again,
The horses in their stalls expect in vain.
Busy and blithe and bold he labored for the morrow;
The plough his hands would hold rusts in the furrow.
His fields he had to leave, his orchards cool and dim,—
The clods he used to cleave now cover him.
But the green growing things lean kindly to his sleep;
White roots and wandering strings, closer they creep;
Because he loved them long and with them bore his part,
Tenderly now they throng about his heart.'

THE IMITATION.

He who rose, and roused his household, in the dawning gray,—
Rises not, nor lifts an eyelid, all the sunny day—
He who brought the cows from pasture ere the sun grew hot,—
At the gate they wait and wonder why they see him not.
He the ever foremost mower in the hayfield blithe,
Suddenly is struck and levelled by a mightier scythe;
And that ringing shout which answered aye the noontide horn,
Rings no more, nor faintest whisper cheers the home forlorn.
Stilled the voice which led in worship, sure as evening fell,—
Younger hands must take the Bible that he loved so well.
* * * * *
Sturdily his path of labor to the end he trod;
Lay him, worn, not rust corroded, underneath the sod.
Weed-roots, long time fought, may quickly bind each rugged hand,
What recks he? a restful dweller in the weedless land.

The above was accompanied by the following note:—

Comax, B.C., Jan. 25, 1898.

Sir,—I am sorry to trouble you again, and at such length—but I trust you will be able to find room. Many thanks for your information about how to deal with thistles. If clover can kill them they shall die. But do you know what so far this winter we have kept potatoes in an open woodshed without damage.

Latitude 50. J. DUNCAN.

Ans.—The criticisms and emendations are very interesting. If we had only known at the outset that the poem was 'an avowed imitation and correction' of that by Mr. Roberts it would have been all right.

DESTRUCTION OF CANADA THISTLES.

P.D., Chicoutimi, P.Q.—In your agricultural department of the 'Witness', Jan 26, I notice that 'A Weed Fighter' is very anxious to know how to destroy Canada thistles to which inquiry you reply advising the seeding of the land to clover, which I have no doubt is a very good way. But I know by experience of another plan which perhaps, I may be allowed to say is even more simple, because it requires no ploughing or seeding. Here it is: Some years ago, in New Brunswick, I had a farm, a certain field of which became infested with thistles, when I then decided to turn it for a few years to pasture, but the thistles continued growing until large patches were like thistle gardens. Some one who had tried it told me that all I had to do was to take a scythe on a very wet day—during the decline of the moon—before the thistles would bloom, and cut them down. I did so; and so successful was the experiment that the following year, although you could see one thistle here and there, that was the last of them. So I had evident proof that if you cut down the thistles in very wet weather so that a sufficient quantity of water will run down into them it is sure death to them. Ans.—P.D. has given a partial statement in the above communication of a very good method of destroying Canadian thistles, but he has omitted one important particular. It must be done just before flowering time, because then the stalk of the thistle is hollow, and becoming full of the water the whole plant will quickly rot. The decline of the moon has nothing to do with the matter, but it is necessary that there should be a spell of wet weather. If a drought should occur at that time the attempt to kill thistles in this way will fail. But the method of eradicating thistles by seeding down the land to clover, is subject to no contingencies or uncertainties. There is no extra work involved. You are simply taking a crop off the land for two seasons. What kills the thistles is their being utterly smothered out by the growth of clover. Before the thistles can get into leaf they are overwhelmed by the rapid growth of the clover leaves. The leaves are the lungs of plants and by preventing their growth the destruction of the thistle-roots is complete and total.

MARKET GARDENING AND MUSHROOM CULTURE.

W.S.F., Brookfield, N.S.—What is the most practical, up-to-date book on 'Market Gardening'; also on 'Mushroom Culture'? What are their prices, and where can they be obtained? Ans.—Landreth's 'Market Gardening,' price $1. Peter Henderson's 'Gardening for Profit,' price $2. The above are published by the Orange Judd Company, New York. An excellent work on mushroom culture is advertised by the Steele, Briggs Co., Toronto; price 50 cents. The Toronto firm just mentioned advertise an 8-page pamphlet, written by a practical grower, which gives in a concise form all necessary information for the successful raising of the best mushrooms, which will be sent free to any one interested.

FENCE MACHINE WANTED.

Mellis Corners, Jan. 29, 1898.

Editor 'Weekly Witness,'—Please recommend to us a fence machine with which the farmer can weave his own fence. Please answer in your paper and oblige,

GEO. HOLD.

Ans.—There are several fence machines advertised in the farm journals, but I do not know enough about any of them except one of whose work many samples may be seen in this part of Ontario. For further information address Mr. Geo. H. Skinner, Guelph.

BEST BREEDS OF GEESE AND DUCKS.

E.N., Toronto.—Please answer through the agricultural department of the 'Weekly Witness' the following as early as possible: 1. What is supposed to be the most profitable breed of geese to keep? What breed lays the largest quantity of eggs? 2. The same questions in regard to ducks. 3. Where can the breeds you specify be got and about what price per pair? Ans.—Taking everything into account, their size, pure white feathers, flavor of meat, and beautiful swan-like appearance on the water, I suppose the Bremen geese eclipse all others. Next to them for all practical purposes the Toulouse or grey goose will take rank. I do not know which breed lays the largest number of eggs. The leading breeds of ducks are the White Aylesburys, the Pekins (also white) and the Rouens, which are colored. I cannot specify prices, but as this correspondent (a lady) writes from Toronto, a call at the office of the 'Canadian Poultry Review,' 124 Victoria street, would secure all desired information, among the rest the leading breeders in that city, enabling her to inspect their yards at her convenience.

WHY THE BUTTER DOES NOT COME?

J. H., (no P. O. given).—Why is it that sometimes in the winter it is impossible to get the butter to come although the churning may be continued for hours? Ans.—There are various reasons, but it would only be shooting in the dark, to attempt to reply to this question without some knowledge of the particular circumstances of the case referred to. Often it is a question of temperature; sometimes it is the result of trying to churn the cream from a farrow cow.

SEVERAL QUESTIONS.

E.M., Renfrew.—1. I want to use a syrup barrel to make vinegar in, using the vinegar plant; how much sugar would I need to put in for each pail of water, and how long would it take before the vinegar was fit for use. 2. What could I use to mend a hose (rubber, of the ordinary kind for sprinkling lawns with) or could it be done; it appears to be cracked or holes dug into it. 3. Kindly tell me where I could get the best incubator; the price; also, of a brooder. Can ducks be raised with incubator and brooder, the same as chickens? I have heard of a brooder being made of a fleece tacked to a board, and so arranged so the chicks could run under. 4. A has fruit trees (large apple and crab), planted so close to the line fence running north and south between A and B that the branches overhang so far into B's garden as to prevent anything growing for two or three yards or more from the fence. Can B compel A to saw branches off that hang over his (B's) fence, or would it be lawful for B to saw them off even with the fence? 5. I have a large, light, warm, cellar, cement floor and walls, with a furnace in it for warming house; is there any kind of use I could put it to, or what could be grown in it in the winter time satisfactorily. Could rabbits, hares or ducks be kept there, and if so, would they injure the atmosphere of the house, if kept very clean? Ans.—About one and a half pounds of brown sugar to two gallons of boiled soft water will be the proper quantity. A close barrel or cask would not be suitable, as a great deal of air is needed to make vinegar. One end of the cask or barrel should be taken out, and covered with gauze to exclude insects. It should be set in a sunny place. The souring process will take at least three months, but the vinegar will be stronger if kept for a year. 2. See answer to another query in this number. 3. For information about incubators write to Wagner Incubator Company, Toronto, or J. E. Meyer, Kossuth, Ont. Brooders or artificial mothers are often used, made or described with a fleece nailed to a board, and tilted so as to accommodate chickens of various ages. Ducks, as well as chickens, can be raised with incubators and brooders. 4. I do not know whether there is any law bearing on such a case; but think it would be better to make it a matter of neighborly arrangement. 5. I think live stock of any kind would be unwholesome in such a place.

A BRICK-LINED BUILDING.

M., Embro, Ont.—My shop is clap-boarded on the outside, and bricked up between the studding. What is the best way to lime it so as not to feel the chill from the bricks? Ans.—Nail battens on the studding, and then lath and plaster the building.

TO MEND RUBBER ARTICLES.

A.M., Plainfield.—Would you kindly explain to us the method of melting rubber, and how to apply it in making repairs on rubber articles. Ans.—It is not necessary to melt down old rubber to repair goods of that description. There is a cement made for the purpose which can be got from shoe dealers; also a species of cloth for patches. This applies to the repairing of hose for lawn sprinkling; that is in such cases as mending is practicable.

N.B.—A dairy communication from T. G. Wyandotte has been referred to Profess Dean, of the O.A.C., and awaits a reply from him.

VETERINARY.

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

LIVE STOCK CARDS.

With the belief that a department of live stock advertising will be of great interest to a very large proportion of 'Weekly Witness' readers the publishers have opened such a department at specially reduced rates just now. Those farmers that go in for thoroughbred stock would do well to have their card appear in this department. Terms sent on application.

SICK HORSE.

Agricola.—Horse, nine years old; sound in wind, limb and eyesight apparently; though well fed and cared for, yet will not thrive; appetite ravenous for both food and water. Feed him about 12 to 15 pounds of good hay, along with two gallons of dry oats and one gallon of boiled oats or barley daily. Keeps litter wet constantly, and is continually picking at litter, eating dirt when allowed to. Coat dry and staring. Is dull, and weak, and easily fatigued; have treated for worms, but have dislodged very few, and no improvement resulted. Please advise in veterinary column. 2. Is there such a thing as diabetes in horses? If so, please describe in full, giving cause and symptoms, and what is the best treatment. 3. I send an analysis of my well water, and I wish to know if it is very unwholesome. If so, in what way would it be hurtful if used for household purposes; or if used for stock, in what way would it be likely to injure them. Well water analysis; parts per million: free ammonia, .00; albuminoid ammonia, .082; nitrogen in nitrates and nitrites, 3.603; chlorine, 68.0; solids at 212 degrees Fahr., 302.8; solids after ignition, 232.8; phosphates, very heavy traces. Ans.—Your horse is suffering from indigestion. Feed him on nothing but bran mashes for a day; then give him next morning, fasting, three half pints of raw linseed oil, with a wineglassful of turpentine well shaken with it. Follow this for a week night and morning with one drachm each of powdered ginger, gentian and bicarbonate of soda, given in his feed; see that his feed is of good quality, free from mustiness, or evidence of having been heated. 2. Horses do sometimes suffer from a form of diabetes; the chief symptoms are loss of condition, great thirst, and profuse staling. The most frequent cause is the food or water, feeding hay or oats that are badly cured or musty, or water containing too much nitrates. For treatment, give a dose of oil, entire change of food, and one drachm doses daily of iodine, which should be given in the form of a ball, with linseed meal. If unable to give a ball, iodide of potash may be given dissolved in the drinking water in one drachm doses. This may be continued for three or four days in the case of the iodine; if the iodide of potash is used it may be continued somewhat longer if no improvement is noted. 3. I have carefully noted the analysis of the water. Whilst the percentage of solids is rather high I do not think there is any reason to conclude from the results of the analysis that it is not good water to use.

SICK CALF.

F.A.—I have a calf two and a half months old, which has never been strong from birth. When a day or two old, was taken with diarrhoea. I let him run with his mother for about a month; did not seem to get any better. Thinking milk might be too strong I tried weaning, giving skim-milk; tried different things to stop it; got it stopped, and the calf began to pick up; then it was taken with a dry hacking cough which has never left it since it started. The calf, losing in flesh again, does not seem to care for milk; neither will it eat hay or meal; had a veterinarian see it; he thought it may have got something in its throat. Kindly say what you think is the matter with it. Ans.—From your description I am inclined to think your calf is suffering from tuberculosis. You had better write to the Minister of Agriculture, asking him to send an inspector to test your cattle with tuberculin. In the meantime, can only suggest scalding the milk before feeding it to the calf, and to each gallon of milk add a teacupful of lime water freshly made.

COLT PAWING HIS BED.

Enquirer.—I have a colt two years old in April. It looks all right, and is well, but I cannot keep a bed under it; it paws it all back behind it. Can you give me some plan to prevent this? Ans.—A colt only two years old should not be kept in a stall, but allowed a loose box, even if a comparatively small one. See that your colt gets plenty of exercise daily. When stabled give him a loose box, well bedded, and I think you will find a change in his habits. It is possible that the colt may be suffering from pain in the fore feet, from which he expects to find relief by pawing. Have his feet examined by a veterinary surgeon if there is one in your neighborhood; if not, ask your blacksmith to see if the hoofs are not too long, and need paring down. If the colt is kept mostly in his stall, it is very likely to be the case. Get the hoofs into proper shape before the colt is permanently injured by deformed or overgrown feet.

COW IS COUGHING. IS IT TUBERCULOSIS?

W. J. C.—I have a coww that has a cough; she seems in fair condition; is stabled and fed on hay, bran mash and scraps of potatoes, etc., from the kitchen; is milking, and will calve in May, I think. 1. Are these symptoms of tuberculosis? There have been a few cases in the neighborhood. 2. If so, what should I do? 3. If not, what will cure the cough? Ans.—A cough is one of the symptoms of tuberculosis. If you are anxious to know positively if the cow is tuberculous, by making application to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, you can have the cow tested with tuberculin free of cost to you. This is an almost infallible means of diagnosis. If after you have had your cow tested and find she is free from tuberculosis, see that she gets no dusty fodder, and give her night and morning in her mash one drachm each of muriate of ammonia and chlorate of potash for a week.

POULTRY AND PETS

[This department is under the charge of Mr. S. J. Andres, who will answer any questions sent through the 'Witness.']

POULTRY PARAGRAPHS.

Do not fail to dispose of the scrub roosters and put a pure-bred cock of your favorite breed at the head of your flock. Make up your mind what you want to breed for, whether for eggs or flesh production. Make a reputation for yourself among market circles as a dealer in clean eggs of uniform color, and you need never go begging for a buyer.

The secret of winter is, hatch the pullets early and keep them growing; have warm quarters; do not crowd too many in a small place; keep them exercising and feed properly.

Ventilators should not be used during the winter. The doors and windows give all the ventilation necessary. Keep the house clean and they will not need much ventilation excepting during the warmest part of the day. If filth is allowed to accumulate all the ventilators in the world will not remove the disagreeable odors.

In every hatch of chickens the average production of males and females is about equal, the result of this law of nature is that at this season of the year the houses are often crowded with young roosters. As soon as they are fit to kill for broilers or roasters let them be killed. They will pay better, even if the prices are low, than later. As they grow older they become restless and quarrelsome and a great nuisance to the pullets and neither thrive nor fatten themselves nor permit the pullets to do so. Cull out all the small undersized pullets, place them by themselves and push them for the market or home table. In this way the pullets to be kept as layers will be a fine lot of good-sized healthy birds producing good progeny. It is possible by practicing a close system of culling and selection and by mating with mates of new blood selected for egg production with the earliest and best layers chosen for the same points to increase the size and good qualities of the whole flock. The influence of selection is just as great among poultry as among other live stock.

There are many beginners and amateurs who think poultry culture is but a simple pastime, requiring neither skill, intelligence nor judgment in pursuing it. Those who think so will find out before long they are in the business that they will have to face difficulties, disappointments and losses at the expense of their self-conceit.

Wire netting has almost completely taken the place of the lath in building coops, and fences around the chicken yards. The divisions in the houses are now also made with wire netting. Fine mesh wire is now used between walls where there are dead air spaces, and beneath the floors to keep out rats.

That one egg is as good as another is a mistaken idea and if you do not think so try for a while the work of selling strictly choice eggs to a customer, eggs from hens that have been well kept and fed on wholesome food—then put in a few eggs laid by a poorly-fed or diseased hen and see if the customer does not complain.

THE ROOSTING QUARTERS.

The following was taken from an American paper, I do not know the name, and was kept for my general use in an old scrap book for reference. I consider it good, have one similar hanging to the back of the house and holding it up to the ceiling during the day time by hooks, dropping it to the floor at night; roosting time kept sand under it or sifted coal ashes to catch the droppings, cleaning the floor every morning, thereby giving scratching place for feeding loose grain and giving exercise through the day, the floor being covered with hay chaff or short cut straw, leaves or with good litter. A low roost keeps the fowls from quarrelling for the high place which they appear as fond of doing as mankind.

There are many ways of constructing and placing roosts. The aim should be to make them comfortable for the fowls and convenient for the attendant in handling and cleaning. Place all roosts back from the windows out of the way of draughts. They should be low and of a uniform height. Bruising of feet is frequently caused by fowls jumping down from a high perch. If arranged one above another, the fowls will jump from the lowest perch to the next and the stronger fowls will crowd down the weaker ones. The highest perch will be



PROPERLY ARRANGED ROOSTS.

uncomfortably crowded, while a portion of the lower ones is unoccupied. The fear of danger will prompt fowls to seek the highest roosting place. If the roosts are level, no injury from getting on and off will occur and the fowls will not crowd one another. The arrangement shown herewith is a convenient one. Make a tight platform 1½ foot from the floor to catch droppings. Around the edge nail a strip, one by three, to keep droppings from scattering and which will give a step for the fowls in getting on and off. A platform arranged in this way is conducive to cleanliness, as the fowls will not step in the manure and track it over the floor. Place the roosts a foot above the platform and rest them firmly in a slot or mortise. Make them of two by three scantling, rounded on the upper side, planed perfectly smooth so that the fowls will not be likely to get splinters in their feet. Smooth roosts are easily cleaned and do not harbor lice. The perches should be far enough apart to prevent soiling of plumage; 14 or 15 inches is about the right distance. Allow one foot on the roost for each fowl of the large breeds and less for the small breeds.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PIGEON COOP.

J.H.B.—Would you describe in your paper the requirements of a pigeon coop and the pigeons. Also, how to make a suitable and inexpensive coop. Ans.—In constructing a loft, or remodelling a building suitable for that purpose, it must be made rat and mice proof. These little animals will cause great destruction, both of eggs and young squabs, and it is often quite difficult to keep them out. Poison properly prepared and placed where the birds cannot reach it is about the safest way of getting rid of these pests. Clean out the loft of everything movable; see that the floor is made smooth and all cracks well filled, so it can be kept clean easily. Nest boxes must be provided, and nailed or hooked on, the latter the best, so that they can be removed when cleaning house. Lime wash the whole room thoroughly; over the floor put three or four inches of sand.

Keeping Pigeons.—To answer this question fully will take more space than can be spared this time. In fact, it would take a volume of good size. The old way of fastening nest boxes, on the outside of buildings and allowing the birds to range at will is not a good way. However well they are made, they are unsightly, and pigeons at liberty in a community are an intolerable nuisance. It is better to have a separate building for them, with an outside fly of wire netting connected with it, and thus keep the birds confined at all seasons. Good food must be provided; clean drinking water, fresh daily; such grain as corn, wheat, peas, and fed regularly. A lump of rock salt, or a piece of salt codfish, where they can get it easily. A bath pan, ground bone, a lump of old mortar, or crushed oyster shells, to furnish lime for egg shells. Sand, or coarse sharp gravel, to grind their food, with bread, boiled potatoes, in fact, anything they will eat twice a day, and only give them what they will eat up clean at each meal. As to the pigeons, it depends largely whether you wish to raise them as squabs for market or simply for fancy. Whatever you do, buy good stock well matched in color, and begin with two or three pairs of only one breed. Look about you and perhaps some friends may have some breed you know is pure and suits your fancy; begin slowly; purchase some good book that treats on pigeons, and study it well. In another issue perhaps I will give you some sketches for nests, etc. If I should forget it, write again, asking questions, concisely, and exactly state what you want to know. Now to be candid, I do not advise you to spend much money or time in pigeons. Why not take up a good breed of thoroughbred poultry? They will be more profitable in every way. If you are so situated that you cannot get room for large birds, try the little bantams; they make fine pets and properly cared for will give you eggs for your breakfast, and use up the scraps from the family table to better purpose than pigeons, and will cost less to feed every day.

YELLOW CANARY.

F.W.D.—We have a young yellow canary that I would like to ask advice about. Since last fall it has been without any feathers on the head and neck, and lately they have been coming out of its breast and its back. It is fed on bird seed and bird bread, and given a clean cage, bath, and fresh drinking water each morning. We cannot see any lice on it. The bird seems cheerful and eats and sings well. Ans.—Too much stimulating food.—There is evidently something wrong in the manner of feeding; too much hemp seed, and perhaps a poor quality of canary seed. Give a little iron in the drinking water daily; put a few iron tacks or a nail in the water, and a little good, clean, lettuce; also a small piece of good apple. Do not forget cuttlefish bone and clean bird sand. Throw a white cloth over the cage at night, and examine it early in the morning for mites. Wash the cage, perches and all, with gasoline two or three times a week. Remember that gasoline is inflammable. Let it hang in the open air until the gasoline has all evaporated. Try change of food carefully.

S. J. ANDRES.

LIVE STOCK.

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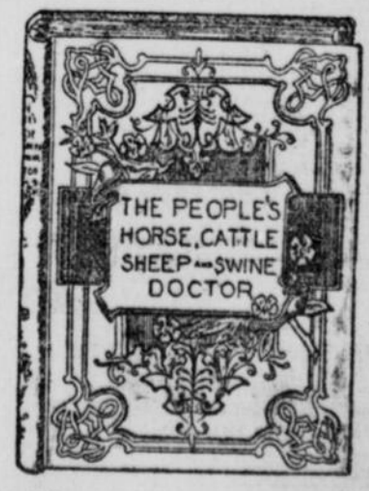
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If you have, you have witnessed Nature's typical method of ridding the earth of dead material. Nature uses the *bacilli of consumption* to consume the bodies of those weakly human beings in whom the *processes of slow death and decay have already begun.*



Consumption never attacks a healthy human subject. Indigestion primarily, repeated colds secondarily, lower the vitality, and make weak and flabby the mucous membrane lining the air-passages with all their multiplicity of glands and air-cells, thus paving the way for the reception and work of the deadly bacilli.

The salvation of every weakly person is to build up the general health. My friend, if you suffer from *sick stomach and indigestion*, take some good tonic and alterative at once. Your ancestors kept themselves healthy by their habitual use of home-made syrups and herb teas. If you have taken repeated colds, and your throat is relaxed, tone it up by the use of that grand, old-fashioned remedy, Shiloh's Cough and Consumption Cure, the essence of the herbs, gums and barks of your great-grandmother's time. The same plants of all-healing flourish today as they did a hundred years ago, and they have identically the same virtues, whether prescribed by a doctor, in Latin, or taken with plain old English in Shiloh's Cure, at 25c., 50c., and $1.00 per bottle; in England at 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d., 4s. 6d.

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This cook book is the product of many good cooks, the recipes being selected from over 20,000 submitted by experienced housekeepers from all parts of the country, in a prize contest. Over 1,000 of the choicest of these were selected by competent judges, and have been printed in a handsome book of 320 pages, each page 5¼ inches wide by 7½ inches long. Already over 500,000 copies have been sold.

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No French "stuffs," no fancy "fixin's," no recipes from men cooks, in the Standard Cook Book. They are all tested recipes, known to be excellent for plain, wholesome delicious home cooking. With this book in hand it is an easy matter to arrange a splendid variety, which is one of the secrets of good cooking. It is printed on good paper, and valuable to every housekeeper.



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No. Pulleys.	Diam.	Face.	Bore.
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1	15½ in.	7½ in.	115-16 in.
1	16 in.	4 in.	1⅝ in.
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JUBILEE OF A GREAT MOVEMENT

IN THE EASTERN PROVINCES.

An anniversary full of interest for temperance people was celebrated in Halifax recently, namely, the Jubilee of the Mayflower Division of the Sons of Temperance. This society was instituted on Feb. 9, 1848, with a charter membership of eighteen, of whom six are yet living. Mayflower Division was the first organization in Nova Scotia to pass a resolution in favor of prohibition, being in this instance two years in advance of the National Division, which passed the resolutions in 1852. On Dec. 6, 1850, Mayflower Division drew up and carried three resolutions recommending the adoption of prohibitory measures. This organization also claims that it originated the agitation in favor of temperance in the schools, and that the plebiscite movement originated from its members. The Sons of Temperance movement was initiated in New York on Sept. 29, 1842, with a charter membership of sixteen. The first branch of the order in Nova Scotia was organized in Yarmouth, on Nov. 17, 1847.

The smaller towns of Nova Scotia have, as a rule, however, led the way in the cause of temperance. Truro has been the head centre of the temperance sentiment ever since 1830, in which year the Truro Temperance Society was formed with a membership of eighteen. Yet Truro was forestalled by West River, of Pictou, which organized the first temperance society of Nova Scotia as early as January, 1828.

Yarmouth County was the next in the field, having founded a temperance society on April 25, 1829, known as the Beaver River Temperance Society. Mayflower Division, of Halifax, has at present a membership of a hundred and ninety-seven. Its jubilee was celebrated with great eclat on Feb. 9, in Temperance Hall, Cornwallis street. Some two hundred members and guests partook of the banquet prepared.

At the last meeting of the Halifax City Council a hundred and five of the hundred and eleven applications for liquor licenses were granted. Of the six rejected applications five are to receive further consideration on motion of different aldermen to that effect.

At the annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Historical Society the following officers were elected:—President, the Hon. J. W. Longley; vice-president, Senator Power and Judge Townshend; corresponding secretary, F. B. Crofton; recording secretary, W. L. Payzant; treasurer, R. J. Wilson; council, the Rev. Principal Forrest, the Rev. Dr. Smith, Prof. MacMechan, the Rev. Dr. Saunders. It was decided to edit and publish another volume dealing with the early history of Nova Scotia.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Health Lost and Found.

THE STORY OF A YOUNG BOY'S TRIALS.

Was Growing Too Rapidly and His Health Gave Way—Several Months Doctoring Did Him No Good—His Parents Almost Discouraged.

(From the Napanee 'Beaver.')

It is truly pitiable to see boys just beginning to realize the possibilities of life stricken down with disease, the escape from which is sometimes thought to be little short of a miracle. Hearing of such a case a reporter called on Mr. J. J. Smith, living near Fredericksburg Station, in Lennox county, and interviewed him regarding the cure of his son, who was in bad health and regained it by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Mr. Smith is one of the oldest residents in the locality, of direct U. E. Loyalist descent, and has resided all his life on the farm on which he lives. He is consequently well known throughout the district. In reply to the scribe's query he gave the details of the case. 'My son, Stanley, was taken sick about the first of February, 1895. He became very deaf and had a dull, constant pain in his head. He grew very weak, such a condition being more properly described by the term "general muscular weakness." He was troubled with severe pain in the back and had no appetite, continuing to steadily grow weaker and finally lost all ambition. He had little more color in him than a bit of white paper. A physician was consulted on the first appearance of the trouble. He carefully examined the case, stating that the hearing was affected by catarrhal deafness, the pains in the back originating from muscular rheumatism and the constant tired feeling and general weakness was caused by over-growth. These difficulties, together with the after effects of la grippe, left him a physical wreck. He had the benefit of careful medical attention for four months. The doctor had carefully treated him for the deafness and succeeded in restoring his hearing, but in other respects was no better. He ordered that he should be carefully nursed, which was about all that could be done. To make things more clearly understood, I might say he was at this time past twelve years of age, having grown very fast, was large enough for one six years his senior. The doctor said medicine could not benefit him, and all that could be done must come by nursing. We naturally felt greatly discouraged at the prospect, not knowing what course to pursue in the future. At this juncture one of the druggists of Napanee who had previously compounded many prescriptions, recommended a trial of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. It was then the first of June when we purchased three boxes and commenced the treatment. When he had finished the second box his appetite, previously fickle and unsteady, had wonderfully improved. He continued taking the pills until seven boxes had been used. His strength returned with renewed vigor, and all signs of muscular rheumatism had vanished and he steadily regained a strong, healthy color, and was able to do considerable light work in the harvest field, such as riding the mower, reaper or horse-rake. He has since attended school regularly, and though a year has elapsed, he has had no symptoms.' Mrs. Smith, spoken to about the matter, readily concurred in all that had been said relative to her son's case, and was very decided in her views regarding the healthgiving properties contained in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a blood-builder and nerve-restorer. They supply the blood with its life and health-giving properties, thus driving disease from the system. There are numerous pink-colored imitations, against which the public is warned. The genuine Pink Pills can be had only in boxes the wrapper around which bears the full trade mark, 'Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.' Refuse all others.

THE CHIEF OF THE NIGHT WATCH

MAKING HIS ROUNDS IN THE NEW YORK STATE REFORMATORY.

The chief of the night watch at the New York State Reformatory does not employ a very modern wheel, but it is a very modern use to which it is put. A bicycle looks so incongruous in a reformatory, that to see the chief of the night watch gliding noiselessly up the long corridors, a lantern suspended from the handle-bar, is a sight as novel as it



is startling. Imprisoned within this great reformatory are from one thousand nine hundred to two thousand men, between the ages of sixteen and thirty, at night all securely locked in cells, as shown in the picture. From the starting point to the farthest extremity of the prison and back again is about a mile and a half, and backwards and forwards over this route the chief of the night watch rides his wheel every night of the year. The floors are all smooth stone, and the riding is therefore easy, some of the distance is through long, partially lighted passages, and, as in perhaps all departments of prison duty, a man is required to have a cool nerve and a brave heart. The bicycle has become a factor in all spheres of activity, and its utility in prison work is one of the latest uses to which it is applied.

WOMEN AND THE BIRDS.

'As there is no argument on the side of bird-killing for decorative purposes, so there is no excuse for its encouragement by even the most frivilous of women,' the St. Paul 'Pioneer Press' says. They have had presented to them over and over and in every form of appeal the cruelty of the custom, as well as its reckless abuse of the gifts of nature, for it is asserted on good authority that the destruction of the field and forest birds has an appreciable effect on agriculture. Yet, the killing goes on, with apparently no diminution. Europe uses 300,000,000 of song birds in millinery annually. One Chicago firm buys and sells every year 62,000 birds, and 300,000 wings. The pitiful story of the egret, whose ravished plumes wave from the hats of thousands of wealthy women, and are shown every day in our own shop windows here in St. Paul, has been told so many times that it would seem as though the woman who persists in wearing them must feel like a murdress every time she does so.

'We do not need societies, pledges, orations, or tracts on this subject. The matter is one which rests on a purely commercial basis. The leaders of fashion in any city can settle it practically in one season. They have only to refuse to wear these trophies of cruelty and the thing is done. It does not even require 'strong-mindedness' to do this. One would think that a mere spark of humanity in the heart would be the only requisite. Women, young or old, rich or poor, who think themselves anxious to help along the cause of humanity can do it no more easily or effectively than in this way. It is a gracious mission, and one in which the only sacrifice involved is a very little personal vanity.'

QUEBEC SCHOOLS

DENOUNCED AS THE WORST WITH RESPESCT TO HYGIENE.

The 'Signal' publishes a scathing article on the manner in which the rules of hygiene are neglected in the primary schools of the Province of Quebec. After stating that the schools are far from the ideal suggested in the Pope's encyclical, the writer says: 'In what part of the civilized world will you find at the present date schoolhouses so miserable, so unhealthy, so badly provided as in the Province of Quebec? It is a shame for the country and for our race to allow such a deplorable state of things to exist. The bad hygienic condition of our schools causes more deaths, more disease, and more infirmity than it is possible for any one to imagine, and the control of the Department of Public Instruction and by the Provincial Board of Health is practically null. There are not five schools out of a hundred that are provided with an acceptable system of ventilation. The schoolhouses where each pupil has the minimum number of cubic feet of air required by the regulations are most rare exceptions, and to make the irony still greater, hygiene forms part of the programme of study Contagious diseases are permanent; they seriously affect the attendance of the pupils and bring up to an abnormal figure, in a healthy country like ours, the death rate among children. It is more than ever time to open our eyes to this public calamity. Are we going to thus allow to be decimated the young generation, without giving them a helping hand, when we show unceasing solicitude towards prisoners, the insane, and even towards cattle?' The writer then refers to the statements already made before the Council of Public Instruction by Dr. Leprohon, Mr. Grant and Mr. Masson, on this vital matter, and concludes by stating that this urgent improvement must be attended to at any cost.

MANITOBA DEFENDED.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—With your permissions I would say a few words in reference to a letter that appeared in your issue of Oct. 19, 1897, signed by Mr. Mackay, who seems to have gathered so much information about Manitoba in such a very short time. For the benefit of his many friends in whom he is so deeply interested, permit me to say that his informant, 'be he whom he may,' has very wrongly informed him. Mr. McKay is somewhat vague as to the locality in which he is or has been living in Manitoba, as Lowe is a very common name. Here many farmers are known by that name. I am intimately acquainted with many men by the name of Lowe, and I do not know one who has to melt snow for his stock, as they all have an abundant supply of good water. I have been here since 1882, and I have never seen too much rain. I sell my wheat in the autumn as soon as I can get it to the market, because nine out of every ten years the prices are higher then than at any other season of the year. Referring to the elevator scheme or schemes, that Mr. McKay mentions, the farmers at Kemnay found when building their elevators at Kemnay that the C. P. R. gave them all the assistance that any railway could be expected to do. Mr. McKay speaks of the master and servants' act. He knows more about it than I, as I have yet to see the farm laborer who has not been paid his wages in Manitoba, and he apparently forgets that Manitoba has got her population principally from the eastern provinces.

Manitoba is much the best province in the Dominion for any young man or woman who can, is willing, and will work to make a living, a home or money. Many statements that Mr. McKay makes about the government and C. P. R. are so very foolish that they are not worth noticing.

'FARMER.'

Kemnay, Man.

A REMINDER.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Would you please insert the enclosed old clipping as a reminder to the present government as to their past attitude on the Tariff Question. And it is actions not words, that they are to be judged by when they next come before the people at the polls.

SUBSCRIBER.

Pembroke, May 15.—Mr. Laurier was given a splendid reception here yesterday. In a speech he said the question of all questions was the question of taxation. The Liberals held that taxation was in itself an evil, and no government had any right to take anything from the earnings of the people, except that which was necessary to carry on the business of the country. 'But I affirm here this principle,' he declared, 'that the only measure of taxation legitimate before the eyes of God or man himself, is that which is limited to the necessities of revenue and not one cent more. (Cheers.) This is a principle upon which we contend on the side of politics to which I belong. On the other hand, the Conservative party have a different policy. The government at Ottawa levy taxation upon the people in order to take money from the pockets of some and put in the pockets of others. I call this robbery; they call it protection.'

CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FOR SABBATH-KEEPERS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I appeal through your columns for civil and religious liberty for Jews and those Christian sects who observe the seventh-day Sabbath and who desire to obey the Divine command: 'Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt do no manner of work.' In New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island States, obedience to this command is possible, but not so in Canada. It is also possible in India, the Cape of Good Hope, and wherever the British rulers have to tolerate pagans and Mohammedans. But in Montreal, as I read not long ago, a Jew was fined for working on Sunday, although prepared to prove that he had 'kept the Sabbath,' or Sabbathized. The following lines from an address by the Rev. Dr. Clifford, of London, England, delivered when in Canada, should not appeal in vain to the legislators or the people of the country:—'God has committed to us British people the custody of those important principles upon which states are based, and by obedience to which they achieve the Divine ideal. He has made us the custodians of liberty of conscience, and we shall never have done our work for mankind until there is not a nation upon the earth that does not put as central to its collective life this principle of liberty of conscience. We are bound to hold together, to work together, to pray together and to preach together, so that the Russian Stundist may no longer be persecuted; so that wherever there is a man who has not freedom to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience and to think and speak his inmost thought concerning God's revelation, we shall be by his side, his friend and his helper. God does not give us these high powers for ourselves, but that we as a great empire may secure their recognition and their enjoyment by all peoples that on earth do dwell.'

May the people see to it that no one shall be persecuted for obedience to the fourth commandment.

A SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST.

MONTREAL JEWISH MISSION.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Just a few words in support of a good work being carried on in this city under the superintendence of the Rev. S. J. McCarter and Mrs. McCarter. This work is evangelical and interdenominational and has so far been supported largely by the voluntary offerings of Christian people throughout the city and country, as well as an occasional contribution from 'across the sea.' A permanent home for the mission has become a necessity. Were this provided a day school might be attached and form a valuable adjunct to the mission. The Jewish population is increasing rapidly and it is very important to get the young people. The present superintendent and his wife have had large experience, and if they were furnished with the means excellent educational work might be done. There are many who have little or no sympathy with this work, even Christian people seem so easily discouraged. Doubly glad, therefore, was I to receive from the lips of that eminent man of God, Dwight L. Moody, words of encouragement to be increasing in our efforts to reach this interesting people. Will not some of those who have been stirred by the efforts so earnestly made by Mr. Moody to get Christian people to work, rally around Mr. and Mrs. McCarter in this Jewish mission work, following out the wish of our Master, 'that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.' Can you not start a 'Witness' Jewish mission building fund.

W. DRYSDALE.

P.S.—Mr. McCarter is now assisted by a young Christian Jew who is proving himself a valuable helper in the work.—W.D.

TO SELL HIS COUNTRY.

(New York 'Evening Post.')

President Dole is said to have gone home a sadder and a wiser man. He enjoys the peculiar distinction of being the first President of a republic known to history who travelled round the world trying to sell his own country to a foreign power. This is the more comic because he was telling everybody all the time he was here, that his government was much beloved by his people, and that they greatly desired its maintenance. But he resented deeply any proposal that they should be consulted about the transfer. In fact, he said it was insulting to him to doubt their willingness to be sold out. A more happy and contented lot there could not be; nevertheless, they felt that it was time they were disposed of.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility, and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

And Its Influences.

Mr. A. E. Fletcher, editor of the 'New Age,' and ex-editor of the London 'Daily Chronicle,' lectured a few days ago at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, before a crowded attendance, upon 'The newspaper press: its influence, good and bad.' After describing some of the older methods of recording news, Mr. Fletcher remarked that modern journalism really took its rise from the French Revolution. Its history might be divided into two periods, the period of Free Trade, and the period of Protection, and the year 1861, when the paper duties were removed, marked the end of the one and the beginning of the other. By protective duties on newspapers he meant duties imposed for the protection of the classes against the masses. Statesmen of both political parties were afraid of the people, and thought that ignorance was the mother of devotion, and that to place matters of an educational nature into the hands of the democracy was a mistake. Other statesmen—even Mr. Gadstone at one time—opposed the removal of the duties for economical reasons—they yielded a large revenue to the State. Mr. Fletcher then sketched the characteristics of leading newspapers during the old protectionist period, referring particularly to the 'Times' and 'Morning Chronicle,' and remarked upon their high literary character, and on the distinguished men who were attached to their staffs. Of these he told some interesting anecdotes, and pointed out that at one time the 'Morning Chronicle,' had upon its staff Dickens, Thackeray, and two Campbells—one the poet, and the other who was afterwards the Lord Chancellor. He doubted whether the high literary character of the papers of the early part of the century had been sustained by the papers of to-day. He spoke of the unique position which the 'Times' held in the forties and fifties, under the control of Delane, and largely owing to the enterprising genius of John Walter the second. Coming to the 1861 period, he referred to the remarkable development of the penny newspaper press, attributing this not only to the removal of the paper duties, but also to the reduction in the cost of paper and the great improvements in the instruments of newspaper production. Passing on to the ethics of journalism, he doubted whether the newspaper had fulfilled the mission which those who fought so hard for its freedom in the last generation expected it would fulfil. He was especially severe upon the details published of the proceedings in the Divorce Court, and upon the pandering to the worst tastes of the people, especially as regarded gambling news and news of a sensational character. When he thought that the papers gave prominence to what the worst men and women did, instead of to what the best men and women thought, he was inclined to think that the newspapers of the present time certainly had not fulfilled their mission. He stated further, that the journalist was the historian of contemporary events. The same qualities that went to the making of a historian of the world's life in the past went to the making of the historian of the world's life to-day. The journalist required great judgment in the selection of news, owing to the vast amount of matter which passed before him every day. Referring to the remark that it was the duty of an editor to give to the public what they wanted to read, and not what they ought to read, Mr. Fletcher said his own experience had been that people did want to read what they ought to read. It had been quite a mistake to suppose that humanity was so degraded that they took a delight in the opening up of moral sores. It was also the duty of newspaper proprietors, if necessary, to make sacrifices, and he instanced the case of Mazzini, Garrison, and others, who put the honor of their purpose before their interests. He would not accept the announcement that the object of newspapers was commercial. While it was the object of some, it was not true of all. He very much doubted whether, outside the sphere of the churches and the various philanthropic movements, more money had been risked for the sake of principle than in journalism. If they told him that to make a paper pay, they must pander to the lowest tastes of the lowest people, then he said they were mistaken. Mankind was ruled by social, moral, and spiritual influences, and it was the function of the journalist to investigate those hidden forces, to record their most striking phenomena, and thus to help in the formation of a healthy public opinion. After speaking of the qualifications necessary for the journalist, Mr. Fletcher concluded by expressing the belief that the time would come when the newspaper press would fulfil the whole mission which it was designed to accomplish.



'BISHOP JACOB.'

One of the earliest converts of the powerful revivals which have visited the Nestorian Mission in Persia was 'Bishop Jacob,' as he was then called, being in line to succeed in the bishopric of the old Nestorian Church, and had been consecrated from infancy to that office. While studying under Mr. Stoddard, of blessed memory, he was converted, and, renouncing his candidacy for the bishopric, he married in 1850. Graduating from a theological training class, he labored for twenty-seven years in the large village of Superghan. It was no easy field, but by his dogged perseverance and strength of character, together with the gentle spirit of his most excellent wife Moressa, he won many souls from darkness and Old Church prejudices to a living faith in Christ, and built up a church there. Twice in his life, with his wife Moressa, speaking English, he visited England, and, through aid received from English friends, he gave himself to the evangelization of the Jews and Moslems of Oroomiah, independent of our mission, but in general harmony with it. In the later years of his life he has been active to promote a larger degree of harmony and cordiality of feeling between the different sects of his own people. He died the past summer. His funeral was a notable one, attended by many representatives of the Old Church and the Roman Catholics, as well as from evangelical churches. The general feeling was, that a good man belonging to us all has passed away.—'Church at Home and Abroad.'

WELL SPOKEN.

(Chicago 'Inter-Ocean.')

Canada has done well to send a large body of mounted police to the Klondike. If half the reports are true, there has been a great movement of hard characters to that region. Honest men need have no fear of Canada's mounted police. Uncle Sam has also ordered troops to Alaska, and the two countries should combine and make it hot for thieves and cut-throats.

THE QUEBEC PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Continued Increase of Duly Qualified Teachers.

The following interesting figures and deductions therefrom have been prepared from the recent report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction :—

July 1, 1897.	R.C.	Protestant.	Total.
Schools	4,821	983	5,804
Scholars	259,657	36,498	296,155
Attending schools of different faith	2,977	1,311	4,288
Teachers	8,094	1,403	9,497
Teachers, 'Religious'	3,250	....	
Teachers, Lay, male	277	138	415
Teachers, Lay, female	4,559	1,259	5,818
Diplomas, Normal	271	406	677
Diplomas from Central Boards	4,172	918	5,090
Without Diplomas, Lay Teachers	393	73	466
Without Diplomas, 'Religious'	3,250	....	....
Total without Diplomas	3,643	73	3,716
Average Salaries, Male Teachers—			
Elementary, with Diplomas	$256	$515	
Elementary, without Diplomas	202	572	
Model and Academy with Diplomas	483	729	
Model and Academy without Diplomas	273	572	
Average Salaries, Female Teachers—			
Elementary, with Diplomas	$98	$184	
Elementary, without Diplomas	91	173	
Model and Academy with Diplomas	130	300	
Model and Academy without Diplomas	101	285	
French scholars learning English	59,031		
English scholars learning French		22,590	
Population, 1891, Roman Catholic	1,291,709		
Protestant	196,826		
	1,488,535		

The number of 'religieux' who are teachers is diminished from 3,465 to 3,250, a decrease of 215. The number of lay teachers without diplomas is reduced from 686 to 466, a decrease of 220. Of teachers without diplomas 73 are Protestants, largely specialists in schools in cities and towns.

In general there is a slight decrease in the average salary of Protestant teachers and a marked increase with Roman Catholic teachers, for example, with male teachers in elementary schools an increase from $213 to $256. The disparity between salaries of Roman Catholic and Protestant teachers, indicated above, is still, however, very striking.

THE UGANDA WAR.

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION BY A NATIVE PRIME MINISTER.

Reuter's Agency has published the following concerning the mutiny of the Soudanese troops in Uganda:—

The latest mail intelligence is that contained in an interesting letter from the Katikiro Apollo Kagwa (the Prime Minister of Uganda). This communication, which is legibly written in English characters by the Prime Minister, is dated Nov. 13, and is addressed to the Rev. E. Millar. The following is a literal translation of a portion of the letter: 'We had just come back to Mengo when they told us that the Soudanese who were going with Mr. Macdonald had mutinied. We therefore went quickly to Bukaleba (Lubas) to attack them. We found they had already killed three Europeans, and had fought with Mr. Jackson, and had wounded him in the chest. They had also killed another European. They had driven back the Soudanese, and had killed about sixty of them. When we arrived at Bukaleba, we went to attack the Soudanese close to the fort, and we drove them back, and they went into their fort; but they had killed about twenty-three of our people and wounded fifty-four. The Wasoga fought the Soudanese on Nov. 10, too. The Wasoga drove the Soudanese back, and they entered their fort. About ten Wasoga were killed and twenty-one wounded, but they killed four Soudanese. Now we are at Bukaleba, planning, with Mr. Macdonald, that we may afterwards go with all the Europeans and attack the fort. We want to act wisely, and want to build a fort close to that of the rebels. The Soudanese who rebelled are about four hundred. Well, now we are in the wars, and only wars, but after we have beaten the Soudanese we will have healed Uganda from rebellion. Well, good-bye. May God our Father take care of you.—I am, your friend, Apollo Katikiro.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

13

RUNNING SORES.

Mr Stephen Wescott, Freeport, N.S., found (Burdock Blood Bitters) a wonderful blood purifier and gives his experience as follows: "I was very much run down in health and employed our local physician who attended me three months, finally my leg broke out in running sores with fearful burning. I had **thirteen running sores** at one time, from my knee to the top of my foot. All the medicine I took did me no good, so I threw it aside and tried B.B.B.; when one-half the bottle was gone I noticed a change for the better, and by the time I had finished two bottles my leg was perfectly healed and my health greatly improved."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

RECEIVED A LEGACY

That is Richer and More Valuable Than Millions in Gold.

Mrs. Peter O'Brien of Smith's Falls, Discovers the Value of Dodd's Kidney Pills—They are the Only Cure for Kidney Diseases.

Smith's Falls, Feb. 21.—Mrs. Peter O'Brien, residing on Merrick street in this town, has fallen heiress to a legacy that is infinitely more valuable than millions of dollars. She has come into possession of knowledge that will make the remaining years of her life bright with happiness and good health. She has discovered that Dodd's Kidney Pills are an infallible cure for Kidney Disease.

Mrs. O'Brien is well known and very popular in Smith's Falls. Her many friends know that her sufferings from Kidney Disease were terribly severe. In spite of all the medicines she used, no relief could be obtained, till she tried Dodd's Kidney Pills. Three boxes of this grand remedy cured her.

Dodd's Kidney Pills have cured hundreds of persons of Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Urinary and Bladder Diseases, Blood Impurities and Diseases of Women, in this town.

It is a remarkable fact that Dodd's Kidney Pills have cured every person who has used them. No matter how bad the case might be, Dodd's Kidney Pills cured it.

Several people in town who were given up to die of Bright's Disease and Diabetes have been rescued by Dodd's Kidney Pills. No other medicine known to man has cured either of these diseases. No wonder, then, that Dodd's Kidney Pills are used in every household in the district.

Kidney Diseases can no more gain a footing in a family where Dodd's Kidney Pills are used than a mosquito can upset the rock of Gibraltar. Dodd's Kidney Pills are an infallible preventive against Death from Kidney Diseases.

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists at fifty cents a box, six boxes $2.50, or will be sent, on receipt of price, by The Dodds Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto.

Dick's Blood Purifier For Horses And Cattle

PUT UP AS A POWDER.
GIVES NEW LIFE.
INCREASES THE FLOW OF MILK IN COWS.

LEEMING MILES & CO. AGENTS MONTREAL — DICK & CO. PROPRIETORS

ADVERTISEMENTS.

900 DROPS

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A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Recipe of Old Dr SAMUEL PITCHER

Pumpkin Seed -
Alx. Senna -
Rochelle Salts -
Anise Seed -
Peppermint -
Bi Carbonate Soda -
Worm Seed -
Clarified Sugar -
Wintergreen Flavor.

A perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.

Fac Simile Signature of
Chas. H. Fletcher.
NEW YORK.

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Castoria is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." See that you get C-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

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PARLIAMENT.

The Yukon Railway Contract and the Stickeen Route Discussed.

Ottawa, Feb. 15.—No fewer than sixty-seven questions decorated the order paper of the House of Commons yesterday, and they were nearly all answered with promptness. Mr. Davin started out with no fewer than eight questions. One of these elicited the information that the number of Mounted Police at the present time in the North-West Territories, including scouts and dog drivers, is 548; that 162 have been drafted away to Yukon, and that enlistment is going on at Regina, where twenty-five recruits were recorded in January. At the present time there are sixty constables under orders to proceed to Yukon. Mr. Foster was informed that the approximate cost per month per man of the police in the Yukon is a hundred and twenty-five dollars, and that the approximate sum for wages and transport from July 1, 1897, to date was $130,000, including the transport of provisions for the relief of distress.

Mr. Foster enquired whether the government exercised the right to grant liquor permits in Yukon, and if so, what permits have been granted. Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied that the North-West Act conferred upon the Lieutenant-Governor of the Territories the right to issue permits, and that prior to the assumption of office by the present governor an arrangement was made for the issue in Yukon of permits for the sale of liquor, by the Lieut.-Governor, to be made at the request of the Minister of the Interior. The lieutenant-governor now claims that this right should be exercised only under the advice of his executive. Since then no permits have been issued and the matter is in abeyance.

In reply to Mr. Foster, Mr. Blair stated that the government hoped that through traffic on the Intercolonial Railway to Montreal would be commenced on March 1.

In reply to Mr. Lemieux it was stated that the government had taken steps to ensure the official participation of Canada in the universal exposition of 1900 at Paris, and that Canada has asked for 60,000 square feet of space and that the government will take any further steps that are necessary.

The subject of dairying in the North-West Territories was brought up on a motion by Mr. Davin for a statement giving information as to the number of creameries, etc. Under the creamery policy Mr. Davin stated that the farmers are selling their butter for twenty cents per pound as against seven cents in past years. He dropped his motion to place $15,000 in the estimates for dairying purposes in the Territories on the statement by Mr. Fisher that the estimate would contain a sum for the carrying on of the work.

CANADIAN BUTTER FOR JAPAN.

Mr. Fisher made quite a speech on the subject, and expressed his satisfaction that the policy of the department met with the approval of Mr. Davin. Before the government took hold of the matter the dairying interests in the North-West had been, to a certain extent, discredited, and he gave the reasons why. It was a remarkable thing that at the present time there were two creameries being operated throughout the winter in the North-West, and operated with profit. Such a statement a few years ago would have been received with ridicule. These creameries were supplying splendid specimens of winter butter for export. He pronounced the North-West Territories well adapted for the dairying industry, and dwelt upon the good quality of the product of these creameries. North-West butter sent to England realized within two shillings per hundred pounds of the best Danish butter. He explained the reason for charging four cents a pound for the manufacture of butter in the creameries, and added that he had arranged that any surplus over the actual expenses of manufacture would be credited to the individual creamery and towards the extinction of their debt to the government. Mr. Fisher also pointed out the opportunity for trade with Japan and China, and said that a sample shipment of North-West butter to Japan had been so successful that a cable had been received saying to send as much more as they could of the same kind, so that the Territories had two splendid markets for this industry, one in Great Britain and the other in Japan.

The motion carried.

SIR WILFRID'S PROPHECY.

On a motion to adjourn the House, which was made at six o'clock, Sir Charles drew attention to the statement of Senator Scott, that as soon as the Belgian and German treaties expire in August next the preference in our tariff would be extended only to goods coming from the United Kingdom, and hoped that the Prime Minister would be able to confirm that statement and also to accompany it by a statement that the products of Canada would receive preferential treatment in the markets of the United Kingdom.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I am more than pleased to hear that the hon. gentleman is gratified and am only sorry that his happiness is not yet complete. The only thing I can say is that when the budget is brought down, I hope my hon. friend will have more reason to feel gratified than even he has to-day.

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—In the House of Commons yesterday the Premier in moving for a special committee of the House to investigate the construction of the Drummond County Railway and its acquirement by the government, said that the government courted and desired the fullest enquiry. He named the special committee as follows: Messrs. Lister, Carroll, McIsaac, Morrison, Haggart, Borden, of Halifax, and Powell.

Sir Charles Tupper referred to the proposed Senate enquiry into the same subject and suggested that the motion incorporate the language of the Senate motion. The difference seemed to be that the motion restricted the enquiry into subsidies granted by the Dominion.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—We want the truth and the whole truth, and to expose any wrong-doing. I therefore accept the suggestion and will amend the motion in that direction. The motion then read as follows:—

'Resolved, That a special committee of the House be appointed to enquire into the expenditure of the subsidies granted in aid of the construction of the Drummond County Railway and into all negotiations and transactions between the Government of Canada and any member or officer thereof, or any person in its behalf, and the Drummond County Railway Company, or any director, officer or person, in the company's behalf, relating to the acquiring of the said railway by the government; with power to send for papers, persons and records, and to report the evidence to this House, together with the opinion of the said committee thereupon.'

YUKON RAILWAY BILL.

The motion for the second reading of the Yukon Canadian Railway bill was the first order of the day, but it was not reached until after the House had been in session an hour. Mr. Blair in making the motion commented on the way the Opposition had received the first reading. There had been, he said, an organized attempt to misrepresent him. He discussed at some length the difficulties raised as to the navigation of the Stickeen River and reproached the Conservatives for treating our rights as less firmly established than they were. They could assume that the United States would not put themselves outside the pale of civilized nations by repudiating solemn treaty obligations. This route was the only one possible under the circumstances and he predicted that no two opinions on that point would be offered in the House. There then remained only the terms of the aid granted. The value of the land was problematical. To say what was the area of gold-bearing territory was preposterous. No one could guess at it. They only knew that there was a territory a hundred and twenty-five miles square within which gold was found in parts. Speaking of the danger of the company transferring the railway to foreigners, Mr. Blair could not see how they could restrict the sale of stock by a direct clause in the bill, but the government would be willing to insert a clause similar to the clause inserted in the C.P.R. contract providing that the majority of the directors of the company shall be British subjects. Mr. Blair concluded at 5.35.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER CHANGES FRONT.

Sir Charles Tupper followed and his remarks were attentively listened to owing to the reports in circulation some weeks ago as to his attitude. He agreed with the government in the importance of having this railway constructed. He spent six weeks in British Columbia and gave a great deal of attention to this subject. It was hard for gentlemen otherwise to grasp the full importance of the means of access to the Yukon. To give that access and secure to Canada the trade of that vast region was a task of great magnitude. Citizens of the United States had from the first made a determined effort to secure the trade. This question was vital to Canada and not a party question. After studying the question he came to the conclusion that the Stickeen route was the best and the only available route, so far as the present season was concerned. He entertained no doubt of it. It was the only available route at present. He told Mr. Sifton in Victoria that if the government took steps to secure the immediate construction of that road he believed parliament would support it in it. Referring to the interview with him in the press approving of the government's course in concluding this contract a good many things, he said, have happened since. If he formed a hasty opinion and expressed himself strongly in the interview, though no more strongly than he felt, the character of the measure had been changed by the information furnished to the House.

Referring to the Rothschilds's proposal to construct a railway from Pyramid Harbor over the Dalton trail for five thousand acres of land per mile, Sir Charles declared the government was quite right in refusing to aid a line from the head of the Lynn Canal. The Opposition leader proceeded to attack the government on various grounds. Its own press was objecting. The Montreal 'Witness' had condemned the contract. He quoted from the leading article in the 'Witness' of Feb. 11, but Sir Charles Tupper garbled the extract and never was a public journal more grossly misrepresented than the 'Witness' was in this case. He read down to a certain sentence in the article and then deliberately skipped that sentence and read on below it. He did this twice. Sir Charles went on with an argument that the government had been derelict in its duty in delaying. In July it knew of the impending rush to the Yukon and should have taken authority from parliament to deal with it.

THE JENNINGS REPORT.

Dealing with Mr. Jennings's report, Sir Charles asked why the engineer's recommendation to start the road from the Little Canon had not been adopted. The Little Canon is ninety-six miles from the mouth and sixty miles seaward of Telegraph Creek. Mr. Jennings said that the working expenses would be fifty-five thousand dollars per annum while the receipts would be $494,000. He asserted that the contract was so arranged that the company would get all the gold and the alternate blocks reserved by the government would contain nothing.

MR. SIFTON REPLIES.

Mr. Sifton then rose to reply and to expound the circumstances surrounding the contract. The young Minister of the Interior was received with loud cheers behind him for this was to be practically his maiden speech in this House. He began by replying to some things in Sir Charles Tupper's speech, including his misquotation of the Montreal 'Witness,' Mr. Sifton reading the suppressed sentences. He also read Sir Charles Tupper's interview in which he said that Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann were the only contractors in Canada who could have performed this work and contrasted this statement with his demand now that tenders should have been asked from other contractors. Mr. Sifton, commenting on Sir Charles's change of front, described the Opposition leader as being dragooned by the fag end of his party into abandoning a position he had publicly taken in regard to a large question. Referring to the newspaper statement that the Rothschilds had made an offer to build a railway from Pyramid Harbor over the Dalton trail for a subsidy of five thousand acres of land, in the Yukon, Mr. Sifton said this offer was entirely a figment of the imagination. No such offer was ever made to the government or to any member of it. No other offer was made to the government than what was described in the papers already laid on the table of the House. The condition of the Yukon was described by Mr. Sifton as at present a matter of pride to Canada. Throughout its great length there was no starvation and law and order was established. Not a single man had perished from want. There were enormous difficulties to be overcome in establishing and provisioning posts from the summit to the heart of the Yukon, but these had been overcome and the lives of those coming out to the coast saved. Major Walsh was discharging the duties he had undertaken at great personal sacrifices in the most satisfactory manner. He was sneered at for not having got to Dawson, but what on earth would Major Walsh be doing at Dawson, asked Mr. Sifton. He was now where he was sent, opening up communication and saving life. At Dawson we had a superintendent and forty police and there was no need for Major Walsh's presence at Dawson this winter.

Mr. Sifton explained the negotiations at Washington respecting customs and took occasion to reprimand the leader of the Opposition for reckless statements made by him respecting delicate international matters. He characterized Sir Charles Tupper's references as blatant and disgraceful, unfit for the lips of a stump-speaker in the backwoods. Mr. Sifton declared that had the United States refused permission for our police to cross the territory in their possession between the Lynn canal and the summit we could have got in neither supplies nor men to the Yukon, and while our officials starved, miners from Alaska might have overrun the country and have done what they pleased. The United States Government had, however, not only permitted armed men from Canada to land at Skaguay, but had made customs regulations to facilitate Canadian trade there and the government had no cause of complaint against the United States Government in connection with this territory.

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—The correspondence between the government and the representatives of the Rothschilds syndicate in regard to the Yukon Railway was laid upon the table of the House of Commons yesterday afternoon, and is a most complete vindication of the government and its good faith in conducting negotiations for the building of the railway.

The first letter is under date of Dec. 20, and in it, on behalf of a syndicate represented by Lord Charles Montagu, Mr. Clarence H. Mackay and Mr. Maitland Kersey, an offer is made on the understanding that the government desires to develop at the earliest possible date a British-Canadian route between the Pacific coast and the Yukon. The syndicate offered to build a waggon road from the Stickeen river, at Glenora, to Teslin lake, to be afterward followed by a railway, if required, and to devise all possible means of transportation for miners in consideration of the Dominion Government giving the sum of one thousand dollars per mile toward the construction of a waggon road and not less than six thousand dollars per mile toward the construction of a railway, presupposing that the government of British Columbia would further assist the work. The syndicate offered to provide water communication from Teslin lake to Dawson by steamers sailing under the British flag.

The statement that the work is not difficult is disposed of by the following quotation from the offer: 'The hurried development of all the above means of transportation in order to provide for the large number of people to be handled in the spring involves an especial expenditure and immediate action, while presenting great difficulties. The character of the work to be done and the nature of the country to be traversed, as the syndicate have taken means to ascertain, is such as to call for the expenditure of large sums of money. The work will have to be commenced at once and carried on rapidly in the winter time, and must be thoroughly done in order to stand the rush of travel that will soon be upon it.'

LAND GRANTS ALSO.

The syndicate asked to be deeded blocks of fifteen hundred acres along the rivers, the chief one at Fort Selkirk, as sites for trading stores and stations. It was stated that steamers were then in course of construction on Teslin lake for the syndicate. It was suggested that later, if the government desired to grant aid for a railway from the head of the Lynn canal to Fort Selkirk, over the Chilkat Pass and Dalton trail, the company would undertake this work also, it being a route of great value in competition with the all-water routes, and that negotiations would be entered into if desired for the development of the Edmonton-Peace River route, arrangements satisfactory to the government were to be made by which bona fide miners and settlers should have the right to locate on and work on royalty lands granted to the syndicate, the syndicate in turn paying royalties to the government. Mr. Kersey closed this letter by telling Mr. Sifton that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had received from London satisfactory assurances of the strength and power of his syndicate to carry out any agreement entered into.

A SECOND LETTER.

The next letter is dated Jan. 22, at Ottawa, after much negotiation evidently. The Duke of Devonshire is apparently deeply interested in the operations of the syndicate, for Mr. Kersey says: 'I communicated fully by cable last night—both to Devonshire House and Chatsworth, the ideas of the government with regard to the construction of the railway between Glenora and Teslin.' He goes on to say that Saturday is a difficult day on which to do business in London, but expects an immediate answer. He concludes: 'I understand that we shall have to guarantee the construction of the railway by Sept. 1, putting up a deposit and I have so advised London.'

WOULD NOT GUARANTEE BY SEPT. 1.

London was evidently not prepared to take the risks assumed later by Mackenzie & Mann, for on Jan. 23 Mr. Kersey writes to Mr. Sifton as follows:—

With reference to the offer which I made to you on behalf of my syndicate in early December, and to the conversation which I had the pleasure of having with you on Friday last in relation to the construction of a waggon road and railway from Glenora to Teslin Lake, I have to advise you, after consultation with London, that we deem it inadvisable to make a further offer to the government which would of necessity involve the guaranteed completion of the line by the first of September next, and which offer would have to be based on a land grant unaccompanied by any cash subsidy. I have to thank you for so kindly postponing action to enable me to communicate with my friends in England.

ATTACK ON CHINESE.

Ottawa, Feb. 17. — In the House of Commons, yesterday, Mr. Maxwell introduced a bill to increase the per capita tax on Chinese immigrants from $50 to $500.

THE YUKON RAILWAY—MR. SIFTON RESUMES.

Mr. Sifton resumed his speech on the motion for the second reading of the bill for the construction of the Yukon Canadian railway. In regard to the demand of the Opposition for a statement of the tolls to be charged on this road Mr. Sifton challenged Sir Charles Tupper to name a single case where since 1878 a bill had fixed the tolls to be charged, or where a minister had stated them to the House. The tolls are to be fixed by the Governor-General-in-Council. Dealing with the position of the Yukon and the fact that communication up to date depended on the good will of the United States authorities, he wondered at Sir Charles Tupper after denouncing this government for having any communication with the Washington Government asking now in reference to Senator Frye's bill that Washington should be approached with a view of preventing such legislation.

Sir Charles Tupper—I meant that communication should be had through the British ambassador. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Sifton—I am content to leave the hon. gentleman where he has placed himself. The Minister of the Interior showed that if next fall 40,000 or 50,000 people were left in the Klondike without supplies, the miners and the general population—a starving multitude—would hold Canadian authorities responsible and would overpower the few hundred police and destroy the authority of Canada in that territory. Transportation into that country was absolutely necessary to put in the supplies required to feed and clothe the tens of thousands who were beginning to go in. In Mr. Sifton's belief, there was going to be the greatest rush to the gold fields this continent had ever seen. Within the next few weeks there would probably be more people at Dyea and Skaguay than could possibly get through the passes by next fall. The government felt, therefore, that it was incumbent on it to open up a route through Canadian territory and so divert the vast trade of that territory into Canadian channels. (Cheers.) It was estimated that the outfitting trade this year would amount to $50,000,000 or $75,000,000.

The various routes were discussed exhaustively and intelligently by Mr. Sifton who had the advantage of knowing what he was describing. Only two trips a season could be made by way of St. Michael's, and the 1,600 miles of river between there and Dawson City. The river was very difficult to navigate as it abounded in shoals and boats could not get up at all unless properly handled by experienced men. The transportation companies might deliver their cargoes on the Alaskan side of the Yukon, and we could not count on more than twenty thousand tons of supplies of all kinds reaching Klondike by way of St. Michael's.

THE STICKEEN ROUTE.

The exploration of this route by Mr. Jennings was described. It was not a survey for a railway, but to ascertain the character of the country and its practicability for railway purposes. The evidence of the navigability of the Hootalinqua River was placed before the House by Mr. Sifton. The obstruction by boulders at the Five Finger Rapids could be removed by an expenditure of five or ten thousand dollars and then until Nov. 1 they would have continuous navigation from Teslin Lake to Dawson City. The government would, on Mr. Jennings's recommendation, spend some money in improving the Stickeen River. The object—so important to the general welfare of Canada—of reaching Dawson from Vancouver or Victoria in thirteen days would by this route be accomplished. Supplies could be sent in and passengers as well from May 15 to Oct. 30, nearly six months of the year, while by St. Michael's the season lasted only from July 15 to Sept. 15. These statements were received by the House with marked evidences of satisfaction.

THE TREATY RIGHTS.

Mr. Sifton read from the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and the United States which gave British subjects a proprietary right of navigating the Stickeen and all other rivers on the Alaskan coast 'without let or hindrance,' for all purposes. The Conservative party of Canada, the party with the 'instinct of government,' were responsible for the Washington treaty, which interfered with the rights we enjoyed under the treaty of St. Petersburg by modifying the provision relating to the Stickeen River and destroying our proprietary right conferred by the treaty of 1825. Instead the Treaty of Washington gave the right of free navigation on the Stickeen 'for commercial purposes' only and thus destroyed the full rights enjoyed by British subjects. This was done under the guidance of the Conservative party in Canada.

Mr. Sifton pointed out that the government could not take cognizance of American legislation which had not become law, and that for the government to wait to have a definite arrangement about transhipment might involve a long delay in building the road. The present American regulations touching transhipment were not materially different from those enforced by Canada in the St. Lawrence, which was open to American vessels. In the event of difficulties at Fort Wrangell it would be possible to tranship at Fort Simpson to large barges and cross the one hundred and fifty miles of sea to Wrangell without danger.

THE ROTHSCHILDS' PROPOSAL.

When the House reassembled after eight o'clock Mr. Sifton digressed for a moment to make a very important statement as to other offers which it has been supposed were put before the government, the effect of which was to show that Messrs. Mann and Mackenzie were the only persons willing to undertake the work on the terms offered. He made this definite statement: 'No proposition in writing or verbally, direct or indirect, in any way, shape, form or manner came to the government from Hamilton Smith and Henry Bradnover, representing or assuming to represent the Rothschilds for the building of any railway.' As far as Mr. Sifton is aware, the agents never even waited upon the government or had themselves introduced until the Mann-Mackenzie contract had been signed. The statement of Sir Louis Davies, in answer to Mr. Clarke a few days ago, referred not to Messrs. Smith and Bradnover, but to Mr. H. Maitland Kersey. Mr. Kersey did not state that he represented the Rothschilds, yet his proposition submited to the government was accompanied by the names of the Rothschilds, as well as those of several other leading European financiers.

Continuing his discussion of the routes to the Yukon country, he alluded to the criticism that the Stickeen has been subjected to on the ground that this was an all-Canadian route, and that it shuts out a line from the North-West Territories. He pointed out that the Stickeen is not only the single presently available route, but that it is the natural complement of a route from the North-West by way of the Peace River valley to the Yukon. The railway will open up the Cassiar district, and if the expectations of the Yukon and Cassiar countries are realized the road will be extended two hundred miles south-westward from Telegraph Creek to Alice Arm, which is an extension of Observatory Inlet, and wholly within Canadian territory. When the railway is completed it will be practically the only route that will be available for the ordinary commercial purposes of the Yukon district, and the result will be that the trade of outfitting and transportation will be secured to Canada and the thousands of miners and prospectors who are setting out from Seattle for the Yukon will be forced to outfit at Victoria.

PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACT.

Mr. Sifton then turned his attention to the contract with Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann to build the road and explained its advantages to the government and the country, replying to Mr. Osler's figured statements as to the fabulous wealth the contractors were to reap from the land grant.

THE PATRIOTIC SIDE.

The land granted to the C.P.R. was developed and increased in value by the labor of others. The land granted to the Yukon Railway Company would not be worth a dollar without the work of the company upon it. 'I look,' Mr. Sifton continued, 'for very great things from the construction of this railway. I look for great things because of the fact that I think it will promote largely Canadian trade. I think it will, if promptly and vigorously carried through, as I have no doubt it will be, have the effect of drawing to Canada in the next six months trade to the extent of from twenty to twenty-five million dollars at the very least. I think it will conduce to the honor of Canada by making Canada safe to us from a national standpoint; it will remove the danger of that country six months hence being in the hands, not of our officers, but of an alien population, who will contemn the authority of this government. Let the Opposition understand that if this railway project is stopped either here or elsewhere, and if ever a day comes when that territory passes from the control of Canada even temporarily, the people of Canada will hold them to account for their actions. (Loud cheers.)

As the minister who has been called upon to give the most attention to this subject, I have sought to give the House any information I could upon it. I look upon it as only one step in the development of that great west which it is my privilege to administer, and if in any small measure it realizes the hopes which I have seen fit to form I shall only be too happy to have had even a small hand in bringing about such very desirable results.

When Mr. Sifton sat down at 10.20, having spoken over four hours, the Liberals gave him an ovation lasting several minutes. They cheered again and again and Mr. Haggart rose to his feet. Still the cheering continued and Mr. Haggart stood until it subsided. Mr. Haggart moved the adjournment of the debate, which carried, and the House adjourned.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—In the House of Commons yesterday Mr. Richardson introduced a bill to amend the Railway act with respect to the shipment of grain, which was read the first time.

Several questions were put to the government and answered, after which Mr. Haggart resumed the debate on the second reading of the bill for the construction of a railway from the Stickeen River to Teslin Lake. He took up Mr. Ogilvie's estimate of the area of the gold-bearing territory, which he placed at a hundred and twenty million square miles.

Sir Richard Cartwright suggested that he meant a hundred and twenty thousand, but Mr. Haggart insisted that it was millions, until Col. Prior corrected him, and he then adopted the hundred and twenty thousand square miles. He did not wish to be understood, however, as believing that gold would be found in more than five percent of this area. He proceeded to discuss the character of the Kaslo and Slocan Railway, the standard fixed in the contract for the Stickeen Railway. Commenting on Mr. Sifton's statement that for the purposes of speedy completion the contractors would be allowed to lay rails twenty-seven or twenty-eight pounds to the yard in weight at first because of the difficulty of getting forty-five pound rails to that locality, the heavier rail to be substituted later on, Mr. Haggart asked if the contractors would earn their subsidy with a twenty-eight-pound rail.

Mr. Sifton—I can tell the hon. gentleman they won't. (Liberal cheers.)

Mr. Haggart went on to state his objections. He objected to a monopoly of five thousand miles to a few private individuals. Every one who went there had a right to the country. Under this contract prospectors would make discoveries and the contractors would reap the benefit by getting to the registry office first and registering the land.

MR. FISHER'S SPEECH.

Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, who followed, accused Mr. Haggart of not having read either the contract or the regulations, else he would know that prospectors who make strikes in that country can elect one of their own number as registrar and register their claims on the spot. Mr. Fisher also pointed out that the contractors could not obtain the title to their land grant until the railway is completed and passed by the government engineer and accepted. Mr. Fisher completely answered the objections raised, and as he proceeded it became evident that he thoroughly understood the whole question, and that most of the Opposition objections were disposed of by a proper understanding of the terms of the contract. One objection raised by Sir Charles Tupper was, however, of sufficient force to lead to an amendment to one clause, which reads as follows:—'The contractors may also at their option select additional blocks lying on either end of any odd-numbered block along a base line, but such additional blocks must be three miles square each and they shall not exceed three in number on each end of each such odd-numbered block.'

This Mr. Fisher announced was to be amended so as to maintain the alternate principle, every alternate block in these extra sections to be the government's. This would meet the objection that the contractors could run their blocks along a stream and secure all the gold. The contractors had agreed to this. Mr. Fisher held up a map of the territory with a hole cut in it showing the quantity of the land grant compared with the whole of the territory that Mr. Ogilvie termed gold-bearing. It measured about an inch square on a map about three feet long by two feet wide.

Mr. Osler, who followed Mr. Fisher, said he wanted to bear testimony without reserve to the strong action and great work of the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Sifton, in trying to find from beginning to end what was necessary to do to develop the trade of the Yukon territory. It was creditable to himself and to the government that he had devoted months to this question and found out what he would accept at once as the best route to attain Canada's object. He objected to the extent of the land grant.

Mr. Bertram, of Centre Toronto, followed, and on motion of Mr. Hughes, the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—In the House of Commons yesterday after some routine, Mr. Hughes, Conservative member for

North Victoria Ont., resumed the debate on the second reading of the government's Yukon railway bill. His rising was greeted with silence on his side of the House, and after a moment's pause the Liberals broke out into loud cheers.

Mr. Hughes began as follows: 'I find myself in the embarrassing position of having to differ from my leaders on this question, but I am glad to observe an altered tone from many leading members on this side compared with their tone in the debate on the address.' He went on to say that he supported the policy of the late Sir John Macdonald, which was adopted in this case. The government had selected an all-Canadian route. On that ground alone he was determined to support this bill. (Liberal cheers.)

Concerning the Opposition criticism on this bill, he declared that the Opposition critics had never read the contract. This remark was so obviously true that the hit was loudly cheered by the Liberals.

Mr. Hughes said: 'The opposition to this contract originated with certain gentlemen who thought they saw in the position in favor of it taken at first by my dear old friend, the leader of the Opposition, an opportunity to take his political head off. I have no desire to see the head of that venerable old leader fall, and hope he will be long spared to give this House an exhibition of the intellectual and political vigor which characterizes him. (Loud cheers, chiefly from Liberals.) If he is to fall I hope he will fall in a different way from throat-cutting. (Cheers.)

Dr. Landerkin—'Oh! they would not stop at that.'

In the laughter that followed Sir Charles joined, showing that he did not resent Mr. Hughes's disclosure of the family skeleton. When Mr. Hughes sat down he was again cheered by the ministerialists.

He was followed by Messrs. Russell and McInerney, who spoke at length, and the debate was further adjourned, and the House adjourned.

'CLARA NEVADA' BURNED.

KLONDIKE STEAMER LOST IN THE LYNN CANAL—FORTY LIVES BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST.

Victoria, B.C., Feb. 15.—The steamer 'Clara Nevada,' of Seattle, formerly the 'Hessler,' of the United States revenue service, has been burned in the Lynn canal, and forty men who were on board are supposed to have perished. The 'Nevada' left Skaguay for Juneau on Feb. 5, and when the 'Islander,' which arrived at Comox yesterday morning, reached Juneau, the 'Nevada' had not arrived there. The day that she should have reached Juneau a fire was seen on the waters of the canal and the opinion is general that the flames were from the burning steamer. Whether the passengers and crew reached land or whether they perished is in doubt. It is feared that they met with death, as there have been terrible wind and snowstorms in the north and small boats could hardly live. Capt. Irving, of the 'Islander,' reports that the weather has been terrific.

Victoria, B.C., Feb. 16.—The steamer 'Islander' arrived this morning, bringing details of the loss of the steamer 'Clara Nevada.' The news was conveyed to Juneau shortly before she sailed by Captain Latham, of the steamer 'Coleman.' He says the 'Nevada' foundered with all on board, opposite Seaward City, in Berner's Bay, where she was running for shelter. George Beck, a resident of Seaward City, was an eye-witness of the disaster. He was standing on the beach, when he saw a small steamer battling with the wind. Suddenly there was a flash, and the steamer burst into flames, foundering a few seconds later. She had on board twenty-five passengers and a crew of about fifteen. The passengers who went north on the 'Clara Nevada' returned on the 'Islander.' They say the boilers gave much trouble on the northward voyage, and once the steamer took fire, but it was extinguished before serious damage was done. They say the disaster was undoubtedly caused by the boilers bursting. The 'Rustler,' of Juneau,' has gone to look for possible survivors.

THE BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 15.—A formidable movement has been started in Kansas to compel the reading of the bible in the public schools, and it is proposed to force the issue at the regular School Board elections in April. Mr. William Baker, of Wabaunsee county, has issued an appeal to 'all Christian parents' to be out at that meeting in each school district in the state and vote for the proposition, and also to declare for the selection only of teachers who are professors of religion and who will promise to carry this reform into effect.

NARROW ESCAPE.

London, Feb. 16.—The Marquis of Salisbury and his second son, the Rev. Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil, who is rector of Bishop's, Hatfield, had a narrow escape from death yesterday evening as they were entering the gates of Hatfield. A gust of wind swung the heavy gate against the brougham in which they were riding, cutting the vehicle in two between the wheels. The horses proceeded with the front part of the brougham, leaving the Marquis of Salisbury and his son entangled in the remaining debris. They received no injuries, however.

A GREAT LOSS.

Death of Miss Willard, President of the World's W.C.T.U.

New York, Feb. 18.—Miss Frances E. Willard, the president of the World's and National Women's Christian Temperance Union, who had been suffering from an attack of influenza with gastric complications, died shortly after midnight last night at the Hotel Empire, this city.

At the bedside of Miss Willard at the time of her death were her niece, Mrs. W. W. Baldwin; Mrs. L. M. M. Stevens, vice-president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union; Miss Anna M. Gordon, who was Miss Willard's secretary, and Dr. Alfred F. Hill. Miss Willard had been ill for about three weeks. She had the best medical care and treatment that could be given but in spite of all efforts she grew worse gradually until her demise last night.

Dr. Hill made the following statement: 'Miss Willard has suffered some years with profound anaemia and on several occasions had been given up to die. Last summer she seemed to take on a new lease of life and gained considerably in weight and strength, so that she went through her conventional work at Toronto and Buffalo, which was arduous, and came out much better than was expected, but on her arrival here, five weeks ago, she was much prostrated and readily took on the grippe, which attacked the stomach, liver, intestines and later the nervous system. The disease progressed favorably and in many respects she had much improved when the fatal issue came and overwhelmed the nerve centres and life was extinct. There was no cancerous degeneration of any organ, as has been stated.'

THE NEWS IN THE WEST.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—Although the fatal termination of Miss Willard's illness was not entirely unexpected in Evanstown. It was, nevertheless, an intense shock to her friends when they heard of it today. Before she developed those qualities of leadership which raised her to a position of so great prominence as an advocate of temperance, Miss Willard was well known to many now living in Evanston, whose friendship was on the same intimate footing when the great leader attained the height of her fame as when her gentle influence and budding genius first made themselves felt in the little village.

'Rest Cottage,' where Miss Willard made her home, was always kept ready for her return. The souvenirs of her work and the many articles of household furniture made dear by association, were cherished with great care, and her room was kept in constant readiness for an unexpected return.

Mrs. Matilda B. Carse sobbed when the intelligence was conveyed to her. 'Francis is gone from us,' she said, her voice choking with sorrow. 'It is as I expected, but even so it is sad to hear of it. Where will we get another like her? A nobler woman never was born, and a more unselfish worker never entered the lists in the cause of humanity. I have been associated with her for years, and I know the worth of her character and the noble sacrifices she has made for her fellowmen and women. We have all been hoping right along she would recover. We held a prayer-meeting at Willard Hall for her yesterday afternoon, and all hoped she would be spared to us.'

President Henry Wade Rogers, of the North-West University, said: 'Her death is an inestimable loss. I knew her and admired her. I feared, after reading of her condition, that she would not recover. The loss is impossible to replace. All who knew her, even though they did not agree with her views, could not help admiring and loving her. She was trustee of the university for three years, and also Dean of the Woman's College. During that time I had an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with her loftiness of character than would have been possible otherwise.'

A bust of Miss Willard is now receiving the finishing touches in the hands of Lorade Taft. It will be presented to the North-western University by Mr. J. J. Schaffer.

SORROW IN LONDON.

London, Feb. 18.—The afternoon newspapers to-day make sympathetic references to the death of Miss Frances E. Willard, president of the W.C.T.U. of the World, who died last night at New York. They all agree that Miss Willard's death will be a serious blow to the circles with which she was connected.

New York, Feb. 18.—During the early morning hours to-day cablegrams, telegrams and messages continued to pour in at the Hotel Empire, where Miss Frances Willard lies dead. They came from all parts of the world. A steady stream of callers, which started about seven o'clock, was received by Mrs. Stevens, vice-president of the W.C.T.U. The funeral services will be held here on Sunday, and another service will be held on Thursday next at Evanston, Ill. Mrs. Catherine Willard Baldwin, a niece of Miss Willard, and her nearest relative in this country will, in conjunction with the national W.C.T.U., take charge of the funeral arrangements.

THE LIFE OF MISS WILLARD.

'Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?' It is not the epithets usually applied to women that spring to one's lips on such an occasion as this. Frances Willard had in her all the elements of hero and statesman. She was what her friend, Lady Henry Somerset, said of her, 'She is distinctly a woman of the future. She is not a prophetess, but a prophecy, and one of the types of the larger and diviner womanhood which our land shall yet produce, and which all lands shall call the fittest.'

She was fitted for her unique work both by nature and by training.

Miss Willard was born in the village of Churchville, near Rochester, New York, on Sept. 28, 1839, of Puritan parentage. When still very young her parents removed to Wisconsin, and her girlhood was spent in the 'Forest Home,' which she describes as a 'queer old cottage, with rambling roof, gables, dormer windows, and little porches, crannies and out of the way nooks scattered here and there. The bluffs rose above it on the right and left. The beautiful Rock River flowed at the west side; and to the east a prairie stretched away to meet the horizon, yellow with grain in summer, in winter fleecy with snow.'

EARLY YEARS.

With such surroundings her girlhood life was naturally spent chiefly out of doors. Here, with her older brother, Oliver, and younger sister, Mary, she tramped and fished, trapped gophers, and hunted, trained a cow to the saddle when circumstances would not permit her to have a horse, fought prairie fires, and met her first great trial, only at the age of about sixteen, when she was suddenly called in to 'dress up' for company com-



THE LATE MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD.

ing from the east, who were in danger of being shocked by such a 'tomboy.'

Physically delicate as an infant she was very precocious in mind. She could talk quite wisely at fourteen months, though she could not walk till she was two years of age. When she was about three years old the family spent some time in Oberlin, Ohio, the seat of the famous University and then she would, many a time, her mother relates, be seen perched on the well-curb or gate-post imitating the gestures of some bright young sophomore who was 'laying it off' for her amusement.

HER LITERARY INCLINATIONS.

She was passionately fond of books, inventive and original in all her amusements, believed in herself and in her teachers and from the first showed a strong preference for grappling with principles, philosophies and philanthropies. She strongly objected to doing any work not to her liking, but in work to her taste she was tireless.

'I wonder sometimes,' her mother used to say, 'that I had the wit to let her do what she preferred, instead of obliging her to take up housework, as did all the other girls of our acquaintance. She was an untrained vine, rambling whithersoever she would.'

How wise that apparent lack of training was every year of her wonderful life has proved. She listened as almost a baby to President Finney preaching and said, her mother tells us, 'his great light eyes, white eyebrows and vigorous manner were to her like a combination of thunder and lightning. I am sure her impressionable spirit became somewhat frightened by the thought of Christianity as administered by that great orator, who was very much given to rehearsing in our hearing the pains and penalties of the condemned.'

At the age of ten years, when the children were 'speaking pieces,' her favorite selection was the one beginning:

'O sacred Truth; thy triumph ceased a while,
And Hope, thy sister, ceased like thee to smile.'

Early in 1858 the Forest Home was left for Evanston, Ill., when Mr. Willard became a partner in the Chicago banking firm of Preston, Willard & Kean, and in 1859 Frances graduated from the North-western University, there. Three years later she was appointed professor of natural science in the same institution. From there she was called to the Pittsburg Female College, and in 1866 became principal in the Genessee Wesleyan Seminary, at Lima, N.Y., where she remained two years.

TRIPLE BEREAVEMENT.

In the meantime, the great sorrows of her life had been experienced, in the death of her father, her sweet younger sister, and her gallant brother, Oliver, of whom she had, since her babyhood been a devoted worshipper. Her first book was a touching tribute to her sister, entitled 'Nineteen Beautiful Years.'

In 1868-70, Miss Willard travelled quite extensively through Europe, Palestine and Egypt. This resulted in a charming series of letters, entitled 'A School Mistress Abroad,' from which we have only space to quote one characteristic bit. She says:—

It is good not to have been born earlier than the nineteenth century, and for myself, I could have rested content until the twenty-fifth, by which date I believe our hopeful dawn of reason, liberty and worship will have grown to noonday. O native land—the world's hope, the gospel's triumph, the millennium's dawn, 'are all with thee, are all with thee.'

While absent she wrote often to the home papers, the New York 'Independent,' 'Harper's,' 'Christian Union,' and Chicago journals. Soon after her return she was elected president of the Woman's College, Evanston, and later, when that college was made part of the North-western University, she was made its dean. Here she developed among the students a method of self-government which was afterwards adopted by several similar institutions.

On the death of her brother she succeeded him as editor of the Chicago 'Evening Post.'

ENTRANCE INTO W. C. T. U. WORK.

The great turning point in her career was the great Woman's Crusade, in Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1873. She gave to this work, freely and gladly, her great ability and genius, and in 1874, was made national corresponding secretary of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which had rapidly developed as the crusade's 'sober second thought.'

Here her marvellous organizing ability had full scope. The first work she set herself was to visit and speak in every town, numbering ten thousand, throughout the whole of the United States. This she accomplished, and much more, too. For ten years she averaged one public meeting a day, writing letters and articles, planning work on her railway journeys between.

In 1879 she was made president of the National Union, and to-day that union, with its forty active departments of work, is largely what her talent and energy has made it.

HER GREAT TALENTS.

One of her most remarkable faculties was her ability to recognize and use talent in others. Frances Willard had the insight that saw in a flash the latent possibilities, the best in each. With the skill of a born general she marshalled them all in the one army—each strong individual working out her own specialty, as only a strong nature could, but all marshalled with consummate skill into one mighty force marching on to one end. And she seemed equally great in administration, pen and voice. As a speaker, with her rare combination of eloquence, pathos and humor, there have been none just like her.

Since 1882 she has been a member of the executive committee of the prohibition party. In 1886 she accepted the leadership of the White Cross Movement, and in 1888 was made president of the American branch of the International Council of Women, and of the World's W. C. T. U., which she had founded five years before.

In 1892, on the death of her mother, she visited England by invitation of Lady Henry Somerset, and received at Exeter Hall such a welcome as had never yet been accorded to any reformer by the united philanthropic societies. Her return home in 1894 was a series of ovations, and she had then conferred upon her by the Ohio Wesleyan University, the degree of LL.D.

For many years she travelled each year from ten to thirty thousand miles, and kept from six to ten stenographers constantly employed.

Her great formula was: 'No sectarianism in religion, no sectionalism in politics, no sex in citizenship.'

AFRICAN WAR CLOUD.

SITUATION RAPIDLY ASSUMING A VERY SERIOUS ASPECT.

London, Feb. 21.—Great activity is manifested by the Colonial Office officials, the West African department, and among the higher military officers who are going to the Lagos hinterland. The latter are inclined to discredit the news which reached Akassa, Niger Coast protectorate, yesterday, to the effect that two French expeditions are advancing toward Sokoto, capital of the sultanate of that name, which is within the British sphere of influence. But they say that if the news is confirmed it must be followed by declaration of war. The 'St. James's Gazette' this afternoon, commenting on the subject, says: 'If the invasion of Sokoto is directed from Paris, it admits but of one interpretation, and the seriousness of the situation is increased when it is remembered that these invasions of British territory must have been planned weeks before the present ferment in Paris over Dreyfus. It would appear that the French Cabinet, foreseeing the revelations which should be caused by the trial of M. Zola, had determined to bring affairs in West Africa to a crisis to secure a renewal of its popularity.'

The advices received by the Associated Press from Akassa, Niger Coast Protectorate, West Africa, last night, were to the effect that two French expeditions are advancing towards Sokoto, capital of the Sultanate of Sokoto, on the Sokoto River, and that six French officers, with a force of two hundred men, have arrived at Argungi and Tagga.

The former is a place of importance on the Sokoto River, about half way between the Sultan's capital and the River Niger, and is within the British sphere. The Sultan, it was added, had commanded the French force to halt about forty miles from the capital and the Royal Niger Company's representative, Deputy Agent-General William Wallace, was holding the company's forces with ammunition and stores, in readiness, awaiting instructions to assist the Sultan and to secure French evacuation of British territory.

EFFECT ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, Feb. 21.—The stock market opened much depressed to-day, but there was no sign of panic. American securities were dull, though they did not show the pronounced weakness they would were the situation very seriously regarded by high financiers.

Glasgow, Feb. 21.—On the Stock Exchange here to-day a semi-panic resulted from the West African news. Large liquidation sales forced the bears into complete control and there are apprehensions as to whether the operators will be able to meet the wide differences at the settlement on Wednesday.

Paris, Feb. 21.—The government has no news of the French having crossed the Niger into the Sokoto country, and, it is added, any such unauthorized movement would be disavowed by the government.

ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN NOW IN PROGRESS IN THE PROVINCE.

Orillia, Feb. 18.—An enthusiastic Liberal rally was held here yesterday, in the interests of the Reform candidate in East Simcoe, Mr. W. M. Harvey. The Hon. A. S. Hardy addressed the meeting in justification of the past acts of the government, and asked for a renewal of public confidence.

Belleville, Feb. 18.—The meeting held in the Opera House last night by the Conservatives of Belleville, Mr. Whitney, the leader of the Opposition, being the chief attraction, was largely attended, the house being crowded. Messrs. W. R. Dempsey, the candidate for Prince Edward; John Stokes, the candidate in East Hastings; M. B. Morrison, the candidate for West Hastings, and Henry Corby, M.P., chairman of the district, made preliminary speeches. Mr. Whitney followed, and was attentively listened to during an hour and a half's speech.

Mitchell, Ont., Feb. 18.—The Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, visited Mitchell yesterday, in the interests of Major Moscrip, the Liberal candidate in North Perth. The minister arrived from Berlin shortly after noon and was received at the station by Mr. Hord, president of the Reform Association, Mayor Ryan and others. During the afternoon Mr. Ross was in consultation with the local manager of the party. The meeting at night was in the Opera House and was largely attended. The front seats in the gallery were reserved for ladies, who turned out in large numbers. The Hon. G. W. Ross was given a rousing reception upon rising. He ably defended the policy of the government in a lengthy speech.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—It is officially learned that the Victoria County Patrons of Industry have decided to submit the Patron platform to the Liberal and Conservative candidates, and to be guided by their answers as to which to support, instead of bringing out an Independent candidate.

SUMMARY.

China is said to be very angry at fresh demands of Germany, and relations between the two empires are said to be strained.

The British war steamer 'Victorious,' from Malta, for Chinese waters, went aground at the bar outside Port Said, and it was some days ere she was floated.

Two hundred fishermen were swept out to sea on an ice floe from the Finland shores on Wednesday. It was feared every soul would perish.

Canada's foreign trade shows an increase of over thirty-one millions of dollars for the first seven months of the fiscal year, ending Jan. 31.

Two mail bags were stolen from the Nelson and Columbia rivers stations on Feb. 11. The letters stolen were valuable, and the police are said to be working on the case.

There has been a trifling increase in the number of Scotch settlers in Ontario for the year, while all other nationalities have shown a decrease, though not of a large percentage.

The Capetown correspondent of the London 'Daily Mail,' says that all the details of the extension of the Buluwayo Railway to Lake Tanganyika, Central Africa, have been completed. There is no difficulty apprehended in getting the three million pounds sterling necessary.

The French steamer 'Flachet,' from Marseilles for Colon, was totally wrecked off Anaga Point, Teneriffe, Canary Islands, on Wednesday. Thirty-eight of the crew and forty-nine of the passengers were lost. The survivors numbered fourteen.

One hundred and ten bodies were recovered from the Hamm Colliery, Prussia, destroyed by an explosion of fire damp, on Thursday last. Several bodies remained to be reached, and the anguish and distress of relatives of the dead made a sorrowful scene at the pit and in the miners' quarters.

Senor Polo de Bernabe has been appointed ambassador for Spain at Washington, in place of Senor De Lome, who resigned owing to the letter he wrote to a friend containing strictures upon President McKinley. This letter was stolen by some Cuban sympathiser and published to De Lome's hurt.

There is to be no legislation in Manitoba upon the Manitoba school law this session, and the action of the Rev. Dr. Bryce and the Hon. D. H. MacMillan in agreeing to adopt certain French textbooks recommended by Bishop Langevin in Ottawa, last week, is but that of members of the advisory board of schools in Manitoba and affects no principle of the school law.

Gossip from Ottawa, indicates that the members of the House are already discussing the franchise bill. The manner of submitting the plebiscite question.

Rumor in London, England, on Saturday insisted that the British would, after all, make the loan to China. The Foreign Office would not confirm the story.

The Marquis of Salisbury and his second son had a narrow escape on Tuesday last. While driving towards Hatfield they were just entering the gates when a heavy gust of wind swung the great gates to a close. The gates caught the brougham in which the noble marquis was seated and cut it in halves—the horses dragging away the front part, leaving the Marquis and Lord William Gascoyne-Cecil, his son, in the debris of the latter part, but happily unhurt.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WEAK LUNGS.

A book by Dr. Robert Hunter, of New York, gives all the latest discoveries of medical science regarding Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis and Pulmonary Catarrh, explains their differences, and points out the curative treatment of each form of lung disease

Dr. Hunter is one of the oldest and most experienced lung specialists of the world, having devoted his professional life, since 1851, to the Special Study and Treatment of Lung Complaints. He was the first to discover Consumption to be a local disease of the lungs, and to show that it destroys life solely by strangling the breathing power of that organ.

He was the father of the *local* treatment of the lungs by *antiseptic medicated air inhalations*—the inventor of the *first inhaling instruments ever employed for the cure of lung diseases*, and the discoverer of the only known germicide which has power to *kill the germs of consumption in the lungs of the patient*

His antiseptic inhalation is the only scientific treatment of lung diseases. It applies the remedies to the very seat of the disease in the only direct and commonsense way. Its success is attested by thousands whom it has saved and restored to health from these dread maladies.

A copy of Dr. Hunter's book will be sent free to all subscribers of THE "WITNESS" who are interested, by addressing him at 117 West 45th Street, New York.

OUR MUNDANE SPHERE.

Its Rulers and the Future that Lies Before it.

BRIGHT OBSERVATIONS BY DR. MacARTHUR.

When the Rev. Dr. MacArthur talks the clock is forgotten. This perhaps is the supreme test of conversational charm. He offers at once a beautiful diction, varied knowledge, the ripe observation and culture of the man of travel, glances at the world in its large aspects of possibility and change, notes the rule of a Tammany, expresses a fine indifference for religious creeds, and a glowing hope in the conquering power of the simple truth as it is in Jesus, which truth in the simplest possible forms, will be presented during the first quarter of the next century to the whole world, with such marvellous power as will demonstrate that we, in the nineteenth century have been only doing a little preparatory work, in the evangelizing of the world.

Dr. MacArthur is a great deal more than a learned preacher. He is, in the largest sense, a publicist. He has travelled around the world. He has studied the genesis and expansions of nations. He has discovered Russia in Ezekiel, and has followed the history of that wonderful people to the present day. And when he was abroad in Russia, in Germany, in France, England, India, he was the diligent student, understanding ethnical systems hoary with age, probing questions of sociology, and the larger subject of international politics.

For instance, Dr. MacArthur notes that despite the enormous armament of the world, there is a growing disposition to refer all matters of international dispute to arbitration. 'I am aware that a formal arbitration law failed as between England and America,' he said, on Thursday, in the course of a long chat at the Windsor Hotel, in company with Mr. J. S. Buchan, 'but there is more and more a disposition to think of arbitration as the common sense method of settling difficulties. This will become marked by and by; it will become marked even in the case of other countries; and the day need not be far distant when it will be thought as unreasonable that two nations should go to war over a dispute as that you and I should settle a difference of opinion at this moment with our fists. First, there is in the minds of rulers the consciousness of the terrific consequences of a modern war; and in this respect the heavier the armament, the more likely are these consequences to be counted; secondly, there is the feeling, which will increase, of the unreasonableness, not to speak of the enormity of war.'

It was pointed out to the doctor that there were publicists who did not hesitate to preach the doctrine that every nation, for the sake of national preservation, had the right to lie, to outwit its neighbor, to resort to every cunning, dishonorable trick, which were justified by the struggle for national existence, in the present condition of things on the European continent at least.

'It was Walpole who said once that ambassadors were persons sent abroad to lie officially for their country,' remarked Dr. MacArthur, smilingly. 'But if diplomats would only get back to simple honesty the results would be marvellous. Suppose they put aside all lying and chicanery and tried old-fashioned truth and directness, I am persuaded that we would see wonderful effects. Let me give you an illustration. The most successful diplomat which America ever had in her service was Mr. Oscar Strauss, our representative to Turkey during the Cleveland administration. And he was not a diplomat at all. He was a business man. And he would not lie, nor take bribes. And did not believe in wheedling. Was it not strange? And the Sublime Porte, which lied and wheedled itself—which has always lied and wheedled more than any other nation, said, "What a strange kind of fellow this is!" But the Sublime Porte came to love the man who would not lie, and it asked him to settle differences between Turkey and Great Britain, between Russia and Turkey. And Sir William White, the British ambassador, gave him one day the code of international laws dealing with such matters, and Mr. Strauss said, "These may be very good, but you know I am not a diplomat. I am only a business man, and I must apply to this business business principles. And if I cannot apply such principles I will never be able to serve my country." But Sir William White smiled at his simplicity. Mr. Strauss straightened out the difficulties; he won the favor of the Sublime Porte; he, in time, came to rule the Sublime Porte. And this by simple honesty. And Sir William White sent Mr. Strauss, after he quitted the service, the most beautiful letter, which I have seen—a letter full of admiration.

'English diplomacy has greatly improved since the days of Walpole. France has changed her method; but for equal cunning and continuity we must give the palm to Russia.'

This led to a long talk as to the possibilities of a European war.

'The German Emperor is an Englishman; that is how we must understand him. Also he is a little crazy—by that I do not mean that he is mad. A very fine line of demarkation divides between what is genius and a sort of insanity. But that is the secret of his desire for a navy. If there be trouble between the great powers it will occur between Russia and England—the latter the mightiest, the former the second mightiest power on earth. Mind, I do not make prediction; but the policy of Russia is to constantly irritate England. By the way, do you know that you could drop the United States, exclusive of Alaska, down in Siberia, and that it would take two clever detectives to find it? I said this recently at a public meeting, and it seemed,' said the doctor, smiling, 'to hurt national pride. But it is the fact. The Russian empire is sparsely populated. If it were populated like Belgium I could not give you figures to estimate the population. But Russia owns eight millions and a half square miles, and England, all told, about fourteen millions. And the policy of Russia is to encroach upon India. The Himalayan range extends three thousand miles. And think—it is five hundred miles wide. Have you a notion what that means? Let us see what we can do to give you a notion. (Here the doctor, with Titanic force, uplifted the whole Alpine range and set it down in one of the valleys of the Himalayas, and, behold, it was hidden from the view! He further took the Matterhorn, and upon this he placed the Jungfrau, and their combined height could barely be discerned when contrasted with the Himalayas.) This was the barrier which protected India. But there were passes. And the object of England was to secure all those passes, so as to make her position impregnable.

'Now, I believe that Russia has played an underhand policy in this uprising of the Afridis,' said the doctor. 'It is said that Russia has an agent whose business it is to stir up the tribes against England. England will conquer these tribes; she is bound to conquer; and she will occupy their territory; and "amen" to her, I say. For I have been in India, and I know what England has done for India. But there may come a day when these two mighty powers will meet in one of the great plains at the base of the mountains and then there will be such a shock as shall vibrate throughout the civilized world.'

The doctor described the different races in India, with their mutual hatreds, which was the secret of the successful rule of the British. The different peoples who are more different than the peoples of the different nations of Europe, from one another, do not perhaps love the rule of England, but they have a saying—'The hand of England is sometimes heavy; but it is not so heavy as the boot of Russia.' And the peoples hate each other so bitterly that they would infinitely prefer the rule of England to the rule of any one dominant caste.

The doctor believes in practical Christianity.

'How many sermons did I hear in my young days,' he said with a shudder, 'which had as much relation to the practical side of life in the nineteenth century as it might have had to a person in the fifteenth. That is being done away with. The pulpit is still preaching the gospel; but it is applied Christianity. Of what use are theoretical principles, if you do not work them out? Christianity is valueless unless you apply it to the life and the conditions?'

'Do you believe the gospel includes macadam?'

'With all my heart,' was the emphatic answer. 'Creeds and formulae are like so much scaffolding which, when removed, enable you to see the beautiful temple. We are gettting beyond mere creeds and traditionalism. We have ceased a great deal to reverence the cloth. That is well. Who wants to see the cloth, the profession, reverenced? We want to see truth, simple, direct. This generation is better able to make creeds than any generation which preceded it. It is not a creed so much as a character. Now, I believe in the application of the gospel to civic politics. Not to partisan politics, remember. I spoke in behalf of McKinley, who is one of the sweetest characters I have ever met and who will take rank next to Washington—

'What about the "low politician" of the Spanish ambassador's letter the other day?'

'I speak from personal acquaintance. I spent an evening with the President two weeks ago. I say he is the finest type of the Christian gentleman I have met with. I spoke for him, I say, because the question was a moral one—shall the country dishonor herself by debasing her currency, and repudiating her obligations? That was ethical. Any man has a right to take his stand upon such a question. But in the pulpit to-day we need the gospel of Christianity applied to conditions and character. It is being so applied. It will be more so. Tradition no longer holds sway over the pulpit, which is becoming more ethical. I have tried to apply the gospel to the higher Christian citizenship; but in New York city this has been simply preaching foreign missions. This is a strange statement, is it not? When I was in Benares—a city which flourished long before Romulus and Remus suckled the wolf upon the fields which became Rome—I was asked by an educated Hindu what I thought of the city. Having regard to the indescribable odors, the filthy narrow streets, I expressed my opinion pretty plainly. "And yet you are from New York?" was the scornful answer. This man had heard of Tammany. "If Tammany," he said, "is all that the Democracy can accomplish I am glad I am a Hindu; if that be the expression of Christianity I am glad I am what you call a heathen.'

'Now, that answer,' said the doctor, 'gave me a bad quarter of an hour.'

Of course, there was reply that Tammany was only an excrescence upon the body politic.

The doctor described the recent triumph of Tammany at length. Here is just a piquant notion of it:

'Tammany is the triumph of Archbishop Corrigan; it is the triumph of the Pope of Rome, who, himself a subject of another power, is supreme. Croker is an instrument; Archbishop Corrigan is the power behind the throne. The triumph of Tammany in New York is the triumph of Irish Romanism. Let there be no mistake about that. We are under the government of the Pope. A man who was a thug and the companion of thugs comes over from England, and, although holding no office, having no visible power, rules us. Is it not inexplicable? I have said in my pulpit that it was strange that while on the European continent there was a question of limiting the powers of monarchy, we, a republican people, had admitted in the person of Mr. Croker, the power of unlimited monarchy.'

The doctor described the causes which led to the defeat of the reform party—which was simply disunion—a defeat which he had predicted from the start, and in connection with which he remarked to his wife, upon the morning of the election, when he proceeded to vote, that he was going as a lamb—a rather old lamb—to the slaughter.

'Well, we have got a set back, but we are not in despair. The best elements can rule New York city, in spite of Tammany. We will have to endure four years of Irish Romanism, but the best citizens have at last seen it to be their duty to vote. I have preached against indifferentism. Understand, that in speaking about the Archbishop, I have nothing to say about the Latin Church religiously considered. It is simply when she uses her ecclesiastical machinery for political purposes that I criticize. When Grant was Mayor of New York he knelt down at a public function and kissed the Archbishop's ring. I made a speech denouncing the act as an insult to a free and independent people. The Archbishop wrote me that it was simply the ring as the symbol of the Pope's power which the Mayor had kissed; I replied that the explanation was worse than the offence. 'What,' said the doctor, with indignation, 'are we to be told that a foreign bishop, himself a subject, shall rule over a free people?'

Doctor MacArthur does not believe in applying the republican principle to municipal government. He would like one man rule, if you could get the right man. The Mayor of New York has more power than many kings of Europe. New York speaks forty languages and a score of dialects. Her only hope is the public school, when the next generation will be Americans. The doctor would make it incumbent upon the voter to be able to read the constitution either in his own, or the English tongue.

The doctor is proud of New York, with all its shortcomings. He said he always walked starighter as he went up Broadway. He had seen New York brick, then stone, and now iron and steel.

'The outlook for the whole world is hopeful. I often say to my son, who is fifteen, that he will have a glorious opportunity which was denied me. Looking back, I know the lad will say when he is a man—'Poor father was not in it.' Every telephone, and every line of railway, and every ship that sweeps the seas, will become a Christian influence. India is honeycombed with Occidental civilization. She is not Christian, but she is disposed towards it. Japan has adopted Occidental life and modes of thought. The Chinese Empire is breaking in pieces. The highest authority in China recently consulted with a Baptist missionary as to the cause of their defeat at the hands of a nation of forty million people. And the answer was, because her enemy had adopted the civilization of Christianity.

'The pierced hand of Jesus Christ rules the world,' was the comment of the doctor.

'The eminent preacher does not dread criticism of the bible. The bible will be sifted, but it will come out of the ordeal without the smell of fire upon a single page. Only, we must be careful. We must not take a text uttered by the devil and say it is the word of God. There are statements in Job, made by his friends, which are taken to be the word of God, though Job and the Lord condemned them. Fundamental truth will remain. If musty theology gets a hard blow there will be little cause for regret. All parts of Scripture are not of equal authority. We have got to find out why such a passage was written, and when, and by whom. We have to alter the emphasis.'

'As for the 'Witness,'' said Dr. MacArthur, at parting, 'why, I was literally brought up on the 'Witness.''

In coming here Dr. MacArthur is returning to his native country, his birthplace having been Dalesville, Quebec, to which place his parents went from Scotland. His father and mother were of ancient Highland stock, and they used in their personal conversation their ancestral Gaelic. The original lairds of the rocky shores of Loch Awe were the Clan MacArthur, which, in latter times, was merged into the Clan Campbell. His mother was a Stuart, and some members of the clan delight to trace the family line back to Prince Charles Edward Stuart.

The boy Robert joined the Baptist Church at the age of thirteen. When only sixteen he was accustomed to conduct religious meetings. He prepared for college at the Canadian Literary Institute, Woodstock, Ont.; graduated at the University of Rochester in 1867, and at the Rochester Theological Seminary in 1870. As a scholar he took high rank, and was especially distinguished for oratorical power. Immediately upon his graduation at the Seminary, in May, 1870, he went to Calvary Baptist Church, New York, from which he had received a unanimous call. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Rochester, in 1880, and that of LL.D., was given him by Columbia University, in 1896. He has labored in the same church now for nearly twenty-eight years, and his ministry has been attended by phenomenal success.



THE REV. DR. MacARTHUR.

NEWS FROM UGANDA.

REBELS ESCAPE FROM FORT LUBWAS.

The London 'Times' has the following, from Zanzibar, under date of Feb. 7:—Information was received at the Foreign Office on Saturday morning from Sir Arthur Hardinge, to the effect that the mutineers had evacuated the fort at Lubwas during the night of Jan. 9, and had withdrawn the whole of their force in a large dhow and some canoes across a bay of the Victoria Nyanza. Captain Harrison, with two hundred men, two Maxim guns, and a thousand Waganda, had started to prevent the mutineers from crossing the Nile.

Reuter's Agency states that, in reply to a telegram sent to Mombasa inquiring as to the position in Uganda as affecting the missionaries, the Church Missionary Society has received a telegram from Bishop Tucker, dated Mombasa, Feb. 3, with the words:—'Mengo, Jan. 5. All well.' This, the society states, should probably be understood as referring to the health and safety of the missionaries, and not to the general political situation. The Church Missionary Society has thirty-six missionaries (including eight ladies) in or near Uganda.

SIR JAMES STANSFELD.

London, Feb. 17.—The Right Hon. Sir James Stansfeld, who has held the offices of Lord of the Admiralty, Under Secretary for India, Lord of the Treasury, president of the Poor Law Board, and president of the Local Government Board, is dead. He was born at Halifax in 1820, represented Halifax in parliament from 1859 to 1895, and retired from parliament at the last election.

OTEGO, N.Y., PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Rev. C. J. Hastings, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Otego, N.Y., has sent to the 'Witness' giving an interesting account of the re-opening of the Presbyterian Church in that town recently. The good will existing among the various denominations in the town was strikingly exemplified in the fact that the church was filled with people of the Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopalian, Christian, and three branches of the Baptist denominations, while the pastors of the Baptist, Christian and Methodist Episcopal churches assisted the Rev. Mr. Hastings in the service. The latter preached an earnest and thoughtful sermon from I Tim. iii., 15, while the large union choir rendered some beautiful singing, which was greatly appreciated. A liberal collection was taken up in aid of the Society of Earnest Workers. The benediction, which was pronounced by the Rev. A. Nash, a retired pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, brought the service to a close. Mr. Hastings is a graduate of the Presbyterian College in this city, and is now in the third year of his pastorate at Otego.

PATRONS OF INDUSTRY

THEY DISCUSS THE CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS AS AFFECTING THEIR INTERESTS.

The annual meeting of the Patrons of Industry for the Province of Quebec was held last week in a room in the Riendeau Hotel, Montreal. The first business done was the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:—President, T. A. King, of Richmond; vice-president, E. Lalonde, of Soulanges County; secretary, G. A. Dauth, of Coteau du Lac; grand trustees, B. A. Savage, of Shefford County; W. Smith, of Argenteuil County, and James McGibbon, of Huntingdon County; sentinel, J. Elerton, of Huntingdon County; lecturers, N. Vandal, of Argenteuil, and J. McGibbon, of Huntingdon County; auditors, L. R. Whiteman, of Brome, and J. McCabe, of Vaudreuil.

The president, Mr. King, then gave an address, in which he complimented the public press for the aid they had given the Patrons in the work of reform, saying that the press had proved to be a godsend to the poor men of the country. He repudiated the idea that the Patrons should not interfere in politics, as all that was dear to us was affected more or less by the action of governments. He was opposed to the subsidizing of railways, unless one-half of the subsidy was used in liquidating mortgage on farms at as low interest as is charged to the railways. At present the export of agricultural products from Canada was six times the value of her manufactured exports. He referred to the high prices charged for school books and objected to the late regulations which require teachers in Protestant schools to get a Normal School diploma. Farmers should elect farmers to represent them in parliament.

The vice-president, Mr. Smith, gave a short address, referring to the iniquity of one-sided protective legislation. The farmers should have an equal chance with the manufacturers in conducting their business, as the prosperity of the whole country depended largely upon the farmers. He condemned the Yukon railway land grant, for if the land was as rich in gold as represented the whole country should get the benefit of it.

The grand secretary, Mr. G. A. Dauth, gave an address in French, in which he condemned the Yukon railway contract. He was followed by Mr. McGibbon, who, after referring to the outrageous bargain formerly made with the C. P. Railway, said that the Yukon contract was in the same line, as the government gave the company their choice of the rich mineral lands in compensation for building a short line of railway, so that the company would work their mines to better advantage.

REVIVAL SERVICES.

(From a Correspondent.)

A series of evangelistic meetings conducted by the Rev. A. W. Main, of Danville, Que., have just closed at Ayer's Flats. From the first a growing interest and attendance marked the services. At times the church in which they were held was seated to its utmost capacity. The meetings were characterized by a spirit of unity among the people and by the manifestation of the presence of the Lord in power to save and bless. We have reason to believe that the whole community has received a blessing. The church has received a spiritual uplift, and many souls for the first time are rejoicing in the salvation of Jesus. Mr. Main is well adapted for this special work, by his quiet, gentle manner, kindly and persuasive utterances, he wins the attention and affection of his hearers; he earnestly and with power lifts Christ up before the people and points to him as the Saviour of sinners. At the close of a sermon during one of the meetings a man who had lived to the world and sin many years, arose in his place and asked Mr. Main the question, 'Is Christ all you have represented him to be tonight?' 'Yes,' replied Mr. Main, 'and infinitely more.' 'Then,' said he, 'I will take that Christ to be mine from henceforth.' To-day he is rejoicing in Christ. 'If I be lifted up I will draw all men unto me.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.



NEW MULTIFLORA ROSES.

With seed of these new Roses, plants may be had in bloom in 60 days from time of sowing. Plant at any time. They grow quickly and flowers appear in large clusters and in such quantity that a plant looks like a bouquet. Perfectly hardy in the garden, where they bloom all summer. In pots they bloom both summer and winter. From a packet of seed one will get Roses of various colors—white, pink, crimson, etc.—no two alike, and mostly perfectly double and very sweet. Greatest of novelties. Seed 20c per pkt., 3 pkts. for 50c—or for 40c we will send

1 pkt. New Multiflora Roses. All colors.
1 " Chinese Lantern Plant. Magnificent.
1 " Cupid Dwarf Sweet Pea. A real gem.
1 " Verbena, Giant White Scented.
1 " Tree Strawberry. Largest, finest berry.
1 bulb Double-flowered Tuberous Begonia
1 " Fancy Gloxinia. Extra fine.
1 " Giant Flowered Gladiolus Childsi.
2 " 1 Spotted Calla Lily, 1 Montbretia.
6 " Fancy Gladiolus. All different colors.
10 " Flowering Oxalis. Mixed colors. Also,

Our Great 160-page Color Plate Catalogue and

THE MAYFLOWER Monthly Magazine for a year; illustrated—colored plate each month—devoted to Flowers and Gardening. Worth $1.50 but for trial

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JOHN LEWIS CHILDS, Floral Park, N.Y.

DUNHAM FARMERS' CLUB.

WINTER SESSION WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL.

Dunham, Que., Feb. 18.—The Dunham Farmers' Club have elected the following officers for 1898: Mr. H. H. Hibbard, mayor of Dunham, president; Mr. Jas. Miller, vice-president; Messrs. J. F. Watson, H. O. Martin, M. Curley, S. P. Cameron, and R. P. Small, directors; Mr. W. E. O'Brien, secretary-treasurer.

The club held its usual winter reunion and supper in the Town Hall, Dunham, on Tuesday evening. The event was attended by about four hundred of the representative farmers of Dunham and Stanbridge, and their wives; and the hall was full almost to suffocation. A splendid programme of music, songs and readings was presented, the president acting as chairman. Judge Lynch, who was present, gave an excellent address, dealing principally with the importance of the farmer's calling, and the urgent necessity of rendering rural life sufficiently attractive to keep the young people on the farms. He took the occasion also to touch upon the question of improved highways, about which he is so very enthusiastic and hopeful. The Dunham farmers are very much afraid of the bugbear of a direct tax for road building, but the judge pointed out the utter inability to cope with the important question of improved roadways so long as they clung to the systemless way of working out the road tax as each man pleased.

Mr. Burnett, a succeeding speaker, clinched the argument by showing that when a money tax was collected and the work done under the supervision of one competent man, the labor would have to be hired, and the farmers if they so desired, could do the work and get their money back, only they would have to give an honest day's labor for their pay, and work according to the instructions of the supervisor.

Col. Patten, of Brome, in his speech reminded his hearers of the fact that the Dunham cheese factory was the first one erected in Canada, and that the first Dominion Dairy Commissioner was sent to it to see how they made cheese.

Mr. Jos. Selby, of Dunham, claims to be the man who delivered the first can of milk at the factory, which began operations in 1862. Mr. Selby still has the an in his possession, and keeps it as a curiosity.

Mr. J. C. Draper, of Sutton, gave a practical address dealing specially with the importance of the conservation of [illegible] manure and the best methods of growing fodder corn.

Mr. Charles Curtis, of Warden, also made an address.

It was expected that Mr. J. C. McCorkill, M.P.P.; the Hon. H. Thos. Duffy, and Mr. H. S. Foster, president of the District of Bedford Dairymen's Association, would be present, but unfortunately they were unable to attend, the latter being detained at his home at Knowlton, by illness. He sent a very interesting letter which was read to the audience by Mr. E. L. Watson, of Dunham. The letter dealt with the project of establishing a cheese factory on a genuine co-operative basis, and made several other important suggestions.

A large number of new members were enrolled by the secretary. The club meets on the first Wednesday in each month, and gives a number of prizes on crops in the summer time.

THE 'VICTORIOUS' AFLOAT.

Port Said, Feb. 18.—The British first-class battleship 'Victorious,' which left Malta on Feb. 11, bound for China, and which went ashore outside the bar here on Feb. 14, has been floated.

COMMERCIAL.

WITNESS OFFICE, Feb. 21, 1898.

STOCKS WEAK.

INFLUENCED BY THE GREAT DECLINE IN CANADIAN PACIFIC.

After the great drop in C.P.R. on Saturday, caused by the rate war, the market was very weak. On Saturday over 13,000 shares of that stock sold at values between 89¾ and 81¾. This morning about three thousand shares were sold at prices ranging from 81 to 83. Toronto Street declined 2¼ to 97; Montreal tStreet 1 to 259; Halifax Street 3 to 133¾, and Gas 2 to 193½.

Sales at the afternoon board were as follows:—775 C.P.R. at 81½, 100 at 87⅝, 25 at 87¾, 450 at 81¾, 100 at 87¼, 200 at 81¾, 25 Cable at 185; 150 Toronto Street at 97, 50 at 96¾, 400 at 96¾, 975 at 97, 125 at 97¼, 125 at 97¼, 13 at 96½, 75 at 97½; 225 Montreal St. Railway at 259; 50 Gas at 194¾; 25 Montreal New Street at 257, 365 Richelieu at 107½, 25 at 107¼, 50 Merchants Bank at 180¾; 100 Commerce at 142; 75 Halifax Railway at 140, 13 at 139½.

The fortieth annual report of the Montreal Loan and Mortgage Company, which has just been issued, says:

'It affords the directors much pleasure to state that the general business of the company during the year has been satisfactory, the collections good and the funds actively employed on approved securities; the net earnings enabled them to declare the usual dividends and bonus and to largely increase contingent acct. as a provision for losses which will probably arise when closing out old loan accounts.

'The result of the year's business, after deducting all charges shows, derived from from all sources, a net profit of $52,865.23, this sum has been disposed of by the payment of two semi-annual dividends and a bonus of one percent, making eight percent or $40,000; by transferring to contingent account $10,000, and the surplus of $2,865.23, added to the balance of profit and loss account from last year $8,000.77, leaves a total balance at the credit of this account of $10,-506.

'There has been written from contingent account during the year the sum of $1,251.50. By the addition of $10,000 the balance at the credit of this account is $16,026.71.

'Sales of real estate to the amount of $35,-556.65 have been made, and a profit of $1,-854.70 has been realized. Several small properties have reverted to the company, and the real estate now held amounts to $119,-113.66.

New York, Feb. 21.—The stock market opened weak. Atchison, 12; sugar, 128; General Electric, 34⅝; People's Gas, 95½; Burlington, 98⅝; Rock Island, 90; St. Paul, 94¼; Louisville, 57; Western Union, 90¾; Southern prefered, 30; Manhattan, 113½.

Reported by Messrs. Nichols & Marler.

	Buyers.	Sellers.	Counter.
New York Funds	1-16	1-10 prem.	¼ to 3-16 prem.
Sterling, 60 days	8 11-16	8¾	8⅝ to 9
Sterling, demand	9 3-16	9 5-16	9⅜ to 9½
Sterling, Cables	9⅛	9 7-16	9⅛ to 9⅜

MONTREAL STOCK REPORT.

(Furnished by Macdougall Bros., Brokers.)

Montreal, Feb. 19.

Stocks.	Asked.	Bid.
Canadian Pacific Railway	81⅜	81⅛
Do. L. G. Bonds	....	....
Duluth S. S. & A.	....	....
Do. Preferred	6½	5
Commercial Cable Co	185⅝	184¾
" Coupon Bonds	107	106
" Reg. "	107	....
Montreal Telegraph	180	179¾
Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co.	108	106⅞
People's Heat & Light	40	....
" Bonds	....	....
Montreal Street Railway Co.	262½	261
" New	260	258¼
Halifax Ry	142	141
Halifax Bonds	107	106
Montreal Gas Co.	194½	194¼
Bell Telephone Co.	177½	174
Royal Electric Co.	157	....
Toronto Railway	99½	99
Bank of Montreal	....	238
Ontario Bank	....	....
Molsons Bank	....	200
Bank of Toronto	235	228
Merchants Bank	185	180
Merchants Bank of Halifax	....	185
Quebec Bank	....	120
Union Bank	....	103
Bank of Commerce	144	....
Cornwall Elect.	....	....
Cornwall Ry.	....	....
St. John do.	145	140
North-West Land	....	....
" Pref'd.	53½	50
Montreal Cotton Co.	....	....
Colored Cotton Co.	....	....
" Bonds	....	....
Dominion Cotton	97	95
Gas	....	....
Dom. Coal	22	20
Dom. Coal, Pfd.	109	107½

WHEAT HIGHER.

CORN ¼c LOWER—OATS ⅝c LOWER—PROVISIONS STEADY.

In Chicago to-day May wheat opened 1½c higher for May at $1.07½ and went up to $1.08 toward the close, however, it declined rapidly till within ⅝c of Saturday's closing prices. July closed ½c higher than Saturday at 92⅝c. Corn closed ¼c down for both months while oats were ⅜c lower for both months. Provisions closed very steady.

WHEAT IN OTHER GRAIN CENTRES.

New York—Opening, $1.03½ May, 96¼c July. Closing, $1.08¾c March, $1.03⅛ May, 96c b. July.

Detroit—Opening, 99½c May, 92¼c July. Closing, 99½c May, 92¼c July.

Toledo—Opening, $1.01½ b. May, 92c July. Closing, $1.01¾ May, 92c July.

St. Louis—Opening, $1.03 May, 88½c July. Closing, $1.02⅞ b. May, 88¼c July.

Duluth—Opening, $1.00⅝ b. May. Closing, $1.01⅛b. May, 99⅝c b. July.

Milwaukee—Opening, $1.05 May. Closing, $1.05 May.

GRAIN.

The market is very quiet for the moment and prices remain firm. We quote:—

Oats	34½cto 35c
Buckwheat	40c to 42c
Rye	55c to 57c
Barley, according to sample	41c to 42c
Peas, cash	65c to 66c

FLOUR.

The condition of the market continues very firm at present prices. There are rumors, but there is really no change of note. We quote:—

Manitoba Spring Patents	$5.30 to 0.00
Manitoba strong bakers	4.90 to 0.00
Straight rollers	4.40 to 4.45
Winter patents	4.60 to 4.85

MEAL.

The tone of the market for meal was firm and the recent advance in prices fully maintained. The demand for rolled oats was fair, and sales were made at $3.90 per barrel, and at $1.90 per bag ex store.

FEED.

A fairly active trade is on foot in the feed market and prices are firm. We quote Ontario bran at $14; shorts at $16 per ton in bulk; Manitoba bran at $15, and shorts at $17 to $17.50 per ton, including bags.

HAY.

Prices show no change and the market is very quiet. We quote: No. 1 at $10.50 and No. 2 at $8 to $8.50 per ton, in car lots.

PROVISIONS.

There was no perceptible change in the local market, and prices remain firm. We quote as follows—Canadian pork, $16.50 to $17 per barrel; pure Canadian lard in pails, at 8c to 8¼c, and compound, refined, at 5½c to 5¾c per lb.; hams, 11½c to 12½c; bacon, 12c to 13½c per lb.

A fair jobbing trade is being done in dressed hogs, and prices are steady at $6.75 for light, and at $6.25 to $6.40 for heavy per 100 lbs.

DRESSED POULTRY.

The poultry market is quiet, but the demand is good for everything at firm prices. We quote:

Turkeys	9½cto 10c
Ducks	8c to 8½c
Geese	6c to 7c
Chickens	7½cto 8c

CHEESE.

Cheese did not record anything very new to-day, though buyers claim to be able to get the finest at 7¾c. This is not certain, however. The tone of the market is essentially the same. Values were nominal, so far as spot business went.

BUTTER.

Business continues dull. We quote:—

Finest creamery	18c to 18½c
Finest dairy	15c to 16½c
Lowest grade dairy	12c to 14c
Roll butter	15c to 16c

EGGS.

The market is firmer with a slight advance in new laid. Receipts continue moderate, but the demand is good. We quote:

Montreal limed	14½cto 15c
Western limed	13c to 14c
No. 1 Candled	15c to 16c
No. 2 candled, as to quality	12½cto 15½c
Strictly new laid	19c to 20c

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Feb. 19, 1898.	Feb. 12, 1898.	Feb. 20, 1897.
Wheat, bush	95,562	88,726	450,527
Corn, bush	55,836	60,099	23,836
Peas, bush	101,624	94,798	156,091
Oats, bush	747,811	693,201	351,142
Barley, bush	45,987	45,052	41,252
Rye, bush	24,903	34,737	54,101
Buckwheat, bush	38,140	35,752	47,894
Flour, brls	15,913	17,147	49,158
Meal, brls	63	63	2,237

WHEAT IN SIGHT.

	Feb.21,'98	Feb.14,'98	Feb.22,'97.
Visible supply in U.S. & Can.	35,433,000	35,634,000	45,215,000
On passage to U.K.	25,920,000	24,560,000	19,760,000
On passage to Continent	11,120,000	10,160,000	7,440,000
Total	72,473,000	70,354,000	72,415,000

MOVEMENTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

	Receipts.	Ship'ts.
At Chicago—		
Wheat, bush	55,000	88,000
Corn, bush	429,000	34,000
Oats, bush	312,000	211,000
Flour, brls	14,715	15,737
At New York—		
Wheat, bush	50,875	28,029
Corn, bush	105,300	47,183
Oats, bush	148,800	127,420
Flour, brls	12,260	5,672
Flour, sacks	12,554	5,310
At Milwaukee—		
Wheat, bush	20,000	5,000
At Duluth—		
Wheat, bush	27,000	.....
At Detroit—		
Wheat, bush	5,000	9,000
At Minneapolis—		
Wheat, bush	189,000	48,000
At St. Louis—		
Wheat, bush	15,000	75,000
At Toledo—		
Wheat, bush	10,000	7,000

CHICAGO MARKETS.

The following table shows the range of prices in Chicago to-day and the closing quotations as compared with those of Saturday:

	Saturday's Close.	To-day's Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat—					
Feb.	108	108	....		
May	106	107½	108	106	106¾
July	92⅛	92	93½	91½	92⅝
Corn—					
May	31⅛	31½	31⅝	30⅝	30⅞
July	32¼	32⅜	32¾	31⅞	32⅛
Oats—					
May	27⅛	27⅜	27½	26½	26¾
July	24⅝	25	25	24⅝	24½
Pork—					
May	11.00	11.12	11.12	10.95	11.00
July	11.02	11.15	11.15	10.95	11.00
Lard—					
May	5.20	5.25	5.27	5.22	5.25
July	5.30	5.32	5.35	5.30	5.32
Short Ribs.					
May	5.27	5.20	5.30	5.22	5.25
July	5.32	5.37	5.37	5.30	5.32

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Feb. 17.

The bitterly cold weather with high winds and drifting snows made things rather disagreeable around the East End Abattoir today where about six hundred head of butchers' cattle were offered for sale. Common and inferior cattle were decidedly lower in price, and a good many of these will not be sold to-day. A few superior beeves were sold at from 4¼c to nearly 4½c per lb.; pretty good stock sold at from 3¼c to 4c and the common and inferior animals at from 2c to 3c per lb. There were only three or four small calves offered here to-day and they sold at from $2.50 to $4 each. About 20 sheep and lambs were offered for sale and brought about 3½c per lb. for the sheep and from 4⅝c to 5c per lb. for lambs. There were about 500 fat hogs landed at Point St. Charles stockyards since yesterday morning and 5c per lb. was paid for those just come off the cars and 4⅝c per lb. offered for fed hogs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Feb. 21.

There were about 450 head of butchers' cattle, 8 calves and 20 sheep and lambs offered at the East End Abattoir to day. The butchers who ventured out found Frontenac street a rather 'hard road to travel' owing to the severe drifting of the beaten tracks. Trade is rather dull as less beef is required this week owing to the fast days at the beginning of Lent. Prime beeves sold at about 4¼c per lb., and a few choice animals were held at 4½c per lb.; pretty good animals sold at from 3¼c to 4ca, and common dry cows at from 2¼c to 3c do. Calves from one week to three wooks' old sold at from $3 to $7 each. Sheep sold at about 3½c per lb. and lambs at 5c do.; fat hogs sold at about 5c per lb.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES.—Feb. 18.

There was a very small attendance of farmers at the markets to-day, which was to be expected after the storms and drifts of the past two days. Traders had the business largely in their own hands, with prices in general rather higher. There seems to be a boom in oats, and they sold at about 75c per bag, or from 10c to 15c higher than they did a week ago; potatoes are 70c the bag; Quebec turnips, 40c do.; beets and carrots, 75c to $1 the barrel; parsnips, $1 to $1.25 do.; cabbages, 60c to 70c do.; celery, 15c to 45c the bunch; dressed hogs, 6½c to 7c per lb.; turkeys, 10c to 12c do.; geese, 8c to 9c do.; ducks, 10c to 11c do.; chickens, 10c to 13c do.; tub butter, 18c to 20c do.; prints, 20c to 30c do.; fresh laid eggs, 20c to 35c the dozen; packed eggs, 22c to 25c do.; limed eggs, 16c the dozen. Apples, $2.50 to $5 the barrel; Jamaica oranges, $5.50 do.; California oranges, $2.50 the box; lemons, $2 to $2.50 do.; bananas, $1.25 to $1.75 the bunch. Hay, $7 to $10 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, $5 to $4.50 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

STATE OF TRADE.

REVIVED ACTIVITY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING INDUSTRY.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Vancouver, Feb. 19.—Business in most lines is active, and outfitting trade steadily increasing, tending to restore confidence, and surplus capital, heretofore withheld from investment, is finding its way into more speculative ventures. Renewed activity is noticeable in the mining industry in the neighborhood of Rossland. The apparent outcome of the large purchases of mining properties recently made by the Mackintosh syndicate. Considerable development work is being done, and it is understood contracts are being let for re-commencing work on different property in the vicinity.

MANITOBA.

Winnipeg, Feb. 19.—The condition of the trade this week is practically featureless, an advance of one-half cent on rope is reported, and the hardware business in general is possibly picking up somewhat. Grocery prices remain firm. A large deal in wheat—one hundred and twenty-five thousand bushels at seventy-eight cents is reported to have taken place between local firms.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Halifax, Feb. 19.—Trade continues quiet in all lines, and collections are slow. Travelling is very bad on the country roads, on account of the recent thaw. St. John, New Brunswick, reports small shipments of lumber to United States points. General business dull, and collections hardly satisfactory.

ONTARIO.

Toronto, Feb. 19.—The most conspicuous feature this week has been the sharp advance in the prices of wheat and coarse grains. Wheat is 4c higher, white oats, have advanced 3½c; flour, 10c to 15c; oatmeal, 25c per barrel; peas, 1c; rye, 2c; buckwheat, 1c, and corn, 1½c. The farmers still hold a great deal of grain, so that this advance will help to still further improve business in the country. Goods of all descriptions for the spring trade are selling freely, and cash sales are more numerous than ever before. The delivery of goods is keeping the big distributing houses here very busy, and a remarkable fact is that the factories and mills are so busy on orders, it is impossible to secure deliveries of woollens and heavy cotton goods in many cases, and some traders are buying American goods, notwithstanding the almost prohibitive duty, although they would prefer Canadian makes if they could get them at the moment. Values are, under these circumstances, all very firm. Country remittances are improving. There is a good demand for Canadian securities for investment, and while prices declined a little in sympathy with Wall street, they rallied again and closed strong. Money is abundant, and rates are easy at six to seven percent for mercantile discounts, and four percent for call loans.

QUEBEC.

Montreal, Feb. 19.—Trade situation much the same as last week. The blocking of the country roads has somewhat unfavorably affected trade, but on the whole business is reported fairly active and collections reasonably good. There are no new features in the dry goods trade, but spring orders are being filled, some houses claiming that spring goods are coming into great demand already. Groceries continue fairly active, molasses stocks low, with a tendency to advance, and canned goods continue firm, but moving hardly as brisk as anticipated. Paints and oils are selling freely, with a prospect of an advance in some lines. Shoe manufacturers report orders good, and jobbers are satisfied with the prospects. Flour market steady, with considerable foreign inquiry. The recent losses in the retail dry goods trade have had a somewhat dampening effect, but it is expected that spring business will be satisfactory. Money abundant. Call, four percent; on time, six to seven.

Quebec, Feb. 19—There are now good winter roads in all sections, and although the wholesale grocers report city trade quiet, orders are coming in fairly from country points. Flour dealers report business quiet but prices firm. The dry good trade is reported fair, and on the whole collections are up to the mark. Hides remain firm, and shoe manufacturers continue active.

MANITOBA WHEAT.

Locally, the markets have been quiet. Manitoba farmers have been selling very little wheat, but deliveries will no doubt soon increase, as the farmers will want to sell any surplus still held before the roads break up. Prices for No. 1 hard have ranged from 93c on Monday up to 95c yesterday afloat basis, Fort William. Some all rail business is doing with Ontario buyers, on a basis of about $1.07, North Bay.—Winnipeg 'Commercial.'

CHICAGO EASTBOUND FREIGHTS.

Chicago, Feb. 21.—Eastbound shipments for the week showed a large increase consequent on the movement of Leiter wheat, and also a large increase in the shipments of cured. The aggregate amounted to 123,-396 tons, against 76,418 tons for the previous week, and 94,093 tons for the corresponding week last year. The Lake Shore took the largest share of the business, carrying 18.3 percent of the whole. Its tonnage was 22,-566. Other roads carried: Michigan Central, 10,765; Wabash, 7,539; Fort Wayne, 17,954; Fan Handle, 11,887; Baltimore & Ohio, 4,-994; Grand Trunk, 21,064; Nickle Plate, 9,-766; Erie, 14,136; Big Four, 2,725.

BANK OF ENGLAND STATEMENT.

London, Feb. 18.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes as compared with the previous account:

Total reserve, increased	£632,000
Circulation, decreased	184,000
Bullion, increased	447,873
Other securities, increased	5,000
Other deposits, decreased	538,000
Public deposits, increased	1,431,000
Notes reserve, increased	663,000
Government securities, dec.	5,000

The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which, last week, was 45.09 percent, is now 45.77 percent.

The rate of discount of the Bank of England remains unchanged, at 3 p.c.

COMMERCIAL ITEMS.

ADVANCE IN SNOWSHOES.

Among the various lines of goods which have advanced materially in price recently, snowshoes must be included. The Klondike fever has caused a demand for snowshoes which has resulted in clearing out all the stock held in Montreal, and the scarcity has not yet been overtaken. Dealers have become so hard-up that they are telephoning to each other to try to secure a few pairs as orders come in for them. One firm had an old stock of some two thousand and these have all been sold off and now they are looking for more. The price has advanced from thirty to fifty percent, with every prospect of a still further advance. A dealer who contracted last summer to supply a firm in Seattle, W.T., with a fixed quantity per month, finds the market greatly against him. And he can now sell shoes by the hundred pairs at $2.50 net cash, for which he would have been glad to get the same in a retail way last winter. The Indians who make the shoes and who live at Caughnawaga, St. Regis, Three Rivers, and other reservations, are busily working overtime, but as they can only make about six pairs a week each, and the supply is limited, an attempt was made to have the wooden frames made by machinery in the city; but this proved unsuccessful. In fact, the saving would have been comparatively small, as the chief part is the hide net work and this is necessarily slow. The rise has been accentuated by the large local demand following the unusually heavy snowfall here, and even children's shoes have advanced in price.—'Journal of Commerce.'

WHOLESALE MILLINERY OPENINGS.

The fall opening will take place on Monday, the 28th inst., and succeeding days. The latest novelties have not yet arrived, but are expected to hand in the course of a few days. It will then be more definitely known what lines are ultra fashionable. A good quantity of straw braids will be used in the manufacture of fashionable millinery. A good demand is sure for goffered and shirred chiffons and plaited light materials. Millinery houses are well stocked with staple lines in hats. English hat shapes are nearly all received and comprise some attractive numbers in walking or bicycle hats, Javas, chips and leghorns. The latest novelties in American hats are not yet represented. A quantity of steel trimmings are to be used.

Blue promises to be very prominent, especially in dress goods, porcelain, sky and navy blue being good. Lavender and greyish blues are represented in the latest silk importations. For flowers and millinery trimmings, turquoise blues are in evidence. Foreign millinery buyers consider yellow shades, from the light cream and darker shades, as mais, regent-de-Roche, up to the deep orange called girolee, are safe. Some prominent shades of last year are expected to have a share of popular favor. These are geranium pink, coral pink, begonia, cardinal, maroon, fuchsia, fawn, beige and castor. Black and white when in combination will be extensively used. A black hat, because of its general usefulness, is sure to have many favorites. Among foliage greens are to be seen in light and dark moss shades. Water and emerald green are to the fore.—'The Merchant.'

WATER POWER.

The large plants for the utilization of water power in the United States now furnish 72,000 horse power, with the prospect of an increase to 150,000 horse power when all are completed. In addition there are a vast number of smaller ones used in mines or in lighting towns.

Switzerland comes next with 48,000. France will have 18,000 when the plant on the Rhone near Geneva is completed. Germany and Italy have less than 20,000 horse power each. Norway and Sweden have each about 15,000, with possibilities of great development. England comes last with only 4,000 horse power. Some 15,000 of the power credited to America belongs to Canada, a country which abounds in undeveloped water powers.

These water powers are made to do all that coal can do, except raising a smoke. A coal bed is exhaustible, and every ton taken from it brings it nearer its end; but the energy of waterfalls is inexhaustible and will be available for man's needs long after the last pound of coal is raised from the mine.

Not the least remarkable feature of this new departure is the size of the turbines employed. One hundred horse power used to be regarded as a large amount to be given by a single wheel. Some of the turbines at Niagara develop fifty times as much. The next great movement may be the utilization of the tides, in which there is an immense reservoir of power. We may see the day when the great amount of water power in Alaska is brought down to a temperate region and is more valuable than the gold under its frozen soil.—Hartford 'Courant.'

NOVA SCOTIA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The figures of inward and outward trade of Nova Scotia for 1897 have been published. The exports of that province were of the value of $11,312,000 as compared with $10,-999,000 for the year 1896. Imports were valued at $7,957,000 last year, as against $8,336,000 in the previous twelve months.

CARRYING CAPACITY OF LAKE STEAMERS.

Lake steamers continue to increase in size and carrying capacity. Record cargoes of last season will be exceeded the Cleveland 'Review' thinks, immediately following the opening of navigation next spring. The largest cargo of grain as yet moved on the lakes was that of the steamer 'Crescent City'—225,000 bushels of corn, equal to 6,300 net tons, which was taken from South Chicago to Buffalo. Already the Corrigan steel barge 'Australia' is loaded at South Chicago with 226,000 bushels of corn to leave for Buffalo in the spring.

STUDY OF FOREST FIRES.

According to Dr. Bell, who writes recently, in the 'Scottish Geographical Magazine,' the forest fires of Canada are generally caused by lightning. In the great forest that stretches between Alaska and the Straits of Belle Isle, the portions recently burned are easily recognized by the tenderer green of the foliage from the parts which have been longer spared. A fire in the woods rushes along with the speed of a galloping horse. The branches and dead leaves on the ground burn like tinder, and the flames rise to nearly two hundred feet. Resinous pine woods burn fastest. One of these fires extended 160 miles in ten hours. The traces of such a fire remain for nearly a century. Birds and beasts are stifled and burned. Beavers and muskrats which are amphibious, have a chance of saving their lives.

After the fire a few trunks of the largest trees are left. Next spring roots begin to sprout and seeds to grow. In fifteen or twenty years the soil, which had been burned over, is covered with poplars, willows, etc., which shelter young firs and other trees. In fifty years the conifers are uppermost, and in a hundred the others are dying out beneath the pinewood just as has been stated recently by the Ontario Reforesting Commission. A third of the forest region of Alaska, Dr. Bell says, has trees of 50 years old, another third trees of 50 to 100 years, and the rest trees over 100 years old. The fire seems to suit the Banksian pine, as it opens the pines and sets free the grains. Without fires this species would hardly reproduce itself. Such fires took place even in the Pleistocene epoch of Geology.

CONSOLS.

London, Feb. 21, 12.30 p.m. — Consols — Money, 111 5-16; account, 112 5-16.

TORONTO FAILURES.

FARMERS' LOAN AND SAVINGS CO. LIQUIDATION.

Toronto, Feb. 17.—The Dominion Neckwear Company (Mr. Quinn, men's furnishings), of King street west, have called a meeting of creditors for to-morrow. A compromise will probably be effected. No statement has yet been issued, but a considerable deficit is expected. The creditors are largely local firms. Several outside people are interested.

A meeting of the creditors of J. W. Brennan, wholesale liquors, Cornwall, was held this afternoon at the office of the assignee, J. P. Langley. The statement showed liabilities of $6,000, with assets somewhat less.

The shareholders and creditors of the Farmers' Loan and Savings Company have about made up their minds that there are a few things they might do quite apart from the liquidation. A prominent shareholder said that the liquidation had been all right so far as the examination of the books was concerned, but in other directions it was not moving fast enough to suit the people whose money had gone down in the smash. These people want to prevent any further loss than has already taken place, and desire to temper their loss with wholesale vengeance. They want to see the criminals behind the bars and they want the negligent ones to pay up. To bring about these things a meeting will be held to-morrow. It will be attended by several of the heaviest sufferers from the smash and from their present temper it seems probable they will enter an independent and vigorous action to assist the liquidation.

It is reported that Pinkney, late of the Farmers' Loan Company, is in Australia, and Scott, of the same company, is in Mexico. It is also reported that Scott is in Buffalo, having been seen there yesterday by a couple of Toronto gentlemen who were in Buffalo on business. The Guarantee Company have been watching the missing clerks since they went away.

ONTARIO PORK.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—Messrs. F. W. Hodson and William Davies, pork packers, held a conference yesterday morning regarding the question of Ontario pork. It seems that Ontario pork is always placed at second or third grade, while Danish pork is marked at first grade. The result is that dressed and canned pork from Ontario sells for less than Danish pork, live weight. The reason of this is that the farmer does not raise the kind of pork nor fatten the pork properly. The Department of Agriculture intends to take steps to induce the farmers to change their methods in this direction.

TORONTO GRANITE CO. ASSIGN.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—The Toronto Granite Company assigned yesterday to Mr. A. E. Osler. The capital stock of the company was $45,000. A. W. Anderson being president and Mr. Horace Thorne, vice-president. The creditors will meet on Feb. 25.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Feb. 21, 1898. Hogs — To-day's estimated receipts, 23,000; yesterday's receipts according to official returns, 18,137; shipments, 6,031; left over, 1,-547; market opened 5c to 10c higher; light mixed, $3.95 to $4.15; mixed packing, $4 to $4.20; heavy shipping, $4 to $4.22; rough grades, $4 to $4.05. The receipts of cattle were 11,500; market strong; generally 10c higher.

LIVERPOOL MARKET PRICES CURRENT.

Liverpool, Feb. 21, 1898. — Spring wheat, 8s 3d; red winter, 7s 10½d; No. 1 Cala., 8s 2½d to 8s 3½d; corn, 3s 6½d to 3s 6⅝d; peas, 5s 2d; pork, 51s 3d; lard, 27s; tallow, 19s; bacon, heavy, 31s; light, 30s 6d; cheese, 40s.

TORONTO CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—There was a good deal of business done at the western cattle yards to-day, but the receipts being heavy there was a downward tendency to prices in some lines, chiefly sheep and cattle. There were quite a few buyers present from Buffalo. The receipts were 60 carloads, consisting of 1,004 sheep and lambs, 1,500 hogs, 20 calves and about the same quantity of milch cows and springers.

Export Cattle—There was hardly any buying done in this line to-day. Prices ruled from 3¾c to 4¼c per lb. Altogether, only about two car loads were made up to go through by way of St. John.

Butchers' Cattle—Offerings were heavy for the demand, and the result was a slightly weaker feeling. It may be said that cattle are off about $2 per head. One dealer, who bought 25 choice cattle, said that he would have had to pay $50 more for the lot if he had bought them last Tuesday. Some of the poorer cattle remained in the pens at the close of the market. There are too many common cattle coming forward. The prices for the best run of killing cattle may be put at 3¼c to 3¾c per lb., only a few fancy heads going a little higher. Common cattle sell for 3c per lb., or may be slightly lower where the drover was bound to sell.

Stockers and Feeders.—There was a fair demand for Buffalo, the prices paid by those buyers being from 3½c to 3⅝c per lb., common light stockers selling for 3c to 3½c per lb. Feeding steers were being bought by distillery men at from 3½c to 3⅝c per lb., and they are paying 2¾c to 3c for feeding bulls.

Sheep and Lambs.—Lambs were firmer, selling at from $5.25 to $5.40 per cwt., an advance of about 20c. Sheep were a little weaker. They sold for from 3¼c to 3½c per lb. Bucks bring 2½c to 3c per lb.

Hogs—Offerings were heavy, but the market held its own and prices did not decline any further than they did last Tuesday. Choice singers sold for $4.90, weighed off the cars.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

Edinburgh, Feb. 7.—Messrs. John Swan & Sons' Weekly report says: There have been full supplies of fat cattle on offer this week. Owing to the continued mild weather trade is still very slow, and any alteration is in favor of buyers. Sheep have been shown in average numbers, and all classes have met a good demand, last week's prices being more than fully supported. Fat calves continue to sell at high rate, while pigs are considerably dearer. Small supplies of store cattle on offer, anything of a good class getting sold at fair prices. Store sheep in active demand, and prices a little higher. Milch cows were sold in large numbers, and anything of good quality made high prices and those of a secondary description were cheaper.

London, Feb. 7.—Rather larger supply fat beasts, though fewer Scotch. Trade was again very slow. The rates were firm. Fat bullocks and fat butchering cows dull, and 2d per 8 lbs. lower. Top value—Primest, 4s 4d and occasionally 4s 5d; Norfolks, 4s to 4s 3d per 8 lbs. British arrivals—60 Scotch, 60 Irish, 890 Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex, 390 Midland, home, and western counties, 50 Devon. Sheep supply included larger number of lambs, which, however, are not at present worth quoting; for both wedders and ewes trade opened firm and unaltered, but finished dull and rather lower for former. Pigs slow and unaltered. Beef, 2s 4d to 4s 4d; mutton, 3s 4d to 5s 10d; pork, 2s 8d to 4s 6d per 8 lbs. Total supply beasts, 1,350; sheep, 8,970; pigs, 90.

Liverpool, Feb. 7.—Beasts, 1,263; sheep, 3,844; best beast, 6d; second, 5½d to 5¾d; third, 4½d to 5d; best Scotch sheep, 8¼d; other sorts, 6½d to 7¼d. An increase of 94 beasts, and a decrease of 767 sheep. Fair demand for all classes, at about late rates.

HAMILTON MARKETS.

Hamilton, Feb. 19.—White wheat, 90c to 92c; red wheat, 90c to 92c; spring wheat, 90c to 91c; peas, 56c to 60c; barley, 35c to 40c; oats, 33c to 34c; clover seed, $3 to $4.25; timothy, $2 to $2.50; white wheat flour, $3.65 to $3.70; strong bakers, $3.55 to $3.60; dressed hogs, per cwt., $5.50 to $6.25; apples, per bag of bushel and a half, 90c to $1; dried apples, per lb., 3c to 4c; potatoes, per bag of 90 lbs., 85c to 90c; butter, in rolls, 15c to 16c; butter, in firkins, 13c to 14c; eggs, 16c.

GUELPH MARKETS.

Guelph, Ont., Feb. 19.—Flour, $2.25 to $2.50; fall wheat, 87c to 88c; spring wheat, 80c to 82c; bran, $12; shorts, $13; middlings, $14; barley, 32c to 37c; oats, 31c to 33c; rye, 43c to 45c; peas, 60c to 65c; hay, $5 to $7; butter, 15c to 17c; eggs, 18c to 20c; potatoes per bag, 60c to 70c; dressed hogs, $6 to $6.25; live hogs, $4.75 to $5; hides, $7.50 to $8.50; sheepskins, 50c to 75c; chickens, per pair, 40c to 60c; ducks, per pair, 60c to 75c; geese, per lb., 5c to 6c; turkeys, per lb., 10c to 11c.

LONDON PROVISION MARKET.

London, Ont., Feb. 19.—The market was large to-day. Wheat ranged from $1.45 to $1.50 per cental, and there was a good quantity in. Oats, 90c per cental; peas, 51c to 54c per bushel; rye, 33 3-5c to 36 2-5c per bushel; corn, 36 2-5c to 25 1-5c per bushel buckwheat, 28c to 29c per bushel; beans, 30c to 60c; per bushel; barley, 33½c per bushel; beef was in plenty and sold for $5 to $6.50. Dressed hogs are in plenty, and sold for $6 to $6.50 per cwt. Potatoes, 75c to 85c per bag. Cabbages, 30c to 40c per dozen. Hay is plenty at $6.50 to $7. Butter was scarce and sold for 18c to 20c per pound. Eggs, fresh, 15c to 18c per dozen.

INGERSOLL MARKETS.

Ingersoll, Ont., Feb. 21.—White wheat, 85c to 88c per bushel; red wheat, fall, at 85c to 88c per bushel; spring do., 85c to 88c per bushel; barley, 30c to 35c per bushel; peas, 55c to 60c per bushel; oats, 28c to 30c per bushel; corn, 42c to 50c per bushel; bran, $11 to $12 per ton; shorts, $13 to $15 per ton; potatoes, 90c to $1 per bag; onions, 60c to 75 cents per bushel; live hogs, $4.50 to $5.65 per cwt.; flour, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; oatmeal, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; cornmeal, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; butter, 18c to 20c per lb.; creamery, 20c to 22c per lb.; eggs, 19c to 20c per dozen; hay, $6 to $7 per ton; hides, $6 to $7 per cwt.; lard, 10c to 11c per lb.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—Market quiet; flour is firm; straight rollers are quoted at $4.20 to $4.25 in wood, middle freights. Wheat is quiet, feeling firm; red winter sold at 90c high freights; spring quoted at 90c on the Midland, and goose at 83c; No. 1 Manitoba hard at $1.11 to $1.12 North Bay, and on $1.08 on Midland. Barley firm; No. 2 quoted at 36c to 38c west; No. 3 extra at 33c to 35c, and feed at 31c to 32c west. Oats, demand fair and prices steady; sales of white made at 30½c to 31c west, and at 32c on Midland; mixed quoted at 30c west. Peas quiet and prices unchanged, quoted at 56c to 57c outside. Buckwheat unchanged, with cars quoted at 34c to 35c west, and 35c to 36c on Midland. Rye firmer, sales outside at 50c. Corn quiet and prices unchanged, car lots sold at 31c west. Bran, demand fair, prices firm; quoted at $12 middle freights, and shorts at $13.50 middle freights. Oatmeal firm, car lots quoted at $3.70 in bags on track.

OTTAWA MARKET.

Ottawa, Feb. 19.—Contrary to expectations there was nothing unusual in the trade conditions at the market this morning. The roads are still in a bad condition and this prevents many from coming in. The stock of all goods on was largs. The weather was beautiful, being just in a good condition for fresh meat. The stock of vegetables was poor and no sales of any account took place. Hay, $9 to $12 per ton; straw, $5 to $6 per ton; oats, 31c to 30c per bushel; buckwheat, 30c per bushel; beans, 75c to $1 per bushel; peas, 45c to 50c per bushel; pork, light, $6 to $6.50 per cwt; pork heavy, $6.75 per cwt; beef, hinds, from $4 to $6 per cwt.; beef, fronts, $3 to $3.25 per cwt.; mutton, 5c to 7c per lb.

BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE.

INTERESTING INTER-PROVINCIAL CONVENTION HELD IN MONTREAL.

A convention of the Baptist Young People's Union of Quebec and Eastern Ontario opened in the Olivet Baptist Church on Thursday night, and continued over Friday. The speaker at the opening session was the Rev. R. S. MacArthur, D.D., LL.D., of New York, the title of whose address was 'Historic creeds and Baptist churches.'

Dr. MacArthur said that if ever there was organic unity, it would begin at the Baptistery. Every denomination in Protestant Christendom and in the entire Roman and Greek churches could agree upon baptism, that was, immersion, as taught by our Lord and his apostles. On no substitute for baptism, such as pouring or sprinkling, could all the denominations agree. Did men really want organic Christian union? Were they in earnest when they proclaimed this desire? Were they willing to follow Christ into the waters of baptism? Were they willing to join hands with their brethren in all centuries and all climes? Here was the opportunity; here was the truly apostolic and catholic ordinance.

'Co-operation essential to success,' was the title of a helpful talk by the Rev. T. Luckens, of Sherbrooke, on Friday afternoon. To what did 'success' relate? Certainly to the one work God had given them to do; a work of sufficient importance to enlist the assistance of every Christian, at least, it should be so. That work was only a means to an end. Why did God employ redeemed sinners to do his work upon the earth? It seemed as if he must have known that they would be very dilatory about it. He might have had his word spread over the earth in a very short time had he employed the heavenly host. God could do without us; but could we do without the means which he has provided to fit us for his kingdom? What was it men gained in passing through the world? Just one thing—character.

'Power for service' was the theme taken up by the Rev. W. T. Graham, pastor of Grace Baptist Church. There was hardly a saved man or woman before him in the church, he said in opening, but believed that he was saved to serve Jesus. The old idea of mere salvation from damnation was not thought so much of as it was formerly. It was only by service that we could develop character. Not only must they who served God be men and women of purpose, but also of prayer. They should pray in secret, pray always; lay hold of God, and having power with him, they should have power with men and would prevail. They must be students of the Word of God. Also, they must be separated from the world.

The Rev. Dr. MacArthur delivered a most entertaining discourse concerning 'Some Christian outlooks.' First there was the outlook of biblical interpretation. He would counsel calmness, patience, trust and prayer. God's arm was not in danger. God's truth was immutable. Men might hurl their pamphlets at the rock of ages; and the pamphlets would lie a rotting mass at the foot of the rock, but the rock would stand.

At the close of the afternoon session the pastors, visiting delegates, and friends, were entertained to tea in the lecture room of the church.

The convention was again called to order at 7.45 when the Rev. E. Russell, B.A., of Dixville, Que., was introduced and gave an admirable address, which he entitled, 'Digging ditches.' The Rev. J. C. Sycamore, Brockville, Ont., followed, with a talk concerning 'Samples.' These were of two kinds; good and bad. A so-called Christian, who was not, so to speak, all wool, was a bad advertisement of the goods, of which he was taken as a sample, and often brought them into disrepute. The devil was a great imitator, and sent out samples which outwardly so closely represented the genuine that until the veneer got knocked off many were deceived.

The closing speaker was the Rev. A. A. Cameron, who is now stationed at Ottawa, after having labored some years in the United States. He was applauded when he said that he had come back to grow old gracefully under the dear old flag. The purpose of the association then in convention, Mr. Cameron said, was threefold: first, that the young people of the congregations might be endowed with the Christ life; second, that their lives might be placed under culture, and third, that the cultured life might be laid on the altar of service. 'A cultured Christian, serving the Lord,' said Mr. Cameron, 'is the highest type of a man or a woman.'

In conclusion, the lecturer said that he could sum up everything he had said in the words of Ruskin: 'He only is advancing in life whose heart is getting softer, whose blood is getting warmer, whose brain is getting quicker, and whose spirit is entering into living peace. The men who have this life in them are the true lords and kings of the earth—they, and they only.

The convention was then adjourned.

MONTREAL NEWS.

Anastasie Belanger is the name of a woman charged on Friday with child murder, and sent to jail.

Murphy, the police constable so brutally kicked by the man named John Kane, called the 'Silver King,' is not considered likely to recover.

An entirely new smallpox case, that has not yet been traced to its origin, was reported to the health authorities last week, and it was placed under surveillance.

Local temperance unions are making efforts to show the government that the liquor traffic should not be permitted in the Yukon territory, or if it is permitted, that it should be greatly restricted.

The large Hayes fire-ladder was upset while being drawn to the fire in the Standard Printing Company's building, Craig street, on Thursday night. The firemen escaped unhurt, but a citizen was knocked down and slightly hurt.

The war declared in railway rates to the west by the Canadian Pacific Railway against the Grand Trunk and its Northern Pacific connections has caused lively expectations of cheap travel in the public mind. The railways have advertised their reduction which is cut down, in some cases, to half of the existing rates.

The Court of Appeals in the case of the Queen against France and others of the Canadian Art Union, charged with having kept a common gaming house under the lottery act, declared last Tuesday that the magistrate had no jurisdiction, and his conviction of the defendants must be therefore quashed, and their sentence be declared null and void.

The coroner is investigating the death of Mr. Alexis Brunet, almost instantly killed by contact with an electric wire in the warehouse of Messrs. Loynachan & Scriver recently. The peculiarly alarming nature of the case is that the wire was of the ordinary house nature, and the terrible killing force was introduced from power on the outside used for lighting and other heavier business than telephonic work. The outcome of the investigation is being eagerly looked for.

Louis Robert died on Tuesday from injuries received in a row on St. Catherine street east, as stated in last week's 'Witness.' It appears from the statement of Odias Robert, the brother of deceased, that Louis Robert was engaged in the row, and had been struck to the ground by Charles Bonami. Odias was also in the row, which seemed to have been general, and was the result of whiskey. Bonami is now locked up on the charge of having killed Robert. He pleaded not guilty when arraigned.

The annual meeting of the Patrons of Industry for the Province of Quebec was held on Wednesday in the Riendeau Hotel. Those elected for the ensuing year are: President, T. A. King, of Richmond; vice-president, E. Lalonde, of Soulanges county; secretary, G. A. Dauth, of Coteau du Lac; grand trustees, B. A. Savage, of Shefford county; W. Smith, of Argenteuil county, and James McGibbon, of Huntingdon county; sentinel, J. Elerton, of Huntingdon county; lecturers, N. Vandal, of Argenteuil, and J. McGibbon, of Huntingdon county; auditors, L. R. Whiteman, of Brome, and J. McCabe, of Vaudreuil.

SPECIAL OFFER

—TO—

'WITNESS' SUBSCRIBERS.

Every subscriber sending **ONE DOLLAR** renewal or new subscription to the Weekly Witness, for 1898, can have choice of **ANY ONE** of the following offers.

PICTURES.

Offer No. 1.—'Day's Work Done,' 19x18, a rural exquisite sunset scene.

No. 2.—'Roses,' 20½x13½, a cluster of pink and white of this favorite flower, by George C. Lambden.

No. 3.—'I'm a Daisy' (a prize baby), 16½x13, by Miss Ida Waugh, a picture of a beautiful blue-eyed babe.

No. 4.—'School In,' 15x18, by J. H. Dolph, representing pussy instructing her family of five—a pretty and amusing picture.

No. 5.—A pair, 'Cluck, Cluck' and 'Take Care,' each 13x8, both by A. F. Tait. Two handsome pictures illustrating the care and anxiety of 'Biddy' and her brood of chickens.

MOODY BOOKS—PAPER COVER.

No. 6.—'The way to God and how to find it,' So plain that 'He who runs may read.'

No. 7.—'Pleasure and profit in bible study.' Fresh, bright, deeply devotional and helpful.

No. 8.—'Heaven.' Where it is; its inhabitants; how to get there.

No. 9.—'Prevailing Prayer.' What hinders it. Nine essential elements to true prayer.

No. 10.—'Secret Power.' The secret of success in Christian life and work.

No. 11.—'To the work.' A trumpet call to Christians. Will prove helpful and inspiring to all Christian workers.

No. 12.—'Bible characters.' Studies of the characters of Daniel, Enoch, Lot, Jacob and John the Baptist. He makes the bible a living book.

No. 13.—'Sovereign grace.' Its source, its nature and its effects.

No. 14.—'Select Sermons.'—'Where art thou?' 'There is no difference,' 'Good news,' 'Christ seeking sinners,' 'Sinners seeking Christ,' 'What think ye of Christ?' 'Excuses,' and 'The blood.'

COOK BOOK.

No. 15.—The Standard Cook Book (paper cover), embracing more than one thousand recipes and practical suggestions to housekepers, fully illustrated. Compiled by Mrs. T. J. Kirkpatrick. A useful book for the kitchen.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Coughs and Colds.—Those who are suffering from Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, etc., should try Brown's Bronchial Troches, a simple and effectual remedy. They contain nothing injurious, and may be used at all times with perfect safety.

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 verses accompany such notice further charge will be made. Notices received from annual subscribers inserted free.

BIRTHS.

BIRD—At Arthabaska Station, Que., on Feb. 1st, 1898, a son to Mr. and Mrs. S. Bird. 19

CROFTON.—At Quebec, on Feb. 16, 1898, the wife of A. M. Crofton, of a son. 18

CROOK—At St. Lambert, on Sunday, Feb. 13th, the wife of G. R. Crook, of a daughter. 15

EREAUX—On the 7th Feb., at 7 Laurier avenue, the wife of the Rev. James S. Ereaux, of a son. 19

FERGUSON—At 17a Balmoral street, on Sunday, Feb. 13, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ferguson. 19

GRIMSON—At 371½ St. Dominique street, on Sunday, the 6th February, the wife of G. Grimson, of a daughter. 17

KENNEDY—At Montreal, on Jan. 31, 1898, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kennedy. 21

MANNING—At No. 1 St. Antoine street, on 14th February, the wife of J. E. Manning, of a son. 19

McPHEE—At Mentone, California, on Thursday, 10th Feb., 1898, the wife of Peter McPhee, of a son. 17

PERRAS—At 89 Shannon street, on the 15th instant, the wife of J. A. Perras, of a daughter. 17

SIMPSON.—At Quebec, on Feb. 12, 1898, the wife of W. A. Simpson, of a son. 16

STEPHENSON—At St. Henry, Ste. Marthe, Que., on Feb. 11, 1898, the wife of J. M. Stephenson, of a son. 19

STEWART—At Chicoutimi, Que., on the 15th Feb., 1898, the wife of the Rev. W. A. Stewart, M.A., Grand-Mère, Que. of a son. 19

WELLS—At the Methodist parsonage, Maitland, Ont., on Wednesday, February 9th, 1898, a son to the Rev. William and Mrs. Wells. 15

MARRIED.

BRADLEY—WATSON—At the residence of the bride's parents (Lachute road, St. Andrews), on Feb. 15, by the Rev. Dr. Patterson, Mr. Robert J. Bradley, to Jessie Watson, eldest daughter of Robert Watson. 19

CARSON—LOUGH—On Feb. 16, 1898, at the residence of the bride's father, 571 Somerset street, Ottawa, by the Rev. Foster McAmmond, B.A., assisted by the Rev. D. A. Lough, brother of the bride, Richard Carson, of Carsonby, Ont., to Eva Emma, daughter of Robert Lough, Esq. 17

GRAHAM—COTTON.—At the residence of the bride's parents, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. N. Waddell, B.D., Mr. William H. Graham, of Thomas's Gore, to Miss Elizabeth Cotton, of Beechridge. 21

HAINES—EMERY.—At the residence of the bride's parents, on Feb. 3, 1898, by the Rev. Geo. H. Williams, John Henry Haines, Blackwall, Oklahoma, U.S.A., (late of Hatley) to Millie, eldest daughter of Mr. Richard Emery, of East Hatley, Que. 16

HART—SNOWDON.—At the residence of the bride's father, on Jan. 31, 1898, by the Rev. J. W. Bowering, Samuel Hart to Mary Ellen Snowdon, all at Altamont, Manitoba. 21

MESLEY—HAMLIN—On Feb. 16, 1898, at 'Oak Hills,' by the Rev. S. S. Burns, B.A. of St. Andrew's Church, Stirling, Alfred Mesley, of Revelstoke, B.C., and Susie Hamlin, of Stirling, were united in marriage. 17

MORRISON—BARLEY—At Lachute, on the 14th instant, by the Rev. A. A. Radley, Henry Morrison, to Mary, daughter of Mr. James Barley. 15

PETERS—MOODIE—At Rouse's Point, N.Y., in Christ Church, on Feb. 12, 1898, by the Rev. W. A. Hall, Mr. R. W. Peters, to Katie, daughter of the late W. Moodie, sr., of Montreal. 17

REDDICK—CASSELMAN—At the residence of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Dillabough, Morrisburg, Ont., on Feb. 16th, 1898, by the Rev. W. Timberlake, George Wm. Reddick, of Williamsburg, to Mary A. M., daughter of John H. Casselman, of Matilda, Ont. 19

SMITH—COLLIER—At the Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, Ont., by Rev. F. C. H. Ulbricht, on Jan. 19, 1898, Captain A. Hoffman Smith, second son of the late P. Smith, Esq., Lorette, Que., to Alice Marion Collier, of Sault Ste. Marie, eldest daughter of the late Dr. W. H. Collier, of Manchester, England. 15

DIED.

ANNABLE.—At Sawyerville, Que., on Feb. 14, 1898, Lyman Henry Annable, M.D., aged 60 years. 16

BENN.—On Feb. 16, 1898, at the residence of her son-in-law, A. J. Lawrence, 401 Metcalfe ave., Westmount, Anna Barrie, wife of the late Robert Benn.

BENNY—At her residence, 753 Sherbrooke street, on Sunday, Feb. 13th, 1898, Jean Benny, eldest daughter of the late Walter Benny.

BINGHAM.—In Galt, Ont., on Feb. 13, 1898, Mary H., wife of Dr. Geo. W. Bingham, of Hamilton, late of Waterloo, and third daughter of the late Sheldon Ward, of Toronto. 21

BUCHANAN.—Suddenly, on Feb. 20, 1898, of acute meningitis, Emily Isabel L., aged 16 years and 15 days, beloved daughter of C. L. Buchanan.

CAMPBELL—Suddenly, of heart failure, on Feb. 12, 1898, at 309 Huron street, Toronto, Jessie Alexandria, beloved wife of Alexander G. Campbell, and daughter of the late James Dick, Esq., of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. 15

CASS.—At Martinville, Que., on Feb. 8, 1898, Laura Agnes Pierce, wife of C. N. Cass, Esq., and daughter of the late Nathan Pierce, aged 48 years. 16
Windsor 'Times' please copy. 16

COTTER.—At Quebec, on Feb. 16, 1898, at the age of 78 years, Mary Fitzgerald, beloved wife of Patrick Cotter, sr.
Chicago, Ill., papers please copy. 18

DALE—On the 17th instant, Elizabeth Ridley, in the 78th year of her age, widow of the late Henry Dale.

DAVISON.—At Quebec, on Feb. 15, 1898, Roderick Davison, youngest son of the late Capt. Wm. Davison, aged 48 years. 16

DIER—In this city, on Feb. 16, Eliza Dier, daughter of the late Joseph Dier, a native of Queen's County, Ireland.

DOPLACE.—At Phoenix, Arizona, on Jan. 26, 1898, of heart failure and Bright's disease, Wm. E. Doplace, in his 58th year, formerly of Sherbrooke, Que. 16

DOWNIE—On Monday, 14th Feb., 1898, at 4165 Dorchester street, Westmount, Amy Gilbert, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Downie, of Paris, France. 15

FRASER.—At Orangeville, Ont., on the 16th inst., of heart failure, H. D. Fraser, M.D., aged 39 years. 18

GALBRAITH—On Feb. 14, 1898, at her father's residence, in Belleville, Ont., after a short illness, of appendicitis, Jennie, dearly loved daughter of the Rev. W. and Kate Galbraith, aged fourteen years and eleven months. 17

GIFFORD.—On Saturday, Feb. 19, Lydia, Sigourney Childs, wife of William B. Gifford.

GRAY.—At Quebec, on Feb. 10, Florence Ila Gray, aged seven months, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gray. 21

GRIMSON—At 371½ St. Dominique street, on the 16th instant, Jessie A. McKinnon, the dearly beloved wife of G. Grimson.

HAMILTON.—At Pueblo, Colo., on Feb. 19, Maud Alice Prior Hamilton, wife of Edward Henry Hamilton, aged twenty-five years.

HAMILTON—At 408 Bloor street west, Toronto, on Feb. 17, 1898, Elspeth Gartly Hamilton, younger daughter of the late Thomas Hamilton, Esq. 19

HILL.—At Deseronto, Ont., on Feb. 14, 1898, Mrs. J. W. Hill, aged 83 years; mother of Mrs. Oronhyatekha, and granddaughter of the late Capt. Jos. Brant. 16

HOUGH.—At Maple Grove, Megantic, P.Q., on Feb. 12, 1898, Sarah Seale, beloved wife of Joseph Hough, and daughter of the late J. H. Seale, of Inverness, Megantic, P.Q. 16

HUNTER.—At Johnville, P.Q., on Feb. 14, 1898, Ellen L, daughter of Wm. E. Alger, and wife of Atheton Hunter. 16

JONES.—On Feb. 20, 1898, at the residence of her son-in-law, T. A. Dalrymple, 51 Forfar street, Point St. Charles, Emma Styles, widow of the late Thomas Jones, aged 74 years.

KENNEDY—At Montreal on Saturday, Feb. 19, 1898, Jennie, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kennedy. 21

KINGSTON—At Cobourg, Ont., on Feb. 11, 1898, Maria, widow of the late William Kingston, M.A., and daughter of the late Chauncey Johnson, Esq., of L'Orignal.

LEITCH—At Flesherton, Ont., on the evening of Feb. 18, 1898, Marion, wife of Thos. Leitch, and mother of the Revs. R. H. Leitch, Greenbank, Ont.; F. A. Leitch, Gorham, New Hampshire; Dr. H. D. Leitch, Toronto; C. J. Leitch, merchant, Wabagoon; Edwin Leitch, merchant, Manitowaning, Ont. 21

MACKINNON.—Entered into rest at Graham's road, P.E.I., on Jan. 5, Flora Mackay, relict of the late Archibald Mackinnon, aged 73 years, leaving four children, eight grandchildren and a very wide circle of relatives and friends to fondly cherish her memory. 21

McABBY.—At 23 Parthenais street, on the 19th inst., Norman J. W. McAbby, aged one year and 11 months. 21

M'CARTHY.—On Feb. 14, 1898, at her residence, 'Caernavaer,' Barrie, Ont., Charlisinia Hope, widow of the late D'Alton McCarthy, in the 92nd year of her age. 16

McMAHON.—In this city on the 17th inst., Mary McGauvran, beloved wife of Thos. McMahon, and daughter of the late Lachlan McGauvran.

McMILLAN—At Laggan, Ont., on Feb. 10, 1898, James Neil, eldest son of Dougald E. McMillan, Esq., aged 19 years. 17

McNECHAN.—At the old manse, Port Perry, Ont., on Feb. 17, 1898, aged 29 years, Sydney Hamilton Rowan, fourth son of the Rev. J. McNechan, and grandson of the late Sheriff McKellar, of Hamilton. 21

MONTIZAMBERT—At Montreal, on Feb. 11, 1898, Helen Elizabeth Terrot, youngest daughter of the late Hon. Mathew Bell, of Three Rivers, and widow of the late Chas. N. Montizambert, of Quebec, aged 78 years. 15

MUIR—At Johnston, Q.Co., N.B., on Feb. 4, 1898, Violet Steele, beloved wife of T. A. Muir, in the 35th year of her age; also on Dec. 1, 1897, Archie Douglas, son of T. A. Muir, aged 7 months and 15 days. 21

PAISLEY.—In this city, on the 21st inst., C. Jane (Jennie), second daughter of Henry Paisley, aged 22 years and five months.
Toronto and Chicago papers please copy.

POLITO—In this city, on Tuesday, the 15th instant, Theodore Polito, aged 45 years and 29 days.

PRICE—On Feb. 12, 1898, at 117 Bedford road, Toronto, Frederic Courtenay, fourth son of Henry Ferrier Price, aged 21 years.

ROCHFORD.—At Newtonville, Mass., on the 19th inst., Charlotte May Morris, wife of William S. Rochford, aged 26 years, youngest daughter of the late Richard Morris.

SMITH—In Toronto, on Feb. 17, 1898, John Bryce Smith, Esq., late of London, England. 19

STOTHERS—At Chelsea, Que., on Feb. 15, 1898, of pneumonia, James Stothers, Esq., in the 67th year of his age. 17

THOMPSON—At 'Sunnyside Home,' Almonte, Ont., on Feb. 10, 1898, Richard Thompson, aged 63 years. 15

WATSON—At Elgin, Que., on Jan. 31, 1898, after a lingering illness, Robina Crawford, youngest daughter of Wm. Watson, aged 20 years. 19

WESTON—At Hawkesbury, on Feb. 17, 1898 Hazel Weston, aged 11 months, only child of Morris Weston, of the C.A. Railway.

WILMOTT—At Ottawa, on Feb. 17, 1898, at 86 James street, Harold, aged 14 years, son of C. W. Wilmott, of the Geological Survey.

WILSON—At his late residence, on the 15th instant, Robert C. Wilson, of this city, merchant tailor. 18

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.

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356 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at its present session for an Act to incorporate "THE BRITISH AMERICAN LIGHT & POWER COMPANY" to construct and operate tramways by electricity or other motive power; and also to erect and operate systems for lighting and heating by electricity or gas, and telegraph and telephone systems in Dawson City, Fort Selkirk and at other points in the Yukon District, also in the North-West Territories and Northern British Columbia, with power also to acquire, construct and operate steam and other vessels for the purpose of carrying on a general freight and passenger transportation business in connection with the said tramways.

Montreal, 10th February, 1898.

HALL, CROSS, BROWN, SHARP & COOK,
Attorneys for Applicants.
GEMMILL & MAY, Ottawa Agents.
21

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given that under "The Companies' Act" Letters Patent have been issued under the Great Seal of Canada, bearing date the seventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, incorporating Alan McNab, Barrister at Law of the City of Toronto in the Province of Ontario; Henry L. Rutherford, Manufacturer; Donald Macmaster, Advocate and Queen's Counsel; the Honorable Alexander W. Morris, Stockbroker; Edmund Boileau Drolet, Gentleman, all of the city of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, for the following purposes, viz.:

(a) To carry, receive, transfer, convey and forward baggage, luggage, goods, wares, produce, merchandise and all articles of commerce and other effects and to carry, and convey passengers to and from any place or places in Canada. (b) To warehouse and store (including cold storage), any of the said articles so transferred or received for transfer by the company. (c) To acquire, construct, own, use, lease and operate such buildings, machines, machinery and structures and to acquire, own, use, lease and operate all such vehicles and appliances as may be requisite or incidental to the carrying on of its business.

By the name of "The Canadian Transfer Company (Limited), with a total capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) divided into one hundred shares of one hundred dollars ($100).

Dated at the office of the Secretary of State of Canada the eleventh day of February, 1898.

(Signed) R. W. SCOTT,
Secretary of State.

MACMASTER & MACLENNAN,
Attorneys for the Company.



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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.

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